



Laying Instructions for Ceramin-Based Design Floorings

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1. Laying preparation

1.1 Let the packaged floor coverings acclimatize for approx. 48 hrs. under living room conditions before the installation (cross-pile at approx. 18°C-20°C (65°F-68°F) and 40-60% rel. humidity).

1.2 Before installation, check the floor boards for batch uniformity, sample material matching and defects. Boards that already have visible defects prior to laying should not be used.

1.3 Remove any old soft floor covering (e.g. carpet, needle felt or vinyl).

1.4 Properties and preparation of the subsurface/subfloor structure

1.4.1 The subsurface must be firm, clean, level, and dry (laying-ready acc. to DIN 18356 and DIN 18202). The moisture content of the new subsurface must be checked so it does not exceed 1.8 CM% for cement screed and 0.3 CM% for anhydrite floating screed.

1.4.2 Care must be taken to ensure that the site has enough subsurface sealing bordering the soil.

1.5. Laying on warm water underfloor heating

Ceramin-based design floorings can be laid on water-filled floor heating systems. Basically, before installation can begin, proper functioning and ready-for-laying heating must be carried out (see professional information "Interface coordination for heated floor structures" in www.zdb.de).

PLEASE NOTE:

Generally, installation on electric underfloor heating is not recommended.
The floor covering contact temperature may not exceed 27°C (80°F).

1.6. Laying direction

Place the narrow end of the boards so it faces the main light source. In long, narrow rooms, place it in longitudinal direction.

2.0 Needed tools and accessories

2.1 Laying tools: Yardstick, pencil, angle bracket, laying knife with trapezoidal blade. Optional tools: Rubber hammer, metal saw for cutting metal rails, miter saw for cutting moldings

2.2 Accessories: Spacer wedges, 1.5 mm-strong impact sound insulation with min. 10 t/m² (1.02 t per sq. ft.) Pressure stability. We expressly recommend using the systemic NEOlay impact sound underlay - especially for Ceramin-based designer floor coverings. This insulating underlay meets the highest ergonomic standards and optimally insulates impact and room noise.

3. Laying the flooring

Ceramin-based design floor coverings are intended for floating installation and can also be bonded fully to the subsurface if the instructions given in Section 3.2 are followed.

Basic laying instructions:

- Maximum room length/width may not exceed 12 m (39 ft.) without an additional expansion joint.
- The first and last row laid should have a minimum board width of about 8 cm (3 1/6 in.).
- The offset of the gap clearance (transverse joints) to each other must be at least 1/3 of the length of a board.
- If a rubber hammer is used to finish the head edges, proceed with caution and make sure not to damage the elements/joints when striking them together.

3.1 Floating installation

The patented "CLASSEN megaloc" laying system makes laying the Ceramin designer floor coverings a quick and easy process.

3.1.1 Expansion joint/floating installation

For all on-site borders and transitions to other rooms or floor coverings, as well as in irregularly shaped rooms, 10-mm expansion joints must be provided on all sides. Please shorten door elements and frames enough so that an impact sound insulation element can be pushed underneath.

3.1.2 Laying the first row

Lay the first board with the tongue side always facing the wall. Place the head end of the board to be connected and the foot of the already-laid board on top of one another and snap the board ends into place along the connection chamfer by pressing several times with your thumb or carefully tapping the connection chamfer with a rubber hammer.

Alternatively, the elements of the first row can also be joined together by horizontally pushing the head sides into one another.

Align the elements with flush edges by simply horizontal displacement in the head connection. Do the same with the other boards.

Use an angle bracket to mark the necessary length of the last board of a laid row. With the carpet knife, carve twice deeply on the decorative side along the marking and split apart above the straight edge of a table edge or something similar at the nominal breaking point just created.

3.1.3 Laying subsequent rows

To install subsequent rows, simply place the board into the longitudinal groove of the front row that has already been laid at an approximate angle of 30° and lower it. As described above, the head side is interlocked while doing so. This completes the laying work.

3.1.4 Dismantling individual elements

To dismantle the floor, lift the entire row from the hinge joint first and then simply pull the individual board parts apart by horizontally pushing them at the head connections. Do not lift the head connection while doing so, as this will cause irreparable damage.

Only the proper snapping into place of the profile elements and correct dismantling ensure the multiple laying of the floor.

