

PREPARING A CONCRETE FLOOR FOR LAYING VINYL

This document outlines a simple, tradesman's approach to preparing a floor prior to vinyl laying. Most good contractors can undertake this work. Defects in concrete will show through vinyl flooring. The concrete substrate must be very smooth.

ADVANTAGES

- Durabond Superfine FLC: Will bond to many floor contaminants eg: old adhesive, concrete scrap.
- Easy to mix and lay.
- Self priming on most surfaces.

METHOD

Other methods may include using self-levelling screeds (eg: Nuplex **Uzin NC160**) but these require a greater degree of experience and more care must be taken with supervision, pre-substrate inspection and laying techniques. For concrete that is in good condition but with just a few scratches and dents, use **Ultrafinish** to smooth out.

1. Inspect the concrete floor and remove large lumps and/or fill larger holes. Remove any loose material. If waterproofing is required, apply this now. Use Aquaguard 101 epoxy coating.
2. Apply Durabond Superfine FLC system.
 - Use **Durabond Superfine** for normal smoothing work.
 - Use FLC Screed 20 for fills from 20mm to 30mm (further re-finish with coats of Durabond Superfine FLC).
 - Use **Ultrafinish** for a final smoothing coat if required.

Using Durabond Superfine, mix one 24kg bag with 4Lts of FLC Emulsion with a power drill. Follow the full directions on the data sheet and apply to the prepared floor by 18" trowel. This unit will cover 6m² at 3mm thick or a general smooth rate of 12m² per unit.

Larger quantities 5 x 24kg bags per 20Lt FLC Emulsion

50 x 24kg bags per 200Lt FLC Emulsion

Allow to cure overnight.

3. FINISHING

Next day sand the floor using a Sandivac machine (if necessary) to remove trowel marks. This step is needed depending on the trowel application of the Durabond. This is the key item in the usefulness of this system. It enables many users to lay a good floor underlayment.

If one is a good trowel hand, then sanding may not be necessary, or only a little work with a hand stone. The level of the floor flatness also depends on whether tiles, vinyl tiles, vinyl or carpet is being laid.

The Sandivac machine using P20 405mm sanding discs will give a vinyl ready surface. The machine also self-extracts dust.

If absolutely critical the final floor can be touched up using Ultrafinish smoothing paste.

The floor is now ready for vinyl laying and will accept adhesives such as Duracryl Acrylic Vinyl flooring adhesive.

