

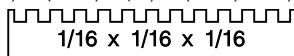
AZROCK SOLID VINYL TILE INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES STONE GRANADA, MILANO AND MILANO SR

AZROCK® by Tarkett

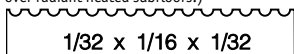
I. GENERAL INFORMATION

These installation specifications are general guidelines for Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile. The latest edition of Azrock's Installation and Maintenance Manual should be consulted for complete details. Overall conditions should meet the following criteria:

1. All flooring material, accessories, and area to be installed must be kept at 65°F. (18.3°C) and no greater than 85°F (29.4°C) for at least 48 hours previous to, during and 48 hours after installation.
2. All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a portland/hydraulic cement based latex underlayment material, such as the **TARKETT** Kwik Patch System.
3. Never install Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile over residual asphalt (cutback) adhesive. These residues must be covered over with appropriate underlayment plywood or **TARKETT**'s Kwik Patch and Additive.
4. Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile, when used in commercial applications, should not be installed over existing resilient floor coverings.
5. Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile is manufactured with directional arrows printed on the back. Install tile with directional arrows in the same direction.
6. Use the recommended **TARKETT** accessories:
 - **TARKETT** #800 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (Dry Set)
1/16" (1.6mm) deep, 1/16" (1.6mm) wide, 1/16" (1.6mm) apart.



- **TARKETT** #940 Polyurethane Adhesive (Wet Set)
1/32" (0.8mm) deep, 1/16" (1.6mm) wide, 1/32" (0.8mm) apart.
(In areas exposed to direct sunlight, temperature extremes, large amounts of topical moisture, and over radiant heated subfloors.)



Use of any other products may affect or even void your warranty.

II. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

The finished appearance of any resilient floor covering will only be as good as the subfloor it is installed upon. The subfloor should be hard, smooth, and dry. Irregularities will show in the finished job.

A. CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

Note: Regardless of the type of concrete or cement-like material used as a base for **TARKETT** resilient flooring the responsibility for use or suitability rests with this products manufacturer, installer or specifier and not with **TARKETT**.

All concrete floors, old or new, should be tested for moisture and proper bonding of the resilient flooring.

Concrete substrates of all grade levels are suitable for the installation of **TARKETT** resilient flooring. These substrates should be dry, clean, smooth, cured to hard non-powdery finish and structurally sound. The concrete surface should be free of dust, loose or scaly surface solvents or other foreign matter.

Cracks and depressions must be filled and abraded until they are completely level, using **TARKETT**'s Kwik Patch cementitious latex patching compound. **Gypsum based patching compounds are not recommended.**

CURING AND PARTING COMPOUNDS

Curing and parting compounds used on concrete subfloors on which resilient floorings to be installed may not be compatible with the adhesive and may interfere with bonding of the adhesive, patching and/or leveling compound. If a compound has been applied which contains silicone or oil, it must be thoroughly removed by sanding or grinding. After removal of curing or parting compound from the substrate, **TARKETT** recommends priming the subfloor with Kwik Patch Latex Additive or an equivalent before installation of the flooring.

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WARRANTIES, GUARANTEES AND PERFORMANCE OF A CONCRETE SUBFLOOR ON WHICH A CURING OR PARTING COMPOUND OR SEALER HAS BEEN APPLIED RESTS WITH THE MANUFACTURER OF THE COMPOUND OR SEALER FOR ADHESION OR LATEX UNDERLAYMENT FAILURES. THE RESPONSIBILITY DOES NOT LIE WITH THE RESILIENT FLOORING OR ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER.

MOISTURE AND ALKALI TESTING

All concrete substrates should be tested for moisture vapor transmission. The RMA Calcium Chloride Moisture Test using the quantitative method as detailed under ASTM F 1869 is recommended. Test results should be below the upper safe threshold of 3 pounds/1,000 sq. ft./24 hours (1.4 Kg/93 M²/24 hours).

Surface alkali testing is also recommended. The use of a quantitative method is preferred such as pH paper and distilled water, pH pencils, or electronic devices. Acceptable substrates will have a surface pH reading of no more than 9.

BOND TEST

A bond test should be performed on all grade levels of concrete substrates to determine if the concrete is sufficiently dry and for the compatibility of the flooring adhesive with concrete surfaces having curing agents, dust inhibitors, paint or other special surface treatments.

An easy method of testing for adherence is to perform a bond test. Use 2' x 2' (600mm x 600mm) pieces of the flooring material selected for the installation and adhere with **TARKETT** recommended adhesive. Pay particular attention to the adhesive open time. If after 72 hours an unusual amount of force is required to lift the material from the subfloor, and if after doing so, adhesive clings to both the subfloor and to the back of the material, the material can be considered "securely bonded."

