

CORK TILE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Customer,

You have chosen a high quality **TORLYS Cork Floor**, well suited for all residential rooms, including bathrooms*. Please take a moment to review the installation instructions and to plan the installation carefully.

For your convenience, an installation video is available through all TORLYS dealers or, on-line, at www.torlys.com.

IMPORTANT

*In bathroom installations, the expansion gap must be filled with silicone sealant.

SET UP

In order to have sufficient material on hand, calculate area and add 5% of material to allow custom cutting. Place the closed packages in the room of installation 24 hours prior to installation. Put the packages in the middle of the room, NEVER against a wall or placed in a corner. Do not open packages until you are ready to start installation. Inspect each tile before installation. If you find any defects do not use it and contact your supplier immediately.

IMPORTANT

Because Cork is a natural material, no two tiles are alike...this adds to its beauty. **Some colour and shade variation should be expected.** Always work from several boxes at the same time and shuffle tiles for best visual appearance. Protect flooring from direct sunlight, to minimize fading!

PREPARATION

Remove existing carpet, baseboards, quarter round, thresholds and undercut door jams, using a piece of flooring material as a guide. Repair all defects in the sub-floor.

CHECK THAT:

- The doors can still open and close after installing the floor (minimum + 1 cm clearance).
- The door frames may need to be adapted to install the floor under them.
- For esthetic appearance we suggest that you dry lay the material across the width of the room to ensure that the pieces of the last row are no less than 4" wide.
- For a pattern or design in flooring we recommend you find the center of the room and measure out to build the pattern.

SUBFLOORS

Repair any defects in subfloor. All subfloors have to be clean, firm, flat (within 3/16" – 4.8 mm in 10 ft-3 m), dry (3% moisture on concrete, 10% or less on plywood) and smooth. You can lay the tiles over any solid and stable subfloor material, including plywood, chipboard, old non-creaking flooring boards, hardwood flooring, concrete slabs, PVC or most ceramic tile (avoid heavily embossed tile). It is essential that the crawl space under wood sub-floors is sufficiently ventilated: remove any obstacle and provide sufficient ventilation (minimum 4cm² of total ventilation per each square meter of floor, i.e., 0.04%). A 6 mil poly vapour barrier must be installed on crawl space floor. A freshly poured concrete slab must dry for at least 1 week per centimetre thickness, up to 4 cm (1-5/8"), and 2 weeks per centimetre thickness above 4 cm, with sufficient ventilation. A 6-centimetre (2-7/16") concrete slab must therefore dry out for a minimum of 8 weeks.

LAYOUT

The floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure colour and shade mix.

The ideal environment is a temperature of 15-20° C (60° F-70° F) and relative humidity of 40-60%. Expansion wedges must be used on all walls. Installing expansion wedges on all four walls will ensure proper expansion space has been allowed. The expansion wedges will be removed after the installation has been completed. The expansion space will be covered by baseboards and/or quarter round.

NOTE

Never hit the tiles directly with your hammer, always use a TORLYS tapping block to protect the edges of the tiles.

TOOLS

- * Hammer (1 lb.)
- * Last-Board Puller
- * Tape Measure
- * Saw
- * Pencil
- * 8-10 mm (3/8") Wedges
- * Tapping Block



When sawing pieces off the tiles, use a fine-toothed hand saw, jigsaw or cross-cut saw.

FLOATING METHOD

Preparing subfloor: In all over concrete installations, first cover subfloor with 6 mil poly, overlap edges by 12" (30 cm), tape seems with waterproof tape and run poly up 4" on each wall. **TORLYS Cork Flooring** already has a built-in cork underlayment (this will improve suppleness and work as a sound-deadening barrier for your floor). A T-mould must be used, every 30 feet (10 meters), to provide for expansion.

DO NOT USE GLUE

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

To ensure the full benefit of the **TORLYS Cork Flooring** warranty and to extend the beauty of your new cork floor over years to come, we recommended the following preventative maintenance procedures:

- **Apply TORLYS Dressing as required by traffic. Install floor protectors on furniture legs, to help protect against scratches and dents.** The furniture pads (e.g. felt pads) should have no wrinkles and be made of soft, non-staining materials.
- **DO NOT DRAG FURNITURE** or other heavy objects on the floor. **Avoid high heels or shoes that need repair.** Some types of high heel shoes can severely damage the surface of any floor covering. For minor scratch repairs, a touch-up kit is available at your TORLYS dealer. For damages that require tile replacement, a tool, the TORLYS' Bulldog, is also available through your dealer.
- Sweep and vacuum floor regularly. Don't let sand and grit build up. Use protective mats or rugs at doorways and areas of heavy wear. For dry maintenance use a dust mop, vacuum cleaner or dry cloth. For damp maintenance use the "TORLYS Cleaning Kit" and follow the instructions on the container.

