

Thank you for choosing Cobalt Surfaces Petrous. When properly installed and cared for, your new flooring will be easy to maintain and will keep its great look for years.

WARNING! DO NOT SAND, DRY SWEEP, DRY SCRAPE, DRILL, SAW, BEAD-BLAST OR MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.

These products may contain either asbestos fibers and/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-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. For current information go to www.rfci.com.

Please read all the instructions before you begin the installation. Improper installation will void warranty.

GENERAL PREPARATIONS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

After installation, make sure that Cobalt Surfaces Petrous is not be exposed to temperatures less than 0°F (-15°C) or greater than 140°F (60°C). It is preferable to lay boards following the direction of the main source of light. For the best result, make sure to always work from 2 to 3 cartons at a time, mixing the planks during the installation

TOOLS REQUIRED: Spacers, rubber mallet, tapping block, ruler, pencil, tape measure, utility knife.

- Prior to installation, inspect material in daylight for visible faults/damage. No claims on surface defects will be accepted after installation.
- Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied, do not install, and contact your supplier.
- Flooring products can be damaged by rough handling before installation. Exercise care when handling and transporting these products. Store, transport and handle the flooring planks in a manner to prevent any damage. Store cartons flat, never on edge.
- Flooring products can be heavy and bulky. Always use proper lifting techniques when handling these products. Whenever possible, make use of material-handling equipment such as dollies or material carts. Never lift more than you can safely handle; get assistance.
- Calculate the room surface prior to installation and plan an extra 5% of flooring for cutting waste.

- The environment where Cobalt Surfaces Petrous is to be installed is critically important with regard to successful installation and continued performance of the flooring products. Cobalt Surfaces Petrous is intended to be installed in interior locations only. These interior locations must meet climatic and structural requirements as well.

- Flooring should only be installed in temperature-controlled environments. It is necessary to maintain a constant temperature before, during and after the installation. Portable heaters are not recommended as they may not heat the room and subfloor sufficiently. Kerosene heaters should never be used.

- This product does not need acclimation.

- For floor surfaces exceeding 6400ft² (620m²) and/or lengths exceeding 80 lineal feet (25m), use expansion moldings.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

- Inspect your subfloor before you begin, it must be clean, dry and level to 3/16" (5mm) within a 10 feet (3 meters). Substrates must be free from excessive moisture or alkali. Remove dirt, paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents, any foreign matter and contaminates.

- Do not use products containing petroleum, solvents or citrus oils to prepare substrates as they can cause staining and expansion of the new flooring.

- Although this floor is waterproof, it is not aimed to be used as a moisture barrier. The subfloor must be dry (max 2.5% moisture content - CM method). Maximum moisture levels per CaCl test is 5 lbs per 1000 in 24 hours. Maximum levels for ASTM 2170 In-Situ Relative Humidity Test method – 85%. This product is also not to be installed in areas that have a risk of flooding such as saunas or outdoor areas.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Radiant Heat: Radiant heat systems must have a minimum of 1/2" separation from the product. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F (30°C). Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating. In-floor Radiant Heat: Cobalt Surfaces Petrous can be installed over 1/2" embedded radiant heat using the floating install method.

- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated subfloors.
- Failure to turn the heat off may result in significantly shortened working time of the adhesive.
- Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system. The maximum moisture content of the screed is 1.5% (CM method). Maximum moisture levels per CaCl test is 5 lbs per 1000 in 24 hours. Maximum levels for ASTM 2170 In-Situ Relative Humidity Test method – 85%.
- Make sure that the temperature in the room is at least 60°F (15°C) during installation.
- Floor temperature must not exceed 85°F (30°C).
- Once the installation has been completed, the heating system should be turned on and increased gradually (5 degree increments) until returning to normal operating conditions.
- Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Warning: Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath Cobalt Surfaces Petrous. Using electric heating mats that are not embedded and applied directly underneath Cobalt Surfaces Petrous could void the warranty for your floor in case of failure. It is best to install Cobalt Surfaces Petrous over embedded radiant floor heating systems and adhere to the guidelines listed above.

WOOD SUBFLOORS

- If this flooring is intended to be installed over an existing wooden floor, it is recommended to repair any loose boards or squeaks before you begin the installation.
- Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking.
- Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6-mil black polyethylene is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth.

- We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboards.
- All other subfloors - Plywood, OSB, particleboard, chipboard, wafer board, etc. must be structurally sound and must be installed following their manufacturer's recommendations.

