

DESCRIPTION

Sarlibase TE underlay is an impervious loose lay underlay for use over damp or contaminated subfloors or in situations where conventional subfloor preparation cannot be carried out; for example, due to time constraints, or where the existing floor covering cannot be removed. It is a stable underlay made up of a glass fibre scrim with a smooth vinyl top surface and a textured foam backing.

It can be used with Forbo compact vinyl and linoleum floorcoverings, Tessera bitumen backed carpet tiles and Flotex sheet and PVC backed tiles.

Sarlibase is not recommend for use with foam backed or acoustic floor coverings, linoleum or PVC tiles. It is also not recommended for use in hygiene sensitive areas such as clinical areas or clean rooms.

SPECIFICATION

Reaction to Fire	EN13501-1	Class Cfl-s1
Total Thickness	EN428 (ISO24346)	1.5mm
Total weight	EN430 (ISO23997)	1300 g/m ²
Roll Length	EN426 (ISO24341)	35m
Roll Width	EN426 (ISO24341)	2m
Impact Sound Reduction	EN ISO717-2	ΔL_w 7dB
Residual Indentation	EN433 (ISO24343-1)	$\leq 0.1\text{mm}$ (1)
Dimensional Stability	EN434 (ISO23999)	$< 0.05\%$

(1) – Individual value of the underlay only

SUBFLOOR

a) General

As a loose lay system the quality and surface appearance of the finished installation will be dependent on the quality of the subfloor. Imperfections in the subfloor will grin through to the finished surface.

The subfloor must be smooth, sound, and have no loose or poorly bonded patches on the surface. Any cracks, holes, uneven or ridged adhesives residues and other subfloor imperfections should be levelled with an appropriate smoothing compound. Do not use on weak or friable surfaces.

The subfloor can have some contaminants adhered to it, such as paint, old oil stains, dirt, etc. – if in doubt contact Forbo Flooring UK Technical Services Department.

It is not necessary to attend to day joints or construction joints provided they do not cause a difference in level. Uneven joints should be repaired and/or levelled before laying the underlay.

b) Suitable subfloors

New concrete with a residual moisture content that exceeds the requirements of the floor covering (subject to the conditions below).

New, well bonded levelling compound.

New tongued and grooved chipboard* or other particle board with no appreciable difference in level at the joints (sand the joints if necessary –up to 1mm).

Old subfloors with no floor covering or from which the old floor covering has been removed.

Old floor coverings, such as a solid vinyl**, linoleum**, sanded down wood strip*, smooth and level ceramic tiles floor without grout (or where the grout lines have been levelled with a suitable smoothing compound).

*Ground floor timber bases must have adequate ventilation

**Old resilient floor coverings must be well bonded to the subfloor.

c. Not suitable for use over

Subfloors subject to lying water or hydrostatic pressure

Wood Blocks at ground floor level

Areas that are subject to heavy wheeled traffic

Synthetic Anhydrite screeds that are not fully dried

Magnesite

For any subfloors not included in section b or c, contact Forbo Flooring UK Technical Services

GENERAL

To facilitate installation of the underlay and in order not to hinder the drying of the adhesive between the underlay and the floor covering we recommend installation of the whole floor on a dry subfloor and in conditions of normal humidity (< 55% RH) with a temperature above 18°C. The underlay is installed the day before the floor covering.

Correct storage on site and acclimatisation must be strictly observed.

Store the rolls of underlay and floor covering vertically in a secure and well ventilated area, protected from damp, at an ambient temperature above 18°C.

Both the underlay and the floor covering should be acclimatised at a temperature between 18 and 27°C for at least 24 hours prior to installation.

LAYING THE UNDERLAY

Unroll the Sarlibase with the foamed texture downwards. The direction of laying is the same as for the floor covering but with the joints offset from sheet flooring seams by at least 50 cm. The underlay is not suitable for use with

resilient tile products. The underlay should be laid with close butt jointed seams. If the factory edges are in good condition there is no need to cut in the seams.

Cover all seams in the underlay with a suitable water resistant jointing tape, such as STOPGAP jointing tape from F Ball & co.

N.B. please be aware that the edges of the tape may “grin through” the floor covering over time.

Around the edge of the room and at every feature point (e.g. doorframes and other fixtures) leave a gap of between 3 to 6mm between the underlay and the perimeter.

In heavy traffic areas (doorways, for example) between rooms or in intermediate doorways in corridors where the traffic is very high, stick the Sarlibase down over the full width in a band at least 20 cm wide using:

- A moisture resistant adhesive if the subfloor relative humidity is above 75%.
- An adhesive which is compatible with PVC.

Other parts need not be selectively stuck.

Where the underlay and floor covering abut other floor finishes, use suitable mechanically fixed threshold strips.

N.B. when installing in corridors the underlay (and sheet floor coverings) should be installed along the length of the corridor (not across the width).

A minimum of 12 hours must be left between the installation of the underlay and the floor covering.

LAYING THE FLOORCOVERING

Install the floor covering in the same direction as the underlay, with staggered joints. Lengths of sheet flooring should be cut the previous day, the material back rolled to relieve roll tension and laid out flat.

When laying any floor covering, the same gap as that left for the underlay at perimeter features should also be left for the floor covering.

General requirements for laying are as given in the British Standard relating to the floor covering being installed and the manufacturer’s guidance. The following points should be noted.

Vinyl floor coverings

The lengths of floor covering should be installed sequentially following the roll number sequence. Leave a 3 to 6mm gap at walls and partitions.

