

INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DLW VINYL COMPOSITION TILE

1 Subfloor

Subfloors suitable for the installation of Vinyl Composition Tile (DLW Flex Tiles) are all those which are (and remain) level, firm, free of cracks and dry (see also VOB Part C, DIN 18 365 and the relevant regulations in each case). Dense, non-absorbent subfloors, such as mastic asphalt or primed screeds, must have an adequate thickness of levelling compound (we recommend approx. 2 mm) applied when dispersion adhesives are used. Waterproof levelling compounds recommended by the material supplier are suitable for this.

The following empirical values apply to the residual moisture of the various screeds at normal screed thickness, i.e. not significantly above the minimum requirements of DIN 18 560:

Screed	Permissible residual moisture in CM %
Calcium sulphate and calcium sulphate wet screed	≤ 0.5
Cement screed	≤ 2.0

2 Adhesives

Dispersion adhesive is used for bonding DLW Flex Tiles. The recommendations of the manufacturer in question take precedence.

List of manufacturers

Bostik GmbH A.d.Bundesstr.16 D - 33829 Borgholz, Germany Tel.: 05425/801222 www.bostik-findley.de	Henkel-KGaA Construction Technology Henkelstraße 67 D - 40191 Düsseldorf, Germany Tel.: 0211/797 100 www.thomsit.de
Kiesel Bauchemie Wolf-Hirth-Str. 2 D - 73730 Esslingen, Germany Tel. +49 (0) 711/93134352 www.kiesel.com	Mapei GmbH Bahnhofsplatz 10 D - 63906 Erlenbach, Germany Tel.: 09372/98950 www.mapei.de
WULFF GmbH Wersener Str. 30 D - 49504 Lotte, Germany Tel.: 05404/881-0 www.wulff-gmbh.de	Schönox GmbH P.O. Box 1140 D - 48713 Rosendahl, Germany Tel.: 02547/910234 www.schoenox.com

UZIN UTZ AG Dieselstrasse 3 D - 89079 Ulm, Germany Tel.: 0731/4097258 www.uzin-utz.com	Wakol GmbH Bottenbacher 30 D - 66954 Pirmasens, Germany Tel:+49 (0) 6331/8001186 www.wakol.com
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The adhesives suitable for DLW Flex Tiles can be requested directly from the adhesive manufacturers or from the DLW Advisory Service at the following telephone number:
+49 71 42 / 71-2 55

3 Measurement and determination of quantities required

Tiles are generally laid with cross joints in alternating running directions. However, they may also be installed in the same direction via special arrangement. Parallel and diagonal installation is possible in consideration of the joint characteristics. For measurements, an extra amount based on experience is added to the area to be fitted to allow for wastage. There is greater wastage with diagonal installation than with parallel installation, and more wastage with areas that include non-standard angles or curves than with straight areas.

4 Storage climate control and installation conditions

The proper storage of floor coverings is the best way to ensure that they maintain their installation characteristics. Before installation, the floor covering should be stored in a dry and sufficiently cool place, and particularly not in a boiler room. No more than 8 cartons should be stacked on top of one another. Perfect installation of DLW Flex Tiles cannot be guaranteed at overly low temperatures. Installation according to the professional standards assumes a minimum room temperature of + 18 °C, a subfloor temperature of at least + 15 °C, and a relative humidity level of max. 65% (ideally 40% to 60%). Even at suitable temperatures, the floor coverings still need to be conditioned before being laid.

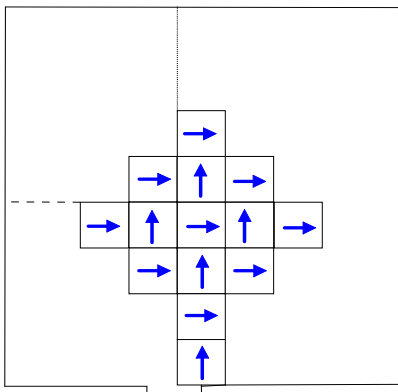
We recommend fanning out tiles before installing them so that they can adjust to the floor temperature.

Care should be taken to ensure that cartons in the same room all have the same manufacturer's batch number, and that they are laid in order of carton number.

5 Installation of Vinyl Composition Tile

a) Parallel installation

A parallel with the main front of the room is determined before installation, using a guide line. The distance from the wall is a multiple of the tile size minus approximately 1 cm. In halls, this measurement can also be taken from the deepest door threshold rather than the wall. The starting point is marked on the line determined. This starting point is determined so that, at points that are particularly visible, for example the main entrance, only nearly whole tiles are laid and no narrow strips are used. From the starting point outwards, a row of tiles is now placed loosely along the guide line and weighed down with stacks or cartons of tiles.

