

TECHNICAL SERVICES

ProGen® Installation Instructions



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GENERAL INFORMATION

- Carefully check flooring material for any defects. Contact your supplier immediately if any defect is found.
- ProGen™ floors are intended for indoor use only.
- Room temperature must be between 55°F and 95°F (12° and 35°C) for 48 hours before, during and after installation. ProGen™ does not require acclimation to jobsite conditions prior to installation. Refer to SPECIAL NOTES section below.
- Exposure to direct sunlight can result in product fading and creates excessive heat directly on the finished flooring and surrounding structure which may result in movement. During peak sunlight exposure, the use of drapes or other window treatments are recommended.
- Cartons must be stored horizontally on a sturdy base at all times.
- Protect carton from damage.
- Remove quarter round, baseboard molding or cove base.
- Undercut doorway moldings the thickness of the flooring.
- Do not use foam padding under ProGen™. Tarkett ProSheet™ Plus 3 is an approved underlayment for use with ProGen™.

SPECIAL NOTES

- When installing ProGen™ in a Residential application transition moldings are not required at egress doorways. Transition moldings between ProGen™ are not required regardless of the size of the installation space.
- ProGen™ may be installed in fully-enclosed spaces that do not have permanent heating and cooling systems in operation. These spaces include seasonal vacation homes, lake cabins, 3 season rooms, etc. The room temperature shall be 55°-95°F (12° and 35°C) for 48 hours before and during the installation. The use of temporary temperature controls may be needed during this period. ProGen™ shall be installed in these spaces with a full 1/2" expansion gap at all vertical surfaces. When installing ProGen™ in these applications a transition molding must be placed at egress doorways and when installations span greater than 40' in any direction.
- When installing ProGen™ in Light Commercial applications a transition molding must be placed at egress doorways and when installations span greater than 40' in any direction.

WOOD SUBSTRATES

ProGen™ may be installed over single layer wood construction in **residential applications only**. Subfloor must meet the following requirements:

- Wood joist or truss systems spacing must be a maximum of 16" on center when installing over a single layer wood construction. Wood joist or truss systems spacing of 16"-19.2" is acceptable for double wood layer construction.
- Subfloor panels must be dry, sturdy, smooth, dimensionally stable and structurally sound.
- Subfloor panels must be 3/4" minimum thickness tongue and groove plywood or oriented strand board (OSB).
- Plywood subfloor panels must consist of a solid core (no voids).
- Subfloor panels must be exterior grade or classified as Exposure I.
- All suspended wood subfloors must have at least 18" of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. The ground under the crawlspace shall be covered with 10 mil. or thicker polyethylene sheeting to reduce moisture vapor transmission.
- Offset subfloor panel joints by at least 16" so that four corners do not meet.
- Subfloor panels must be securely fastened to the joists and free from spring or deflection. If glue-nail procedures are required, use solvent free construction adhesives.
- Subfloor must be flat within 1/8" in 8' (3.1mm in 2.4m). Any unevenness must be sanded down or filled with a cementitious patching compound. Any unevenness may prevent ProGen™ from locking properly and future plank separation.

Wood subfloors not meeting the above requirements must be covered with 1/4" minimum thickness underlayment grade plywood. Tarkett recommended underlayment include:

- APA Underlayment Grade Plywood A-C, B-C or C-C Plugged
- ACCU-PLY
- SurePly
- TECPLY
- ULAY
- UltraPly XL
- C.S.A. (CanPly)
- Proboard.

CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

- ProGen™ may be installed over properly constructed and prepared on-grade, above-grade or below-grade concrete subfloors.
- 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.
- Prepare concrete subfloors according to ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparation of Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring. The surface of the concrete must be dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. The slab must be swept, damp mopped and/or vacuumed to remove any dust. Any surface materials present such as loose paint, wax, grease, oil, adhesive residues, crayon, pen marking, etc., that may prevent a proper adhesion or migrate to the surface of the flooring causing discoloration, must be removed. Fill and level any cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves or other irregularities with a high-quality, non-shrinking, latex-fortified, cementitious patching compound.
- Do not install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints, or other moving joints in the substrate. These joints must be respected and should not be filled with products that are not intended for that purpose. Contact an expansion joint cover manufacturer to meet specific flooring conditions.

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- Moisture testing of concrete subfloors must be performed in accordance with ASTM F1869 Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride and ASTM F2170 Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes. Do not install ProGen if the values are greater than 6 lbs. /1000 ft²/24hrs per ASTM F1869 or 90%RH per ASTM 2170. If the tests results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected. Tarkett does not recommend or warrant any particular product or procedure for the remediation of high moisture in concrete substrates. There are several companies that manufacture products suitable for moisture remediation. We suggest you refer to the current ASTM F 710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring and ASTM F 3010 Standard Practice for Two Component Resin Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Flooring Systems.

