

ASSET VINYL COMPOSITION TILE

Reference Specification

ASTM F 1066-99 "Standard Specification for Vinyl Composition Floor Tile"

Products: Azrock's Vinyl Composition Tile
-Standard Price Products
-Premium Priced Products
-Slip Resistant (See additional information at the end of this section)

Adhesives: TARKETT 100 Clear Thin Spread Adhesive
TARKETT Spray Smart 122 Gold 7/11 or Spray Smart 123 Platinum 10/12
TARKETT 940 Polyurethane Adhesive (specialized wet set)
(See additional information at the end of this section)

NOTES:

- USE TARKETT 100 Clear Thin Spread Adhesive FOR INSTALLATIONS OVER EXISTING FLOORS
- USE SPRAY SMART IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINTED RECOMMENDATIONS. WHEN USED OVER EXISTING FLOORS MOISTURE WARRANTY NOT APPLICABLE.
- APPLY ADHESIVES WITH THE RECOMMENDED TROWEL NOTCHING
- WAIT UNTIL CONVENTIONAL TILE ADHESIVES HAVE FULLY DRIED TO THE TOUCH BEFORE INSTALLING TILE
- NEVER SPREAD MORE ADHESIVE THAN CAN BE COVERED OVER IN THE SAME WORK DAY
- INSTALL AZROCK'S THRU-QUARTZ WITH THE DIRECTIONAL ARROWS IN THE SAME DIRECTION
- ALWAYS HEAT THE BACK OF THE TILE FOR CUTTING, NEVER THE FACE
- CUT NET TO ALL VERTICAL SURFACES
- WHEN INSTALLING TILE OVER TILE, PLAN THE LAYOUT SO THAT SEAMS IN THE NEW TILE ARE OFFSET A MINIMUM OF 3 INCHES FROM THAT OF THE EXISTING TILE

ADDITIONAL CONCERNS:

Moisture and Humidity Cautions

In some geographical areas humidity and moisture present problems in the installation of vinyl composition tile. The information given below may be helpful in overcoming some of these problems.

Moisture itself does not have any chemical effect on vinyl composition tile. A piece of tile can be left in pure water indefinitely without deterioration. The effect of moisture is physical.

There are microscopic voids or spaces in the tile into which water can be drawn by capillary attraction. If all these spaces on the under side of the tile become over-filled with moisture, an expansion takes place and the tile is curled. The top of the tile is not affected because, being exposed, the moisture evaporates before an excess is accumulated. This is the basic cause for tile sometimes curling. Changes in temperature and changes in relative humidity are usually the forces which make curling evident, but it is the moisture in the bottom of the tile that causes it.



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TO PREVENT CURLING: Keep moisture away from the back of the tile until it becomes firmly seated. A careful study of the following specific cautions and instructions will help you to combat moisture and eliminate curling on future jobs.

1. DO NOT remove tile from carton until the tiles are at same temperature as the air in the room (approx. 70°F). In winter, 48 hours are usually required for cold tile to arrive at room temperature. If the tile is cold and the room warm, then water is likely to condense on the surface of the tile like beads of moisture collect on a pitcher of ice water. This moisture may not be visible to the eye but may be present in sufficient amount to prevent full adhesion.

2. Be sure there is a sufficient, proper amount of adhesive on the floor to insure a satisfactory contact with the back of the tile; however, be certain adhesive has reached its initial set before laying the tile. This is very important. It not only hastens the seating of the tile but also prevents tile loosening from the subfloor at a later date. Under ordinary conditions, after a dry tile once becomes firmly and properly cemented to the floor with the recommended film of adhesive, water cannot get to the underside of the tile, in which case it will not curl.

3. DO NOT lay tile in a damp, humid atmosphere; the room should be well ventilated and kept this way until the tiles have become firmly seated. Good ventilation will help prevent dampness from condensing on the subfloor or tile.

4. Be sure conventional tile adhesives have completely broken out and the vehicle has evaporated. DO NOT attempt to lay tile on adhesive which has been spread the day before; first, an invisible film of dust may have collected on the surface during the night; second, most likely early in the morning moisture (like dew) has fallen and covered the surface; and third, continued exposure of adhesive causes oxidation and loss of tackiness at the surface.

5. When laying tile over concrete, the slab and the air in the room should be approximately the same temperature. The slab should always be within 20°F(8°C) of the temperature of the air. For example, if the slab temperature is 60°F (17°C), the air temperature should not exceed 80°F (24°C) and preferably should be 70°F (21°C). This relationship should be maintained until the tile has become firmly seated, because it helps prevent condensation of moisture from the air. Use of an electric fan to circulate the air will help even room and floor temperatures and will speed the breaking out of the adhesive. Burning of natural gas without an exhaust contributes to the condensation of moisture.

6. Caution the customer not to wash the floor for at least one week after installation. Otherwise, water might get under the tile before it is firmly seated. The seating of tile can be speeded up by thorough buffing of the tile with a polishing machine. The friction warms the tile and the vibration helps aid in adhesion of the tile to the floor.

7. Excess humidity in damp rooms can be reduced before and after installation by a dehumidifier or by use of calcium chloride crystals. Place crystals in a cloth or metal mesh suspended over a container. The crystals will absorb moisture which then drips into the container below. The number and size of such units required for effective reduction of dampness will depend upon the size of the room and the amount of moisture present.

