



Installation Procedure - Floating floors

Preparation

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION OF WICANDERS FLOATING FLOORS WITH CORKLOC[®]

- Wicanders floating floors with Corkloc[®] can be installed in most domestic areas and in almost all commercial areas except in bathrooms, saunas and persistently wet rooms.
- Wicanders Floating floors with Corkloc[®] can be laid on top of most hard surfaces such as resilient floor coverings, wood flooring and ceramic tile. Soft subfloors such as carpets and similar must be removed. The subfloor must be even, flat, dry and variations should not exceed 3 mm in 2 m (0.12" in 6.6 feet).
- All type of concrete, wooden and ceramic surfaces must be completely dry.
- Never install Wicanders floating floors with Corkloc[®] without using a PE moisture barrier film with a minimum thickness of 0,2 mm (.008").

Radiant-Heated Subfloors:

For Wicanders floating floors with Corkloc[®], the surface temperature of the subfloor must not exceed 28°C (82°F). For detailed information, follow the instructions supplied by the subfloor heating system manufacturer/contractor, or contact your supplier.

Remember that rugs or mats placed on top of the floor may function as heat accumulators and will increase the floor surface temperature more than the maximum surface temperature recommended (must not exceed 20 - 22 °C).

Installation of Wicanders Floors over Heated Subfloors:

Any Heated Subfloor has certain working conditions depending on the heating system and the subfloor.

In order to avoid problems with functioning and durability during the construction phase, the norms and rules concerning installation are to be followed very strictly.

The drying of a heated subfloor has to be made by turning the heating on/off with a pause before installation of the floor, following a documented protocol. After that you can begin the "heating phase".

The beginning of the heating phase in concrete subfloors is to be made not before 21 days after complete curing of the substrate. The heating phase has to begin with running temperature of 25°C, (78°F) during 3 days.

The subfloor should be in place and cured for at least 60-90 days.

The temperature should then be increased each day until the maximum temperature allowed according to the manufacturer system. This maximum value should be kept for at least 72 hours and maintained for 5-7 days without any turning off. The decreasing of temperature is made by reducing it each day until 18°C on the surface is achieved.

During the installation, the temperature of the surface should not exceed 18°C (65°F) and should be kept for 3 days after finishing the installation (for floating floors). Then the temperature should be increased slowly to a max. of 28°C (82°F) on the subfloor surface.

Expansion Gaps:

Wicanders floating floors with Corkloc[®] are installed as a "floating floor", so the planks should not be fixed to the subfloor. The skirting boards cannot be pressed down, for not restricting the movement of the floor. Also provide 10 mm (1/2 inch) expansion gaps to the walls and other fixed objects.

Floor areas superior to 100 m² (900 sq. ft), or with dimensions greater than 10 m (30 feet) in either direction, transitions between two rooms and asymmetrical floor areas require extra expansion gaps.



Prior to Installation

TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND ACCLIMATISATION

Transport and store the cartons in laying position.

Packaged tiles and adhesive should be acclimatized at job site in dry, well-ventilated area for a minimum of 48 hours so that flooring may acclimate.

Remove tiles from packages just before starting laying.

During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to a level consistent with the conditions which will prevail when the building is occupied. In most cases, this means maintaining temperature range of 18°C to 28°C (65 F to 82F) and relative humidity range of 35% to 65%. In order to reach this climate, use heating or air conditioning in the appropriate length of time prior to beginning installation.

WICANDERS floorings are natural products and some shade variation is an inherent and attractive characteristic. To achieve the most pleasant blend of shades, shuffle before laying.

SITE INSPECTION

Prior to installation, please inspect the tiles in daylight for any visible faults or damage, and also check if the subfloor and site conditions are in accordance with the specifications described within these instructions.

How to install Wicanders Floating Floors

RULES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF WICANDERS FLOATING FLOORS WITH CORKLOC® GLUELESS SYSTEM

LAYING:

Wicanders floating floors are natural products and each individual plank has its own shade and pattern.

Therefore, shuffle the planks in order to obtain the most pleasant blend of shades.

Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light.

We recommend laying Wicanders floors on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboard.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Padsaw or a fine toothed handsaw, spacer blocks, pencil, set square, 0,2mm PE film and adhesive tape.

1. Door Frames

If a door frame needs to be cut, use a piece of plank to obtain the correct height.

