

SPORTS FLOORING INSALLATION

Floor coating

The Graboplast heterogeneous vinyl floor coating is available in rolls and should be stored according to this manual. The rolls must be stored upright (vertically); the material or pallets must not be piled up on top of each other. The product must be stored in the original packaging (as delivered).

Welding Rod

[Graboheg](#) welding rod should be stored under the same conditions as the floor. The individual units must be stored in the original packaging (as delivered).

Storage

The product should be stored in a cool, dry and well ventilated place where it is not exposed to dust.

The product should not be stored outdoors, even if it is covered.

Temperature

PVC products should be stored at temperatures between +10°C and +25°C and only briefly at temperatures higher than this.

Humidity

Storage in damp locations and exposure to condensation must be avoided. A relative humidity of about 40 - 67% is preferable.

Heating

In heated storage locations, PVC products must be protected from the heat source. The distance between the heat source and stored product must be at least 1 metre.

Light

The products must be protected from light, particularly from direct sunlight and artificial light with a high ultraviolet component. Lighting with standard lamps is preferable.

Storage and handling

The products must be stored stress-free, i.e. without being subjected to tension, pressure or other deformations as stresses can encourage both permanent deformation and the formation of cracks.

General

With correct storage and handling, the properties of PVC products remain practically unchanged over a long period (appr. 4-5 years).

Subfloor requirements

The subfloor must be clean, permanently dry, perfectly smooth and free of cracks and anti-adhesion materials. In the case of concrete subfloors the moisture content must not exceed 2,5 CM %, in case of anhydride (plaster) 0,5 CM%. In terms of subfloor quality, it is strongly recommended - before laying - to make the necessary tests and surveys. It is advisable to have the results documented.

The loose cover-layer on the concrete surface must be eliminated by grinding. After dust-proofing, the concrete subfloor must be pre-treated with primer. Application of subfloor levelling should be started only after the primer has been completely absorbed.

Laying the floor covering

The Grabo floor coverings must be unrolled and tempered at the place of laying a minimum of 24 hours before laying, at least at 18 °C. After the floor covering has been relaxed, it must be cut with a few centimetres excess left at each end. The edges should be fitted and laid precisely next to each other.

Before gluing, the laid-out flooring should be tucked half way back. Following this, starting from the centre, the adhesive should be applied to the subfloor using a toothed spreading plate. In case of an absorbent subfloor, Graboplast suggests using water-dispersion adhesives (for example Thomsit UK 400), which are environmentally friendly and are not harmful to health. In the case of a non absorbent subfloor it is recommended that contact adhesives be used (for example Thomsit K 188 E). Always follow the instructions of the adhesive producer. In the interest of good adhesion, the floor covering - starting from the centre - should be smoothed out gently with a hand cork-rubber whilst being careful not to leave air bubbles. Finally the glued flooring should be rolled through.

Joining – using hot welding process

Whilst welding the floor covering, the joints are milled either manually or by machine to an adequate depth and width and the joints are cleaned of any residues. We suggest a using GraboWeld welding rod. The temperature of the hot air should be set at a minimum of 300 °C. The welding can be done with automatic or hand operated equipment. Before beginning the procedure, trial welding is necessary in order to determine an adequate temperature and speed.

After the welding seam has cooled down, the elimination of the surplus rod should be done in two steps. First, with the help of a quarter moon shaped knife together with the sliding tool the rod should be cut in half and following the total cooling period the flat cutting should be done with the quarter moon shaped knife.