



## Laying and cleaning Naturecore

Naturecore is primarily manufactured from natural and renewable raw materials.

**Laying Naturecore is an easy task if the following points are observed:**

### 1 Supporting surface

Naturecore can be laid on any substrate that is and remains flat, solid, free of cracks and dry (see also the Contract Procedures for Building Works, DIN 18365, Working with floor coverings [VOB, Teil C, Bodenbelagarbeiten], BEB publication sheet Assessment and Preparation of Substrates in existing and new buildings [Beurteilen und Vorbereiten von Untergründen im Alt- und Neubau], and the valid relevant regulations).

Dense, non-absorbent substrates such as mastic asphalt and primed screed floors must be filled to a sufficient thickness (approximately 2 mm is recommended) when using dispersion adhesives. The low-tension fillers recommended by the material manufacturers should be used for this. Please comply with the detailed product recommendations and recommendations for use issued by the manufacturer.

In the case of a normal screed thickness, i.e. not significantly above the minimum requirements of DIN 18 560, the following rules of thumb apply to residual moisture of the various screeds:

Type of screed	Permissible residual moisture in CM%
Calcium sulphate and calcium sulphate flowing screed	≤ 0.5
- heated screed	≤ 0.3
Cement screed	≤ 2.0
- heated screed	≤ 1.8

### 2 Measuring up and determining requirements

The surfaces are measured and divided up (using a chalk line) in order to optimally determine coverage of the surface area. In the area of door openings or passageways, using full-size elements achieves the best appearance. When determining the exact

requirement, the measured surface area must be multiplied by a correction factor based on experience, which is greater in the case of obliquely angled or curved services than in the case of straight surfaces.

### 3 Storage, acclimatisation and laying conditions

Proper storage and acclimatisation are indispensable requirements for ensuring problem-free laying of the Naturecore product.

Before laying, the floor covering must be stored in a dry room at a moderate temperature. No more than eight packs may be stacked on top of each other. Fault-free laying of Naturcore cannot be guaranteed in excessively low temperatures. Professional guidelines indicate that a temperature of at least +18 °C is required when laying the product. The room temperature is not the only important factor when laying; the temperature of the substrate itself is also important. This must be at least +15 °C and, if underfloor heating is in operation, lie between +18 °C and +22 °C. The maximum relative humidity should be 65% (ideally, between 40% and 60%). These climate conditions must be maintained 3 days before starting to prepare for the work and at least 7 days after completion.

Even in the case of suitable temperatures, the floor covering must be allowed to **acclimatise for at least 24 hours in the unopened packaging. The product must be glued in place immediately after removal from the packaging.** The manufacturer ensures that the colours are the same by delivering from a production batch with the same production number. Nevertheless, minor colour deviations cannot be completely ruled out. Make sure that only one and the same production batch number is laid in a given room.

### 4 Laying Naturecore

#### 4.1 Adhesives

In general, all adhesives suitable for use with Naturecore should be applied to the entire surface using an adhesive trowel type B1. Please also comply with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for use. Good distribution of the adhesive on the rear face of each floor covering element must be verified continuously during laying.



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We recommend the use of dispersion adhesives in the lowest emissions class that dry quickly, form a hard joint and are resistant to shearing forces.

Please ensure that you only use adhesives that have official building authority approval.

### List of manufacturers:

Bostik GmbH A.d.Bundesstr.16 D - 33829 Borgholz. Tel. +49 (0)5425 - 801222 <a href="http://www.bostik-findley.de">www.bostik-findley.de</a>	Henkel-KGaA Bautechnik Henkelstr. 67 D - 40191 Düsseldorf Tel. +49 (0)211 - 797 100 <a href="http://www.thomsit.de">www.thomsit.de</a>
Kiesel Bauchemie Wolf-Hirth-Str. 2 D - 73730 Esslingen Tel. +49 (0)711 - 93134352 <a href="http://www.kiesel.com">www.kiesel.com</a>	Mapei GmbH Bahnhofsplatz 10 D - 63906 Erlenbach Tel. +49 (0)9372 - 98950 <a href="http://www.mapei.de">www.mapei.de</a>
WULFF GmbH Wersener Str. 30 D - 49504 Lotte Tel. +49 (0)5404 - 881-0 <a href="http://www.wulff-gmbh.de">www.wulff-gmbh.de</a>	Schönox GmbH PO Box 1140 D – 48713 Rosendahl Tel. +49 (0)2547 - 910234 <a href="http://www.schoenox.com">www.schoenox.com</a>
UZIN UTZ AG Dieselstr. 3 D - 89079 Ulm Tel. +49 (0)731 - 4097258 <a href="http://www.uzin-utz.com">www.uzin-utz.com</a>	Wakol GmbH Bottenbacher 30 D - 66954 Pirmasens Tel. +49 (0)6331 - 8001186 <a href="http://www.wakol.com">www.wakol.com</a>