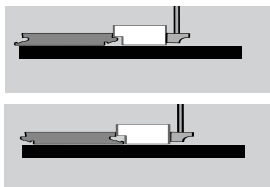
IMPORTANT

- To keep your Wear Warranty valid use TORLYS recommended maintenance products and follow TORLYS maintenance instructions.
- **Maintain a healthy humidity at 40-60%.** Certain regions within North America have extreme changes in humidity levels that can affect all wood or cork floors. To maintain the humidity at the healthy range of 40-60%, either a humidifier or a dehumidifier may be required .
- **Never wet mop your TORLYS Cork floor. Never wax or use oil-based products on your TORLYS Cork Floors.**

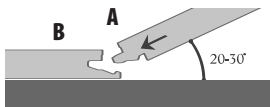
INSTRUCTIONS

1) GENERAL

TORLYS Unidic Cork is a revolutionary system for installing floating floors without glue. Instead, TORLYS Unidic Cork uses an ingenious tongue-and-groove system to "click" the planks together. This system enables you to work 50% faster than with traditional glued floating floors. Since there is no glue, the TORLYS Unidic Cork is much easier to work with.



IMPORTANT! To do this, you need a hammer and the SPECIAL TORLYS TAPPING BLOCK. DO NOT USE ANY OTHER TAPPING BLOCK—otherwise you may damage the tiles to be fitted. A Torlys Last-Board Puller will be required to pull exposed joints tight (where Tapping Block and Hammer will not fit). **You should not attempt to knock the Unidic joint into place with one hit.**



For the best results, it is absolutely vital to follow the installation instructions and TO USE TORLYS ACCESSORIES ONLY:

A. TORLYS INSTALLATION KIT (spacer blocks, TORLYS Tapping Block and Last-Board Puller).

B. TORLYS CORK FLOORING MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS (Cleaner, Floor Dressing)

C. A 6 MIL POLY VAPOUR BARRIER MUST BE USED ON ALL OVER- CONCRETE, INSTALLATIONS.

D. MOULDINGS

2) CORRECT INSTALLATION

Wood and cork are the primary constituents of **TORLYS Cork Flooring**. Since the humidity of the room can vary, due to differences between the seasons, the floor must be able to expand or contract on ALL sides. To facilitate this, a minimum 8-10 mm (3/8") expansion gap Must Be provided at all walls. The same must also be provided around pipes, at thresholds, and at doorways.

Expansion gaps are covered by a moulding that is not fixed to the cork floor but to the wall. In areas longer or wider than 10 metres (30 feet) an expansion T-mould must be used. Start installing the floor on the left side corner of the room. Always remember that the easiest way of installing the floor is inserting the tongue (A) into the groove (B).

3) THE FIRST ROWS

Saw off the tongue of all first- row tiles (I), on the side that will be facing the wall. Tiles are installed from the left to the right of the room, with the tongue side facing the wall to be able to work to the tongue/groove system.

Lay the first tile in place. A minimum spacing of 10 mm (3/8") to the wall is maintained using wedges. This distance must also be provided at all columns, heating pipes, steel doorframes, etc. Now tile 2 is turned inclined with the end joint into the already laid tile, clicking them together. Repeat the process until first row is completed. Please ensure that the tiles of the first row are straight (II).

The cut piece from the first row, becomes the starting piece of row #2. This will create a staggered joint, (III): The cut edge is installed facing the wall; be sure to install expansion wedges on the starting wall of row #2. This piece is now angled and clicked into tile #1 of the first row. The cut pieces should be a minimum of 4" (10cm) in length.

Flooring may also be installed without staggered joints. If you opt for this process, make sure that an adequate number of wedges are used at the ends of each row in order to prevent tiles from going out of alignment.

Continuing row #2 with a full piece, click it to the first row (IV) and, at the same time, make sure that it is no more than 1/4" away from the edge of the first tile of row #2. Using the tapping block tap the new tile into the first tile of row #2.

You should not attempt to knock the Unidic joint into place with one hit. This method is continued, tile by tile, over the whole width of the room. The last tiles of each row are cut so that a minimum 10 mm (3/8") gap with the wall is taken into consideration.

4) THE FINAL ROW

Measure and cut the tiles of the final row so that there is a minimum 10 mm (3/8") expansion joint between the final row and the wall. These tiles will be tapped into the last installed row using the Last-Board Puller and hammer.

5) UNDER DOOR FRAMES

Saw the tiles so that after installation there is a minimum 10 mm expansion space. This can be achieved by undercutting the door frames. If you cannot rotate this tile, use the or TORLYS Tapping Block and Hammer to tap the tiles together.

6) COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION

After installing your floor, you can immediately walk on it and begin the final touches. This is one of the major benefits of the Unidic system.

- Remove all wedges and install baseboards and quarter round.
- Never attach the baseboard to the floor itself, but allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the baseboard. If a vapour barrier has been used, attach the baseboard through the plastic membrane sticking up from the floor, with the use of finishing nails.
- Finish the pipes with rosettes or silicone seal. In places where no profiles or baseboards can be placed, the expansion gap must be filled with silicone sealant.

7) RADIANT HEAT APPLICATION

Contact TORLYS for installation procedures regarding Radiant Heat Application.



www.torlys.com

Head Office: 1900 Derry Road E., Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5S 1Y6

TORLYS
SIMPLE BY DESIGN