8. Recommended methods for removal of old resilient materials and adhesives usually involve large amounts of water. This water must be allowed sufficient time to evaporate into the atmosphere prior to any new installation. Proper drying will only occur in a low humidity, climatized environment. Moisture and bond tests are recommended to be performed and found acceptable prior to installation.



For more information, consult the booklet, *Addressing Moisture Related Problems Relevant to Resilient Floor Covering Installed Over Concrete*, published by the Resilient Floor Covering Institute, 401 East Jefferson Street, Suite 102, Rockville, MD 20850.

STORAGE

All materials to be used in the installation - tile, adhesive, underlayment board, vinyl or rubber wall base-should be stored indoors at an ideal minimum temperature of 70°F (21°C) for 48 hours prior to installation in areas and on floors that are dry and smooth and not subject to temperatures above 90°F.

There is no age limit on Azrock Vinyl Composition Tile, and it does not deteriorate in storage, if storage temperature does not exceed 90°F (32.2°C) and carton stacking limits shown below are observed. Tile must be properly stacked. Storage on uneven surfaces will cause permanent distortion of shape and size of tile.

Carton Stacking Limits - Following are the recommended maximum heights for stacking cartons of Azrock tile:

Product	No. of Cartons
3/32" Gauge Tile	6
1/8" Gauge Tile	5



VINYL COMPOSITION TILE INSTALLATION SYSTEMS



Categories: **I. Conventional Smooth Surface**

II. Slip Resistant Surface

I. Conventional Smooth Surface

Suitable Subfloors:

Concrete below, on or above grade

Suspended Plywood

Single Layer existing Vinyl Composition/Asphalt Tile

(on or above grade concrete, suspended wood floors)

Adhesive Recommendations:

TARKETT 100 Clear Thin Spread

The above adhesives must be dry to the touch prior to tile placement. Consult specific adhesive product data for open times. We strongly recommend that adhesives be spread and covered over in the same day.

On remodel work it is an acceptable work practice to install new vinyl composition tile over existing asphalt based adhesive residue. For the residue to be acceptable it should be scraped to a thin, smooth layer with no ridges or puddles present. New asphalt based adhesive can be spread over the residue avoiding excessive spread of new adhesive. Clear Thin Spread adhesives should never be applied over existing asphalt residue. These two types are incompatible and have been known in the past to lead to installation difficulties. If clear thin spread adhesive is to be utilized existing residue must either be removed by acceptable methods or encapsulated.

Azrock Vinyl Composition Tile cartons are marked with pattern and lot numbers as well as manufacture timing. We recommend that all material to be installed be checked prior to job commencement for correctness of pattern, color, and lot numbers. If at all possible material from the same lot number should be used on any one installation. If otherwise care should be taken to ensure that possible subtle shade differences between lot numbers be avoided by proper staging and re-arranging of material on the jobsite. In addition we also recommend that material be installed in order of carton sequential timing. This again helps in ensuring the best shade flow on the jobsite.

Procedures See Section 4, Resilient Tile Layout
 See Section 3, Adhesive Information

A. Dry-Set System

The dry-set system requires the 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. This procedure is also utilized for those adhesives and flooring materials which may be installed over existing resilient subfloors.



General directions are as follows:

1. After the recommended subfloor has been prepared and is ready for flooring installation, prepare tile layout as described in Section 5, Tile Layout, Squares or Planks.
2. 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 re-striking over the spread adhesive.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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. Install tile along the chalk lines first then working into the field in a pyramid fashion
6. All vinyl composition tile installed residentially should be thoroughly cross-rolled with a 100 lb. (kg) three-sectional-roller. Rolling is considered optional for most commercial applications. When necessary, 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.
7. Follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite.
8. 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.

B. Smart Spray System - Please see pages 19-28.

II. Slip Resistant Surfaces

The above recommendations also hold true for Azrock Slip Resistant Tile products with the following exceptions:

- Slip Resistant is utilized in a large number of cases in produce and other areas where increased amounts of surface water or harsher environmental conditions may occur. In these areas the use of TARKETT 940 Polyurethane Adhesive offers increased benefits. Thus we recommend that underneath and within 5 feet (1.5 meters) of all freezer, refrigerator, water spraying and similar units tile be installed with this adhesive system. In addition any other areas where surface water and/or temperature fluctuations may occur.
- For proper performance of this adhesive all existing flooring and adhesive residues must be removed in the areas where this adhesive is to be applied.
- TARKETT 940 Polyurethane Adhesive is a two part wet-set adhesive type that requires tile to be placed into wet adhesive and rolled thoroughly prior to adhesive set-up. Follow the Wet-Set Installation System as outlined below.



Wet-Set System

The wet-set system requires the adhesive to be troweled on the approved subfloor and tile placed into the adhesive film prior to adhesive skinning-over or set. This procedure requires the adhesive vehicle to dissipate into the subfloor for water or solvent-based adhesive products. This system is designed for use over properly prepared porous concrete subfloors below, on or above grade as well as above grade plywood subfloors. This procedure is **not** recommended for use over existing resilient or other **non-porous** subfloors. We strongly recommend that bond tests be performed, prior to installation, to confirm proper porosity of the substrate.

General directions are as follows:

1. After the recommended subfloor has been prepared and is ready for flooring installation prepare tile layout as described in Section 5, Tile Layout, Squares.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Continuing working backward follow this same procedure when installing other areas of the jobsite. Roll completed areas occasionally and entire job upon completion.
6. Do not allow traffic on floor a minimum of 24 hours. 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.

