

INSTALLATION GUIDE



TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

CHAPTER #5

Installation of Planks

Universal bond Self Adhesive system

INSTALLATION OF: PLANKS - UNIVERSAL BOND

UNIVERSAL BOND			
Pack Size	Thickness	Sound Resistance	Under-Floor heating
10m ²	3mm	up to 23db	Compatible
10m ²	5mm	up to 26db	Not Compatible

About Universal Bond

Universal Bond 3mm/5mm high-grab selfadhesive underlay which reduces installation times and sub-floor preparation times are significantly reduced. Ideal for access flooring applications. It is extremely stable, durable and non-collapsing. Perfect for when bonded solution is needed but with the ability to be lifted later. Quick to fit, easy to work with.



- Rapid installation, moisture barrier foil.
- 100% recycled high density rubber crumb.
- In a 20m roll this PET foil has a huge vapour resistance SD value of 150 much higher than any similar thickness products.
- Perfect for use with underlays with no built-in moisture barriers.
- Ideal for use on indoor sites as a dust or paint protection cover.
- 23dB impact sound resistance noise rating (3mm), 26dB (5mm).
- SR1 level floor required for herringbone.
- Extremely stable, durable and non-collapsing.
- 3mm suitable for underfloor heating.





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- 1. The sub-floor must be level, smooth and dry. Sub-floor moisture readings must not exceed those prescribed by the wood floor manufacturer. If the sub-floor is dust generating or flaky, it may be necessary to apply a sub-floor primer prior to installation.
- The wood floor should always be allowed to condition prior to the installation. Before starting the installation, always follow the manufacturer's conditioning recommendations carefully (conditioning should never be less than 48 hours).
- The Universal Bond product must also be conditioned together with the wood flooring for the same length of time in the room where the installation will take place (for conditioning of solid boards please see points to note at the end of this document).
- It is important to control the internal temperature and humidity during and following the installation and we recommend that if a HVAC system is installed that it should be running constantly to maintain the required conditions.
- The air conditioning system should be allowed to run for a sufficient time to create the normal internal climate that the floor will be subject to during normal use.
- Once the climate has been stabilized, Universal Bond and the floor covering should be conditioned to this environment for at least 48 hours prior to the installation. Prior to installation it is the installer's responsibility to ensure that

all internal site conditions are stable and suitable for the installation.

- Room temperature of between 18°C -22°C (65°F - 73°F) and Relative Humidity (RH) of between 45% - 65% must be maintained at all times. Failure to maintain these conditions could cause ongoing behavioural problems with the wood flooring product.
- 2. Always follow the wood flooring manufacturer's recommendations regarding moisture levels. Ted Todd Moisture Screen Foil is recommended on all concrete floor slabs. The joints should be taped using the Alu Tape for the Moisture Foil Screen. The DPM should be allowed to extend up the perimeter walls by 50mm, which can later be trimmed level with the surface of the finished floor, to allow any moisture vapour to be expelled above the finished floor height around the perimeter of the room. Alternatively, a liquid DPM such as the Ted Todd Primerfast product be used over concrete.
- 3. Roll out and position the Universal Bond (over the DPM, if fitted) with the exposed rubber surface facing downwards and the release film facing upwards, in rows next to one another (do not overlap the Universal Bond product).





Extra-Wide Plank





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- 4. Cover the floor area to be fitted with Universal Bond, leaving an expansion gap between the Universal Bond and the perimeter wall. The expansion gap should be identical to the expansion gap being left between the wall and the wood floor being installed above (see Section 6 below). Joins must be closely butted together (to ensure that there are no gaps in the Universal Bond) and run in the opposite direction to the board lengths of the wood floor to be fitted.
- 5. As shown in Diagram 1 below, at the perimeter wall where the installation of the floor begins, peel back the righthand corner of the release film (A) at 45 degrees to the wall to expose a triangular shaped area of adhesive (B) on each strip of Universal Bond. Fold back sufficient release film to extend beyond two board widths.



