

INSTALLATION GUIDE – UNDERLAY

Also referred to as carpet cushion, choosing a good quality underlay will add to the life of a carpet.

- As part of a carpet manufacturer's warranty plus Industry Standard AS/NZS 2455.1:2007, new carpet should always be installed on new underlay.
- The underlay quality should also meet the criteria of standard AS 4288-2003 (R2016) – Soft underlays for textile floor coverings.
- Room temperature should be as recommended by the manufacturer. The cooler the temperatures the slower the carpet underlay recovers. Typically, the optimum range is between 15-25 degrees.
- Check the carpet seam placement on the plan before installing the underlay. The underlay joints should fall at least 300mm away from any carpet seams.
- All underlay joints should be close fitting and covered with 48mm paper tape. Plastic tapes should not be used as they can break down overtime and make crinkling noises when walked over.

Timber floors

- Stapling to prevent underlay movement should be sparingly and no closer than 300mm from underlay joints. Stapling too close to joints can cause puckering at the joints that can be visible in some carpets.

Concrete floors

- If adhesive is applied to a concrete floor to prevent underlay movement during stretching; it should be releasable adhesive/tackfier and applied very sparingly. Overuse or incorrect adhesive will create a lot of extra work with future underlay replacement.
- The underlay should finish 3-5mm from the carpet gripper. Larger gaps may result in a void/gully appearing between the carpet underlay and gripper. Cut too tight and the underlay may ride up on the gripper during the stretching process.

For any additional guidance, please contact the Project Floors technical support team.