The above list of manufacturers is not exhaustive. The adhesives recommended by the adhesive manufacturers can be ordered directly from the manufacturers or from our technical customer service department (+49 (0)7142 - 71 255).

### 4.2 The laying process

#### The planks are laid without intermediate joints.

When laying the product, make sure that you only work when wearing clean shoes with soft soles. Cleanliness prevents visual damage.

If Naturecore planks have to be cut to size, a trapezoid blade should be used to lightly cut into the surface and a hooked blade used for final separation. Adhesive must be applied to the entire surface of the Naturecore products. When doing so, make sure you observe the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

After applying the adhesive, you can start laying from the planks laid out as a reference point or reference line.

For ensuring good adhesive distribution on the rear face, the choice of the correct trowel notch profile, timely replacement of the trowel blades and thorough rubbing or rolling of the floor surface with a heavy segmented floor roller (50 kg)

are essential. It may be necessary to repeat this process during the setting time for the adhesive.

Distribution of the adhesive on the rear face must be verified continuously during laying by pulling up planks.

#### a) Laying in parallel

A chalk line is used to mark a line parallel to the main façade of the room before laying. The distance to the wall is a multiple of the plank size minus 1 cm. In hallways, this measurement can be taken from the lowest door threshold rather than from the wall. The starting point is marked on the line obtained in this manner.

This is chosen so that only nearly full-sized elements are laid in prominently visible areas, e.g. the main entrance, and no narrow strips are used. A row of planks is now laid loosely from the starting point and weighed down with stacks or boxes of planks.

In the case of large rooms, this row of planks is left in place until the neighbouring section has been laid in order to prevent a shift in position. In smaller rooms, one element can be laid as a reference point.

#### b) Laying diagonally

First of all, the room is divided up symmetrically and the axes marked with a chalk line. Next, the person laying the planks determines the run relative to the walls and main entrance. The same applies for the starting point. In non-symmetrical rooms, the parallel line is determined at a distance from the main façade. Here again, attention should be given to ensuring that only nearly full-sized planks are used in the area of the main entrance, with half planks between if required, but never any small triangles. Next, a double row of planks is loosely laid along the chalk line so that the opposite corners of the first row of planks lie on the chalk line and the second row of planks touch this at the corners.

In larger rooms, a diagonal row of planks is laid from the starting point and used as the baseline for laying. In smaller rooms, one plank can be laid as a reference point. The edge pieces are cut to size with a hooked or trapezoid blade after the main surface has been glued in place



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### 5 Naturecore on a heated floor

Naturecore can be glued to substrates where underfloor heating is installed. The heat transfer resistance is so small that the floor has hardly any effect on heating performance (trade information bulletin: "Interface coordination for heated flooring constructions", published by the Zentralverband Sanitär Heizung Klima).

#### 5.1 Cast floor slab construction (A1 – A3)

In the case of cast floor slab construction, the heating pipes are embedded in a floating cement or calcium sulphate screed. The heating system installer must ensure that the moisture that migrates from the floor due to heat is allowed to escape before the top floor covering is laid. The heating system installer must provide a report indicating the heating up and cooling down procedure used for this.

Moisture measurements may only be taken at the points indicated by the company that has installed the screed. If no measuring points are available, the party laying the floor must indicate in writing any reservations it may have to the contracting authority.

### 6 Cleaning and maintenance

The contractor must give the written maintenance instructions for the flooring to the client. See Part C, section 3.1.4 of the Contract Procedures for Building Works [VOB DIN 18365, Teil C, Abs. 3.1.4.].

We offer a "Recommended cleaning method for Naturecore" publication free of charge.

This can be requested by telephoning +49 (0)71 42 / 71 – 255 or you find it at: [www.dlw.eu](http://www.dlw.eu).