Wide Plank

Extra-Wide Plank



Figure 1: peel back the right-hand corner of the release film at 45 degrees to the wall to expose a triangular shaped area of adhesive

Super-Wide



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• 6. Set out the first row of boards across all the Universal Bond rows along the full length of the starting wall. Ensure that the correct expansion gap is maintained between the wall and the boards (refer to the board manufacturers' guidelines on the necessary expansion gap). Do not press the boards onto the corner of exposed adhesive yet, but allow the adhesive to hold the board gently in place. Now position the second row of boards to produce a configuration of boards and release film that resembles Diagram 2 below.



Figure 2: Lay 2 rows before pulling release paper firmly downwards from the corner.

 7. Starting with the first row of Universal Bond, hold the first two boards firmly together with one hand, whilst gently peeling back the release film from under the boards with your other hand (in direction C of Diagram 2 above). Continue peeling back the release film until the adhesive membrane below the first two boards is fully exposed. During this process, the angle of the release film fold and the wall will change from the initial 45 degree angle to becoming parallel to the boards and the wall. Whilst still maintaining pressure on the board joins, secure these first two boards in position by pressing them firmly onto the exposed adhesive. Repeat this process for each of the Universal Bond rows until the first two rows of boards are secured by the Universal Bond adhesive membrane along the entire length of the installation.



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 8. At this point, the first two rows of boards will be secure and any excess release film (D) will be folded back parallel to the exposed edge of the second board as shown in Diagram 3 below. Ensure that the release film is butted tightly against the exposed edge of the second board so that no adhesive membrane is exposed along the length of the installation. If too much release film is peeled back, stick the release film back up to the last fitted board and fold along the edge so that no adhesive layer is exposed.



Figure 3: fold back any excess release parallel to the exposed edge of the second board.

 9. Now position the third row of boards along the full length of the installation on top of the folded back release film, ensuring the board joins are closely butted together. Starting once again with the first row of Universal Bond, hold the third board tightly against the second board and gently pull the release film from under the third row of boards,

continuing to ensure that the joins are kept tight. The boards will automatically be grabbed by the adhesive membrane as the release film is peeled back. Repeat this process for each row of Universal Bond until the third row of boards is secured along the full length of the installation.



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• 10. As shown in Diagram 4 below, continue installing all the remaining rows of boards in the same manner until the installation is complete.



Figure 4: continue installing all the remaining rows of boards in the same manner until the installation is complete.

Points to note:

- If under floor heating is present, only wood flooring specifically approved for this application should be installed. The surface temperature must not exceed 27°C. This is critical, as excessive gapping between boards and/or cracking of the top layer may occur if the temperature exceeds this limit. If an electric matting underfloor heating system is used, it must be laid evenly throughout the floor area to avoid 'hotspots'. A matting system which is approved for floating floors must be used to ensure a suitable platform is created to install the wood flooring.
- Always follow the manufacturers conditioning recommendations carefully.
- Prior to installation it is the installer's responsibility to ensure that all internal site conditions are stable and suitable for the installation. Room temperature of between 18°C - 22°C and Relative Humidity of between 45% - 65% must be maintained at all times. Failure to maintain these conditions could cause ongoing performance issues with the wood flooring product.





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Wide boards - Alternative procedure for starting the first row of boards (this method can also be adopted for any size boards if preferred).

- 1. Fold back a section of the white release film equal to the board width being installed plus 50mm and fold it flat (see Diagram 5&6).
- 2. Cut the remaining underlay coloured in blue along the dotted line A and discard. This leaves an overlapping section of release film on which to place the first board (see diagram 7).
- 3. Position each row of the underlay against the wall/perimeter (see diagram 7&8).
- 4. Follow this procedure for each row of Universal Bond until the whole area is complete and set out as shown in Diagram 8.
- 5. Once each row is in position, slide back the release film a further 50mm to expose a strip of adhesive membrane against the wall (denoted by B in Diagram 8)





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- 6. Locate the next board (2) ensuring that the joint is flush with the adjoining board (see Diagram 10). Once located correctly press firmly into the exposed adhesive strip at the back of the board.
- Next, while holding the board in place slowly pull the release film in row 3 and then row 4 in the direction of the arrows and apply pressure to the board to fully activate the adhesive and hold the board in place.



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Super-Wide

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