



# Installation Guidance Note: Sarlibase Acoustic Underlay

## Product description

Forbo Sarlibase acoustic is a resilient vinyl acoustic underlay incorporating a glass fleece reinforcement and foam backing that provides additional acoustic performance for compact vinyl and linoleum flooring products offering an impact sound reduction of 18 dB.

As with any soft underlay indentation resistance will be reduced compared to the floor covering directly adhered to the subfloor. An indication of both the impact sound reduction and indentation resistance values is given in the table below:

Sarlibase/floor covering combination	 Impact sound reduction ISO 717-2	 Residual indentation <sup>(1)</sup> EN-ISO 24343-1
Marmoleum	≥ 18 dB	<0.15mm
Surestep, Safestep	≥ 18 dB	<0.3mm
Eternal Design	≥ 18 dB	<0.2mm
Flotex sheet <sup>(2)</sup>	20 dB	N/A

<sup>(1)</sup> Residual indentation values are indicative and may vary depending on the type and quantity of adhesive used.

<sup>(2)</sup> May be used to provide additional thermal insulation where required.

Combined thermal resistance of Sarlibase acoustic in conjunction with Flotex is 0.057m<sup>2</sup> K/W.

Suitable with:	Not suitable with:
Marmoleum <sup>(1)</sup>	Acoustic vinyl (e.g. Sarlon)
Surestep, Safestep	Acoustic linoleum (e.g. Marmoleum Decibel, Acoustic)
Eternal Design	Luxury vinyl tiles (e.g. Allura)
Flotex sheet	Homogeneous vinyl (e.g. Sphera)
Compact vinyl sheet	Cushioned back vinyl

<sup>(3)</sup> For Marmoleum products, Forbo [Corkment](#) underlay is also suitable with an impact sound reduction of 14 dB.

## Installation

The quality of the finished installation will depend on the quality of the subfloor. Sarlibase Acoustic is not intended to correct or hide subfloor imperfections. Irregularities in the subfloor will be apparent in the finished flooring.

All subfloors should be smooth, sound, clean and dry in accordance with AS 1884-2021 "Floorcoverings - Resilient sheet and tiles - installation practices".

Site conditions for the storage, acclimatisation and installation of Sarlibase Acoustic are the same those recommended for all resilient floor coverings.

Sarlibase Acoustic is laid in the same direction as the floor covering with the smooth surface uppermost, ensuring that the seams in the Sarlibase Acoustic are separated by at least 50 cm from those of the floor covering.

**Note:** When using some tile sizes, the width of the underlay may need to be reduced to maintain the 50 cm offset on tile joints. Side seams should be trimmed if necessary to ensure that a good, close butt, seam is achieved (gaps between lengths of Sarlibase Acoustic are likely to grin through to the top floor covering). Forbo Sarlibase Acoustic should be adhered to the subfloor with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as [Forbo F54](#).



**Note:** The installed underlay should be left for at least 24 hours before laying the floor covering (this is to allow the adhesive to dry).

### Installation of floor covering

The general installation guidance for the chosen floor covering should be followed. The following additional guidance should be taken into account before installing your chosen floor covering.

#### Vinyl sheet

Vinyl floor coverings should be adhered to Sarlibase Acoustic with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as Forbo F54 approx. 150 to 200 g/m<sup>2</sup>. Roll the adhesive film with a (pre-wetted) paint roller to prevent trowel marks and to reduce the waiting time\*. Failure to pre-wet the roller with adhesive will result in removal of adhesive from the underlay resulting in adhesion failure.

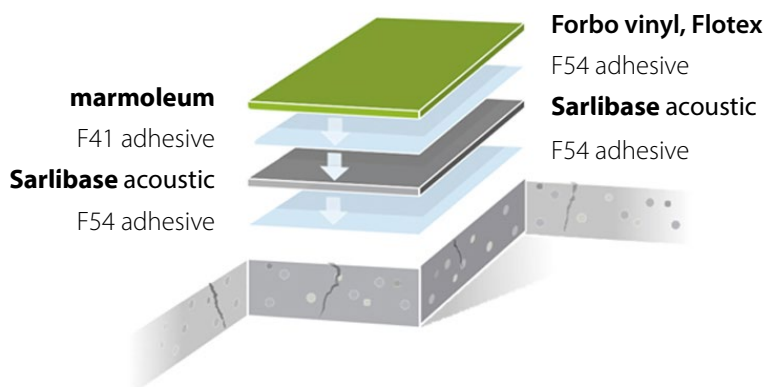
**\*Note:** The waiting time for the adhesive will be extended due to the impervious nature of the underlay and the floor covering to avoid the formation of air bubbles. The waiting time will be influenced by site conditions so a bond test should be carried out before proceeding with the installation of the floor covering.

#### Marmoleum

Marmoleum sheet should be cut to length, back rolled to remove any roll tension, and laid out flat in the installation area for 24 hours prior to installation. If required (usually when a two part PU adhesive is being used) apply a weight to the roll ends to prevent localised lifting off the underlay whilst the adhesive cures.

In combination with Marmoleum sheet, use [F41 adhesive](#). Marmoleum Modular tile and plank should be adhered with a two-part PU adhesive\* in all situations.

**\*Note:** When installing Marmoleum sheet, Bight marks should cut out of the roll.



#### Heavy traffic areas – all products

A 2-part PU adhesive\* should be used in areas subject to very traffic or heavy rolling loads (approx. 350g/m<sup>2</sup>).

\*Uzin KR 430 2-part polyurethane adhesive is recommended. If alternative adhesives are being considered it is important to obtain confirmation of suitability from the adhesive manufacturer.

When installing site formed coved skirting, the underlay should be fitted to the wall and the cove former adhered to the underlay (and wall).

#### Flotex sheet

Flotex sheet should be adhered to Sarlibase Acoustic with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as F54. approx. 150 to 200g/m<sup>2</sup>. Roll the adhesive film with a (pre-wetted) paint roller to prevent trowel marks and to reduce the waiting time\*. Failure to pre-wet the roller with adhesive will result in removal of adhesive from the underlay resulting in adhesion failure.

**\*Note:** the waiting time for the adhesive will be extended due to the impervious nature of the underlay and the floor covering to avoid the formation of air bubbles. The waiting time will be influenced by site conditions so a bond test should be carried out before proceeding with the installation of the floor covering.

#### Points to note

When trimming seams in the floor covering take care not to cut into the surface of the underlay. Avoid double cutting seams on the underlay if possible use a suitable protection between the underlay and the floor covering.

The installed floor covering should be left for 24 hours before seam welding.

Leave the completed installation for 72 hours before putting into service.

The finished floor may be subject to foot traffic during this period providing suitable protection is in place.

#### If in any doubt contact us:

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