

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

INSTALLING OVER EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS

Most Forbo resilient floor products may be installed over a single layer of existing non-cushioned resilient flooring providing it meets certain conditions.

1. Concrete floors that are on and below grade- one calcium chloride moisture test should be conducted for every 1,000 square feet of flooring. The test results should not exceed the requirements of the product to be installed. The existing flooring and adhesive must be removed where the test is conducted.
2. The existing flooring must be fully adhered and well bonded.
3. The existing flooring must not be embossed or textured enough that it will telegraph through the new flooring.
4. All waxes and finishes must be removed with a wax stripper then rinsed with clean water.
5. Cuts, gouges, dents and other irregularities must be repaired or replace.
6. The substrate and underlayment must meet the recommendations of the existing and the new floor covering.
7. The use of embossing levelers is not recommended for commercial installations.

NOTE: Application of a skim coat of patching material over the existing resilient flooring may cause more problems that it resolves: such as bonding failures, cracking and indentations. The installer should use discretion when deciding whether to use a skim coat.

NOTE: Do not install Forbo floor coverings over old adhesive residue.

The responsibility of determining if the existing flooring is suitable to be installed over, rests solely with the installer and flooring contractor. If there is any doubt as to its suitability, it should be removed or an acceptable underlayment installed over it.

Installations over existing resilient flooring may be more susceptible to indentation, and there is always a possibility the existing flooring may telegraph through.