

Installation Guidance Note: Onyx+ vinyl wall covering

Onyx+ is a vinyl wall covering with a Group 1 fire rating that's perfectly suited for commercial wetroom applications such as wetrooms of health facilities, nursing homes and senior residences.

GENERAL ADVICE

The appearance, performance and durability of the installed wall covering will be determined to a large extent by the quality of the prepared wall and the conditions in which they are laid.

Areas to receive wall coverings should be clean, free from other trades, fully enclosed and weather tight. Walls should be clean and free of contaminants, smooth, sound and permanently dry.

The substrate must also be free of any obstructions which could hamper installation of the wall covering.

It is important to check that walls are suitably even and corners plumb and square. Where corners do not meet these conditions, it will be necessary to form a seam near the corner.

Pipe work projecting from walls must be at least 60mm from walls and/or corners. The distance between adjacent pipes must be at least 400mm. Projecting pipes must be properly fixed in place so that the required seal can be made between pipes and wall covering.

Where there are holes for pipes/fittings, there must be no gaps between the hole and pipe/fitting. This is essential for an effective, lasting seal after the wall covering has been installed.

Any gaps must be filled and sealed.

The open time of the adhesive will depend on site conditions and porosity of the base. It is best practice to conduct an adhesive bond test before starting the installation. Bond testing will assist in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (waiting and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.

Always conduct moisture tests on all substrates.



Areas to receive wall coverings shall be adequately lit to allow for proper inspection of the substrate, installation and for final inspection.

It is essential that the installation area is at a steady temperature of 18 to 27°C for 48 hours prior to, during, and for 24 hours after installation. The relative humidity in the room should be between 30% and 60%.

The material and adhesive should be conditioned in the same environment for at least 24 hours prior to the installation. Remove the outer packaging and loosen the outer layers of the sheet.

Store the rolls vertically.

Where the wall coverings have been stored or transported immediately prior to delivery in temperatures below 10°C the acclimatisation period should be extended to 48 hours.

Prior to installation rolls should be checked to ensure that the correct colour, batch number and quantity have been received and that the material is in good condition. No claim will be accepted for incorrect colour, pattern or obvious damage if the material has been fitted.

Use material from the same batch/dye lot and install in roll number sequence. The use of different production batches will always result in visible shade differences. The batch number is clearly marked on the material packaging and must be checked before commencement of installation.



FLOORING SYSTEMS

SUSPENDED CEILING DETAIL

If the wall covering is being installed in rooms with suspended ceilings, it should be installed prior to the ceiling. Any supporting details such as ceiling edge frames should be installed after and fixed through the wall covering. The wall covering should extend at least 100mm past the height of the ceiling and the top edge sealed with a suitable water proof sanitary sealant.

WALL SURFACE PREPARATION

If the substrate has been painted or has other strong pigments on its surface these must be removed.

If the surface of the substrate requires filling, use suitable wall grade filler.

Note: two-component fillers may cause discolouration if mixed incorrectly or insufficiently.

Remove all dust and loose particles.

Absorbent substrates must be primed in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.

NOTE – Use only a lead pencil for marking. Any markings made by marker pens, marker dyes or paints, ballpoints etc. may cause discolouration of the wall covering through migration.

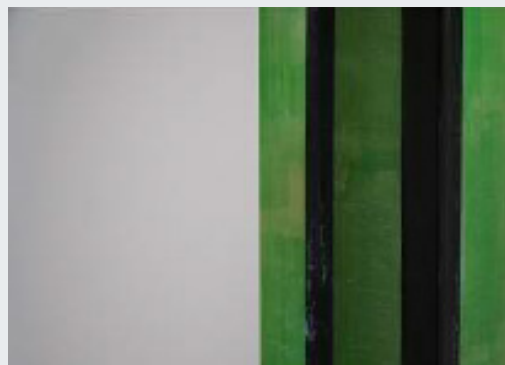
INTERNAL CORNERS

Forbo recommend that pre-formed PVC cove formers are used on all internal corners. This will provide the optimum hygienic installation and facilitate a smooth transition of the wall covering through the corner.