NOTE: Regardless of the bond test or the type of surface treatment used, the responsibility for warranties, guarantees and performance of a concrete substrate on which a surface treatment has been applied rests with the manufacturer of the surface treatment product for adhesion and/or patching compound failures and not with **TARKETT**.

Radiant Heated Floors. **TARKETT** resilient flooring may be installed over radiant heated floors, provided the operating temperature does not exceed 85°F (29.4°C) at any point in the floor.

B. WOOD SUBFLOORS

Note: Regardless of the type of underlayment material used as a base for **TARKETT** resilient flooring the responsibility for use or suitability rests with this products manufacturer, installer or specifier and not with **TARKETT**.

Wood Subfloor Construction: Suspended wood subfloor shall be 5/8" (16mm) or heavier, conforming to the current CSA or FHA standards, well seasoned, strongly constructed, free from springiness and have a minimum of 18" (460mm) of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. All subfloor panels must be fastened to the joists in accordance with their manufacturers recommendations to preserve their warranties. **NOTE:** Protruding fasteners must be made flush with the plane of the subfloor panels before commencing installation of the underlayment material.

Single Wood Floors: These subfloors must be covered with a minimum of 1/4" (6mm) or heavier approved underlayment grade plywood. **This includes Sturd-I-Floor systems.**

Stripwood Subfloors: Single and/or double tongue-and-groove stripwood floors should be covered with a 3/8" (9.53mm) or heavier underlayment to eliminate telegraphing of the stripwood floor board joints.

WOOD UNDERLAYMENTS

Underlayment grade panels for residential resilient floors must be 1/4" (6mm) or heavier with fully sanded face meeting CSA or FHA standards. The following underlayment recommendations are intended as a guide. **TARKETT** strongly suggests that whoever is buying the underlayment material obtain a warranty from the supplier.

Canadian Standards Association:

- CSA 0121 Douglas Fir Plywood
- CSA 0151 - Canadian Softwood Plywood
- COFI (underlayment grade) - Council of Forest Industries of B.C.

APA-American Plywood Underlayment:

- 1/4" (6mm) or heavier APA Underlayment Exposure 1 (with fully sanded face)
- 1/4" (6mm) or heavier APA Underlayment CC Plugged Exterior (with fully sanded face)
- APA Rated Sturd-I Floor Plywood, Exposure 1 or exterior (with fully sanded face)

Note: Maranti or Luan Type 11 (Int) interior glue plywood is not recommended as underlayment. The porosity and moisture sensitivity of these panels have been known to cause problems with adhesive bonding and panel edge swelling.

OSB or Particleboards: (Chipboard or Flakeboard): While some particle boards may be suitable for resilient flooring, **TARKETT** does not recommend particle or OSB boards as acceptable underlayments for any of its Installation Systems.

LAYING PANELS

The method for underlayment installation shall conform in accordance with their manufacturer's recommendations to preserve their warranties.

C. OTHER TYPES OF SUBFLOORS

TERRAZZO OR CERAMIC SUBFLOORS:

Old terrazzo or ceramic flooring subfloors shall be treated in the same manner as a concrete subfloor, with additional precautions.

- If they are to be used as a subfloor they must be checked with moisture and bond tests conducted.
- Remove all sealer, varnish, wax, oils and soil to prevent their interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Any glazed or very smooth surfaces must be abraded.
- Make surfaces level and smooth using **TARKETT**'s Kwik Patch with the properly diluted Kwik Patch Additive.

EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS

TARKETT does not recommend installation of Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile, for commercial applications, directly over any existing resilient flooring. The old flooring material must be either removed or covered with an appropriate underlayment that will provide a smooth, hard surface for the installation of the new flooring materials.

REMOVAL OF EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING

⚠ WARNING

Removal of existing flooring, which may contain asbestos, can cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. Unless you are sure, beyond any doubt, that the existing floor contains no asbestos, assume it does.

- Inhaling asbestos dust may cause asbestosis or other serious illnesses. Consult a contractor knowledgeable in the safe removal of asbestos. Make sure the contractor is properly licensed where required and familiar with the Resilient Floor Covering Institute Work Practices and all local, state, and federal regulations that apply. Individual copies of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute Work Practices are available free of charge by writing:

Resilient Floor Covering Institute
401 East Jefferson Street, Suite 102
Rockville, MD 20850

OR **TARKETT** Inc. USA
1705 Oliver Street
Houston, Texas 77007

OR **TARKETT** Inc.
1001 Yamaska Street East
Farnham, Quebec J2N 1J7
Canada

- Do not sand, dry scrape, bead blast or mechanically pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, solvent based cutback adhesives, or lining felt. These products may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Do not use power devices which might create asbestos dust.