3.2 Full-surface bonding

As an alternative to floating installation, Ceramin-based designer floor coverings can be completely bonded.

Basically, according to DIN 18 365 and 18 356, the subsurface for performing the floor covering and parquet work must be level, dry, clean, free of cracks, and contain no separating agents as well as be pressure-resistant.

The floor covering/parquet work contractor must check the subsurface to determine whether it is suitable for performing his work. He must check the substructure to ensure it is ready for laying with due care, taking all the generally accepted rules of the profession, technical standards, and the contracting terms for the award of construction performance contracts into consideration. If the subsurface is defective or if damage is to be feared due to damage to the flooring structure, the flooring or parquet layer must set out his "reservations" in writing, particularly in the case of:

- larger unevenness
- cracks in the substructure
- insufficiently dry substructure
- insufficiently firm substructure surface
- soiled substructure surface, e.g. with oil, wax, varnishes, paint residues
- incorrect height of the substructure surface in relation to the height of adjacent components
- unsuitable substructure temperature
- unsuitable room climate
- lack of heating protocol in heated floor constructions
- required non-positive locking of expansion joints in the substructure
- lack of overhang of the edge insulation joint
- lack of marking of measuring points for heated flooring constructions
- missing joint diagram (if required)

All specifications of the adhesive manufacturer such as setting or laying time must be followed, The adhesive must be applied over the entire surface (spots without adhesive must be avoided).

Basically, the set-up and any primers, fillers or adhesives should be part of a system, as only perfectly matched materials will ensure high installation safety and optimal results. Please contact the adhesive manufacturer or our technical Customer Service Department if necessary before starting with the installation.

Laying technique:

We recommend cutting and fitting the first three rows first without bonding them. Only apply adhesive to the substructure after the boards have been cut to size, and then place the joined elements on the fresh adhesive bed. Afterwards, apply only as much adhesive to the substructure as you can process comfortably (we recommend three to four rows).

Following the laying instructions, lay the flooring element for element and row for row. Always press the elements firmly into place so that as much of the back of the board as possible is wetted.

Adhesive recommendations:

You should only use adhesives whose suitability for Ceramin-based designer floors has been tested. The Classen hotline will provide their names upon request.

3.2.1 Laying the floor in damp rooms and sanitary areas

Ceramin-based designer floors are not waterproof. For this reason, avoid any water getting under the floor through the connection joints and the joints between the elements. It must always be ensured that the underfloor is suitable for damp areas and sanitary facilities and prevents moisture penetration.

The expansion joints are filled by inserting insulating strips and then finishing off with a silicone joint to maintain the floor's movement capacity.

4. General indications

- The design flooring is intended for use in a normal living room climate. A room temperature of 20°C (68°F) with 40-60% relative humidity is ideal.

Not suitable for outdoor use and summer houses, nor for installation in shower cubicles, sanitary facilities with floor drains, saunas and conservatories.

- Avoid direct sunlight and any possible related overheating of the surface, since otherwise there is the risk of the floor becoming warped.

On hot sunny days, ensure enough floor shade (using blinds or an awning, for example), as intense sunlight can discolor the surface in the long term.

- Do not place wood burners on the floor. Provide a fire protection floor area (e.g. ceramic) of around 40 cm (15.7 in.) around the stove. If in doubt, ask your chimney sweep for details.

- Do not place damp flower pots or the like directly on the floor; always use a suitable underlay.

- Avoid permanent liquid impingement – especially standing water. This can lead to irreparable floor damage. Remove standing liquids as soon as possible.

- You can prevent scratches and lengthen the service life of your floor by using felt gliders under chair, table and furniture legs, by using appropriate dirt-trap and walk-clean zones (textile pads etc.). Always use office chair mats.

- Interactions with other materials (e.g. discoloration under floor mats or rugs) cannot be ruled out and are not a reason to file a complaint.

- Ceramin-based designer floor coverings are delivered ready to be laid and with a sealed surface. Therefore, the floor should never be sanded down or treated with varnish or solvents.

- Follow the instructions given in the cleaning and care recommendations of the Classen website.

- Can be privately disposed of via normal household and bulky waste; commercially: waste key no. AVV 17 02 03.

5. Warranty

To protect your guarantee and warranty claims, please keep by all means a copy of these laying instructions along with the proof of purchase of your flooring.