

Installation Guidance Note: Sarlibase Acoustic Underlay

Product description

Forbo Sarlibase acoustic is a resilient PVC acoustic underlay incorporating a glass fleece reinforcement and foam backing that provides additional acoustic performance for compact vinyl and linoleum products. Impact sound reduction values of 18dB can be achieved with Forbo project vinyl and linoleum collections installed on Sarlibase acoustic.

As with any soft underlay indentation resistance will be reduced compared to the floor covering directly adhered to the subfloor. An indication of both the impact sound reduction and indentation resistance values is given in the table below.

Sarlibase/ floorcovering Combination	Impact sound reduction in dB (ISO 717-2)	Residual indentation* (EN ISO 24343-1)
Surestep, Safestep	≥ 18dB	<0.3mm
Eternal	≥ 18dB	<0.2mm
Allura 0.55 and 0.7	≥ 18dB	<0.2mm
Marmoleum	≥ 18dB	<0.15mm
Flotex Sheet**	20dB	N/A

*Residual indentation values are indicative and may vary depending on the type and quantity of adhesive used.

** May be used to provide additional thermal insulation where required. Combined thermal Resistance of Sarlibase acoustic in conjunction with Flotex is 0.057m² K/W.

Sarlibase acoustic can be combined with ETERNAL, ALLURA 0.55 and 0.7, SURESTEP, SAFESTEP, MARMOLEUM* and any compact** vinyl flooring.

*For Marmoleum products Forbo Corkment is also available.

**Forbo Sarlibase acoustic is not suitable for use with acoustic vinyl or linoleum floorcoverings

Installation - General

The quality of the finished installation will depend on the quality of the sub floor. Sarlibase acoustic is not intended to correct or hide subfloor imperfections. Irregularities in the subfloor will be apparent in the finished flooring.

All subfloors should be smooth, sound, clean and dry in accordance with AS 1884-2021 "Floorcoverings - Resilient sheet and tiles - installation practices".

Site conditions for the storage, acclimatisation and installation of Sarlibase acoustic are the same those recommended for all resilient floor coverings.

Installation of the Underlay

Sarlibase acoustic is laid in the same direction as the floor covering with the smooth surface uppermost, ensuring that the seams in the Sarlibase acoustic are separated by at least 50cm from those of the floor covering.

Note: When using some tile sizes, the width of the underlay may need to be reduced to maintain the 50cm offset on tile joints.

Side seams should be trimmed if necessary to ensure that a good, close butt, seam is achieved (gaps between lengths of Sarlibase acoustic are likely to grin through to the top floor covering). Forbo Sarlibase acoustic should be adhered to the subfloor with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as 540 Eurosafe Special or 640 Eurostar Special.

Note: the installed underlay should be left for at least 24 hours before laying the floor covering (this is to allow the adhesive to dry).

Installation of the floor covering

The general installation guidance for the chosen floor covering should be followed.

The following additional guidance should be taken into account before installing your chosen floor covering.

Vinyl sheet

Vinyl floor coverings should be adhered to Sarlibase acoustic with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as 540 Eurosafe Special or 640 Eurostar Special: approx. 150 to 200 g/m² Roll the adhesive film with a **(pre-wetted)** paint roller to prevent trowel marks and to reduce the waiting time*. Failure to pre-wet the roller with adhesive will result in removal of adhesive from the underlay resulting in adhesion failure.

***Note:** the waiting time for the adhesive will be extended due to the impervious nature of the underlay and the floorcovering to avoid the formation of air bubbles. The waiting time will be influenced by site conditions so a bond test should be carried out before proceeding with the installation of the floor covering.

Marmoleum

Marmoleum sheet should be cut to length, back rolled to remove any roll tension, and laid out flat in the installation area for 24 hours prior to installation. If required (usually when a two part PU adhesive is being used) apply a weight to the roll ends to prevent localised lifting off the underlay whilst the adhesive cures.

In combination with Marmoleum sheet, use 414 Euroflex Lino Plus or 614 Eurostar Lino Plus approx. 350-400g/m² f or most applications. Marmoleum Modular tile should be adhered with a two-part PU adhesive* in all situations.

Note: When installing Marmoleum sheet, Bight marks should cut out of the roll.

Allura luxury vinyl tiles

Forbo Allura 0.55 and 0.7 should be adhered with a two-part PU adhesive* in all situations.

Heavy traffic areas – all products

A two-component PU adhesive* should be used in areas subject to very traffic or heavy rolling loads (approx. 350g per sm.)

*Uzin KR430 is recommended. If alternative adhesives are being considered it is important to obtain confirmation of suitability from the adhesive manufacturer.

When installing site formed coved skirting, the underlay should be fitted to the wall and the cove former adhered to the underlay (and wall).

Flotex sheet

Flotex sheet floor coverings should be adhered to Sarlibase acoustic with a water-based acrylic adhesive such as 540 Eurosafe Special or 640 Eurostar Special: approx. 150 to 200g/m² Roll the adhesive film with a **(pre-wetted)** paint roller to prevent trowel marks and to reduce the waiting time*. Failure to pre-wet the roller with adhesive will result in removal of adhesive from the underlay resulting in adhesion failure.

***Note:** the waiting time for the adhesive will be extended due to the impervious nature of the underlay and the floor covering to avoid the formation of air bubbles. The waiting time will be influenced by site conditions so a bond test should be carried out before proceeding with the installation of the floor covering

Points to note

When trimming seams in the floorcovering take care not to cut into the surface of the underlay. Avoid double cutting seams on the underlay if possible use a suitable protection between the underlay and the floor covering. Sarlibase acoustic is not designed for use under acoustic linoleum or vinyl floor coverings.

The installed floor covering should be left for 24 hours before seam welding.

Leave the completed installation for 72 hours before putting into service.

The finished floor may be subject to foot traffic during this period providing suitable protection is in place.

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