Saw door frames and architraves to the require height allowing for 2 mm of space to the planks.



Moisture Protection

Type of Subfloor	Moisture content CM% Heated	Non-heated
Concrete	1,8	2,0
Anhydrite	0,3	0,5

All types of concrete subfloors require insulation against moisture.

This includes types with built-in moisture barrier, ceramic, heated and covered with resilient floors.

Use a PE moisture barrier film with a minimum thickness of 0,2 mm (.008”).

On ground and basement subfloors we recommend to lay 2 layers crossways for better moisture protection.



2. Lay the PE film, allowing for at least 20 cm (8") overlapping and tape.

Turn the film upward 5-cm along the walls.

Trim after the skirting boards are fixed.

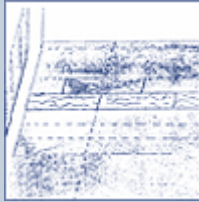


Measure the room accurately, at right angle to the direction of the planks.

The planks in the final row should be at least 5 cm wide.

If necessary, the planks in the first row can be cut to a smaller size.

3. Turn the tongue side of the plank facing the wall. Maintain a gap of 10 mm on the short side. Adjust the lengthways gap from the wall once 3 rows of planks have been laid.



4. If you are installing Wood floors with three strips, try not to match the strips of the tiles.



First Three Rows:

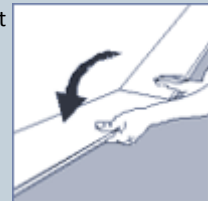
The planks can be laid from all directions if necessary. CorkLoc® is easy to uninstall.

We recommend start laying in the right-hand corner.

5. Turn the tongue side of the plank facing the wall. Maintain a gap of 10 mm on the short side. Adjust the lengthways gap from the wall once 3 rows of planks have been laid.

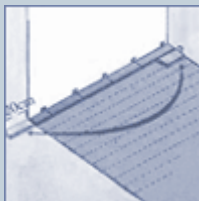


6. Hold the next plank against the first at an angle to the first one and lay it flat on the floor.



Complete the first row in the same way.

7. Cut the final plank of the first row to the correct length.



8. If you are installing floating floor planks, start the next row with the piece left. This must be at least 300 mm long). Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 300 mm.



CorkComfort Floating, tiles 605 x 445 "brick" or "half brick" installation method must be used. Place the final plank face down and the short side without the locking strip towards the wall. The distance to the wall should be 10 mm.

9. Mark where the floorboard is to be cut. Place the plank face down on the work surface and cut to size using a padsaw. Use a fine toothed type if you are using a handsaw. In this case, cut the planks face up.



10. Use a cut piece of plank from the previous row to start the next row. This must be at least 30 cm long. If the piece is too short, start with a new board and cut it in half. Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 30 cm.





11. Place the first plank of the new row with the tongue side at an angle against the groove side of the plank in the previous row.



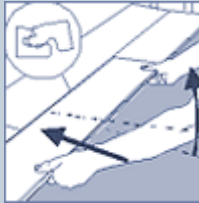
Press forward and lay it flat at the same time.

12. Place the short end of the plank at an angle against the previous installed plank and fold down.

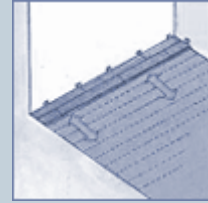


Ensure that the board is positioned on the integral locking strip of the floorboard in the previous row.

13. Lift floorboard (together with the previous laid in the same row) lightly up (about 30 mm), push it against the row in front and then put it down.



14. Tip: This movement requires some gentle adjustments on the pressing angle. Adjust the distance to the wall to 10 mm when three rows are completed.



Proceed the installation as described above until reaching the opposite wall.

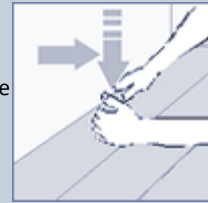
Uneven wall:

15. Sometimes the first row must be cut to match an uneven wall.



Transfer the shape of the wall to the planks. Do not forget to allow 10 mm for the expansion gap.

16. To remove the first row, lift the plank a few centimetres and tap along the joint.



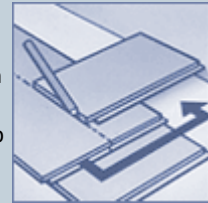
Cut the planks as required.

