

## Installation Instructions for EarthWerks® DB FIX Insulating Underlay for Glue Down LVT with self-adhesive coating

DB FIX sound insulating underlay is the perfect solution for a 'quick and easy' installation of EarthWerks LVT Glue Down (Dryback) without the need for wet adhesives. DB FIX offers a high impact sound reduction, (up to 15dB in combination with EarthWerks® Glue Down) and is a true 'loose lay' or 'floating floor' solution that is suitable for most existing floors. DB FIX can also be used and removed without damage to the existing floor, making it perfect for use where the sub-floor integrity must be maintained.

DB FIX has high dimensional stability and a very high compressive strength (CS value of >400 kPa) to ensure a stable and secure installation that lasts. DB FIX also carries a Bfl S1 fire certification in combination with EarthWerks Glue Down (TFI Germany 2018).

DB FIX undergoes a strict quality control procedure that guarantees high-quality standards. If, contrary to all expectations, problems with the material should be identified on site, these are to be notified before cutting to size and installing. Claims for obvious defects (for ex. differences in thicknesses, surface defects, insufficient accuracy of fit etc.) cannot be accepted after installation.

DB FIX insulating underlay is to be processed according to national standards and with all works carried out in full compliance with them.

EG: for the UK it is British Standard BS 8203:2001 + A1:2009, for Germany VOB/C + DIN 18365/DIN 18299, and for France NF P62-203-1-1; NF DTU 53.2 P1-1. Note: The generally recognised rules of the trade and the state of the art apply in all instances.

**Substrate Preparation:** The substrate must be perfectly even, solid, without cracks, and dry, and clean.

Cement and calcium sulphate screeds must be ground and then vacuumed. Substrates with a weak surface must be completely removed. Depending on the flooring type, the residual humidity must be within the range of normative regulations, and respectively comply with generally recognised codes of practice. The substrate must be tested according to applicable standards for deficiencies that might affect performance, for example: excess moisture, and these thoroughly reported and assessed for remedial action. The substrate must also be thoroughly vacuumed, and the surface primed and smoothed as necessary. Use only suitable primers and smoothing compounds that are dependent on the substrate and / or application range.

**DB FIX can be laid on existing, firmly bonded substrates.** In this case, check thoroughly that the 'existing flooring' is dust-free, free of cracks and sufficiently pressure-resistant to maintain the correct and required adhesion. Never install dB FIX on a loose or partially-dissolved floor. The following 'existing floors' are deemed suitable: Homogenous PVC and Design floors, Linoleum, Rubber, Wood-Floor, and Ceramic tiles (providing the joints are filled and secure).

**DB FIX can also be installed on a floating system, such as laminate flooring,** LVT click or click / T & G parquet. Be sure to thoroughly check the pressure stability and deflection of the floor before laying DB FIX. The floor should be as clean and free of cracks as previously indicated.

**Laying Instructions:** Please Note: DB FIX must be acclimatized at least 24 hours before installation (unroll and lay in the area where the installation is carried out). Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity levels expected during normal use (i.e. between 18 and 29°C with a relative humidity no greater than 65%). Please note that our EarthWerks LVT-Glue Down also requires acclimation of at least 48 hours (please request EarthWerks® installation guidelines for best results)



Firstly, determine the laying direction of the new floor to determine how to unroll the DB Fix underlay. The flooring must always be installed at 90 ° to the laying direction of the underlay. Pull the db FIX with the upper side (roll outside), and **the protective layer must be on the top.**

Ensure a minimum distance to the wall or ascending components of 5-8 mm. All underlay lanes must be laid on the joints without interstices and without overlap. We recommend the so-called 'double seam' cut for overlapping laying.