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

- Floors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, smooth, permanently dry, clean, and free of all foreign material such as dust, wax, solvents, paint, grease, oils, and old adhesive residue. Curing agents and hardeners could cause bonding failure and should not be used.
- Depressions, deep grooves, expansion joints and other subfloor imperfections must be filled with patching & leveling compound.
- Concrete substrates must be flat within 1/8 of an inch within a 6-foot radius, or 3/16 of an inch within a 10-foot radius. The substrate should not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction.
- Moisture and alkalinity tests should be performed on all concrete substrates regardless of grade level or age of slab. Perform either ASTM F2170 In-Situ Relative Humidity (RH) test or ASTM F1869 Calcium Chloride Moisture Test (MVER: Moisture Vapor Emission Rating). Perform pH test per ASTM F710 to determine alkalinity of the slab.
- Moisture emission from subfloor cannot exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours as measured with the calcium chloride test in accordance with ASTM F1869-04 or ASTM F2170 In-Situ Relative Humidity not to exceed 85%. If results are higher than referenced, then a minimum 6mil polyethylene plastic moisture barrier must be applied.
- The Limited Warranty does not cover discoloration from mold or from flooding, floods, leaking plumbing or appliances, water entering through sliding glass doorways, as well as floor covering failure due to hydrostatic pressure or moisture vapor emission.

EXISTING FLOORS

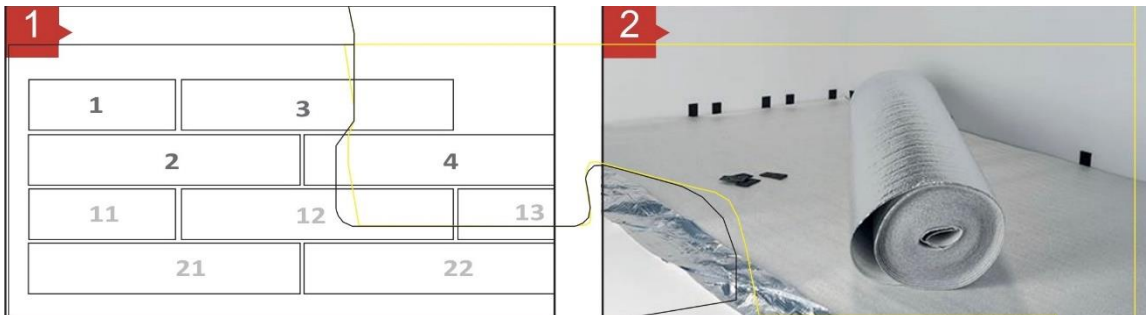
- Cobalt Surfaces Petrous can be installed over most existing hard surface floor coverings, provided that the existing floor surface is clean, flat, dry, securely fastened, and structurally sound.
- Existing sheet vinyl floors should not be heavily cushioned and not exceed more than one layer in thickness. Soft underlayment and soft substrates will diminish the products inherent strength in resisting indentations.
- Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor may affect the new floor covering.

DO NOT INSTALL OVER

- Hardwood flooring / wood subfloors that lay directly on concrete or over dimensional lumber or plywood used over concrete.
- Any type of carpet.
- Existing cushion-backed vinyl flooring.
- Floating floor of any type, loose lay, and perimeter fastened sheet vinyl.

INSTALLATION

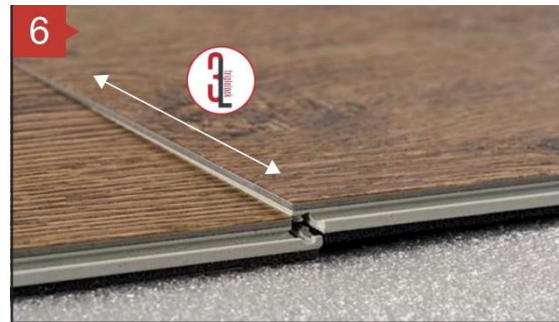
- Remove baseboard, quarter-round moldings, wall base, appliances and furniture from room. For best results, door trim should be under-cut to allow flooring to move freely without being pinched. After preparation work, sweep and vacuum the entire work area to remove all dust and debris.
- With a floating floor you must always ensure you leave a 1/4" (6mm) gap between walls and fixtures such as pipes and pillars, stairs, etc. These gaps will be covered with trim moldings after the floor is installed. Tip: When installing around pipes, drill the holes 1/2" (12mm) larger than the diameter of the pipes.
- Whenever possible, plan the layout so that the joints in the planks do not fall on top of joints or seams in the existing substrate. The end joints of the planks should be staggered a minimum of 8" (20.32 cm) apart. Do not install over expansion joints. Avoid installing pieces shorter than 12" (30 cm) at beginning or end of rows.
- Do not install your kitchen cabinets directly over your Cobalt Surfaces Petrous . Cobalt Surfaces Petrous quality can be guaranteed as long as the floor can move freely.
- Decide the installation direction. It is recommended to install the length direction of the planks parallel to the main light direction.
- Measure the area to be installed: The board width of the last row shall not be less than 2" (50mm). If so, adjust the width of the first row to be installed. In narrow hallways, it is recommended to install the floor parallel to the length of the hall.



