KARNDEAN VAN GOGH LVT

Professional Subfloor Preparation & Installation Guide

Karndean Van Gogh is a world-class Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) that requires a flawlessly prepared substrate. Because LVT is a flexible product, it is "telegraphic"—meaning any imperfection in the subfloor will eventually show through. **Check the manufacturer's guidelines in every box.**

COMMISSIONING UNDERFLOOR HEATING

For installations over underfloor heating (UFH), the system **must be fully commissioned** and have run a full thermal cycle as per the UFH manufacturer's protocol. The UFH must be turned off 48 hours before, during, and for 48 hours after installation.

1. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION & PROFESSIONAL SYSTEMS

Subfloors must be **free from laitance, clean, dry, and smooth.** We exclusively advise the use of **Uzin** professional systems to ensure the integrity of the bond.

Mandatory Laitance Removal

Laitance is the weak, friable layer of cement or calcium sulphate that rises to the surface of a new screed as it dries. **It is vital that all laitance is mechanically removed by sanding or grinding.** Adhesives and primers will only bond to this weak surface layer rather than the

structural slab if not removed, leading to inevitable floor failure and the delamination of the LVT blocks. The subfloor must be abraded until the sound, structural substrate is exposed.

Damp Proof Membranes (DPM)

Moisture is the leading cause of adhesive failure and bubbling.
• **Uzin PE 404:** A high-performance 1-component polyurethane moisture barrier designed for cementitious screeds. It penetrates and seals the surface.
• **Uzin PE 480:** A 2-component epoxy moisture barrier for high moisture levels (**up to 90% RH**). It provides a structural seal to block rising vapour for the life of the floor.

Priming Systems

Priming binds residual dust and regulates subfloor suction.
• **Uzin PE 360 Plus:** A rapid-drying primer for absorbent screeds.
• **Uzin PE 280:** A carbon-filled film-forming primer for non-absorbent surfaces like existing tiles.

Smoothing Compounds

• **Uzin NC 196:** We exclusively advise **Uzin NC 196**. This fibre-reinforced compound provides an incredibly dense, flat surface ideal for Karndean LVT.

Installation Over Existing Tiles

Installation over structurally sound tiles is possible. The floor must first be primed with **Uzin PE 280** and then smoothed with **Uzin NC 196** to a minimum thickness of 3mm.

2. MANDATORY MOISTURE TESTING

SUBFLOOR TYPE	MAX RELATIVE HUMIDITY (RH)	MAX MOISTURE CONTENT (CM)
Concrete / Cementitious Screed	75% RH	2.0% CM
Anhydrite (Calcium Sulphate)	75% RH	0.5% CM

3. INSTALLATION & DECORATIVE FEATURES

Adhesive: Uzin KE 66

Use **Uzin KE 66** high-temperature adhesive. This fibre-reinforced adhesive is vital for dimensional stability, especially in sun-drenched rooms or over UFH. Apply the adhesive evenly using a 1.5mm x 5mm (A2) notched trowel and roll the floor with a 68kg flooring roller in both directions to remove air pockets.

Feature Strips & Borders

Karndean Van Gogh allows for creative customisation using feature strips (design strips) and borders. These must be installed into the adhesive simultaneously with the main flooring to ensure a flush and level finish.