dB4™ LITE

Installation Instructions

dB4 LITE IS NOT WARRANTED AS A MOISTURE BARRIER.

Preparation:

o **NOTE**: Acoustic sealant shall be used at base of stud track of demising walls prior to installation of underlayment, where necessary

o When to install:

- After 100% "dried in" (all windows and doors installed)
- Preferably, after drywall installation
- Finish floor shall be installed within 2 weeks, if possible
- Underlayment shall be protected from heavy wear, including use of stilts, hand-trucks, heavy equipment, etc.

Concrete Subfloor

1. The slab must be of good quality, standard density concrete with low water to cement ratios consistent with placing and finishing requirements.
2. It shall have a maximum slump of 4", a minimum compressive strength of 3500 psi, and following the recommendations of ACI Standard 302.1R for Class 2 or Class 4 floors and the Portland Cement Association's recommendations for slabs on ground.
3. The concrete slab must be dry, clean, smooth, structurally sound, and free of foreign materials that might prevent an adhesive bond as described in ASTM F710 "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring."
4. For grade- or below-grade concrete, refer to detailed instructions for vapor retarder.

   NOTE: Do not use spray-on curing compounds because they reduce the drying rate of concrete and can interfere with the adhesive bond.

5. Before installation of the finished flooring, moisture, alkali, and bond testing must be conducted.
6. Moisture testing must be performed in accordance with ASTM F2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes" (preferred method) or in accordance with ASTM F1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride."
7. The concrete must be dry with moisture emission rates that do not exceed 3 lbs. per 1000sf in 24 hours.
8. The surface of the concrete must have a pH of 9 or less.
9. Bond testing must be completed to determine compatibility of the adhesives to the concrete slab.
10. Above-grade concrete is usually protected from most sources of moisture except the moisture initially in the mix and water vapor in the atmosphere. As with concrete placed on and below grade, above-grade concrete must be kept damp during the curing process to permit hydration to occur.
11. Floors on metal decks or above-grade structural concrete floors must be dried and must meet the same requirements as slabs on grade.

Gypsum concrete surface preparation

1. Surfaces to receive dB4 Lite shall be clean and cured per the gypsum concrete manufacturers curing instructions.

Wood subfloor surface preparation (or Cement Board)

1. Surfaces to receive dB4 Lite shall be broom clean and smooth with no protruding fasteners.
2. If not adequately smooth, all protrusions greater than 1/16" shall be scraped from surface, as they will telegraph through underlayment

IMPORTANT NOTE: Planks should be installed perpendicular (90 degrees) to the dB4 Lite underlayment pattern;

PLACE THE FIBER SIDE DOWN ONTO THE SUB-FLOOR FOR:

- Glue down engineered wood or hardwood floors
- Nail down engineered wood or hardwood floors
- Floating engineered wood or hardwood floors
- Glue down carpet tiles
- Do not use dB4 Lite with ceramic tile
- LVT must be interlocking and minimum of 5mm thick

1. Starting in one corner of the room, unroll dB4 Lite flush with the existing wall and cut to required length. Use a straight edge and cut with a utility knife.
   a. dB4 Lite shall run in the gap under the drywall (BEYOND the baseboard) and can butt against the baseplate and/or stud track. The dB4 Lite underlayment does not expand/contract with thermal changes.
2. Roll out additional dB4 Lite rolls, tightly butting the side edges to one another. Do not overlap seams. Butt joints shall not have openings exceeding 1/16" (this will allow additional sound to pass through)
3. (OPTIONAL) Although dB4 Lite may be used as a free-floating underlayment, it may be secured to the subfloor using only the following approved adhesives. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application of adhesive.
   a. Spray-On: XL Stix Essential

Note: Pressure Sensitive Adhesives (PSAs) must be allowed to cure and tack prior to installation of dB4 underlayment

   b. Trowel-On: Pressure sensitive vinyl floor adhesive Roberts 2310
   c. Do NOT use water-based adhesive
   d. To assure ideal level-floor finish, a weighted roller

is suggested. Curling and bubbling edges may require re-application adhesive. Wood sub-floors may use mechanical fasteners.

4. The seams should be taped with Dri-Seal or an approved impermeable tape. Tape should be rolled out to ensure that no bubbles or wrinkles exist.
    a. Dri-Seal: Poly-propylene tape with acrylic adhesive, with thickness greater than 12 mils, impermeable rating (<= .04 perms)
    b. Taping is not required for hardwood or laminate applications if on wood sub-floor
5. dB4 Lite is easily cut to fit around irregular objects and columns.

Storage Requirements

Should be stored in a dry environment. May be stored in temperatures ranging from 0oF to +110oF.

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