

Installation Instructions

**Aria™, Contract Plus, iQ™ Granit™, Granit™ Multisafe,
Granit™ Safe-T, Melodia™, iQ™ Natural, iQ™ Optima® and
iQ™ Optima® Acoustiflor®**

Handling and Storage

1. All Tarkett products must be stored indoors and be protected from the elements. Tarkett flooring and adhesives must be site conditioned at room temperature for 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation. Room temperature must be maintained between 65° and 85°F (18° and 30°C) with HVAC system operating. A minimum temperature of 55°F (13°C) must be maintained afterwards. The ambient relative humidity must be between 40% and 60%.

2. Rolls are shipped lying down on pallets and must be stood up as soon as possible to avoid damage.

3. In areas that are exposed to intense or direct sunlight, the product must be protected during the conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods, by covering the light source.

4. The highest quality of materials and workmanship is employed in the manufacture of Tarkett Flooring and careful inspection is made before shipment. However, a quality installation is the responsibility of the installer. It is

the installer's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the order and to ensure the materials are checked for damage, defects, and satisfactory color match. An authorized Tarkett distributor or Tarkett representative must be notified of any defects before installation proceeds.

5. Tarkett cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information, due to processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

General Subfloor Preparation

1. **All subfloors** must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. The surface must be free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material, which could affect installation. **Caution: Do not use oil based sweeping compounds.** Fill all depressions, cracks, and other surface irregularities with a good quality Portland cement based underlayment patching compound.

NOTE: Contamination on the substrate can cause damage to the resilient flooring material. Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, etc., must not be used to write on the back of the flooring material or used to mark the substrate as they could bleed through and stain the flooring material. If these contaminants are present on the substrate they must be mechanically removed prior to the installation of the flooring material.

Caution: Do not use liquid solvents or adhesive removers.

Tarkett does not recommend installing over existing resilient floors. All existing flooring and adhesives must be removed prior to installing the new flooring material. Remove existing adhesive mechanically – do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents.

Caution: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.

2. **Concrete subfloors** must be constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's ACI 302.2 "Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials" and prepared to receive resilient flooring according to ASTM F 710 "Standard

Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring".

Do not install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints.

All concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture and pH (alkalinity):

Moisture testing must be conducted in accordance with ASTM F 2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using *in situ* Probes" or ASTM F 1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride.

Results must not exceed 85% when testing to ASTM F 2170 or exceed 7 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours when testing to ASTM F 1869.

If the tests results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

A pH test for alkalinity must be conducted. Results must range between 7 and 9. If the test results are not within the acceptable range of 7 to 9, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

3. **Wood subfloors** must have a minimum 18" (47 cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces must be sealed with a polyethylene moisture barrier.

Subfloors must meet local and national building codes. Trade associations, such as the APA "The Engineered Wood Association", offer structural guidelines for meeting various code requirements.

Single Floor Wood Construction and Tongue and Groove subfloors must be covered with 1/4" (6.4 mm) or 1/2" (13 mm) APA approved underlayment plywood. Use 1/4" (6.4 mm) thick underlayment panels for boards with a

face width of 3" (76 mm) or less. For boards wider than 3" (76 mm) face width use 1/2" (13 mm) underlayment panels.

Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality Portland cement based patching compound.

Do not install over OSB (Oriented Strand Board), particle board, chipboard, lauan or composite type underlayments.

4. **Terrazzo and Ceramic floor** surface must be thoroughly sanded to remove all glaze and waxes. Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean the grout lines. Use a Portland cement based leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions.

5. **Steel floor** surface must be mechanically abraded to assist with the adhesive bond. The floor must be cleaned to remove all dirt, rust and other contaminants. Surface must be coated with a rust inhibitor / primer. When applying adhesive the non-porous installation instructions must be followed.

6. **Concrete floors equipped with a radiant heating system:** Turn the heat down to 65°F (18°C) for at least 48 hours before installation. Heat may be gradually returned to operating temperature 48 hours after installation. Temperature must not exceed 85°F (30°).

7. **An adhesive bond test** must be performed using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test areas must be a minimum of 36" x 36" and remain in place for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the concrete.

Homogeneous Sheet Installation

1. Recommended Adhesives:

- a. For standard application use:
Tarkett 925 Resilient Flooring Adhesive
Trowel: porous and non-porous substrate –
1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" U-notch
Approximate coverage: 250 to 300 sq. ft. per gallon.

Caution: The 925 adhesive is sensitive to substrate porosity. Determine substrate porosity and follow the adhesive label instructions regarding porous and non-porous substrate drying times prior to the installation.

- b. For application in areas subject to heavy point loads, rolling loads, topical moisture, or temperature extremes use:

Tarkett 975 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive
Trowel: porous and non-porous substrates –
1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" U-notch
Approximate coverage: 225 - 250 sq. ft. per gallon.

Caution: When installing with 975 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive the installer must work off of the flooring material to prevent adhesive displacement. If working on the installed material before the adhesive has completely set, kneeling boards must be utilized.

- c. SpraySmart Adhesive System:
Tarkett 130 Resilient Flooring Spray Adhesive

For use with: **Aria, Contract Plus, iQ Granit, Granit Multisafe, Granit Safe-T, Melodia, iQ Natural and iQ Optima.**

Approximate coverage: 150 to 185 sq. ft. per 22oz. can.

Tarkett 150 Specialty Flooring Spray Adhesive

For use with: **iQ Optima Acoustiflor**
Approximate coverage: 150 to 185 sq. ft. per 22oz. can.

The SpraySmart Adhesive System is unique; instructions on can must be followed.

Note: Contact Tarkett Technical Department prior to use for training.

2. **Adhesive Application:** Follow adhesive label instructions for proper use.