ADDITIONAL SUBFLOOR GUIDELINES

Many installations over existing floors produce satisfactory results. However their success is dependent upon the condition of the existing floor covering. Installing over existing flooring increases the possibility of indentations and telegraphing of the old floor. Note: The final decision to cover an existing floor with new flooring rests with the flooring contractor and/or installer. Tarkett will not accept responsibility for floor failures where the condition, type or improper preparation of the existing floor is the cause for the failure. When installing ProGen™ over an existing flooring follow the recommended guidelines below.

- Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone tiles must be smooth, even and well-bonded with a grout line depth less than 1/16" (.625). If grout joint depth exceeds the maximum allowable depth, fill with Portland based patching compound following manufacturer's guidelines.
- Resilient Vinyl floors must be smooth, even, non-cushioned and well-bonded to the substrate.
- Strip Wood Hard Wood Floors must be smooth, even, with a maximum gap width between boards of 1/16" (.625)
- Heated flooring systems must be installed 2" below the subfloor and the operating temperature must not exceed 85°F (29.4°C). During installation, lower the radiant heated floor temperature to a minimum 65° F (18.3° C). This temperature should be maintained for at least 24 hours before, during and 48 hours after completion of the installation. If desired, gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5°F (2.77°C) over a 24 hour period but do not exceed 85°F (29.4°C).
- Residual adhesives should be mechanically removed to trace amounts and encapsulated with an approved cementitious patching compound or encapsulation product. Do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents. Always follow RFCI's Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floorcoverings. **Caution:** Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.
- Refer to ASTM F2419 Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring for guidelines when pouring gypsum underlayments or preparing for use as an underlayment under Tarkett products. Follow the Gypsum Underlayment manufacturer's recommendations for proper application and preparation.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- All substrates must be dry, clean, structurally sound, smooth and free from all existing adhesive residues.
- The substrate must be flat within 1/8" in 8' (3.17mm in 2.4m).
- Fill and level concrete cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves and other irregularities. Use a latex fortified, cementitious patching compound. Follow the manufactures recommendation for preparing.
- Sweep and vacuum or damp mop substrate to remove all dust and debris.
- ProSheet Plus 3 can be used if needed. Follow the detailed ProSheet Plus 3 installation instructions found at www.tarkettna.com.

GETTING STARTED

- ProGen™ floors are floating floors and should not be adhered or nailed to the substrate.
- ProGen™ floors are intended for indoor use only.
- Determine in which direction the planks will be installed. To make the room appear larger or if installing in very small rooms or hallways, it is preferable to lay the planks parallel to the longest room dimension.
- Do not install cabinets on planks.
- Carefully measure the room to determine squareness and also to determine the width of the last row of planks. If the width of the last row of planks is less than 2" (50mm), excluding the tongue, the width of first row of planks will have to be cut accordingly.
- A minimum 1/4" (6.3mm) expansion space is required around all walls and vertical objects. Allow a 1/2" (12.7mm) space for installations over wood substrates that may be effected by moisture or external temperature and humidity fluctuations (i.e. crawlspaces, mobile homes) or when installing in areas without permanent HVAC controls (3 season rooms, seasonal vacation homes and cabins).
- Inspect all planks for visible defects and damage before and during installation. Do not install damaged planks. Tarkett will not accept responsibility for claims on flooring installed with obvious defects. During installation, inspect the groove area and remove any debris that may prevent proper assembly of planks.
- **Do not use a hammer and tapping block to install planks.**

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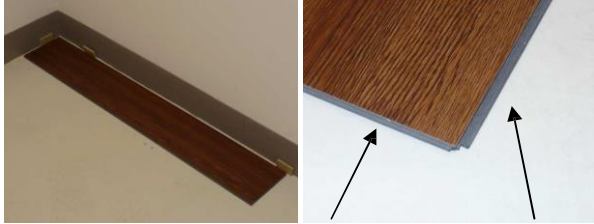
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INSTALLATION

1. Begin laying planks from the left side of the starting wall and work to the right side. The tongue side of the plank shall face the starting wall.



Tongue Groove

2. Place 1/4" (6.3mm) spacers between the short and long side of the planks and the wall, use 1/2" (12.7mm) spacers for installations over wood substrates that may be effected by moisture or external temperature and humidity fluctuations (i.e. crawlspaces, mobile homes) or when installing in areas without permanent HVAC controls (3 season rooms, seasonal vacation homes and cabins). Always position one spacer between the wall and where the planks join.



