FLOORSTORE DIRECT
Online Flooring

CASTRO 180 INSTALLATION GUIDE

STRICTLY CHECK THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS IN EVERY BOX BEFORE INSTALLATION

This document serves as the technical guide for the professional installation of **Castro 180** flooring. As a versatile high-specification floor, this product can be installed using either a Glued Down or Floating method, provided rigorous subfloor preparation is followed.

ATTENTION: UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS MUST BE FULLY COMMISSIONED BEFORE INSTALLATION

The heating system must be **switched off for 48 hours prior to installation** and remain off during the process.

1. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION: THE UZIN PROFESSIONAL SYSTEM

Subfloors must be **free from laitance, clean, dry, and smooth.** Any surface contamination or structural weakness will lead to adhesive or stability failure.

Mandatory Laitance Removal

Laitance is the weak, friable layer of cement or calcium sulphate that rises to the surface of new screeds as they dry. **Mechanical removal via sanding or grinding is mandatory.** Preparatory materials and adhesives will not bond to this weak layer, leading to eventual floor failure.

Damp Proof Membranes (DPM) & Moisture Control

Residual moisture is the leading cause of floor failure. We exclusively advise the use of **Uzin** moisture control systems:

- **Uzin PE 404:** 1-component polyurethane moisture barrier for cementitious screeds.
- **Uzin PE 480:** 2-component epoxy resin barrier for extreme moisture conditions (up to 90% RH).

Professional Priming (Essential)

Priming is an essential step to bind residual micro-dust and regulate subfloor suction, ensuring a full mechanical bond for prep materials and adhesives.

- **Uzin PE 360 Plus:** High-penetration primer for absorbent cementitious substrates.
- **Uzin PE 280:** Carbon-filled primer for non-absorbent surfaces.

Smoothing & Leveling Compounds

- **Uzin NC 151:** Heavy-duty compound for standard cementitious substrates.
- **Uzin NC 196:** Fibre-reinforced compound for high-tension areas.
  Note: When installing over a plywood subfloor, **Uzin NC 196** is the only compound we recommend.

2. MOISTURE CONTENT STANDARDS

SUBFLOOR TYPE	MAX RH LIMIT	MAX CM MOISTURE LEVEL
Concrete / Cementitious	75% RH	**3.5% CM**
Anhydrite (Calcium Sulphate)	75% RH	0.5% CM
Timber Subfloors	Must be within 2% of the flooring moisture content	

3. PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION METHODS

Method A: Glue Down Installation

We exclusively recommend **Pallmann P4 Adhesive** for a full-spread bond. This provides the ultimate structural stability and minimizes acoustic impact.

Method B: Floating Installation

Boards are jointed over a high-performance underlay. The choice of underlay is critical to the floor's performance:

- **Acoustic Rubber Underlay (Non-UFH):** Recommended for installations without underfloor heating. This high-density rubber provides superior impact sound reduction and a solid feel underfoot, effectively mimicking a glued-down floor.
- **Thermalay / Acoustica Bronze (With UFH):** Specifically engineered for use with underfloor heating. These underlays have a very low tog rating (low thermal resistance), allowing heat to pass efficiently from the subfloor through to the timber planks while still providing essential moisture protection and acoustic dampening.

Critical Restriction: For floating installations, the floor must be allowed to move as a single unit. **You cannot have any fixed objects, such as kitchens or heavy**

islands, fixed directly to or through the floor. Fixing these items "pins" the floor in place, preventing natural movement and leading to joint separation or buckling.

Expansion

A **10mm to 12mm expansion gap** is mandatory around the entire perimeter, including radiator pipes and door frames.