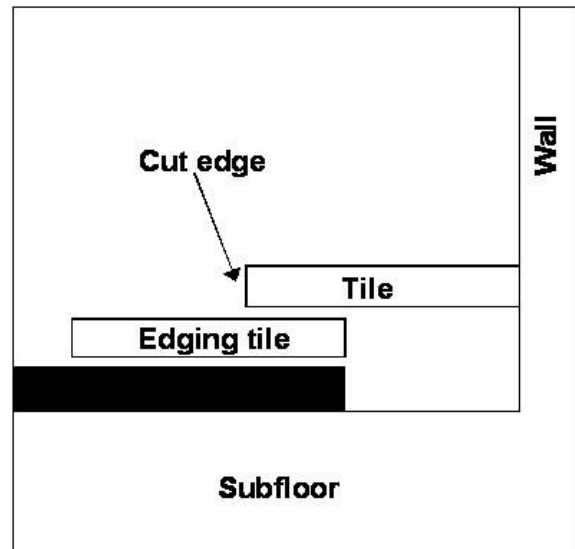


Parallel /chessboard installation of tiles

In large rooms, this row of tiles is left in position until the adjacent field has been laid. In small rooms, it is sufficient to leave one tile as a reference.

b) Diagonal installation

The room is first divided up symmetrically and the axis determined using a guide line. Now determine how the tiles are to run to the walls and the main entrance. The diagonal of a square tile is the length of the side of the tile x 1.4. If small triangles now result here, the room axis is shifted sideways by a fourth of the diagonal. The same applies to the starting point. In asymmetrical rooms, a guide line is used to determine the parallel at a distance from the main front which corresponds to a multiple of the tile diagonal minus approx. 1 cm. Here, as well, it should be taken into account that only nearly whole tiles should be positioned at the main entrance and, between them, half-tiles, never small triangles. Then a double row of tiles is laid loosely along the guide line: the first row of tiles lies with opposed corners on the guide line and the second row of tiles touches this line with its corners.



Cut edge of edging tiles

In large rooms, a diagonal row of tiles is now laid from the starting point outwards and used as the baseline for laying. In small rooms, it is enough to leave one tile as a reference. The edging tiles are cut in using a hook blade or utility knife after the surface has been bonded.

6 Bonding

Bonding must always be carried out over the entire surface. Always follow the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer during the process. For the back of the floor covering to be wetted, it is essential to select the correct notch spacing, change trowel blades in good time and rub thoroughly. Continuously check that the back is wetted by pulling up tiles as you work. After applying the adhesive, start installation from the tiles laid out as a reference point or line. In large rooms, we recommend laying in stages to avoid offsets. To wet the back, carefully rub or press on the tiles. This procedure may need to be repeated.

7 Vinyl Composition Tile on floor heating

DLW Flex Tiles can generally be bonded on subfloors with floor heating; the heat penetration resistance is so slight that it makes practically no difference to heating operation (technical information in "Cut surface coordination with heated flooring constructions", issued by *Zentralverband Sanitär Heizung Klima* (Central Association of the Heating, Sanitary and Air Conditioning Trade))

7.1 Dry constructions

Dry constructions may consist of gypsum fibreboards, for example. After the joints have been levelled, the DLW Flex Tiles can be installed.

7.2 Wet constructions (A1 – A3)

With wet constructions, the heating pipes are embedded in a floating cement or calcium sul-

phate screed. Before the floor covering is installed, the heating system installer should ensure that the moisture that is driven out by the effect of heat has escaped **before** the floor covering is laid. The heating system installer should hand over a report relating to the heating up and cooling down measures carried out for this purpose. Moisture testing must only be carried out at the measurement points identified by the screed layer. If there are no measurement points, then the floor layer must raise his concerns in writing with his customer.

8 Cleaning and maintenance

The contractor should hand over to the customer written maintenance instructions for the floor covering in accordance with VOB DIN 18365, Section C, Paragraph 3.1.4.

The following brochures are available free of charge:

- Cleaning and Maintenance Recommendations for Vinyl Composition Tile.

These can be requested by telephoning 0 (0) 71 42 / 71 – 3 40.

9 Special notes

9.1 Office chairs with castors

Office chairs with castors must be equipped for use on resilient floor coverings with Type W castors to EN 12529, i.e. with soft castors of the specified dimensions (50 mm diameter, 20 mm running surface, 100 mm balling radius of running surface). This should be taken into account when procuring new chairs with castors.

9.2 Discolouration

With prolonged contact, rubber may leave indelible discolouration on all resilient floor coverings. Examples of possible causes are: car tyres, castors or feet on washing machines, refrigerators, and prams. Such discolouration will not appear immediately, but as a consequence of the migration of substances and subsequent exposure to light.

To avoid such discolouration, use castors made of polyurethane. If this is impossible, we recommend using underlay cups.

Bitumen-based asphalts, mineral oils, greases, and coloured shoe polishes deposited on the floor covering by shoes can result in discolouration on light-coloured synthetic floor coverings in areas of heavy traffic. This is for example the case in areas that are accessed from asphalted streets, in kitchens or in the offices of filling stations and car repair workshops.

9.3 Adhesive tapes

If adhesive tapes are used on the floor covering, please check compatibility with the relevant manufacturers.

Your contact for installation issues:

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This edition supersedes
all previous editions.