

# ActiveSound™

## Installation Instructions

To confirm you have the most recent installation instructions, please visit our website [www.mohawkflooring.com](http://www.mohawkflooring.com) or contact Technical Services at 888-387-9881, Option 3.

### ASBESTOS WARNING

WARNING! DO NOT MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES. Previously installed resilient floor covering products and the asphaltic or cutback adhesives used to install them may contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of asbestos or crystalline dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the previously installed product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures.

### JOB SITE CONDITIONS

It is the responsibility of the Installer and Owner to ensure that job site environmental, substrate and subsurface conditions involved meet or exceeds all requirements as outlined in installation instructions prior to installation. Manufacturer declines all responsibility for product performance or installation failure due to structural, substrate or environmental deficiencies or jobsite conditions.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

It is important that flooring products maintain proper temperature before, during, and after installation in order to minimize dimensional changes. The substrate and all flooring material must be conditioned on a flat surface at a constant temperature between 65°F (18°C) and 85°F (29°C) for 48 hours prior to, during, and 48 hours after installation. Thereafter, maintain a room temperature between 55°F (13°C) and 90°F (32°C).

### TOOLS AND MATERIALS

- Mohawk HydroSeal Moisture Inhibitor
- Mohawk SurfaceSeal Adhesive Encapsulator
- Mohawk PrimeCoat Primer
- 75 pound, 3 section roller
- Chalk Line
- Carpenter square

## SUITABLE SUBSTRATES AND SURFACE MATERIALS

- Fully cured, dry concrete on all grade levels (Moisture vapor emissions should not exceed 5 pounds (ASTM F1869) or 85% RH (ASTM F2170) with a pH range between 8 and 9.
- Approved suspended wood floors and underlayment.
- Portland cement-based self-levelling underlayment and patching compounds.
- Prepared ceramic tile, marble and cement terrazzo.
- Aluminum, steel and stainless steel.
- Embedded radiant-heated substrates where the maximum surface temperature of the floor does not exceed 85F (29°C) in any area.
- Existing inlaid resilient sheet flooring-single layer, fully adhered and well bonded.
- Existing vinyl composition tile (VCT) - single layer, well bonded over on or above grade level only.

Note: Some previously manufactured vinyl floor covering and asphalt “cutback” adhesive contain asbestos. For preparation or removal of these products, refer to the Resilient Floor Covering Institutes publication “Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Covering”. These work practices must be followed. For a copy of the recommended work practices, please contact:

Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI)  
401 East Jefferson Street  
Suite 102  
Rockville MD 20850

## FLOOR LAYOUT

First, determine the direction to install the planks. As a general rule, planks are normally installed running in the long direction of the main room and with the light source. Lay the ActiveSound LVT Underlayment perpendicular to the direction of the LVT, flush with the wall, and edge-to-edge. Ensure that the printed EZ Cut pattern faces up to help control the product from moving too much during installation. Note: the printed pattern may have minor deviations. Join the individual strips using the easy click® design. Use clear packing tape to join and secure any head-seams.

## SITE PREPARATION

The substrate must be sound, smooth, dry and clean. Mechanically remove any dirt, wax, loose paint, existing adhesives and all foreign matter. Do not install LVT directly over cutback residue. If you encounter cutback residue, mechanically remove and apply a coat of Mohawk SurfaceSeal prior to installation of flooring. If installation is over gypcrete it is advisable to apply a coat of Mohawk PrimeCoat and allow to dry prior to installation of flooring. Seal porous or dusty concrete surfaces with Mohawk PrimeCoat or Mohawk HydroSeal. Do not use on chemically cleaned substrates or over treated plywood substrates. The installation site must be acclimated with HVAC in operation. The floor and room temperature, as well as flooring materials must be maintained at 65°–85° F, and the humidity below 65% for 48 hours prior to, during, and after pre-installation testing and installation. Use M700 PSA for installations over concrete substrates with moisture emission of 5 lbs. per 1000 square feet in 24 hrs. when tested in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F 1869 and 85% RH when tested with the latest version of ASTM F 2170, (If RH exceeds 85% use Mohawk HydroSeal to lower readings), and pH of 8-9. Lower pH readings on a concrete substrate may indicate that a sealer or sealed surface is present. All substrate preparation and testing procedures must conform to appropriate ASTM F710.

## SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

All substrate surfaces must be flat, clean, dry, smooth, and free of movement. Certain requirements may apply in order to prepare these substrates for resilient flooring. All surface imperfections should be filled and sanded with a Portland cement-based latex patching compound. Substrates covered with existing flooring may also be acceptable for residential and light commercial applications.

