

DRICORE®  
***Insul-Armor™***

# INSTALLATION

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## INSTRUCTIONS

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DRICORE Insul-Armor is a durable premium subfloor that can support up to 3,650 pounds per square foot once a hard surface finished floor is installed on top of it. Once completed with a hard surface finish floor. Prior to the installation of a hard surface finished floor, DRICORE Insul-Armor may be fragile to point loads, such as table legs, pointed shoes or heaving tools. To avoid damaging your DRICORE Insul-Armor panels during installation, please review Installation Hints #1-2.

## TOOLS REQUIRED



**Tape Measure**

**Utility Knife**

**Knee Pad**

**1/4" Shims**

**Tapping Block**

**Straight Edge for Knife Guide**

## FOR USE WITH

- All engineered hardwood floors, both free floating and glue down
- All click lock laminates
- All luxury vinyl tile (LVT) and luxury vinyl planks (LVP) 5mm or thicker
- All stone plastic composites (SVP) 5mm or thicker
- Carpet tiles and wall to wall carpet (See section titled "Carpet Installations")

# INSTALLATION HINTS

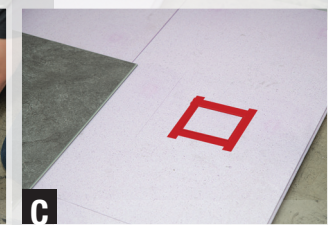
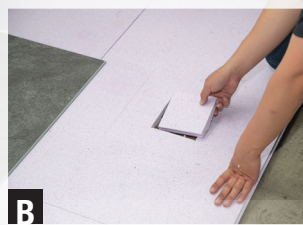
**1**

DRICORE Insul-Armor is a high density EPS foam substrate. It cuts easily with a utility knife with 2 or 3 scores. Be sure not to cut the panels on a finished surface as the knife blade will go through the foam completely.



**2**

In the event that damage does happen to the DRICORE Insul-Armor panels after being installed, simply cut out the damaged area, replace with a fitted piece matching the cutout dimensions, and tape the seams using a vapor barrier rated tape (available at building supply stores in the vapor barrier section).



**3**

To protect your wall framing from moisture coming through the concrete slab, it is recommended to install DRICORE Insul-Armor directly beneath your framing. Cut strips of DRICORE Insul-Armor 3 1/2" wide, and install these strips beneath your wall framing. Remember to allow an additional 1" of space for DRICORE Insul-Armor panels when building walls. DRICORE Insul-Armor should be installed at the same time as the installation of the finished floor.



**4** To minimize potential damage to the foam subfloor panels, it is recommended to install 1 row lengthwise at a time, then install the finished hard surface flooring as you go.

There are two reasons for this. First, the weight of the finished floor will help hold the first row of DRICORE Insul-Armor together when installing the next row. Second, it is easier to reach across 2' and not have to walk on the unprotected DRICORE Insul-Armor panels which will help reduce the risk of damage.

This applies for all hard surface finished floors (LVT, LVP, laminate and engineered wood).



# INSTALLATION PROCESS



While you can lay the DRICORE Insul-Armor panels in either direction, it is generally laid with the 4' length running the longest dimension of the room.



Start with a full panel with the grooved edges against the finished walls. Leave a 1/4" of space (for expansion) on rooms less than 20' long, and 1/2" for rooms longer than 20'.



Install the first row of panels until you reach the end of that row, trimming the last panel to fit. If the resulting cut-off is greater than 18" long, you can use it to start the next run of panels. Make sure you install shims between the DRICORE Insul-Armor panels and the finished walls, so panels don't shift during installation.. Some installers prefer taping the joints of the panels with a vapor barrier rated tape to help hold the panels in the first 1-2 rows together during installation.

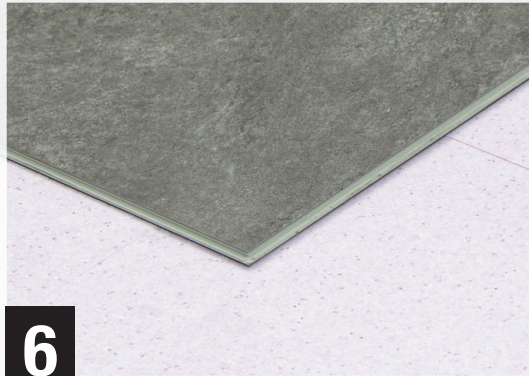


Once the first row of DRICORE Insul-Armor is installed, we recommend laying your choice of hard surface floors immediately on the newly installed row of Insul-Armor (**reference Installation Hint #1 for details**). We will address carpet installations in the carpet section.

**NOTE:** For carpet installations, skip to the Carpet Installation section 4B, on page 7.



Work your way across the room installing one row at a time of the DRICORE Insul-Armor panels, then the finished floor treatment, until the room is complete. Remember to stagger the joints of the DRICORE Insul-Armor panels sufficiently row to row. Also, always follow the installation instructions of the finished floor as recommended by the manufacturer. Pay attention to acclimation requirements, and spacing at the room perimeter for expansion.



It is recommended that you also try to stagger the joints of the finished flooring so they do not line up with the joints of the DRICORE Insul-Armor if possible.



Once the finished floor is completely installed, you are ready to install your baseboard trim and start enjoying the warmth, quiet and peace of mind that comes with a DRICORE Insul-Armor subfloors!

# CARPET INSTALLATIONS

DRICORE Insul-Armor panels are designed for maximum R-value. As such, we have replaced the traditional thickness of a load spreading substrate, such as OSB or plywood, with the higher R-Value of high density foam material. We do this because for the application of any hard surfaced finished floors, the floor itself spreads the point loads of furniture legs, rolling office chairs, tread mill leveling feet, billiard or game tables, etc. over the surface of the foam panel, allowing the DRICORE Insul-Armor subfloor to carry the point loads sufficiently. However, carpet is not a solid surface flooring, and does not offer the same load spreading capacity. Therefore carpet installations, whether wall to wall or carpet tile, will require a load spreading underlayment installed on top of the DRICORE Insul-Armor prior to the installation of the carpet material.



Install one of the recommended underlayment substrates below directly on top of DRICORE Insul-Armor.



Screw down each panel of OSB, plywood or any other substrate used. Depending on the thickness of the substrate chosen, screws must penetrate the concrete a minimum 3/4". DRICORE Insul-Armor is 1" in thickness, therefore, a 3/8" substrate would require a nail no shorter than 2 1/4" in length.

## WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING UNDERLAYMENT CHOICES:

- A HARD SURFACE NON-ORGANIC PRODUCT
- 3/8" SPRUCE SHEATHING
- 7/16" OSB