

GENERAL INFORMATION

Assemble all tools and materials listed below before beginning the installation process.

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|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| iCORE splines—side and end | Tapping block | Circular saw |
| CoreWeld™ | Pencil | Drill |
| Mannington Hush® underlayment | Tape measure | Chalk line |
| Spacing wedges—5/16" (1 cm) | Carpenter's square | Blue masking tape |
| Pull bar Transition moldings | Safety glasses* | |
| Utility knife | Hand or power jamb saw | |

* Always wear safety glasses when using a hammer or power equipment. Follow safety instructions and MSDS Data Sheets.

* For future repairs, wrap remaining panels in original box and store in a normal, dry interior storage area at normal room temperature.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

- Can be installed over structurally sound wood and concrete subfloors on all grade levels.
- Subfloor must be clean and free of debris.
- Subfloor must be level to within 1/4 inch per 10-foot span.
- Low spots can be filled using Mannington's MVP 2023 floor patching compound.
- Sanding or grinding must be used to remove high spots.
- Can be installed over most existing hard surface flooring. Remove hardwood floors that are glued down over concrete.
- Can be installed over most ceramic tile floors.
- iCORE is not recommended in commercial areas where the surface temperature over radiant heated substrate exceeds 90°F.
- iCORE should not be installed over carpet.
- Job site installation temperature should be between 65°F and a maximum of 95°F.
- iCORE is intended for indoor use in buildings that are climate controlled.
- iCORE should not be installed over concrete sub floors where moisture* problems exist.

* **Although moisture will not effect iCORE plank, it is recommended not to install iCORE over concrete slab with history of excessive moisture.**

If removal of existing resilient floor covering is required, follow all recommended Resilient Covering Floor Institute (RCFI) work practices at www.rcfi.com.

WARNING

Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, mechanically chip, or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, asphaltic "cutback" adhesives, or other adhesives. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such 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 product is a non-

WARNING

asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. The Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings” should be consulted for a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures. For more information, visit the Resilient Floor Covering Institute at www.rfci.com.

INSTALLATION

- Carefully remove existing wall base, trim, and transition moldings. Measure out the entire work area to ensure proper panel layout. Make sure the last panel to be laid in the work area will be no less than 2” wide. If not, the first panel to be laid in the work area must be cut to compensate the difference in the last panel. Install Mannington Hush underlayment only one sheet at a time during panel installation to prevent damaging the underlayment. Once the first sheet of Mannington Hush underlayment is covered with iCORE flooring, install the second sheet. Do not overlap sheets. Butt the two edges of the sheet together and seal with duct tape.
NOTE: A minimum of 6-mil polyethylene moisture barrier must be used with Mannington Hush if installed on or below grade.
- Position 5/16”- wide spacing wedges 18” apart around the perimeter of the work area and around pillars, posts, pipes, thresholds, etc., to mark the required expansion gap.
- Undercut all bottom door casings so the new flooring will fit underneath. Use a scrap piece of the iCORE plank and Hush underlayment as a guide. Make the cut using a hand or power jamb saw. Be certain to allow enough room under the casing for an expansion gap.

LAYING AND ADHERING iCORE

- Once the starting wall has been determined, begin laying the iCORE planks along the wall using spacers or adjustable wedges to maintain the expansion gap. It is imperative that this row be installed straight and tight at all end joints. Cut the last plank to fit.
NOTE: iCORE planks can be cut using traditional cutting tools such as hand saws, jig saws, circular saws, power miter or chop saws, etc. Establish an area away from the work area for cutting and utilize “dust” containment systems when cutting. Keep the “dust” out of the work area.
- iCORE splines are specifically designed to secure the planks together. The side splines are 84” long and are packaged 21 splines per carton. The end splines are 4 3/8” long and are packaged 26 per carton. One carton is required for every 60 square feet (3 cartons) of iCORE. iCORE co-extruded splines can be cut with side cutters, vinyl-molding cutters, or with a utility knife. The side splines should be staggered so they bridge the planks by extending at least 12” into the length of the adjoining plank.
- Insert the iCORE splines into the groove along the first row. It is recommended to keep the stagger of the spline ends as far as possible from the plank ends. For example, if a full plank is used as the first plank in the layout, cut a spline to a length of approximately 30”. Insert this spline in the first plank; install the second plank, and insert a full 84” long spline. This will provide 42” of spline in both panel grooves.
NOTE: Maintain as much stagger with the side splines as possible to help “lock-in” the planks. Never allow an end joint of a spline to fall in line with an end joint of an iCORE plank.
- In addition to the side splines, it is also necessary to insert end splines in the grooves on the plank ends. Insert the end spline into the already positioned plank; place the next plank onto the side spline, just slightly over the end spline. Apply a liberal amount of CoreWeld to the end spline. Tap the new plank into position over both the side and end splines.
END SPLINES MUST BE USED BETWEEN EACH PANEL END. END SPLINES MUST BE SECURED WITH AN APPLICATION OF COREWELD.