Ensure that concrete substrates are sufficiently dry by conducting moisture and pH tests. The substrate, regardless of the type must be flat, smooth, clean, dry, structurally sound and free of paint, old adhesive residue, wax, grease, oil, solvent, curing and parting compounds and other substances that could interfere with adhesion or the performance of the flooring. Never use liquid adhesive remover or solvent cleaners for removing old adhesive residue or other substances on the substrate – Mohawk Surface Seal is perfect for these situations. These substances must be mechanically removed or encapsulated. Conduct bond tests to confirm suitable adhesion to the substrate.

**FLAT** – Within 3/16" in 10' radius and/or 1/8" in 6' radius - sand high areas or joints - fill low areas with a high compressive strength Portland base compound. Subfloor deflection should not exceed 1/360th of the span. The flatness of the substrate is particularly important for keeping joints tight and in alignment when installing large format tiles. Deviations in the substrate should not exceed 3/16" in 10' or 1/16" in 1'.

**DRY** – Select the appropriate moisture indicator test specifically designed for use with wood or concrete subfloors. Test and record moisture content results. **DO NOT INSTALL FLOORING IF MOISTURE TEST RESULTS EXCEED RECOMMENDED LIMITS.**

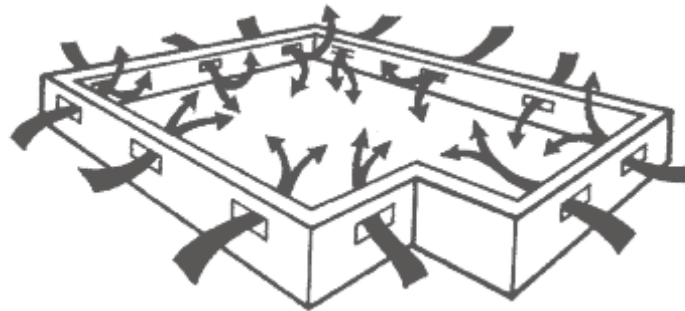
## CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

1. Concrete substrates must be dry, smooth, and free from oil, dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, and asphalt sealing compounds or other materials. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
2. New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry (at least six weeks) and completely cured. Curing agents, surface hardeners and other additives may cause problems. These should be removed by sanding or grinding if there is a potential problem causing agent on the slab.
3. All concrete slabs must be checked for moisture before installing material. Moisture emissions from subfloor cannot exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours as measured with the calcium chloride test or in excess of 85% In Situ Relative humidity. Responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the owner and installer.
4. Surface alkalinity of concrete substrate – Concrete slabs should be tested for the presence of alkali salt build up. Excessive alkali can cause issues like discoloration and the seams of click flooring. A simple pH paper test using distilled water and pH paper can determine the presence of excessive alkali salt. Pour a small amount of distilled water on to the slab and allow it to stand for a minimum of one minute. Place the pH paper strip into the distilled water. The acceptable range should be from 8-9 pH. Corrective measures must be taken if the pH exceeds these guidelines by applying a coat of Mohawk PrimeCoat.

## WOOD SUBSTRATES

NOTE: As with many other interior finish products, modification of existing structural components may be required for a successful installation.

1. Nail or screw any areas that are loose or squeak. Wood panels should exhibit an adequate fastening pattern, glued/screwed or nailed as that system requires, using an acceptable nail pattern. Typical is 6" along bearing edges and 12" along intermediate supports. Flatten edge swell as necessary. Replace any water-damaged, swollen or delaminated subflooring or underlayment.
2. Wood underlayment panels should be a minimum of 1" or thicker and free of vertical deflection. All fasteners must be flush with the underlayment panels.
3. Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6 mil black polyethylene membrane is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. Crawl space clearance from ground to underside of joist should be no less than 18" and perimeter vent spacing should be equal to 1.5% of the total square footage of the crawl space area to provide cross ventilation.



## PRE-INSTALLATION SUBSTRATE MOISTURE TESTING

Installer should use this section to record moisture content readings and provide to the owner for their records.

<b>Installation Information:</b> Total Square Feet Installed: _____	
Moisture Content	_____ % Moisture Content of Substrate
Test Method Used	_____ Calcium Chloride (ASTM F1869)
	_____ RH % (ASTM F2170)
	_____ Electronic Meter (Tramex or equivalent)
	_____ pH Results
Moisture Readings	_____
	_____
	_____

For additional questions or concerns, please call Mohawk Technical Service at 888.387.9881, Option 3