

Installing VCT, LVT, Sheet Vinyl, Rubber over Damp Sub Floors

Products such as VCT, LVT, LVP, SVP, Sheet Vinyl, rubber or carpet with vinyl backing may be installed over damp sub floors as long as sub floors are properly sealed and prepared for the flooring.

The condition of the sub floor and/or the type of flooring to be installed will determine if the floor needs to be leveled. Then follow the appropriate instructions below.

Installation Recommendations:

A) In areas where leveling is NOT REQUIRED to lay the flooring:

- 1) Spread ERP-270 Perma-Seal with approved applicator. Do not exceed recommended coverage for intended application. Let sealer dry overnight (approx. 12-18 hours).
- 2) Spread D737 Flooring Adhesive with the flooring manufacturer's recommended trowel.
 - i) if an open pore flooring (e.g. carpet with jute backing) is to be installed, let the adhesive flash (using wet lay installation method). Adhesive should still transfer to your hand. Then place flooring into the adhesive and roll down with a 75# -100# roller to ensure contact.
 - ii) if a closed cell flooring (e.g. VCT, LVT, LVP, SVP, Sheet Vinyl, rubber or carpet with vinyl backing) is to be installed, spread adhesive with the appropriate notched trowel and let the adhesive flash (dry lay or pressure sensitive installation). Adhesive should no longer transfer to your hand when placed on adhesive. Then install flooring and roll with a 75# - 100# roller to ensure contact.

B) In areas where leveling is REQUIRED to lay the flooring:

- 1) Spread ERP-270 Perma-Seal with approved applicator. Do not exceed recommended coverage for intended application. Let sealer dry overnight (approx. 12-18 hours).
- 2) Next spread ACS-210 True-Seal with foam or 1/8" nap roller. Coverage should be around 500 SF/gal. or 1250 SF/pail. Let primer dry for approx. 1-2 hours until it changes color from milky white to clear. The ACS-210 will provide a bonding surface for the leveling compound.
- 3) Spread Leveling Compound such as STAUF QFP-520, SLC-540, QFF-560 onto ACS-210 and allow to dry.
- 4) Spread Flooring Adhesive such as STAUF D737 with the appropriate trowel.
 - i) if an open pore flooring (e.g. carpet with jute backing) is to be installed or a closed cell flooring (e.g. VCT, LVT, LVP, SVP, Sheet Vinyl, rubber or carpet with vinyl backing) is to be installed over leveling compound >1/8" thick. Let the adhesive flash using wet lay installation method. Adhesive should still transfer to your hand. Then place flooring into the adhesive and roll down with a 75# -100# roller to ensure contact.
 - ii) if a closed cell flooring (e.g. VCT, LVT, LVP, SVP, Sheet Vinyl, rubber or carpet with vinyl backing) is to be installed over leveling compound <1/8" thick. Spread adhesive with the appropriate notched trowel and let the adhesive flash (dry lay or pressure sensitive installation). Adhesive should no longer transfer to your hand when placed on adhesive. Then install flooring and roll with a 75# -100# roller to ensure contact.

Trowel Selection:

The correct trowel for each flooring type is determined by the flooring manufacturer. A leveling compound or abraided concrete is considered to be a porous sub floor; ERP-270 or a speed troweled/burnished concrete is a non-porous sub floor. In the absence of the manufacturer's recommendations, these are Stauf's minimum requirements for various types of flooring:

General installation:

Follow instructions for wet lay or pressure sensitive application
Stauf Trowel #1 (1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Flat V-Notch) up to 170 SF/gal

Exceptions are:

a) Carpets with rough backings (felt, fibers, jute, synthetic or action-backed):

Follow instructions for wet lay or pressure sensitive application
Stauf Trowel #2 (1/8" x 1/8" x 1/16" Flat V-Notch) up to 90 SF/gal.

b) Thin and flexible flooring where trowel ridge pattern might telegraph through the flooring (LVT, LVP, SVP, Sheet Vinyl, thin rubber flooring) on non-porous sub floors:

Follow instructions for pressure sensitive application
Stauf Trowel #9 (1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" Flat V-Notch) up to 250 SF/gal

c) Thick, heavy and/or large flooring tiles as well as heavy sports flooring or thick flooring with heavy traffic:

Follow instructions for wet lay or pressure sensitive application
Stauf Trowel #15 (3/32" x 3/32" x 3/32" Flat V-Notch) up to 130 SF/gal.

Using non-Stauf adhesives or leveling compounds over Stauf Sealers:

If using a non-Stauf leveling compound, make certain it will bond to the Stauf Sealer or Primer by checking with the manufacturer for their requirements to use their product over acrylic or epoxy sealers and primers. Testing in an inconspicuous area prior to installation is recommended. Stauf cannot warrant the performance of other manufacturers' products nor their compatibility with Stauf's sealers and primers.

If no leveling is required, a pressure sensitive or contact adhesive can be spread directly over the Stauf Sealer. Again, if not a Stauf product, make certain that the adhesive being used is approved over either an acrylic or epoxy-based sealer or primer by checking first with the adhesive manufacturer.

When installing non-porous flooring directly over a sealer, it is absolutely necessary to let the adhesive flash and become tacky (check with adhesive manufacturer for flash time) before placing the flooring into the adhesive since it will be sealed from both sides once the flooring is laid and it will not be able to dry any further.

Visit the Stauf web site for more information or call Stauf Technical Services at 901.820.0007.

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