



LOFLO™ BACKER PANELS INSTALLATION

Introduction

The LoFlo Backer Panels are a retrofit panel designed to be installed on top of existing floors, and are designed to be fixed to your subfloor prior to installing your floor finish. They can be tiled directly on top of using a suitable tile adhesive or a levelling compound can be poured on top prior to installing other underfloor heating compatible floor coverings.

The panels are constructed of XPS 300 superior grade polystyrene and have a fiberglass reinforcing mesh with a spray cement coating.

Read through this manual thoroughly and if you have any questions please contact our technical support team on 01268 567019.

The following guidance notes should be used along with the individual manufacturer's technical datasheets and documents for specific products selected.

Ensure the subfloor is suitably strong, stable and flat enough to receive this flooring system.

Pipe Options: PERT/AL/PERT & PERT-EVOH-PERT (12mm or 16mm)

Panel Thicknesses: 16mm & 20mm

Panel Dimensions: 1200mm x 600mm x 16mm (LxWxH) (150mm centres for 12mm pipe)
1200mm x 600mm x 20mm (LxWxH) (150mm centres for 16mm pipe)

Substrate preparation as per manufacturers guidance is always recommended as floor substrates and structures vary in requirements.

This document cannot cover all possible scenarios. The preparation must make the subfloor suitably flat so the boards can be bonded down using a flexible S1 tile adhesive.

Suitable Timber Substrates include:

- ✓ A structural plywood or cement fiberboard.
- ✓ If you have traditional floorboards, you may need to overlay these with a suitable thickness of plywood or cement boards, which should be fully screw down at 150mm intervals.

Suitable Solid Substrates include:

- ✓ Fully cured concrete that must be at least six weeks old and thoroughly dry.
- ✓ Solid screeds that have fully cured in relation to thickness as per manufacturers guidelines.
- ✓ For other substrates, such as power floated concrete, calcium sulphate screeds, or anything not listed above please seek manufacturers advice for preparation recommendations.

Installation method

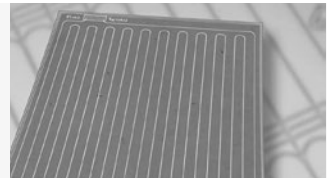
Step 1

Remove all contaminants, dirt, grease etc. from the substrate and make dust free.



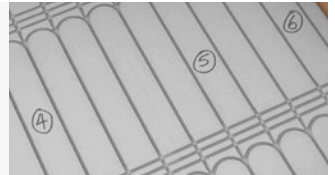
Step 2

If supplied with a pipe layout diagram make a note of how to position the boards.



Step 3

You may wish to number the boards using a marker pen at this stage.



Step 4

Use a jointing tape/scrim tape between the panels to reduce the risk of cracking when used with levelling compound and tile adhesive.



Step 5

Uplift the numbered boards and prime the underside of the boards with Ultra Floor Prime-IT MSP bonding primer diluted at 3-1 ratio. This should be applied by brush or roller in a thin film, and allow to dry. This could take between 1-2 hours depending on room temperature.



Step 6

Whilst the primer on the boards is drying commence with priming of the substrate using UltraFloor Prime-IT MSP. The primer should be diluted based on manufacturer's instructions and allowed to fully dry.



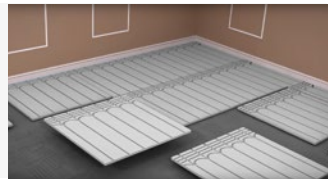
Step 7

Apply UltraTile Proflex S1 adhesive to the subfloor using an 8-10mm notched trowel to give a minimum 3-5mm adhesive bed, laying the boards as you go (The depth of the adhesive bed may need to increase if the substrate is not sufficiently level. Additional levelling compound may be needed if areas are any deeper than 2-3mm).



Step 8

Place the boards down into position, ensuring that you press the boards firmly down into place to create a strong bond onto the tile adhesive.



Step 9

Additional use of ProWarm screws and washers is recommended over timber substrates where needed, fixed at every 300mm centres.



Step 10

Allow adhesive to cure (check manufacturer's drying time) to ensure the adhesive has hardened enough to walk on the panels.



