

**VENTILATION IS CRITICAL!** 

## **DRYING CONDITIONS**

The drying time for Hacker Floor Underlayments is dependent upon several variables. Ventilation, weather, humidity, the amount of water in the building, the underlayment at the time of installation, and the thickness of the underlayment will all affect the drying time of the Hacker Floor Underlayment.

Before, during, and after installation of gypsum floor underlayments, the building interior must be properly ventilated and heated (minimum 50°F, 10°C). Under these optimum conditions, a gypsum concrete floor should usually dry in about 7-10 days. In a building without all of these conditions present, the drying time can increase.

Some construction materials contain organic materials and should be installed properly to avoid fungus or mold growth. To avoid growth of mold

on construction materials such as wallboard, it is vital to maintain a low relative humidity both before and after placement of Hacker Floor Underlayments. Remember, ventilation is critical.

Controlling moisture levels in the building, through appropriate trade sequencing and prevention of potential damage by other trades, is the responsibility of the general contractor. Weather permitting, windows shall be kept open until Hacker Floor Underlayments are completely dry. If not, the general contractor shall provide mechanical ventilation and heat, if necessary.

This process is not the responsibility of Hacker Industries, Inc. or its Licensed Applicators. Regardless of temperature, and/or weather conditions, the air must be exchanged daily in all areas until the Hacker Floor Underlayment is completely dry.

Do not install floor coverings until Hacker Floor Underlayments are completely dry. The recommended procedure to test for dryness is to use a moisture meter with a gypsum scale. Hacker Industries, Inc. recommends three moisture meters:

- Delmhorst BD-2100
- Delmhorst G-79
- Tramex CRH

Calcium chloride method is not recommended.

The flooring contractor shall be responsible to test for dryness before the installation of finished floor goods. It is the responsibility of the floor goods installer to determine the compatibility of their product with a particular underlayment.

## **LIMITATIONS**

During construction, the general contractor shall place temporary wood planking in areas subject to heavy-wheeled traffic or concentrated loads. Gypsum concrete-based systems shall not be used below grade, or where prolonged exposure to moisture is likely.

## **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

- The general contractor shall confirm the subfloor is structurally sound and conditions are suitable for installation of a floor underlayment. Design must be able to withstand design loads with a maximum deflection of L/360. Subfloor must be dry, broom cleaned, and free of oil, grease and other contaminants.
- Hacker Floor Underlayments cannot resist stresses caused by sudden structural movement.
- Hacker Floor Underlayments require a finished floor covering. Contact Hacker Industries, Inc. at (800) 642-3455 for the Guidelines for Installing Finished Floor Coverings. The guideline is not a warranty and shall be used as a guideline only.
- Installed correctly, all Hacker Floor Underlayments meet ASTM F2419 and are listed in the Tile Council of North America Handbook (Methods F180, F200, RH111 and RH122).

## **( Hacker Industries, Inc.**

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