Last Row:

17. Measure and cut the planks in the last row to size. Allow for 10 mm distance to the wall. No plank should be less than 5 cm width.



18. The last and first plank can be cut in the correct width. Place the last plank on top the second to last plank. Mark the plank with the help of a piece of plank without locking the strip. Allow for 10mm distance to the wall for the expansion gap.



Heating Pipes:

Drill required holes in the planks.

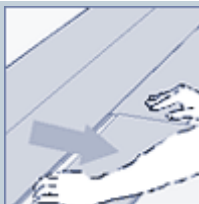
19. The holes should be 20mm greater than the pipe diameter. Saw as shown in the picture. Glue the sawed piece back into place. Cover the hole with a pipe sleeve.



20. If you wish to remove the flooring, just lift the planks a few centimetres and tap along the joint.



21. The released plank can then be pulled out. Never bend connected plank backwards, as this will damage the planks.

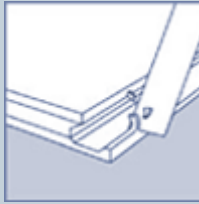




INSTALLATION AROUND DOORS, RADIATORS AND LAST ROWS:

If necessary, the planks can be laid from all directions. CorkLoc[®] is easy to uninstall. This makes easier to plan the installation e.g. around doors.

22. If you cannot angle the tile under e.g. a doorframe or low fitted radiator, you can do as the picture shows: cut away the locking edge.



23. Glue (PVA Glue, class D3). Install the plank

Re-varnishing

All Wicanders factory finished cork floors WRT and HPS come with a factory finished wear layer and are ready for immediate use after installation.

Therefore, no varnishing is required after installation.

Only, in very specific situations, where spillages frequently occur or when extreme maintenance with water is required, Wicanders offers a sealing system to protect the joints.

(Examples: elderly homes, hospitals, restaurants, cafes, etc.)

Type of Surface	Re-varnishing	OBS.:
Corkcomfort and Woodcomfort WRT	One coat of Primer Power Contact + W 2000 Extra Matte.	Application of Primer Power Contact avoids sanding before the application of W 2000
Corkcomfort and Woodcomfort HPS	The floor surface must be clean and free from dust, oils and wax residues. A basic clean is recommended for Corkcomfort Floating WRT and HPS. Vacuum and tack thoroughly.	
Linocomfort floating HPS		
Vinylcomfort floating PU acrylate UV		

~~Wicanders Power Contact (Not applicable to New Zealand)~~

~~Waterborne 2-Component Adhesive Primer for Refurbishing of Factory Finished Wicanders WRT floors without intermediate sanding.~~

~~Shake mass, add hardener at a ratio of 2:1 and mix it by shaking.~~

~~After mixing it you will be able to use it in the next 2 hours.~~

~~1. Clean off any remaining dirt. An intermediate sanding is not necessary.~~

~~2. Apply one coat of Power contact by using a trowel or T-bar applicator~~

~~3. After drying (approx. 2 h) apply Wicanders W 2000~~

~~Coverage: approx. 20 g/m² (2g / square foot,) 1 combined package sufficient for ca. 35m²~~

~~Because of the arising over pressure, do not store already mixed material in closed packages.~~

~~Wicanders W 2000~~

~~Mix the Hardener with the W-2000 on the right proportions (10:1). The containers of each pack are ready for the hardener to be poured directly into the W-2000 container. Shake well. Filter the mixture using a paper filter. After mixing it you will be able to use it in the next 2 hours.~~

~~Apply 1 coat of W-2000 evenly with roller: total 100–120 gr./sqm/coat (100–120 gr./10 sq.ft./coat). Near the walls it may be necessary to use a brush.~~

~~Drying time: 4 hours (at 20 °C / 70 °F and 65 % R.H.).~~

~~Recommendations: You will be able to walk carefully over the floor after 24 hours. Do not clean the floor with water or detergent for about one week, after applying the W-2000. After this period use the Wicanders maintenance products: Power Polish~~



Refurbishment

PS: The renovation of an old, used floor cannot be recommended if we don't know the history of the floor, especially the kind of maintenance products which have been used. If we know all about maintenance products and we can guarantee that all maintenance products are removed completely, we can apply one coat of primer Power Contact (if necessary) and one coat of W 2000 as mentioned above.

When a floor needs refurbishing, you must remove all maintenance products, dirt, etc., with Wicanders Power Strip.

