

# Technical Bulletin

## Installing over existing non asbestos and non porous resilient floorcoverings

Most Forbo resilient floor products may be installed over a single layer of existing non-cushioned resilient flooring providing it meets certain conditions.

1. Concrete floors that are on and below grade- should be tested for substrate moisture and alkalinity in accordance with AS 1884 – 2012. The test results should not exceed the requirements of the product to be installed. The existing flooring and adhesive must be removed where the test is conducted.
2. Timber subfloors should be checked and tested in accordance with AS/NZ 1080 and in conjunction with [AS 1884](#). The existing flooring must be fully adhered, well bonded and free of contaminants.
4. The existing flooring must not be embossed or textured enough that it will telegraph through the new flooring.
5. All floorcovering surface finishes must be removed with a floor surface finish stripper then alkaline neutralised rinse with 1 cup of white vinegar in 5 litres of clean water wet mopped on the surface and let sit for 5 minutes, wet vacuum up, then rinse with clean water and let dry.
6. Sand the surface with a minimum 40 grit open cut sanding disc on a rotary sanding machine with dust catcher to make a key for a number of scratch coats of Ardex Feather Finish smoothing compound.
7. Please contact Ardex Technical Service Toll Free number 1800 224 070 for a Feather Finish system detail in Ardex Technical Bulletin TB 080.
8. Cuts, gouges, dents and other irregularities must be repaired or replace.
9. The substrate and underlayment must meet the recommendations of the existing and the new floor covering.
10. Double dropping of the new floorcovering into the wet adhesive may be necessary to help aid the dispersion of water in the adhesive due to the advent the exiting floorcovering is not porous.

**NOTE: Application of a scratch / skim coat s of patching material over the existing resilient flooring may cause more problems that it resolves: such as bonding failures, cracking and indentations. The installer / contractor should use discretion when deciding whether to use a scratch / skim coat over existing resilient floorcoverings.**

**NOTE: Do not install Forbo floorcoverings over old adhesive residue.**

The responsibility of determining if the existing flooring is suitable to be installed over rests solely with the installer and flooring contractor. If there is any doubt as to the existing floorcovering suitability it should be removed or an acceptable underlayment installed over it.

Installations over existing resilient flooring may be more susceptible to indentation, and there is always a possibility the existing flooring may telegraph through or de-bond.