EXTERNAL CORNERS

Fitting of the wall covering around sharp external corners will be made easier with the use of an external PVC corner profile.



WALL TO FLOOR COVERING DETAIL

If the wall covering is to be installed to meet a floor covering with a site formed coved skirting a PVC 2mm diminishing strip must be fitted directly above the top edge of the skirting as shown:

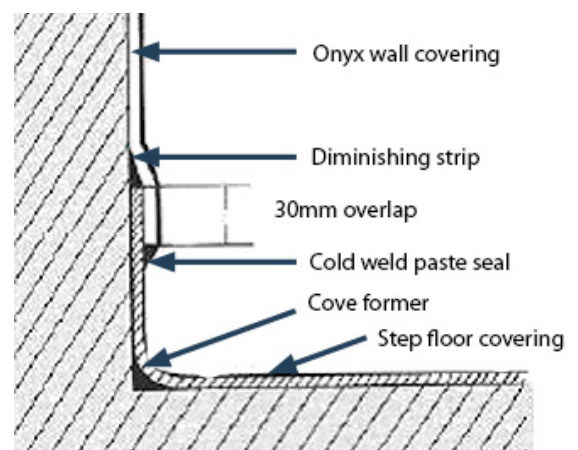
RECOMMENDED ADHESIVES

The recommended adhesive type for Onyx is a plasticizer-resistant, acrylic based dispersion or pressure sensitive adhesive. This adhesive is to be used for all bonded areas, including, overlaps and internal corners where cove former is used.

External corners and internal corners without cove former must be adhered using a solvent free contact adhesive.

Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations. The waiting time before placing the wall covering into the adhesive will depend on factors such as the type of substrate, its absorbency, and the temperature and relative humidity in the room.

Apply the adhesive to the wall with the appropriate notched trowel.



NOTE – Solvent based contact adhesives must not be used due to the risk of discolouration.

All adhesives must be applied at the correct spread rate in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

SEAM WELDING

When cutting material for seams, be careful not to damage the substrate. Extra care is needed for plasterboard substrates.

Seams in Onyx+ must always be hot-welded using a PVC welding rod. The edges of the two sheets must be butt jointed, flush, and grooved before welding, to a depth of three-quarters of the thickness of the material. Use a 'P' Type groover, not a shave hook.

Use a speed welding nozzle for wall coverings to reduce the risk of affecting the product gloss near the weld.

When the weld has cooled, trim it in two stages: first with a spatula and slide, and then using the spatula only.

Grooving and welding should not be carried out until the adhesive has set.

The time needed for the adhesive to set will depend on ventilation, temperature and substrate absorbency.

For absorbent surfaces, wait at least 24 hours. For non-absorbent surfaces, wait at least 48 hours after installation of the wall covering.

NOTE – Before the room can be used it is very important that the adhesive is given adequate time to dry before a wet wall covering is exposed to water spray.

DRYING TIME

If the substrate is non-absorbent (all or parts of a wall), allow approximately 7 days drying time.

If the substrate is absorbent, e.g. plasterboard, and the wall covering overlaps the floor covering on the wall, approximately 2 days drying time is sufficient.

CLEANING AND GENERAL CARE

Use a pH neutral cleaner such as Forbo 818 Monel. Dilute the cleaner according to the instructions provided by the manufacturer.

When cleaning the wall covering, use a soft cloth or sponge. Avoid abrasive materials.

Onyx + has good stain resistance. However, all staining materials should be removed immediately.

Certain materials (ballpoint ink, lipstick, asphalt etc.) may otherwise migrate into the vinyl and cause permanent staining. Marking on the substrate or on the backing of the product with marker pens, marker dyes or paints, ballpoint ink etc. May cause discolouration.

Unacceptable levels of dampness in the substrate, mould, central heating pipes with temperatures in excess of 27°C and impurities in the substrate such as oils, impregnating agents, asphalt, paint or other alien substances, may cause discolouration.

For further information, please contact Forbo Flooring Systems Australia.

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FLOORING SYSTEMS