FloorStore Direct
Online Flooring

CASTRO 250 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 250** flooring. Due to the high-specification nature of this product, successful installation is entirely dependent on a **Glued Down Only** method and precise subfloor preparation.

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 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.** Adhesives and primers will only bond to this weak layer rather than the structural slab if not removed, leading to inevitable 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 to provide a permanent barrier against vapour.

- **Uzin PE 404:** A high-performance 1-component polyurethane moisture barrier. It penetrates deeply into cementitious screeds, blocking residual moisture and consolidating the surface.
- **Uzin PE 480:** A 2-component epoxy resin barrier for extreme moisture conditions (up to 90% RH). It creates a structural, permanent seal.

Professional Priming (Essential)

Priming is an essential step to bind residual micro-dust and regulate subfloor suction. This ensures the smoothing compound and adhesive achieve a full mechanical bond.

- **Uzin PE 360 Plus:** A rapid-drying, high-penetration primer for absorbent cementitious substrates.
- **Uzin PE 280:** A carbon-filled, film-forming primer for non-absorbent surfaces. Its textured finish provides the necessary "key" for smoothing compounds.

Smoothing & Leveling Compounds

To ensure a flat foundation, smoothing compounds must be applied with technical precision. We recommend the following specific products based on your substrate:

- **Uzin NC 151:** A heavy-duty compound suitable for standard cementitious substrates. It provides a smooth finish ideal for glue-down applications.
- **Uzin NC 196:** A premium, fibre-reinforced compound specifically engineered for high-tension areas and renovation work.
  Note: When installing over a plywood subfloor, **Uzin NC 196** is the only compound we recommend. Its fibre reinforcement allows it to withstand the micro-movements of timber substrates without cracking.

2. MOISTURE CONTENT STANDARDS

Moisture testing is mandatory. The following standards must be met before installation begins:

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 METHOD

Glue Down Only Installation

Castro 250 must be installed using a full-spread Glue Down method only. This ensures the ultimate structural stability, minimizes acoustic impact, and maximizes the efficiency of underfloor heating systems.

Adhesive: We exclusively recommend **Pallmann P5 Adhesive**. This high-tensile, rigid-elastic adhesive provides a secure bond while allowing for the natural thermal expansion of the timber.

Expansion: A **10mm to 12mm expansion gap** is mandatory around the entire perimeter, including radiator pipes and door frames. This is essential to accommodate seasonal humidity changes.