

AQUACORK™

AQUACORK™ INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Installing AquaCork™ is simple but there are several things to consider in order to fully achieve successful, long lasting results. Be sure to understand all installation instructions before commencing. Contact us for technical assistance if unsure of installation procedures.

AquaCork™ is installed by gluing the planks to the deck. While AquaCork planks are easy to install, correct adhesive type and proper subdeck preparations are critical to ensure ultimate installation satisfaction.

AquaCork™ can be installed over most existing deck surfaces provided those surfaces are completely smooth, structurally sound, level and clean. Decks must be free of dirt, grease, grime, wax, or anything else that would hinder a good adhesive bond. It will be necessary to fill in any cracks, joints, ruts, grooves, seams, or any rough surfaces in existing decks using fillers or leveling compounds and then sand smooth to insure uniformity.

PRE-INSTALLATION

AquaCork planks should be placed in area of installation at least 24-48 hours prior to the installation begins. As AquaCork is a natural cork product, this allows the cork to acclimatize. At this time also check that planks are the chosen desired pattern, color, and shading and inspect tiles for possible imperfections. To avoid surprises or disappointments, closely review and understand [the Facts About The Natural Characteristics of Cork](http://www.jelinek.com/facts-about-the-natural-characteristics-of-cork-flooring) (www.jelinek.com/facts-about-the-natural-characteristics-of-cork-flooring). Because cork is a natural product, there will be color and shade variations from tile to tile which add to the uniqueness and natural beauty of cork decking. The blending of shades and/or colors is the installer's responsibility.

Lay out the planks creating the desired pattern (staggered seams is usually recommended). Now is the time to mark any lines on the existing decking that will be used as guides for installing the cork planks.

Suggested Tools

- Marking pencil
- Tape measure
- Square
- Triangle – 45°

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- Utility knife
- Saw – hand saw or jig saw
- Belt Sander
- Sand paper (80 to 120 grit)
- Putty knife
- Caulking gun
- Roller
- Brush
- Protective gloves
- A hand router and vertical sanding machine are option

Recommended Adhesive and Caulking

- AquaCork Glue – Hybrid Polymer Tube
- AquaCork Caulking

PREPARATION

Prepare decks.

Fibreglass Decks

- Degrease the deck surface using acetone or denatured alcohol using a saturated cloth.
- Clean all non-skid surfaces thoroughly with a disposable brush. Do not sand down these surfaces.
- After degreasing the deck, wait approx. ½ hour prior to applying primer.
- Apply a thin coat of primer spreading with a brush.
- Allow primer to cure for at least 10 minutes but no longer than 24 hours.
- You are now ready to install AquaCork.

Metal Decks

- Check the deck surface for any corrosion or damage. Sand off any corrosion or damage.
- If the deck is not flat, use epoxy putty to level the deck.
- Using acetone or denatured alcohol and a saturated cloth, clean the entire surface.
- After cleaning the deck, wait approx. ½ hour prior to applying primer.
- Apply a thin coat of primer spreading with a brush.

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- Allow primer to cure for at least 10 minutes but no longer than 24 hours.
- You are now ready to install AquaCork.

Wooden Decks

- Check for any damage or loose planks and fix these as required.
- If the deck is not flat, the deck needs to be leveled with a leveling compound.
- Once the deck is level, use acetone or denatured alcohol and a saturated cloth to clean the entire surface.
- After cleaning the deck, wait approx. ½ hour prior to applying primer.
- Apply a thin coat of primer for porous surfaces spreading with a brush.
- Allow primer to cure for at least 1 hour but no longer than 24 hours.
- You are now ready to install AquaCork.

INSTALLATION

1. Before applying adhesive, dry-lay and perhaps pre-cut AquaCork planks where they will be installed. It is recommended to install from the outside to the center. Laying one on the left and then one on the right to meet at the center.
2. Once planks have been laid out and numbered, remove all planks.
3. Apply adhesive to deck according to the manufacturer's instructions. Apply the planks to the adhesive, pushing the air out to create a strong bond. Press firmly and evenly on the plank to ensure each plank is firmly adhered to the surface below.
4. Continue applying adhesive and planks to the entire surface.
5. Once the planks have been installed, allow the adhesive to cure according to manufacturer's instructions – typically around 18-24 hours.

CAULKING

Once the AquaCork has been installed and has set, it is time to caulk.

1. If there is any adhesive, dust, debris, etc. within the grooves, clean this out so it does not interfere with caulking.

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2. Using AquaCork caulking and a caulking gun, apply the caulking into the grooves. Try and get the caulking to the bottom of the grooves. Fill the seam completely while avoiding air bubbles.
3. Use a putty knife to scrape off and remove the excess caulk (anything over the planks).

FINISHING

1. Once the caulking has dried per manufacturer's instructions (typically approx. 24 hours), sand the entire deck (using 80 grit sandpaper).
2. Congratulations on your new deck!

OPTIONAL

If desired, AquaCork Surface Protection can be applied to the surface. This is optional.