⚠ WARNING

WARNING REGARDING COMPLETE ADHESIVE REMOVAL

Some solvent-based cutback asphalt adhesives may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Do not use power devices which create asbestos dust in removing these adhesives. The inhalation of asbestos dust may cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. Smoking greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Underlayment Surface Preparation

Subfloor unevenness in excess of 1/32" (0.8mm) must be sanded or sloped down to a feather edge, as well as holes, underlayment joints, etc. should be filled with **TARKETT**'s Kwik Patch, then sanded smooth when thoroughly set. Acceptable subfloors must be smooth, clean, and dry. Any irregularities will show through the new flooring and may not be accepted by the end users.

Cleaning

After the subfloor has finally been rendered smooth, sweep the area thoroughly, especially around the perimeter removing all dust, dirt, grit, or other foreign matter. Concrete substrates should be vacuumed.

III. GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Categories: **Type I:** Dry-Set System using **TARKETT** #800 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

Type II: Wet-Set System using **TARKETT** #940 Polyurethane Adhesive

(In areas exposed to direct sunlight, temperature extremes, and topical moisture.)

Type I: Dry-Set System

The dry-set system is the recommended procedure to install Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile and requires the **TARKETT** 800 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive to be troweled on the approved subfloor and allowed to dry prior to tile placement. This procedure allows the adhesive vehicle to dissipate into the atmosphere for water or solvent-based adhesive products. This system is designed for use over properly prepared concrete subfloors below, on or above grade as well as above grade plywood subfloors.

General directions are as follows:

1. Spread recommended adhesive in area to be covered in accordance with adhesive label recommendations. In most cases adhesive should be spread over flooring layout lines, adhesive will dry translucent and lines can be seen. Over some subfloors if lines are removed during adhesive troweling these should be restriking over the spread adhesive.
2. Allow adhesive to dry completely to the touch. Proper drying is usually determined when by placing your thumb into the adhesive it has a "tack" and does not transfer to your finger. Do not lay tile until adhesive has sufficiently dried and developed tack.
3. Begin installing tile carefully at the pre-set starting point. Once placed into the adhesive tile will be difficult to shift, remove, and/or replace. Starting off properly is most critical in that the first tile placement will greatly determine the lay-up of the area to be installed.
4. Continue laying tile, working away from the start point by placing and pressing tile into the adhesive film. Carefully place tile wherever a new row is started. Since adhesive will instantly grab tile placed into it, it will not shift, allowing you to work on newly laid tile.
5. Thoroughly roll completed area with the recommended three-sectional weighted roller. Rolling procedure should involve rolling first in one direction (north/south), the other (east/west), then diagonally.
6. Follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite.
7. Floor is ready for light traffic only immediately. Do not allow heavy traffic on the floor for several days or until after recommended initial maintenance has been performed. Do not maintain the floor for at least 3 days after installation.

Type II: Wet-Set System

The wet-set system is the recommended procedure to install Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile with **TARKETT 940** Polyurethane Adhesive in areas exposed to direct sunlight, temperature extremes, large amounts of topical moisture and over radiant heated subfloors. With this system tile is to be placed into adhesive film prior to adhesive cure. A complete transfer of adhesive to the back of the tile must be achieved.

General directions are as follows:

1. Spread recommended adhesive in area to be covered in accordance with adhesive label directions spreading only enough adhesive that can be covered over within its working time. Trowel up to layout lines. Proper adhesive application and tile placement usually requires working "backward." Working this way helps to avoid spreading too large of an area and adhesive setting up prior to tile placement.
2. Place tile into wet adhesive film. Wet film will allow some "slip" if tile placement needs to be adjusted slightly. Continue laying tile by carefully placing them into the wet film. Do not press hard or kneel on newly tile installed tile as this may result in adhesive displacement or oozing. If it is necessary to work on freshly installed tile use kneeling boards or similar apparatus. We recommend that periodically a tile be lifted and checked to ensure adhesive transfer.
3. Thoroughly cross roll installed area using the recommended weighted three-sectional-roller. Rolling procedure should involve rolling first in one direction (north/south), the other (east/west), then diagonally. This would ensure proper transfer of adhesive onto tile backs. Proper transfer is when 90% or better of the tile backs are smeared with adhesive with little or no distinct trowel ridges visible. Failure to ensure this can lead to tile loosening later.
4. Continuing working backward follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite. Roll completed areas occasionally and entire job upon completion.
5. Do not allow traffic on floor a minimum of 24 hours after installation. Allow only light traffic on the floor for the next several days or until recommended initial maintenance has been performed. Do not maintain the floor for at least 3 days after installation.

