

# Forbo Installation Guidance Note- Corkment underlay

## Product description

Corkment is an acoustic underlay designed for use with Forbo linoleum and vinyl products and is manufactured by calendaring cork granules, oxidised linseed oil and other materials onto a jute backing and then curing it. The process is similar to that for manufacturing linoleum.

Corkment is available in rolls up to 30 linear metres and 2.0mm thick as a standard stock item. Under linoleum the Corkment gauge selected must not be thicker than the gauge of the linoleum. Under vinyl sheet the thicker gauge may be used if wished. Corkment is not to be used under acoustic linoleum or vinyl floor coverings.

## Performance and Benefits

Under 2.5mm Marmoleum 2.0mm Corkment gives a weighted Impact sound reduction of 14dB. The thickness of 4.5mm provided by 2.5mm Marmoleum and 2.0mm Corkment meets the requirements for impact sound improvement for dwellings in Building Regulations part E section 3.28. Long lasting, it does not decompose in use. It provides some underfoot comfort without being a tiring surface on which to push trolleys.

## General Advice

The installation of Corkment should be carried out in accordance with AS1884-2012 for the installation of resilient floor coverings. Subfloors should be clean, smooth, sound and permanently dry. It is essential that the laying area is at a steady temperature of 18 to 27°C for 48 hours prior to, during, and for 24 hours after installation.

Corkment can be used in conjunction with under-floor heating systems. A separate guidance note "Installation of Forbo PVC and Linoleum Floor Coverings on Underfloor Heating Systems" provides more information on the conditions for installation in such circumstances.

## Installation

Corkment is fully adhered to the subfloor using an approved linoleum adhesive. Side seams are cut in leaving a credit card thickness between sheets to allow for slight expansion during the curing time of the adhesive. Under linoleum Corkment is installed with the hessian side upwards, if installed under sheet vinyl the cork side is upwards. Used with sheet floor coverings, the Corkment is installed at right angles to the direction of installation of the floor covering.

If Corkment is installed underneath Marmoleum tiles care should be taken to ensure that seams in the Corkment do not coincide with joints in the tiles. When installing Marmoleum Modular panels and planks, trim the width of the Corkment, if required, to ensure a minimum 20cm offset between tile seams and seams in the Corkment.

The floor covering is adhered to the top of the Corkment using the linoleum or vinyl adhesive appropriate to the floor covering. In the case of Marmoleum sheet or tiles both the Corkment and the Marmoleum may be adhered using 414 Forbo Fix. Underneath Forbo vinyl ranges the Corkment is adhered using 414 Forbo Fix and the vinyl using a suitable acrylic adhesive such as 540 Forbo Fix.

