Rigid core with 2G™ angling installation system

Karndean Designflooring

General information

Product with the 2G™ installation system is available in either residential or commercial formats. Prior to installation please check that the product selected is suited to the end use application. If in doubt, please contact your supplier.

This product is a floating floor with excellent acoustic, thermal and waterproof properties made rigid to assist installation over uneven subfloor surfaces. This product will not absorb, swell or be damaged by water. When installed properly and under normal use, damp mopping and topical spills cleaned up promptly will not harm the performance of the floor. This product is not suitable for installation outdoors nor in rooms that will be continually wet. It is suitable for use in traditional residential bathrooms, kitchens, laundry/utility rooms. It is essential that these installation instructions are followed to ensure a quality fit.

Install permanent fixtures prior to installation of this product, leaving a space for expansion and contraction; see below.

Fill expansion spaces around potentially wet areas with a flexible acrylic or flexible silicone sealant (neutral cure).

A separate underlay is not normally recommended; refer to supplier.

Acclimation of material

For commercial installations make sure flooring materials are removed from packaging at least 48 hours prior to installation, (planks/tiles may be stacked, but must be rested flat) and allowed to condition in the room where the installation is to take place. Room temperature must be kept between 65-85°F* (18-27°C). For residential installations acclimation is not essential if the product temperature is already in the range 65-85°F* (18-27°C). To achieve a more natural look the product should be shuffled prior to installation.

Subfloors

Before this product may be installed, all subfloors should be solid and sound, smooth and level, clean and swept free of all debris.

Moisture of the base subfloor (e.g. concrete) must be measured according to the relevant local standard:

- Where the hygrometer test is specified the moisture of the subfloor must be less than 95% RH.
- Where the calcium carbide test is specified construction moisture must be no more than 3% for cementitious screeds and no more than 1.4% for calcium sulphate screeds.
- Where the calcium chloride test is specified, the moisture of the subfloor should be no more than 8 lbs. moisture/ 1000 sq. ft. per 24 hours.

Any unevenness in the subfloor should be limited to a maximum of 3/16" (5 mm) below the level for 10 ft. (3 m) in any direction. Any isolated highpoints/ridges should first be removed in order to avoid damage to the product.

Additional guidance on subfloor preparation is provided in BS8203, DTU 53.2, DIN 18365 (Teil C), ASTM F710, AS/NZS 1884 and other applicable standards/building codes for the installation of resilient flooring.

- Concrete/Screeds: Where the subfloor is uneven an appropriate smoothing compound should be selected.
- Quarry Tiles/Mosaics/Terrazzo/Ceramics: Ensure these floors are solid. Fix any loose tiles. Level any grout lines with a width and/or depth of more than 3/16" (5 mm).
- Wood Floors: These should be solid with little flexibility. All loose boards must be firmly fastened, and gaps filled. Wood block floors laid direct to earth/bitumen/ pitch must be removed prior to installation.
- Linoleum/Thermoplastic/Vinyl/Cork Floors: Make sure these floors are solid; fix any loose tiles.
- Any existing floors installed with asphaltic tile adhesive (ATA or 'Cutback') must first be suitably covered/ encapsulated or mechanically removed.
- Metal and Painted Floors: Remove any loose paint or other finishes.
- Textile floor coverings (including carpet) must be removed.
- Underfloor Heating: It is possible to install this product over floors incorporating underfloor heating, but these must be controlled to keep the temperature at the interface between the backing and subfloor surface at no more than 85°F* (27°C).
- Electrical Underfloor Heating: Please consult manufacturers to ensure their system is compatible with this flooring. Mesh/wire systems must be installed according to the manufacturer's instructions: embedded into a basecoat of appropriately reinforced smoothing compound in a single coat to a minimum depth of 3/8" (10 mm), OR in two separate 5 mm coats, (primed in between coats).
- Laminate: It is normally recommended that this is uplifted.
- Asbestos: Some older resilient tiles and adhesives can contain asbestos. In case of doubt contact the relevant authority for advice on testing, removal and disposal.
- Other Floors: Consult your supplier.
- This product must always be installed over a solid base.
- The room temperature must be between 65-85°F* (18-27°C) prior and during installation.

Installation

This product should be installed with a minimum expansion gap of 3/16" (5 mm) around the perimeter of the room and all fixed objects, including pipes. This minimum must be increased to 5/16" (8 mm) for areas larger than 1000 sq. ft./100 m² (consult your supplier for larger areas**). Note the minimum expansion gap is defined as the smallest gap between product and static fixture, that can be measured at ANY point around the perimeter.

In order to allow for thermal expansion, door frames should either be undercut, or an expansion gap left. Skirting/base boards should either be removed or undercut. Alternatively, a suitable edge trim should be used to cover the expansion gap. This product should be installed with staggered joints.

Tools

For a successful installation, the following tools will be necessary – pencil, utility knife, tape measure, ruler/straight edge, carpenter's square, saw, spacers, hand roller, pull bar, hammer, and rubber mallet, drill and spade bit (for cutting around pipework).

Exclusions

Special care must be taken when installing this product in rooms that are exposed to large temperature fluctuations e.g. unheated rooms, sunrooms (conservatories) or direct sun through glass doors. In these cases, a 3/8" (10 mm) expansion gap should be used.

Adhesives are not normally recommended in the installation of this product.

