

## DIRECT STICK TO EXISTING SURFACES - LOW HEIGHT BUILD UP ACCOUSTIC FLOORS BUILD HEIGHT LESS THAN 20MM

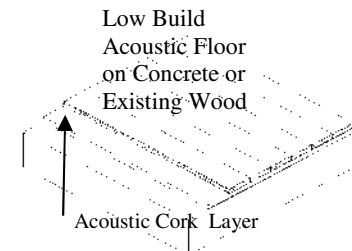
Many applications require floors that use less than 20mm in vertical height, but the owners still want to achieve acoustic properties and performance as well as reduce the hardness of the floor for safety purposes. To do this we have developed a recommended process that allows direct sticking of pre-finished T&G to any existing planar surface.

You MUST COMPLY with the use, handling, preparation and instructions as set out in the document available from; [www.fwprdc.org.au](http://www.fwprdc.org.au) called 'Timber Flooring – VERSION 1 – December 2005' © 2005 Forest & Wood Products Research & Development Corporation

The instructions provided for “PRE-COATED T&G DIRECT STICK TO CONCRETE OR OTHER HARD SURFACES” and/or for “PRE-COATED T&G DIRECT STICK TO EXISTING WOOD FLOOR, PLYWOOD OR PARTICLE BOARD” are to be followed for surface preparation. The low height build floor uses a thicker cork layer as the acoustic absorption medium and then 11mm thick pre-finished T&G wood flooring is glued directly to the cork. Only cork specifically designed for this purpose is to be used.

In addition;

- Apply [Kleiberit PUR Parquet Glue 567.0](#) flooring adhesive in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to the floor and lay 6mm thick acoustic cork underlay that is designed specifically for this application. [Minimum cork density and internal strength is required.] Apply the glue with 100% floor cover.
- Lay the cork with the edges butted hard against the walls and at joints between the cork sheets make sure there are no gaps. [Noise will travel through gaps much better than the cork.] Use small nails to hold the cork down if possible and on surfaces that you can not nail to use weights. Weights must be left in place until the glue is set. The pressure required for the glue to properly adhere is 10kg/m<sup>2</sup>.
- After the glue has set you then install the 11mm T&G flooring. Starting at the wall you select, usually the longest wall, install 20mm wide expansion joint.<sup>1</sup> This should be pushed with a straight board hard against the wall to close air gaps. If the wall is not straight then gaps between the strip and the wall should be filled with glue, silicone or other filler.
- In this application method you DO NOT leave expansion gaps along all walls and fixtures in the floor. You MUST provide for expansion by installing cork expansion joints or other flexible fillers like silicone with a minimum room for expansion of 12mm. The gap to a wall at the end grain can be reduced to 6mm and this can be filled with flexible fillers if desired [rather than cork]. All air voids need to be filled to stop noise.
- On top of the cork underlay apply 100% cover of glue to manufacturer's instruction. The side strip expansion joints and the T&G wood flooring can be stapled to locate in the lateral direction but the cork underlay is not thick or dense enough to be able to hold the T&G down



so if there is wood or similar products under the cork then longer staples or brads can be used. If the underlay is over concrete then weigh the boards down with 10kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Spread only enough for 3 or 4 boards at a time.

- If the supporting surface is not level or the boards are not sitting down onto the supporting surface they must be held down using extra weights so that the boards are in constant, firm contact with the adhesive. IF in doubt – HOLD DOWN! And keep holding down until the glue is completely cured.
- Ensure each board is pushed against the already installed boards so that there is a small gap of 0.2mm. Use plastic or other spacing devices to achieve this. Cramping can be done by the use of 'strap cramps' with up to 3 boards being cramped at one time. Glue must not develop a skin before boards are placed on the glue and cramping is to be done before any skin develops on exposed glue and ALWAYS WITHIN 10 minutes of glue application.
- Close all end gaps so there is no gap.
- Working from left to right or right to left and use the off-cut from the end of a run as the start piece for the next run to minimise waste.
- Start all new rows with a board at least 400mm shorter or longer than the strip used in the previous row. This will prevent end joints from clustering or aligning throughout the floor.
- You must install 20mm wide expansion joints<sup>1</sup> spaced no more than 6m apart in the across the grain direction.
- Clean up excess adhesive in accordance with the glue manufacturer's instructions.

<sup>1</sup> See Data Sheet “Expansion Joints”