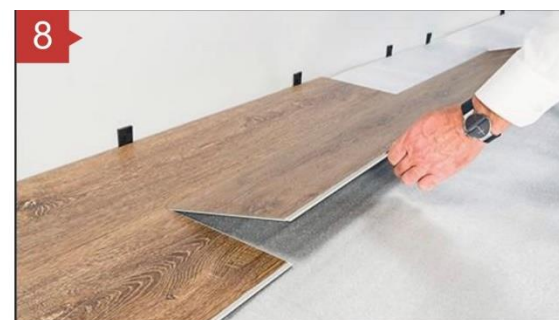
1. Establish Stagger and Align Tools – Products should be staggered in Bricklaid pattern, stagger equal to half of a plank.
2. Prepare Floor – Set spacers of equal thickness, appropriately distanced, for the required expansion gap.



3. Install 1st Plank – It is very important that the first row is installed straight. To realize this, installation alternates back and forth between rows one and two, for the first two rows only. Start with a small plank (1) and position this plank close to the wall.
4. Install 2nd Plank – Now select a long plank (2). Using the Click4U angle system, angle the long side of plank 2 on to the long side of plank 1. Drop plank 2 to lock. Make sure there are no gaps.



5. Engage 3rd Plank on Long Side – Take another long plank (3). Repeating the previous step, insert the long side of plank 3 into the long side of plank 2. Then slide plank 3 to your left until the short side is in contact with the short side of plank 1.
6. Engage 3rd Plank on Short Side (Part 1) – Using the 3L TripleLock one piece drop-lock system, drop the short side of plank 3 onto the short side of plank 1.



7. Engage 3rd Plank on Short Side (Part 2) – Using a rubber mallet, slightly tap the joints on the short side to secure. This ensures 3xlocking.
8. Finish Rows 1 and 2 – Continue alternating planks on rows 1 and 2 to avoid misalignment. From row 3 onwards, installation does not require alternating rows. Install one row after the other by starting with angling on the long side, sliding until the short sides are in contact and then locking the short side.



9. Securing Planks – As you go, don't forget to use a rubber mallet on the short sides to secure the locking.

10. Finalize Floor – Finished? Remove spacers and cover gaps with a trim.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

If you notice both planks aren't at the same height or are not well locked together, please follow the disassembling instructions below, disassemble and check if any debris stuck inside the lock is obstructing. Failure to properly line up the end joint and attempting to force it in while out of alignment could result in permanent damage to the end joint.

● Disassembling



11. Disassembling the Long Side – Lift up the entire row in the same angle as you did during installation, then slide the rows apart.

12. Disassembling the Short Side – Disassemble the row by sliding apart the planks on the short side.

FINISHING THE INSTALLATION

Replace molding or wall base, allowing slight clearance between the molding and the planks. Nail the molding to the wall surface, not through the flooring. At doorways and at other areas where the flooring planks may meet other flooring surfaces, it is preferable to use a "T" molding, or similar, to cover the exposed edge but not pinch the planks. Leave a small gap between the planks and the adjoining surface.

MAINTENANCE

- Sweep or vacuum daily using soft bristle attachments.
- Clean up spills and excessive liquids immediately.
- Damp mop as needed and use cleaners recommended for vinyl flooring.
- Use proper floor protection devices such as felt protectors under furniture.

- Place a walk-off mat at outside entrances to reduce the amount of dirt brought into your home. Do not use mats with a latex or rubber backing since these backings can cause permanent discoloration.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, bleach or wax to maintain the floor.
- Do not drag or slide heavy objects across the floor.

PREVENTIVE CARE

- When moving appliances or heavy furniture it is always wise to lay a plywood panel, or similar, on your floor and “walk” the item across it. This protects your floor from scuffing, gouging and tears.
- Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. Do NOT use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.
- Caster wheeled chairs should have wide, rubber casters. Place protective mats under of office chairs.
- Use floor protectors under furniture to reduce indentation. As a general rule of thumb, the heavier the item, the wider the floor protector needed.