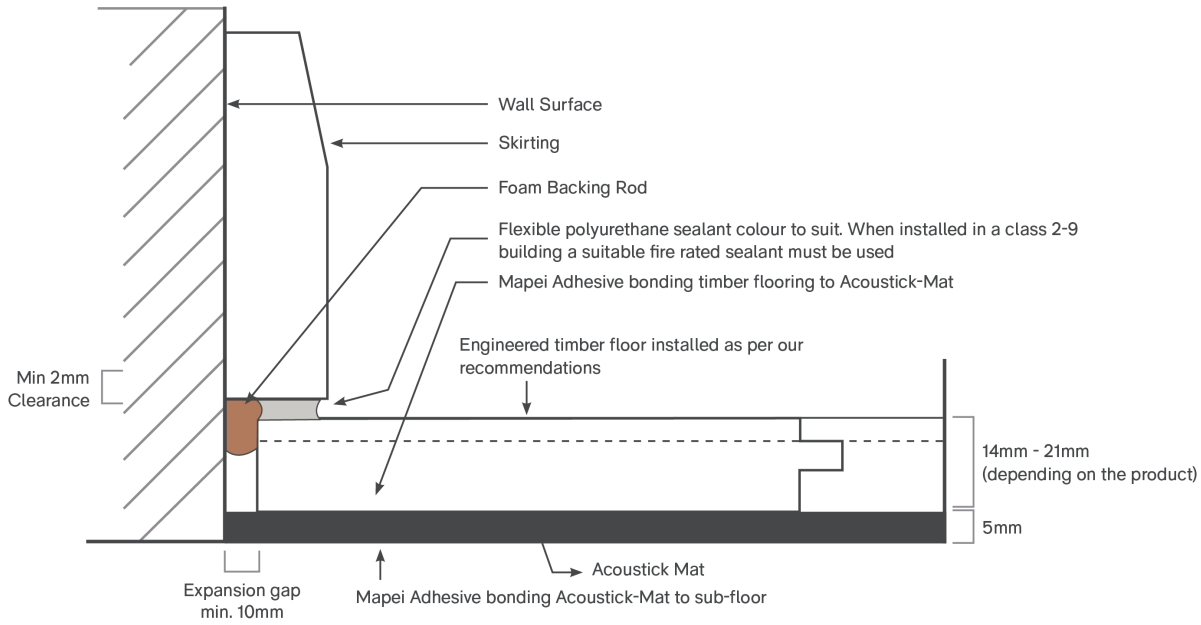
Acoustick-Mat Acoustic Underlay Installation Guidelines

For multi-level installations and/or reducing noise transmission.

When installing engineered flooring in multi-level buildings (e.g. high-rise and unit developments) it is often necessary to minimise noise transmission to the levels or floors below. This requires the flooring to be installed on top of an acoustic underlay. We recommend using **Acoustick-Mat Acoustic Underlay** for these applications.

Refer to the diagram below showing floor build-up and expansion details when installing on a typical multi-level residential application. For all other applications please contact Forté Customer Care.



Note: this drawing is not to scale and is for illustration purposes only.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Acoustick-Mat should be cut using a quality craft knife and metal straight edge.
- The underlay must be laid at a 90° angle to the flooring direction. Ensure this is considered before installation.
- Acoustick-Mat Underlay must be installed in the same direction for the entirety of each separate area it is installed in.
- Do not flip the rolls over, the face side will be exposed when you roll out the Acoustick-Mat.

SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION

The sub-floor must be prepared in the same way as the 'Sub-Floor Preparation Guidelines' section of the **Glue Down Flooring Installation Guide for Professionals – Engineered Plank** from Forté.

In addition to the preparation guidelines, when preparing the sub-floor for installing Acoustic Underlay:

- Sub-floor smoothness: There should be no more than 1mm deviation under a 150mm straight edge.
- Sub-floor projections: There should be no more than 0.5mm deviation under a 50mm straight edge.

CONDITIONING

Prior to gluing to the substrate, Acoustick-Mat should be conditioned by laying it out in the space it is to be installed, allowing an extra 100mm around the perimeter so the underlay can condition. Once conditioned for a minimum of 2 hours it should be cut to size, ready for installation.

1. Start the first roll against the most suitable wall with the roll square to the room. **Always assume the walls are not straight and room is not square**.
   - To ensure the seam is straight, use a chalk line to make a straight edge for the first seam to follow.
   - Ensure you allow a minimum of 100mm extra width and length for the perimeter of the area you are preparing. This is to allow for pullback during conditioning.
   - Continue cutting the remainder roll lengths so the floor area is covered.
2. Allow all cuts to condition for a minimum of 2 hours before beginning to trim and glue to the sub-floor.

TRIMMING TO SIZE

Note: All trimming and adhering must be done the same day to avoid shrink back.

1. After conditioning is complete, trim the side of the last roll positioned to obtain a snug, but not overly tight edge which finishes against the wall. **Do not trim the ends of runs at this stage. This is to be done straight after underlay is glued to the sub-floor.**
2. Align the roll edge to the chalk line, ensuring it has a straight edge for the first seam.
3. Position all other rolls ready for adhesive application ensuring a tight butt joint is maintained between sheets.
4. Roll the pieces back up to expose the substrate ready for the adhesive application.

GLUING TO SUB-FLOOR

We recommend using Mapei Eco S955 or 995 adhesives when installing Acoustick-Mat (depending on the location and application). Please contact Forté if you are unsure about which adhesive to use for your application.

Ensure you follow Mapei's guidelines when applying adhesive to sub-floor. Refer to Mapei Specsheet for more information (contact Forté Customer Care if you require a copy).

1. Apply the adhesive evenly to the substrate using a small (2-3mm) notched trowel. (Adhesive can be removed from the Acoustick-Mat during before bonding using warm water with neutral cleaning detergent).
2. Carefully roll the Acoustick-Mat back onto the adhesive ensuring it is positioned correctly in relation to the edge of the nearest wall or roll edge. (Do not drop the material into the adhesive as this will cause air to be trapped under the flooring).
3. Ensure a tight butt join is maintained between ends and seams (ideally using the factory edges) to ensure no gaps.
4. Trim the additional length allowed at the ends of the rolls once laying is completed.

ROLLING UNDERLAY

1. Immediately roll the material with a medium weight stand up roller (e.g. 75 pound floor roller from Look Floors) prior to the adhesive curing. Roll the entire floor in both directions – this ensures optimum adhesive transference to both surfaces. Repeat rolling process a second time after 30 minutes.
2. It may be necessary to temporarily tape seams with masking tape while the adhesive is setting. Ensure the masking tape is fit for such an application, is of a quality that will not leave a residue on the floor, and always remove tapes as soon as the adhesive sets.
3. **Leave for 12-24 hours after rolling is completed before timber flooring installation.**

PROTECTION

1. Ensure the underlay is protected if other trades will be working in the area post installation and before the flooring is installed.
2. Keep all traffic off the finished floor for 48 hours or as instructed by the flooring contractor, whichever is the greater.
3. Do not apply heavy loads or move furniture on the material for 72 hours or as instructed by the flooring contractor, whichever is the greater. (Where necessary place MDF sheets to spread the point loading of heavy loads).
4. Ensure the Acoustick-Mat is always kept dry and clean once it is installed.

INSTALLING ENGINEERED PLANK ON ACOUSTIC UNDERLAY

Refer to the Installation Method section of the **Glue Down Flooring Installation Guide for Professionals – Engineered Plank**. This can be found at **https://www.forteflooring.co.nz/installation**.

These guidelines must be followed to ensure the warranty is not voided.