IV. FINISHING THE JOB

- ✓ Sweep the floor and remove scraps from the area.
- ✓ It is absolutely essential that all exposed edges be covered using cove base, wood moldings, or quarter round.
- ✓ Apply a bead of non-staining silicon or non-staining latex caulk around bathtubs, shower stalls, and toilets.

MOVING APPLIANCES

Do not move appliances, equipment or furniture directly across the new Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile, or try to slide furniture or equipment in place with a piece of carpet pile face down. Appliances or equipment should be "walked" from one plywood panel to another until it is in place. Loaded panels must not be pushed across the flooring.

CAUTION: Resilient flooring should be the last material installed in a new construction or remodeling. If this is not possible, the new floor should be fully protected from other construction traffic and activity.

V. MAINTENANCE OF AZROCK SOLID VINYL TILE

The type and frequency of traffic on your floor will determine the frequency of maintenance needed. The type of floor, and even the color, will have some bearing on how much care may be necessary. Regular adherence to an effective maintenance program will insure that your solid vinyl floor stays attractive and functional for a long time. An effective maintenance program should include:

1. Thorough dirt and grit regulation
2. Prompt removal of spills and staining material
3. Protection of the floor surface

INITIAL MAINTENANCE UPON COMPLETION OF THE INSTALLATION

1. Sweep or vacuum thoroughly and remove any adhesive residue from surface.
2. Do not wash the floor for at least 48 hours after installation. Damp mop with **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Cleaner. Remove any scuffs and excessive soil by careful scrubbing. Certain types of rubber heel marks may be removed by rubbing with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid. Alcohol and lighter fluid are flammable; follow all recognized cautions when using these products.
3. As a temporary measure, you may apply several coats of **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Polish to protect the floor until a burnished surface can be achieved through regular maintenance.
4. If other trades are still at work in the area, protect the floor from damage with a thick non-staining paper covering. The floor is most susceptible to scuffs and damage during completion of installation and the burnishing of the surface. Take necessary steps to protect the floor during this vulnerable time.

PREPARATION FOR TRAFFIC

1. Sweep and mop the floor. Use a green nylon scrubbing pad and **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Cleaner to removed scuffs and excessive soil. Spray solution on and work in with buffer and scrubbing pad.
2. In order to thoroughly remove the washing solution, damp mop with clean water or use a wet vacuum.
3. After the floor has been thoroughly cleaned, burnish with a polishing pad. Low speed floor machines may require more time or several passes to achieve proper burnishing. Buffing should continue until the surface is well burnished.

4. If the floor is to be maintained with a coating, at this time apply three to five coats of high quality metal cross-linked acrylic floor polish (such as **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Polish). Allow at least 30 minutes drying time between applications. Do not allow traffic on the floor for the length of time specified by the polish manufacturer. At this time, the floor may be buffed to increase gloss level with a white polishing pad.

ROUTINE COMMERCIAL MAINTENANCE

1. Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile has excellent durability and a history of performing well in heavy commercial institutions. Light daily sweeping, dust mopping or vacuuming will prevent dirt and grit particles from being ground into the surface of the tile. Non-staining walk-off mats should be used to control the amount of dirt and grit reaching the floor. The mats should be as wide as the doorway and thick enough to trap dirt. Frequent cleaning will prevent the floor from becoming heavily soiled and will remove most spills and stains. The amount and type of traffic will dictate the frequency of washing. Wash the floor by damp mopping with **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Cleaner diluted with warm water, followed by damp mopping with clear water.
2. If the floor receives hard use and becomes extremely dirty, as in heavily used commercial installations, an occasional wet scrubbing may be necessary. This can be accomplished by using a power buffer with a tan nylon scrubbing pad. Spray the floor with **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Cleaner and work the solution over the floor using the buffer and the tan scrubbing pad. After this has been done, remove the dirty residue by damp mopping with clear water or with a wet vacuum.
3. After damp mopping or scrubbing, the floor may be polished using a tan nylon pad. Floor may then be spray buffed or burnished using a white nylon pad to achieve a high gloss. The final buffing is important not only to achieve a high gloss but also to polish the surface and make it easier to maintain in the future.
4. When maintained with floor finish, an occasional thorough stripping will be necessary. Use **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Stripper, diluted according to bottle directions, and floor scrubbed with a mechanical buffer and a green nylon pad. Tile surface should be thoroughly scrubbed with stripper solution with machine working in a side-by-side motion. Used solution should be removed by damp mopping with clean water or with a wet vacuum. Floor must be rinsed free of residue prior to re-coating or buffing/burnishing.