### 7 Protection of work

Due to the risk of damage, it is advisable to seek the immediate (partial) approval of the completed flooring, in accordance with article 12 of the Contract Procedures for Building Works [VOB/B].

If special protection is requested for use ahead of schedule, the entire surface of the flooring must be covered with suitable covering materials such as felt board, plastic film or something similar.

### 8 Special instructions

#### 8.1 Office chairs

Office chairs used on elastic floor coverings must be equipped with type W casters according to EN

12529, in other words soft casters of the prescribed size (50 mm diameter, 20 mm tread, 100 mm swivel radius at the tread). This must be taken into account when procuring new casters.

#### 8.2 Discolouration

Prolonged contact between rubber and any type of elastic floor may result in discolouration that cannot be removed. Take, for example, the following possible causes into consideration:

car tires, covering materials, casters or supports under washing machines, fridges, prams, etc. This discolouration will not arise immediately but rather following the transfer of substances, followed by exposure to light.

Casters made of polyurethane should be used to avoid discolouration of this type. If this is not possible, then it is advisable to use protector pads.

In the case of bright floor coverings, tar asphalt, mineral oils, fats and coloured floor wax, which are transferred to the floor by shoes, may lead to discolouration in the most frequently used areas. This applies in cases where rooms can be accessed from tarred streets, in kitchens or in the offices of filling stations and repair shops.

#### 8.3 Adhesive tape

If adhesive tape is used on the flooring, please ask the relevant manufacturer about compatibility.

#### 8.4 Disposal

Household disposal: can be thrown away as normal household rubbish/bulky items of rubbish.

Commercial disposal:  
waste code number AVV 040210



## 9 Cleaning and maintenance

To ensure that you enjoy your floor for as long as possible, please comply with the following:

- Reduce the volume of dirt brought into the building by providing adequately dimensioned dirt-retaining zones.
- Dirt leads to increased wear and may cause discolouration of the floor covering.
- Gritty particles intensify the rubbing action on the floor surface.
- The flooring should be covered over for protection during the construction phase.
- Neither abrasive cleaners nor aggressive solvents may be used to clean the flooring.
- All floor coverings should be cleaned regularly for hygienic and aesthetic reasons and to preserve their value.

### Please note the following:

Abrasive forces acting on the floor covering, caused for example by sharp-edged furniture, penetrating dirt (e.g. sand, small stones), continuous rubbing and continuous movement on the same area of the floor, lead to extreme loads which will inevitably cause damage over time, whatever the type of flooring. In areas where this type of loading occurs, the floor covering can be protected by applying a care & treatment coating to avoid premature wear.

### 9.1 Post-construction cleaning/ major and minor building cleaning

Remove construction dirt in the form of large lumps of material or dust from the floor covering by vacuuming or sweeping.

a) If not much dirt is present, the floor may be washed down with a solution of water and a neutral or alcohol-based cleaner.

b) Large amounts of dirt can be removed using cleaning machines or a single-disc polishing machine (beige or red 3M pad) and a neutral cleaning agent. Alternatively, suitable deep-cleaning agents (maximum pH value of 10) may be used. After cleaning, the floor covering should be neutralised by rinsing with fresh clean water.

### 9.2 Regular cleaning

The choice of process depends on the amount of dirt, whether or not a care & treatment product has been used and the requirements in terms of hygiene and cleanliness. If the type of dirt allows, dry processes can be chosen. This minimises maintenance costs and reduces the impact on the environment due to the limited use of chemicals.

If washing down or wiping with a damp cloth is required, the **alcohol-based or neutral cleaning agent** recommended by the manufacturer in question should be added to the washing water.

If the floor covering has been coated, products that are compatible with the coating must be used for maintenance.

Whatever the choice of cleaning method, allowing water to collect and stand must be avoided at all costs.

### 9.3 Office chairs/furniture

Office chairs used on elastic floor coverings must be equipped with soft type W casters according to EN 12529. Soft pads, e.g. made from felt, should be attached to the contact surfaces of furniture.

Like the floor covering itself, the soft pads under furniture must be regularly cleaned, checked for damage and replaced as necessary.

### 9.4 Adhesive tape

If adhesive tape is used on the floor covering, please contact the manufacturer in question for details of compatibility.

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The publication of this edition invalidates all previous publications.