3. The end joints of the planks in the first row are assembled by inserting the tongue side into the groove side of the previous plank at a **low angle**. Gradually lower the plank down flat until the end joint closes, insuring that the planks are perfectly aligned. Install remaining full planks in the first row.



4. The last plank in the first row will need to be cut. Measure the distance between the wall and the surface of the last full plank. Subtract 1/4" (6.3mm) or 1/2" (12.7mm) depending on the size of the spacer used, from this measurement to allow for the spacer. If this measurement is less than 12" (20.3cm), the length of first plank in the row must be cut. This will allow for a longer plank at the end of the row. The first and last plank in each row must be at least 12" (30.4cm) in length. Planks are cut using a sharp utility knife and straight edge/carpenters square. Score the surface of the plank with a utility knife, and then snap the plank at the score line.



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- The remaining piece cut from the last plank in the first row may serve as the first plank in the second row provided it is at least 12" (30.4cm) long. Always stagger end joints from row to row a minimum of 12" (30.4cm).



- Install the long side of the first plank of the second row. Remember to place a 1/4" (6.3mm) spacer between the wall and the short side of the plank, allow 1/2" (12.7mm) for installations over wood substrates that may be effected by moisture or external temperature and humidity fluctuations (i.e. crawlspaces, mobile homes) or when installing in areas without permanent HVAC controls (3 season rooms, seasonal vacation homes and cabins). Insert the tongue side into the groove side of the previous row at a low angle and rotate downward until plank is flat with the substrate.



- To install the second plank in the second row. Insert the tongue side end joint into the groove side end joint of the previous plank at a low angle. Position the long side of the plank with the tongue side slightly overlapping the groove area of the planks in the previous row. Lift the plank upward and working from the left side of the plank to the right, gently push forward until the entire plank engages into the previous row. **Use caution when installing the long side of the planks. Do not push on the planks too hard as this may distort or deform the groove.** Rotate plank downward until plank is flat with the substrate. Continue installing remaining planks in the row. It is important to make sure that the first two rows are straight and square as they can affect the entire installation.



- Continue working from left to right maintaining a random appearance. Planks may be installed row by row or by working multiple rows using the stair step method. Be sure to maintain proper spacing at walls and vertical obstructions.
- In some cases the flexibility of ProGen™ will allow for easy positioning of the planks under door moldings and casings. In the event this cannot be done, it is necessary to remove the lip on the groove edge of the planks you are fitting to using a sharp utility knife and straight edge. This will allow you to install the plank lying flat. After the lip has been trimmed off on the planks you are fitting to, lay the plank flat on the floor. Apply a thin bead of PVA glue on top of the tongue and push the plank into position. **Immediately wipe off any excess glue with a damp cloth.**
- When installing in front of a tub/shower place Tarkett S860 along the front of the tub/shower. A bead of flexible, mildew-resistant, 100% silicone caulk should be used to seal the top of the ProGen™.

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FINISHING THE INSTALLATION

- After all planks have been installed, remove spacers from perimeter of room.
- Install transition moldings. Do not fasten any moldings through the ProGen™.
- Pre-drill and install quarter round or baseboard molding. Molding must be sufficient size to cover the 1/4" (6.3mm) space or the 1/2" (12.7mm) space for installations over wood substrates that may be effected by moisture or external temperature and humidity fluctuations (i.e. crawlspaces, mobile homes) or when installing in areas without permanent HVAC controls (3 season rooms, seasonal vacation homes and cabins). Do not fasten moldings through the flooring. Fasten into the wall.
- Use plywood to cover the top of the flooring when moving heavy furniture or appliances into position.
- Use proper floor protectors under the legs of furniture.
- Post installation temperature in HVAC controlled applications with a 1/4" (6.3mm) spacing at all vertical surfaces must be maintained between 55°F and 95°F (12° and 35°C). Ideal ambient relative humidity is between 35% and 70%.

PLANK REPLACEMENT

- Using a straight edge and sharp utility knife cut the center of the damaged plank approximately one inch from the edge of the adjoining planks.
- Remove the center of the damaged plank.
- Make a cut from each corner back to the inside edge.
- Carefully remove the edges of the cut plank. Do not damage adjoining planks.
- Prepare the replacement plank by removing the tongue and groove on each short side and by removing the groove on the long side.
- Using Tarkett S875 Floating Seam Tape, place a piece so it is centered under each adjoining plank.
- Remove the release liner on the tape on all sides.
- Position the replacement plank by inserting the tongue of the long side into the groove of the adjoining plank.
- Rotate the plank downward into position.
- Roll seam edges with a hand roller to ensure proper contact with floating seam tape.

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