DRY BUFFING: This buffing operation may be done using a low speed floor buffer (such as 100 lb., 1 hp, 175 rpm machines). To burnish the surface, use a white polishing pad. Buffing should continue until the surface is well burnished. Low speed floor machines may require more time or several passes to achieve proper burnishing. Faster burnishing can be accomplished by using high speed (300-500 rpm) or ultra high speed (900-2,000 rpm) machine. These high speed machines will allow large areas to be done in shorter periods of time. Equip these machines with a high-speed white polishing pad. Tiles that have a coat of **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Polish will respond faster than a non-coated tile. Operators of high speed buffers should be well trained. Misuse can result in floor or wall damage.

SPRAY BUFFING: Spray buffing is a common and effective method of commercial maintenance. If desired, this may be done by attaching a spray applicator or using a hand-held spray applicator and lightly spraying a diluted floor finish (1 part finish to 3 parts warm water) or a commercially formulated spray buff solution onto the floor. Buff the solution in before the liquid can dry. A thin, protective, glossy film remains after buffing the liquid dry, leaving the base coat (if applied) intact, reducing the need for stripping. High traffic areas may require refresher coats more frequently.

CAUTION: Make sure the power buffer is in good condition and may be used on wet floors safely. Make sure there is not exposed wiring and no danger from electrical shock. A wet soapy floor is slippery, so move about cautiously. Electric shock hazards exist, so use a ground fault circuit interrupter for any electrical connections in a wet environment.

WARNING: When performing maintenance with a buffer, you may occasionally buff floors other than Azrock Solid Vinyl Floors. Other floors may contain asbestos, and if maintained improperly could release asbestos fibers. Breathing asbestos fibers can be hazardous to your health. Make sure that you are buffing an Azrock Solid Vinyl Floor, or check with the manufacturer of the commercial floor to insure that it does not contain asbestos. Never dry buff flooring which contains asbestos. Azrock Solid Vinyl Floor Products do not contain asbestos.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF AZROCK TEXTURED SURFACE (MILANO SR) SLIP RESISTANT TILE

Azrock Slip Resistant Tile offers a safer walking surface than smooth surfaced flooring, making it an excellent choice for areas in commercial interiors where slip resistance is a concern. A clean, well maintained surface is essential to preserve the beauty, durability, and performance of Azrock Slip Resistant Tile. Azrock Slip Resistant Tile should be maintained in the same manner as other Azrock Solid Vinyl Tile products except:

1. First sweep and/or vacuum the floor to remove grit and dirt which could be ground into the finish if left too long. As with any embossed product, bristle brushes should be utilized in lieu of nylon pads for any scrubbing operation. We recommend a polypropylene bristle brush as that provided by Clark/Pullman™ or an equivalent. We do not recommend Slip Resistant floors be scrubbed or buffed with nylon pads. High Speed machines should not be used on Azrock Slip Resistant Tile.
2. The use of a quality floor finish, such as **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Polish, is definitely recommended. Appropriate floor finishes will meet or exceed the minimum co-efficient of friction slip resistance of 0.50 as measured by the James Machine (ASTM F-2047). Excessive applications of finish or finish build-up should be avoided. These circumstances would affect the proper performance of the slip resistant surface. In most cases no more than 3 thin coats are necessary. During normal maintenance floor should be observed to determine if a refresher coat of finish is necessary, most likely in the high traffic areas. Apply single coats of refresher finish when deemed necessary only in traffic areas where needed. Taking care to avoid finish build up along wall and fixture perimeter areas.
3. As with any flooring material manufactured to aid in surface traction increased maintenance will be necessary. These surfaces do tend to "grab" dirt particles from foot wear and "hold" onto them. Since each area where this material will be utilized will have different environmental and use conditions maintenance frequency will need to be adjusted. Normally the areas selected for Slip Resistant Tile receive more than normal amounts of traffic and spillage, thus increased attention to maintenance will be necessary.
4. Stripping of the floor should be done when needed using a quality stripper, such as **TARKETT** Commercial Floor Stripper, and re-coated. Normally a polypropylene bristle brush is appropriate for use when stripping, however if the floor is unusually dirty a clean grit impregnated brush may be used. This brush is abrasive and should not be used on a consistent basis. Never use carbide brushes.

For further information regarding *Nafco Product Warranties and Floor Care procedures* write to:

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