




CORKS RIBAS
www.corksribas.pt
PRODUCT FROM PORTUGAL

natur cork floor tiles **cork**

**CORK
FLOORING
INSTALATION**



Why Cork Flooring?



Warm

Cork's natural thermal insulation properties make cork floors pleasantly warm. They provide a warm and cozy floor temperature even for bare feet, and make for a comfortable floor all year round.

Comfortable

Walking on a cork floor cannot be paralleled in terms of comfort. Cork's elasticity protects against and relieves strain on your feet, joints and back.

Environmentally Friendly

Cork floors are made with natural materials and are therefore an environmentally friendly alternative to other flooring options. Mindful of the increasing need to protect the environment, cork floors are a sensible and ecological choice.

Quiet

The unique structure of cork makes all Naturcork floors particularly quiet. Cork reduces sound transmission between and within rooms, creating a quieter and more peaceful environment in your home.

Durable

Naturcork cork flooring withstands years of wear and still looks as good as the day it was first laid.. This is a result of the unique structure of cork and the extremely resilient surface finish.

Healthy

The surface finish on Naturcork floors prevents trapped dirt, dust, germs and mold, actively contributing to a healthy and hygienic environment.

Easy Maintenance

The hygiene features on Naturcork flooring make it easier for you to clean and maintain. A vacuum cleaner and a mop are all that is required to keep your floors looking as good as new. All Naturcork flooring are designed in such a way that they almost look after themselves.

Laying & Finishing of CORKSRIBAS adhesive backed cork tiles

Installation, sanding and finishing of CORKSRIBAS Cork Tiles is the responsibility of the cork installer, so it is recommended that cork tiles be installed by a qualified Cork Tile Installer, sander and finisher.

It is the responsibility of Cork Installer to ensure that Cork Tiles are fit for purpose and are suitable for the area they are being installed.

1 Check your adhesive backed cork tiles to ensure the adhesive completely covers the tile and there are no bumps, bubbles or anything that will stop your tile from 100% contact with the adhesive on the floor. Using a 3mm foam roller or similar, replace any missing adhesive.

Using a scrapper or similar, remove any built-up adhesive, bubbles etc. from the back of the tiles.

Never place adhesive backed tiles back to back.

2 Remove any unevenness from the substrate, this may require grinding, sanding or priming then levelling with a suitable levelling compound.

If the substrate is timber, chipboard, yellow tongue or plywood, it must be structurally sound and level, if not level Hardboard Underlay, or a similar equivalent product must be fixed prior to installation.

Australian standard for an acceptable substrate to lay on is 3mm variance over 3m.

Australian standard for acceptable moisture in concrete substrate is 5.5% or below.

Ensure the substrate is clean, free of any foreign contaminants like oil, grease, dirt, etc., essentially anything that will prevent Neoprene primer and Cork contract from soaking in, adhering or setting up correctly on your substrate.

3 Measure up the floor by setting out a starting point that will leave generous cuts along all walls, this will ensure you don't have any small, unsightly cuts around the perimeter of your walls.

No walls in any house will be perfectly square.

4 Using a string line or straight pencil line, draw two lines, the first from the front of the house to the back, the second from one side of the house to the other.

Where these two lines cross, will leave a laying starting point, which should be close to the middle of a room and should allow for generous cuts down any hallways, etc.

When you are happy with the set out of your lines, you can then apply the Neoprene Primer using a flat trowel or a thin nap roller.

Neoprene prime should cover between 10-15m² per litre, allow 1 hour to dry, this will be slower in cold conditions, when the Neoprene is clear it is dry.

Once your Neoprene Primer is dry, apply Cork contact using a flat trowel or a thin rap roller.

Cork Contact should cover between 10-15m² per litre, allow 1 hour to dry, this will be slower in cold conditions, when the Cork Contact is clear it is dry and your cork tiles are ready to lay.

**Wet your trowel before applying neoprene primer and Cork Contact;
Try not to overlap Neoprene primer or Cork Contact when applying;
Ensure your trowel keeps a clean sharp edge, clean off any Neoprene primer or
Cork Contact that may build up.**

5 When the Cork Contact is dried, you should be able to see the pencil line and starting point through the adhesive.

Due to the Cork Contact on the floor and the Cork Contact on the back of the tiles, the tiles will stick immediately, so ensure the first tiles laid are in the correct place, you may wish to use a straight edge or any other item that has a straight edge to ensure your first tiles go in exactly where you want them.

When laying remember when you press the adhesives together it is permanent.

You may very lightly lay the tile into place then pull it against the other tiles before you press them down, this way you can correct slightly out of square tiles.

6 Lay the whole floor, leaving any cuts to last.

When cutting in, put a full tile on top of the last full tile laid, then using a template tile (a tile you know is square and consistent), push the template tile up to the wall, using a fixed blade Stanley knife, cut the tile below the template tile, pull off the template tile, trim the cut edge of the below tile and put the trimmed edge against the skirting board or wall, this cut piece, should fit perfectly in.

Molded architraves may require measurements from varying points to give a template that can then be trimmed out.

Another way is to use your template tile on its side, push it into each mold in the architrave, mark the point points on the tile below and trace out.

7 Rolling will ensure all tiles are stuck down evenly and correctly, if a roller is not available, walk over each tile in the floor to ensure it is in place.

8 Once you are confident that the Cork tiles are completely stuck, you may, begin sanding and finishing.

The first sand should be completed with a coarse grit paper, 30-40 grit, using a slow speed rotary sander (Polivac SV25 or similar), this needs to be completed slowly, ensuring all tiles are sanded evenly, without any misses, then using a 80 grit paper, sand the floor slowly to ensure that 30-40 grit sanding marks are taken out, then using a 100 grit paper, sand the floor slowly to ensure any 80 grit sanding marks are taken out.

Thoroughly vacuum floor and it ready for coating.

Please note, Mesh type Screenbacks are not used on raw cork tiles, only between coats.

9 Various coating brands and types are available to finish your Cork Tiles.

In regard to solvent based coatings we recommend:

- Urethane Coatings;
- Polycure Coatings;
- Toby Coatings.

Only single pack moisture cure coatings are to be used on Cork Tiles, no two pack coatings or fast sealers of any type.

Normally 3 coats of solvent based coatings should be enough to give the required build and gloss level required.

Once the first coat is dry, cut the floor back with a 150 grit screenback or similar, and repeat this process for second coat.

Normally solvent based coatings are one coat per day, drying over night.

In regard to water based coatings we recommend:

- Loba;
- Bona.

Three coats of water based coatings may be enough, but an extra coat may be required if using a water based coating.

A primer first coat can be used with water based coats, this does not need to be cut back. Any further coats will need to be cut back with a 150 grit screenback or similar.



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