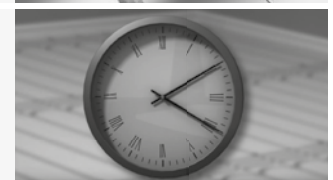
Step 11

Ensure your panels are free from any debris before installing the pipe. It is important to check in all the grooves as the pipes could be damaged during installation if there are any obstructions.



Step 12

Pipe work may be fitted into the boards once they are all secure. It is recommended that the pipe system is checked for leaks and pressure tested prior to installing the floor covering.



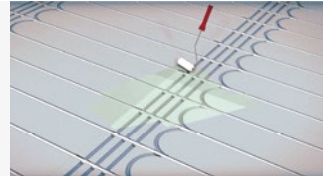
Step 13

The pipe should be unrolled using a de-coiler or in the horizontal position to allow for ease of laying the pipe (This will stop the pipe trying to spring out of the boards at the end of the panels).



Step 14

Prime the top of the boards and pipework with Ultra Prime-IT MSP primer diluted at 3-1 ratio. This should be applied by brush or roller in a thin film and allow to dry. Drying times will vary depending on room conditions.



You now have two options. You can either:



Install a latex levelling compound prior to laying the tile adhesive/ floor covering.



Or tile directly on top of the panels using an S1 flexible tile adhesive

Tiling directly on top can save on total floor build up height but using a levelling compound will ensure that the pipework is not damaged during the tiling process, however either way works.

Using a levelling compound

Step 1

Install a suitable levelling compound over the entire floor area, making sure all voids and gaps are completely filled, the levelling compound should encapsulate the whole floor and cover the board with a 6mm layer on top (if tiling). If fitting Vinyl this must be a minimum depth of 10mm.

ProLevel Ultimate and ProLevel 2 are recommended



Step 2

Allow to cure for a minimum of 24 hours prior to carrying out any tiling. Please check product specification for more details.



Step 3

Once the levelling compound is dry, if applying tile adhesive you'll need to prime the levelling compound first.



Step 4

If tiling, use a suitable S1 flexible tile adhesive. Ensure full compression of the adhesive to give a void free full adhesive bed. Allow the adhesive to cure for a minimum of 4 hours (depending on temperature) to ensure the adhesive has gone through its initial set before carrying out any further works.



Step 5

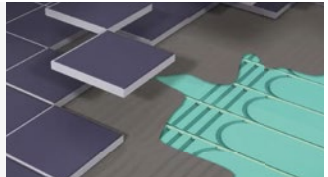
Grout the tiles using a suitable flexible grout. Allow to fully cure before trafficking.



If tiling directly on top

Step 1

Fix the tiles using a suitable flexible S1 tile adhesive. Ensure that every pipe channel and void surrounding the pipe is fully encapsulated with tile adhesive.



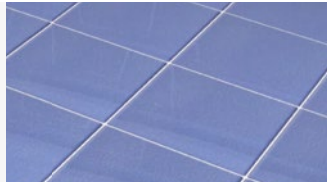
Step 2

When laying the tiles ensure full compression of the adhesive to give a void free full adhesive bed. Allow the adhesive to cure for a minimum of 24 hours (temperature dependent) before grouting.



Step 3

Grout the tiles using a suitable flexible grout. Allow to fully cure before trafficking.



Important:

The Underfloor heating system should NOT be brought into service for at least 14 days.

After this time the water temperature should be brought up gradually by 5°C per day to the maximum working temperature (normally 45°C, internal pipe temperature).

If you are in any doubt about any part of the installation process, then call us for advice on **01268 567019**.

If using a levelling compound, you'll need to use a minimum thickness depending upon the floor finish. See table below.

Floor Finish	Minimum Thickness (mm)
Tiles / Natural Stone	6mm
Vinyl (Amtico, Karndean etc...)	10mm
Engineered wood or Laminate (Bonded down)	10mm
Carpet (Keep TOG value below 2.5 inc underlay)	10mm
Other	Speak to ProWarm™ Technical on 01268 567019

Unsure on the installation steps?

Call the Prowarm technical team on 01268 567019.



The Underfloor Heating Store Ltd
Highbourne House
Eldon Way
Crick Industrial Estate
Crick
Northampton
NN6 7SL



PTS Dublin
Unit 1, Block K
Ballymount Drive
Ballymount
Dublin
Ireland
D12 YP92