

Karndean Australia/New Zealand Installation Guidelines

Acclimatisation of Material

Please make sure at least **24 hours prior, during and after installation**, flooring materials are removed from packaging (tiles and planks may be stacked, but must be rested flat) and allow to condition in the room where the installation is to take place. Room temperature should be kept between **18-26°C**. HVAC System, where fitted, shall be in operation during the acclimatisation and installation period.

Sub-floors

Install Karndean in accordance with AS 1884 – 2012: Floor coverings – Resilient sheet & tiles – Installation practices. Ensure that subfloors are permanently dry, smooth, level, clean, absorbent and constructed to provide a firm foundation. Please check “Subfloor Preparations” section for further details.

Arranging the tiles

Most of our planks/tiles do not need direction or pattern matching and can be arranged at random, except the following:

MLC01, MX92, MX93, MX94, MX95, MX96, MX97, MX98 and MX99 are directional.

MLC07 and MLC08 must be tessellated (chequerboard) to ensure uniform fitting is achieved.

Installation Procedure

(Also see the adhesive bucket label)

1. Lay the tiles and planks into **freshly spread adhesive** without allowing tack-up to ensure maximum bond strength and eliminate the risk of ‘peaking’.
2. Use a hand roller for each small section immediately as you progress. Wipe excess adhesive off immediately with a damp cloth.
3. The whole area should be rolled in both directions after installation using a 68kg roller or a hand roller in confined areas, paying particular attention to the edges.
4. Ensure all planks and tiles are **free from traffic** for 24 hours after installation (or protect them from direct contact e.g. cover with board/sheeting).
5. Clean-up: Adhesive when wet with a damp cloth and when dry with Karndean Remove. Tools: with water when adhesive is still wet or mineral turps if the adhesive has dried.

Underfloor Heating

Karndean flooring is suitable over underfloor heating systems, insulated so that its surface temperature does not rise above 27°C (80°F).

The system must be switched off 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after the installation, then temperature gradually increased no more than 2°C per day to desired warmth. Mesh/wire systems must be bedded into a base coat of reinforced fiber smoothing compound to cover the wires or mesh by consulting your underlayment supplier. Mega-Bond adhesive is then used in the normal way.

Subfloor Preparations

Existing Floor Coverings (e.g. linoleum, PVC, thermoplastic, carpet)

Remove existing floor covering and all traces of adhesive residues. The subfloor should be treated as per the subfloor exposed.

Damp Subfloors

Products must only be laid on sub-floors where the moisture level complies with Appendix ‘A’ testing as per AS 1884 – 2012. If slab moisture is above this level, either a Damp Proof Membrane (DPM) or ‘Moisture Fix’ by Protect Crete must be applied.

Painted Floors / Painted Concrete

Mechanically remove all paint back to original base, prime and apply a compatible self-leveling smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm.

Sealed Concrete/ Mosaic/ Terrazzo/ Ceramics/ Metal Surfaces

Ensure surface is firm, dry and free of wax, oil, dust and loose tile particles. Apply Ardex P82 Primer or similar as a bonding agent and a compatible self-leveling smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm ensuring that all grout lines are filled with no show-through.

Power Floated Concrete

Power floated floors are not sufficiently absorbent for the adhesive to disperse into the substrate and require the application of a primer and a compatible self-leveling smoothing compound.

Cork Tiles

Due to their resilient nature, cork tiles must be uplifted and adhesive residue removed using Roberts 550 Acrylic Adhesive Remover or similar. The exposed floor should then be treated in the prescribed manner as per the above instructions.

Timber Floors

- Standard Floorboards/Tongue and Groove Floor boards must be firm, level and completely covered with 5.5mm thick flooring grade hardboard or minimum 6.0mm thick plywood – fixed with staples and neoprene construction adhesive in strict accordance with AS 1884 – 2012. For wet areas use fiber cement sheets instead.

- Fiber Cement Sheeting

Suitable generally and must be used for wet area subfloors. Being extremely porous the sheets must first be primed with Karndean GS400 Primer or similar.

- Particleboard, Chipboard and Pine Boards

These MUST be covered with minimum 5.5mm thick hardboard complying with AS/NZS 1859.4 or minimum 6.0mm plywood complying with AS/NZS 2269 in order to eliminate later potential movement in changing climatic conditions.

- Wood Mosaic Panel, Woodblock, Wood Strip, Parquetry

Remove these products if laid direct to earth/bitumen/pitch; these should not be overlaid with an impervious vinyl. If fixed onto a wood substrate, then treat as for timber floors.

- Plywood Subfloors

Suitable if compliant with AS/NZS 2269 and a minimum thickness of 6mm. Test for dampness and lightly sand / fill joints to ensure no show-through. Vacuum all dust to facilitate bonding.

Use of Adhesives

Important: Karndean will not be liable for any loss, damage or complaint if the prescribed adhesive system and its instructions are not strictly followed.

Karndean Mega-Bond Adhesive

Water based non-solvent / low-odour, VOC compliant, non-toxic, non-flammable adhesive suitable for indoor use. Mega-Bond incorporates a polymer sealer allowing use in domestic bathrooms, laundries and kitchens (but not ‘wet rooms’) and in commercial potential wet areas such as aged care living areas.

Apply with an unworn V1 1.6mm x 1.6mm notched trowel and lay into wet film (do not let the adhesive tack-up).

Karndean 8000 Waterproof/ High Temperature Adhesive

2-part polyurethane adhesive that is low-odour, non-flammable and VOC compliant that when mixed creates a strong chemical bond. Strictly follow the use instruction label on each pack.

Must be used for localized areas subject to excessive heat and direct sunlight e.g. shop windows, patio door rooms or around fixed heaters. Also use where excessive water can pool, e.g. around a drain waste.

Use a V1 1.6mm x 1.6mm notched trowel into wet film which does not possess wet or dry tack properties, but relies on thickness of adhesive film.

Basic Maintenance

- Karndean flooring incorporates a protective PU surface called K-Guard Plus offering slip, scuff and soiling resistance and eliminates the need to initially strip & seal the new floor.
- Simply vacuum or sweep all loose debris, then damp mop with Karndean Clean (or similar) diluted in water.
- Over time high traffic may cause dulling to occur. To refresh your floor to its initial appearance strip & seal using Karndean Remove and Karndean Refresh sealer (or similar products for vinyl floors).

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