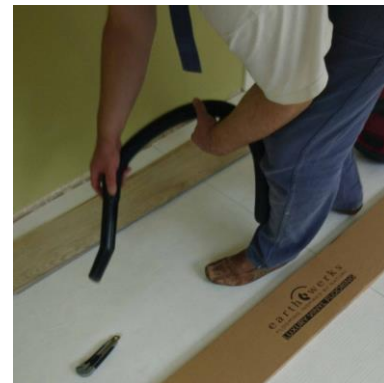
**OUR TOP TIP:** before you unfold the DB Fix roll completely, we recommend that you use some of the full cartons of LVT or a stack of planks to hold the top of the roll in place while you continue to unroll it to the next wall. The weight of a few planks will hold it in place while you are cutting the other end.

You can also fix the sheets with a small piece of tape on the top; every 2 or 3 meters is sufficient. The tape will then be automatically removed with the protective film.



Scissors and a good cutter are enough for cutting. DB FIX is flexible and easy to cut without the loss of time in the most difficult places.

After laying DB FIX in the whole room, clean the floor. It must be clean and dust-free.



Peel the protective film enough to lay one or two rows of planks/tile. Begin with the installation of the planks or tiles from middle of the room. Don't remove the release paper too much or too quickly, it will be hard to reach over.

**Important:** Use caution, the protective film can be slippery.

Make sure that you always move or put tools etc. down on the protective film, and not directly on the adhesive.

DB FIX adhesive is highly efficient pressure-reactive. In the case of direct contact without a protective foil, you will damage the underlay and possible accidents may occur!



Lay the flooring planks only lightly on the top of the DB FIX without pressing hard! This means that you only have an initial bond in the beginning thereby allowing you to correct the positioning of the floor covering as required.

Begin always from the middle of the room and make sure that the planks overlap at least 10 cm apart from the seam of the underlay. After the flooring is fitted, you can press the material firmly to the underlay.

When installation is finished, use a 45 or 50 kg roller to completely roll the floor. This will ensure the floor is firmly adhered. Press smaller corners and niches firmly! You can walk on the floor directly after the installation, but the adhesive reaches its maximum adhesion after 24 hours. The

new floor is then ready for use. Note: the adhesive of our underlayment is pressure-reactive, this means the higher the load on the floor after the installation, the better the continued adhesion. For installation with underfloor heating, the requirements of DIN EN 1264 must be observed. **Please follow EarthWerks separate Installation Guide for LVT Glue Down floors prior to installing EarthWerks LVT flooring.**

**DB FIX** has a shelf life of approximately 1 year, without direct sun or other weather influences, and dependent upon local storage conditions, and temperature ranges between 5 and 35°C. Castor chairs and indentation behaviour of floor coverings can change in combination with underlays. Despite the high pressure stability of DB FIX, external forces may cause possible impressions that cannot be excluded in principle. You must observe existing expansion joints in the floor at all times and apply these with the help of an expansion joint profile at the same location. For connected areas of more than 100 square meters (max. 10 m length / width), we recommend the use of an expansion profile. We don't recommend DB FIX for areas with extreme temperature variation and locations with large exposed windows i.e. conservatories. In this case we recommend the use of EarthWerks HT-WERKS High-Temperature wet adhesive system, either alone as a direct stick program without underlayment, or in combination with EarthWerks DB 22 acoustic underlayment systems. (Full data sheets, and installation instructions are available on request or on [www.earthwerks.eu.com](http://www.earthwerks.eu.com))

**Industrial safety:** DF FIX does not require any special work safety measures. You can be sure that dB FIX is subject to stringent quality control regimes guaranteeing high quality standards at all times. However, we recommend that all material is thoroughly checked before installation for any and all visible defects. If defects are discovered, please inform EarthWerks immediately before cutting and installing. No claims for differences in thickness etc., or any other visual defects on the surface will be accepted post installation.

The tests of the DB FIX underlayment have all been made according to the EN norms.

We refer to the valid norm EN ISO 10140-1 for the impact sound reduction. The results reflect the measure of the impact sound reduction of the flooring and the underlayment installed together. The information provided above is based on the current state of knowledge and the State of Technical Development. We do not claim these to be exhaustive or complete. Technical changes are reserved at all times.

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