Residues of maintenance products will cause lack of adhesion.

Sand old varnish carefully (screen pad # 220). Remove all dust.

Apply 1 or two coats of Wicanders recommended varnishes.

It is recommendable to make an adherence test between the old and new coat, on a small area before the final varnishing.

Do not clean the floor with water or detergent, for about two weeks, after applying the varnish. After this period use the Wicanders recommended maintenance products.

Preventive care

- If works will take place in the room where the floor is installed, protect with craft paper, plywood or hardboard.
- Do not drag furniture across the floor.
- Use felt pads on chair and furniture legs.
- Office roller chairs must comply with DIN 68131 (Type W1). Use protective office mats under the rolling chairs.
- Place quality walk-off mats at all entrances to retain dirt, grit and moisture.
- Never use latex or rubber backed mats as they can permanently stain the floor.
- Never use cleaning products with abrasive ingredients or solvent based, e.g. acetone.
- Never use wire brushes.
- Avoid moisture on the floor.
- Place area rugs or mats in front of the kitchen appliances and sink to protect your cork floor from a lot of traffic, water spillages, dropping food, grease, and everything else that can cause premature wear of your kitchen floor.
- Ideal and healthy room conditions are 35 - 65 % R.H. at 20°C (68°F).
- When using intensive room heating, the indoor air humidity may drop so low that the floor is prone to dry out. As cork is a natural material, this may cause shrinkage of the tiles that will result in minor gaps in the flooring joints. Use a room humidifier to prevent this.
- Cork, as a natural material, may tend to fade when exposed to sunlight. Cork and wood, are natural products, colour change may be expected when exposed to natural light over a period of time. Cork will tend to fade while wood tends to mellow or darken. It is important to move area rugs and furnishings to allow for even colour change.
- Use blinds, curtains or other sun screening system to minimise this effect.
- WICANDERS floors are easy to maintain. You only need a mild detergent and a vacuum cleaner. For daily/weekly maintenance, you can also use a broom handle with a cloth on the end. The removable cloth has a substance with anti-static characteristics, which will clean all the dust and prevent its settling on the floor.

For maintaining your floor as new, WICANDERS recommends a range of Maintenance Products, which will give pleasant results. For its correct use follow the instructions on the packaging labels of each product, as well as the information from technical data sheets.

Repair Floating Floors

REPAIRING FLOATING FLOORS WITH Corkloc® GLUELESS SYSTEM - Corkcomfort Floating and Woodcomfort floating

Repairing a damaged plank of floating floor

Alternative A: Plank removal

Damaged or wrongly installed planks can be removed as follows:

- a) Remove the skirting board.
- b) Remove all planks until you reach the one to be replaced.

Warning: Planks should be folded up or slid out of their lock; never bent down against their lock.



Remember to stack the planks facing the wall (which CorkLoc® system has been cut) in order for you to be able to return them to their respective positions.



Alternative B: Plank cutting

The following tools and materials are required in order to remove planks from within an installed area:

Electric handsaw, Knife, Chisel, Hammer, Adhesive (PVA Adhesive, class D3).

<p>1. To remove the plank you must cut it with a circular saw. Set the saw to the precise depth of the plank to prevent cutting polythene or subfloor. Insert a new piece of polythene sheeting if damaged during this process.</p>		<p>2. Use a wood chisel to remove the corner pieces.</p>	
<p>3. Remove the plank pieces. Use extreme caution when removing the damaged plank to prevent damage in adjoining planks.</p>		<p>4. Cut off the tongues on the short and long sides of the new plank.</p>	
<p>5. Cut off the groove rebound on the short and long sides of the new plank.</p>		<p>6. Use a wood chisel to remove the corner pieces.</p>	
<p>7. Apply Wicanders W-185 or a PVA D3 class adhesive also on the short and long groove where the repair is being affected.</p>		<p>8. Slide the repair plank into the place, first inserting the side with groove and pressing with hand.</p>	
<p>9. Place weights on the repaired plank to maintain it in place. Avoid traffic in order to ensure perfect adhesion of the plank.</p>			

NOTE: If the floor was varnished after installation, to achieve a uniform surface before gluing the tile, you should apply the same coats of varnish applied on floor.
After the glue is dry you must apply one coat of varnish or Power Polish on the entire floor, after cleaning the floor.