1. Starting with a full plank/tile along the wall, calculate how many widths there are across the room. If this means there will be a row of narrow planks/tiles along the opposite wall, cut the first row accordingly. Install this product with the tongue side/cut edge facing the wall. Install 3/16" (5 mm) spacers between the plank/tile and wall (Fig. 1).
2. Install the first row, ensuring the short edges are clicked together (Fig. 2).
3. Using a knife and straight edge, cut the last piece of the row to size making sure that there is 3/16" (5 mm) gap between the end of the row and the wall.
4. Start the second row by clicking the tongue into the groove holding the plank at an angle (approximately 30°), then push the plank/tile firmly into the groove of the first row. Install the next plank/tile by clicking the tongue and groove together along the short edge. Ease the tongue and groove together on the long side by angling the planks/tiles together (Fig. 3). Tiles and planks should be installed 'off-set' such that four corners never meet (Fig. 3a and Fig. 3b).
5. Continue to install planks across the room until the row is complete using a hand roller to assist (Fig. 4). Only if necessary, use a rubber mallet and an offcut of the product to gently tap the product. A pull bar can be used to pull the product together around the edges of the room (Fig. 5).
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 until the installation is complete.
7. Under door frames: If plank/tile cannot be lifted use an adapted tapping block (off-cut of material) and mallet to carefully tap the plank/tile together flat on the floor (Fig. 6).
8. When installing around corners/convex corners, or complex profiles, mark the shape on the plank/tile and cut using a saw.
9. Once the floor is installed, remove the spacers; sweep the floor with a soft brush. Fix the skirting/base boards or suitable edge trim (available from your local distributor) to cover the expansion gaps. These should be attached to the wall and not the floor, such that the product remains free to expand (Fig. 7 & 8).

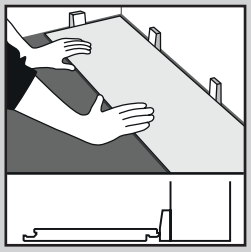

Fig. 1

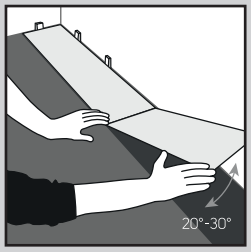

Fig. 2

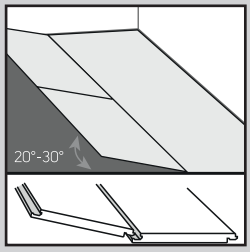

Fig. 3

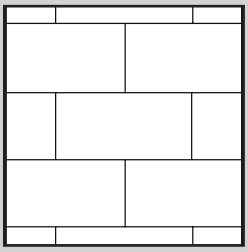

Fig. 3a

Stone effect: Tiles should be fitted in a 'brick' pattern (off-set).

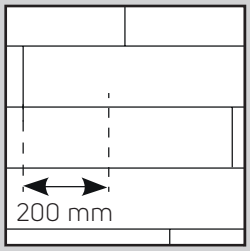

Fig. 3b

Wood effect: Planks should be fitted with random staggered joints with a minimum 200 mm between short ends.

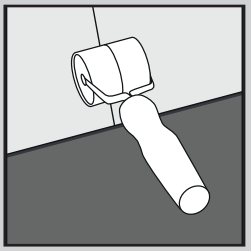

Fig. 4

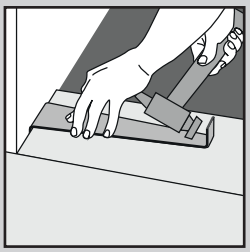

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

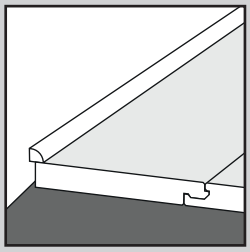

Fig. 7

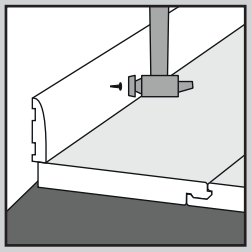

Fig. 8

Taking care of your floor

- Regularly sweep the floor to remove loose dirt or grit as these can cause fine scratches.
- For a thorough clean, a range of pH neutral cleaning products are available ('Clean', 'Remove' & 'Refresh'). Avoid the use of regular household cleaners and bleach-based detergents. These could make the floor slippery or cause discolouration.
- Always mop up spills as soon as possible, to reduce the risk of slipping and possible staining.
- Use entrance mats to protect against grit and moisture. Ensure they are of non-staining variety (not rubber-backed) to prevent any discolouration of the floor.
- Avoid sliding or dragging furniture or other objects across the floor - use floor protector pads to prevent scratching.
- Use large castor cups or other means to protect against indentation from heavy furniture.
- Maintain room temperature between 65-85°F* (18-27°C) for optimum performance.
- Do not subject this product to standing water. This this will present a slip hazard.
- Care must be taken when using underfloor heating to avoid damage to the floor caused by localised 'hot spots/thermal blocks'. Care must also be taken in placing rugs, and items of furniture which do not allow hot air circulation.
- Floor care guides are available from your supplier or the website.

For product questions, please contact the flooring dealer where you made your purchase.

* ASTM standards require installation in range 65-85°F; elsewhere the temperature should be 18-27°C.

** Where the flooring run exceeds 50 ft. (15 m) in width or length, a 5/16" (8 mm) expansion joint should be used and repeated thereafter.