If the seams are to be butt-jointed you may need to make a double cut of the selvage. Use a straight edge or an off-cut of floor covering under the seam to be cut to avoid cutting into the underlay.

As usual, welding is carried out after the adhesive has dried, and no sooner than 48 hours after the installation. Groove the seam taking care not to cut through to the underlay (2/3 of the thickness of the floor covering is sufficient). Complete the weld using a speed weld nozzle and remove the excess in two separate cuts (using a slide for the first cut) with a sharp spatula.

Adhere the floor covering to the smooth face of the underlay with a F47 Pressure sensitive adhesive from F Ball & co. in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.

Any air must be smoothed out from between the two layers. Then roll each length immediately with a 68kg roller, rolling again once or twice after several lengths have been installed or a surface area of approximately 30 m² covered and while the adhesive is still within its working time.

N.B. when installing sheet floor coverings in corridors the floor covering (and underlay) should be installed along the length of the corridor (not across the width).

Generally speaking, skirtings are fitted after the flooring installation. See 'Installation of accessories'.

Linoleum floor coverings

For linoleum sheet, relative humidity must not be over 50% for the atmosphere and 90% for the subfloor.

Premises are required to have air conditioning, or an efficient mechanical or static ventilation system to maintain a constant relative humidity lower than 50%. Variations in values may lead to dimensional variations of the floor covering.

The area of use must not be exposed to large temperature variations which could lead to dimensional variations of the floor covering.

Static load must not exceed 20 kg /m².

A very slight convexity may appear at the end of the sheet and at cross joints as it is a loose lay system but that will do no harm to the quality of the system. Correct acclimatisation and installation conditions will keep these effects to a minimum.

Cut the sheet material to the required lengths and then back roll each cut length before scribing to the long wall and length ends to release any roll tension from the winding of the sheet linoleum. Once the sheet has been back rolled stand the cut lengths upright in this state for approximately 15 minutes before unrolling for fitting.

The cut lengths should be laid out flat for at least 12 hours prior to installation.

NOTE: bight marks should always be cut out when installing Marmoleum on Sarlibase.

Lay the floor covering following the sequence of the cuts and the roll numbers. Leave a 6mm gap at walls and partitions.

Installation follows standard methods for linoleum (BIGHT MARKS MUST BE REMOVED), with a bar scribe to fit to the edges of the room, a recess scribe (over and unders) for the seams (see note), using a hook blade for the cuts, to avoid cutting into the underlay.

Note: When installing linoleum on Sarlibase, seams should be cut to leave a small gap (approximately 0.5mm) at the seams. Multiple lengths in larger areas are fitted in the same way.

Product and Installation Guidance

Note: Sarlibase TE

When installing Marmoleum on Sarlibase the seams should always be hot welded. Let the adhesive cure for at least 48 hours after laying before welding. Groove out the seams with a P type groover, taking care not to cut the underlay (2/3 of the thickness of the linoleum is deep enough) and weld with the special linoleum welding rod and a speed weld nozzle using a slider to remove the surplus in two cuts with a sharp spatula.

Forbo linoleum floor coverings should be adhered with F84 by F Ball and co. applied to the smooth side of the underlay in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.

Any air must be smoothed out from between the two layers. Then roll each length immediately with a 68kg roller, rolling again once or twice after several lengths have been installed or a surface of approximately 30 m² has been covered and while the adhesive is still within its working time.

Allow the adhesive to cure before trafficking the area or moving furniture.

N.B. when installing sheet floor coverings in corridors the floor covering (and underlay) should be installed along the length of the corridor (not across the width).

Generally speaking, skirtings are fitted after the flooring installation. See 'Installation of accessories'.

NOTE FOR ALL FLOORCOVERINGS WHERE THERE IS DAMPNESS

Moisture measurements must be carried out using the following:

- A liquid crystal digital hygrometer apparatus to measure the residual humidity of the air
- A surface hygrometer in accordance with BS8203

Where installation of sheet floor coverings is difficult because of a high humidity levels (whether the substrate or atmosphere) use a two-component adhesive, F84 by F Ball and co. applied to the smooth side of the underlay in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations. Cover all seams in the underlay with a suitable water resistant jointing tape, such as STOPGAP jointing tape from F Ball & co.

N.B. please be aware that the edges of the tape may "grin through" the floor covering over time.

As before, squeeze out any trapped air then roll several times before the adhesive cures. Always walk behind the roller when rolling the floor covering into the adhesive.

Allow the adhesive to cure for at least 24 hours before trafficking the area or moving furniture. If the installed floor is to be subjected to foot traffic after sticking during this period it should be protected with hardboard or plywood sheets.

To avoid movement of the adhesive underfoot, the installer should move around on 50 x 50 cm wood panels.

INSTALLATION ACCESSORIES

Skirtings when the substrate is dry

Skirtings of wood, PVC, linoleum, etc. can be installed after the laying of the floor covering.

Skirtings when the substrate is damp

Use ventilated wooden skirtings made from marine grade plywood (or similar) and grooved on the back. The thickness should be 10 mm with routed channels 10 to 15 mm wide at a spacing of 1 or 2 every 50 cm. Alternatively use a prefabricated skirting which clips or is adhered to the wall.

Make sure there is no adhesive in the skirting channels that can prevent ventilation.

Door trims

Edge trims can be used at doorways.

If in any doubt contact us:

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Additional Reference documents and information:

Forbo Floor Coverings Installation Guide: www.forbo-flooring.co.uk

BS8203:2017

The CFA Guide to Contract Flooring (Tel: 01159 411126)