3. Sheet Installation Procedure:

- a. Install rolls in sequential order following roll numbers on the labels.
b. Reverse sheets.
c. Cut pieces to length allowing approximately 3" (76 mm) excess for trimming.
d. Cut the first piece to fit by freehand knife, direct scribing or pattern scribing method.
e. Trim 1/2" (13 mm) off opposite seam edge using an edge trimmer or straight edge and knife.
f. Position all remaining sheets so that

the top sheet overlaps the previous sheet by 3/4" (19 mm). Trim 1/2" (13 mm) off opposite seam edge using an edge trimmer or straight edge and knife.

- g. Fold back the sheets and apply the adhesive to the substrate and allow proper open time. **Open and working times are dependent on the ambient temperature, humidity, substrate porosity and temperature, and air movement. It is the installer's responsibility to modify the open and working time for jobsite conditions.**
- h. Work off the flooring or use kneeling boards when using 975 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive. Periodically, lift a corner of the sheet to ensure proper transfer of adhesive.
- i. Roll the flooring in both directions using a 100 pound three-section roller. (Stay approximately 3" (76 mm) from the seams.)
- j. Recess-scribe the seam to achieve a proper fit.
- k. Inspect the floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.
- l. Vinyl sheet flooring must be welded using the Heat Weld or Cold Weld methods listed below.

4. Seams

a. Heat Weld Seam:

Note: It is recommended to heat weld seams to provide a sterile and water tight seam.

1. Recess scribe the seam with a slight gap not to exceed 1/64" (0.4mm) to help guide the router.
2. Insert a scrap piece of material under the scribe mark to protect the seam edge of the first piece.
3. Use a sharp knife to cut the seam following the scribe mark. Cut must be perpendicular, do not angle the knife blade.
4. Remove the scrap material and seam trimmings before rolling the seam with a small hand roller.
5. Roll the seam area with a 100 pound three-section roller.
6. Wait a minimum 24 hours after installation before heat welding the seams.
7. Rout approximately 2/3 of the thickness of the material. **Do not rout into foam layer of iQ Optima Acoustiflor.**
8. Use Tarkett vinyl weld rod.

b. Cold Weld Seam:

Aria, Contract Plus, iQ Granit, Melodia, and iQ Optima can be cold welded:

1. Recess scribe the seam to provide a net fit.
2. Insert a scrap piece of material under the scribe mark to protect the seam edge of the first piece.
3. Use a sharp knife to cut the seam

following the scribe mark. Cut must be perpendicular, do not angle the knife blade.

4. Remove the scrap material and seam trimmings before rolling the seam with a small hand roller.
5. Roll the seam area with a 100 pound three-section roller.
6. Wait at least 2 to 3 hours after the flooring material has been installed before applying the Tarkett Cold Weld Liquid.
7. Refer to the Cold Weld instructions for complete Cold Weld Liquid application details.

5. Flash Coving:

- a. Use Johnsonite CFS -00-A Cove Filler Strip.
b. Apply 925 Resilient Flooring Adhesive to wall area using a trowel or paint brush.
c. Net fit the flooring material into the cove cap.
d. Roll the coved material with a small hand roller.

6. Post Installation Floor Protection:

We recommend that the installation of new flooring material not be performed until all the other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after the installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed flooring.

a. Immediately after installation:

- ◆ All traffic must be restricted for a minimum of 24 hours after installation.
- ◆ All heavy traffic, rolling loads, pallet jacks, and furniture or appliance placement must be restricted for a minimum of 72 hours after installation.
- ◆ Flooring must be swept or vacuumed to remove loose dirt and grit prior to the application of proper floor protection. (Do not trap dirt and grit under floor protection.)
- ◆ Apply floor protection suitable for construction foot traffic such as: undyed heavy Kraft paper, Ram Board, 1/8" Masonite panels, or similar product designed for resilient floor protection.

b. 72 hours after installation:

- ◆ Areas that will receive heavy traffic, rolling loads, pallet jacks, and furniture or appliance placement must be protected with 1/4" thick Masonite or similar wood panels.
- ◆ The floor must be swept or vacuumed prior to the placement of the floor protection panels. (Lightly damp mop if necessary)

Note: Do not use plastic or other non-porous materials to protect the newly installed flooring that could prevent the adhesive from drying properly.

Adhesive Clean Up

Excess adhesive should be removed during the installation process.

925 Resilient Flooring Adhesive

- ◆ Use a clean white cloth dampened with water to remove wet adhesive from floor covering and tools.
- ◆ Dried adhesive may require the use of denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using denatured alcohol.)

975 Two-Part Urethane Adhesive

- ◆ Before the adhesive sets, remove excess adhesive from flooring and clean tools with denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's

precautions when using denatured alcohol.)

- ◆ Do not allow adhesive to dry on the flooring surface.

- ◆ Removing dried adhesive may cause irreparable damage to the flooring surface.

SpraySmart 130 Resilient Flooring Spray Adhesive

- ◆ Use a clean white cloth dampened with water to remove wet adhesive from floor covering and tools.

- ◆ Dried adhesive may require the use of denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using denatured alcohol.)

SpraySmart 150 Specialty Flooring Spray Adhesive

- ◆ Use a clean white cloth dampened with water to remove wet adhesive from floor covering and tools.
- ◆ Dried adhesive may require the use of denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions when using denatured alcohol.)

Maintenance

1. Wait 72 hours after installation before performing initial cleaning.
2. A regular maintenance program must be started after the initial cleaning.
3. Refer to Tarkett's Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

Visit www.tarkettna.com for most current installation and maintenance instructions. Contact Tarkett Technical Services at (800)-899-8916 ext 9297 with any questions.



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