LAYING AND ADHERING iCORE

8. Typically the cut-off plank from the first row can be used to start the second row, providing that it is 12" or longer. Stagger the end joints of the second row by at least 12" from the end joints in the first row. Position the groove of the planks onto the splines with slight hand force. Insert the splines into the grooves of the second row, and use a tapping block and hammer to firmly secure the second row to the first by tapping on the plank edge.
9. Be careful not to exert too much force with the tapping block on the edge of the co-extruded side spline. To prevent damaging the iCORE plank edge, **always tap on the side splines and never tap on the plank edges**. Install the third row of iCORE planks using the same procedure. Randomly stagger the end joints to achieve a random and aesthetically pleasing appearance.
10. Closely inspect these first three rows to assure that everything is straight and true. Be certain that all end joints are tight and aligned. If necessary, adjust these three rows of iCORE planks using adjustable wedges before proceeding with the installation. It is sometimes helpful to secure the alignment of these three rows with blue, non-marring masking tape.
NOTE: Continue installing the planks across the work area. Remember that the double-grooved construction of the iCORE planks allows the panels to be turned 180° to each other to provide for a realistic, random appearance. Periodically through-out the installation, check to be certain that the panels are staying straight and true. Maintain the 5/16" expansion gap.
11. More than likely, the last row of planks will need to be rip cut to fit. Remember this last row must be at least 2" wide. Scribe the last row of panels as required, maintaining the 5/16" expansion gap. Install the cut planks and pull into place with a pull bar.
12. Fill the CoreWeld applicator and screw on the applicator tip. Snip off the very top of the applicator tip to the second ring.
13. Apply an even application of weld to all end and side joints.
14. The majority of the CoreWeld will penetrate into the joint and will also evaporate quickly from the surface of the flooring, however, wipe the area with a clean cloth to ensure that all of the CoreWeld has been removed from the surface.
NOTE: After welding is complete, pour unused weld back into the can. Do not store CoreWeld in the applicator bottle.
15. Use the appropriate finish molding or terminating profile as a transition to door thresholds, steps, or other floor coverings. When installing base, caution must be taken to not nail into iCORE planks; planks must have the ability to move as building/subfloor shifts. iCORE has matching moldings for all running line decor color. The moldings include quarter-round, wall base, step-nosing, and end-molding. T-molding and reducers have an aluminum core and color match decor sheet for added durability.

REPAIRS

Always inspect each panel closely before installation; however, if damage occurs after installation, the following repair procedures may be used:

If a panel is slightly damaged or chipped, fill it using Mannington Color-Matched Patchal Pencils. Follow all directions described on the container.

1. To replace an entire damaged panel, begin by drilling two 1/2" holes in each end of the damaged plank approximately 1/2" back from all four plank corners and as close to the plank end joints as possible. Drill two more holes in the damaged plank approximately 4" to 5" in from the previously drilled holes. Use extreme caution when drilling to prevent damage to adjoining panels and underlayment.

REPAIRS

2. To remove the panel, cut the center with a circular saw. A line may be drawn between the holes to serve as a cutting guide to prevent mistakes. Set the saw to the precise depth of the plank (3/8") to prevent cutting into the underlayment or subfloor make a saw cut across the middle of the pre-marked center section. Starting in the center of the plank cut along the guidelines to the inner holes and continue the saw cut out to the pre-drilled end holes.
3. Wearing gloves or using vise-grip type pliers, grasp one half of the center strip and lift up and out. It may be helpful to pass a utility knife through the end joint to break the CoreWeld. Remove the remaining half of the center section.
4. Remove the remaining plank pieces by rocking up and down with a vise-grip type pliers to separate the groove edge of the replacement panel from the spline of the adjoining planks. An alternative method is to drill several holes along the length of the remaining plank pieces. Insert a sturdy screw driver or drift pin into the holes and tap toward the center with a hammer. Use extreme caution when removing the damaged panel to prevent harm to adjoining panels.
5. Prepare the replacement plank by cutting off the plank's bottom flange at the groove along one side and both ends. The flange can be cut off using a table saw or by cutting with a utility knife with a new, sharp blade.
6. Apply CoreWeld to the existing splines and quickly slide the repair panel into place by placing the uncut groove side over the existing spline, allowing the cut flange side to rest on the adjoining spline. Apply an additional application of CoreWeld at all seams and wipe off the excess with a clean cloth.
7. Weight the repair panel and avoid active foot traffic for approximately 12 hours after the repair has been completed.

CAUTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS

1. Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand-truck over hard board runways.
2. Do not place heavy items on newly installed floor covering for at least 48 hours after completion of the installation. Heavy furniture should be equipped with suitable non-staining, wide-bearing casters.
3. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light exposure is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential affects on the floor covering.
4. Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt driveway sealer or automobile oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
5. Use non-staining walk-off mats. Rubber can discolor floor covering.