

# ComfortBase®

**F** For Hardwood  
Flooring Over  
Concrete

## Storage and Protection

***ComfortBase® should be stored flat at all times prior to installation. Store inside when possible. For exterior storage, Comfort Base should be placed above ground on pallets and covered by exterior tarpaulins.***

## Application Instructions

### A. General Requirements

Temperature and humidity conditions closely approximating those which will exist when building is occupied shall be maintained before, during and after the application of panels. Installation shall not be made when building is excessively cold, hot and/or damp. All panels shall be removed from plastic covered units and separated not less than 24 hours prior to installation to allow material to acclimate. For below-grade applications. Do not install over concrete floors containing radiant heating systems.

ComfortBase panels must be installed in a clean, dry condition. DO NOT INSTALL WET PANELS.

**During installation, all panel edges must be spaced 3/16" from adjoining panels and 3/8" from all walls and partitions to allow for expansion and contraction. All panel joints must be staggered regardless of panel size. In all cases, either slab on grade or concrete floor, the concrete must be dry prior to attachment. ComfortBase is not recommended in areas where moisture is present. Hardwood floor installation – not for below grade application.**

### B. Floor Preparation

ComfortBase can bridge small depressions and defects in the concrete floor surface. A suitable leveling compound can be used to fill larger depressions and defects in the concrete floor surface. In cases of high spots or ridges, those spots must be reduced or leveled for best performance and finish.

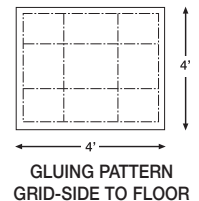
### C. Recommended Subfloor Surfaces

T&G 3/4" (19mm) CDX-grade plywood or T&G 3/4" (23/32) OSB PS2-rated underlayment is recommended for application over ComfortBase for proper floor installation.

NOTE: Bowing of panels away from the grid side is normal prior to application.

**Installation for use with finished and unfinished 3/4" thick hardwood strip flooring over ComfortBase.**

1. Concrete floor to be completely free of dust and debris.
2. Use an appropriate construction mastic to glue panels grid-side down, leaving 3/16" gaps between adjoining panels and 3/8" from walls and partitions. Apply the mastic using a 1/4" x 1/4" notched trowel (35 sq. ft. per gallon). To insure proper ComfortBase-to-concrete adhesion, especially in cold weather, panels may need to be weighted uniformly in order to enforce a strong bond between ComfortBase and the concrete slab.
3. Cut the 3/4" plywood or OSB into 4' x 4' squares and stagger panel joints by 2'. Be sure to leave a 3/8" space at all wall lines and a 1/8" - 3/16" gap between ComfortBase panels. Cut subfloor to fit within 1/8" near and around door jambs and other vertical obstructions where finish trim will not be used. Glue down 3/4" T&G subfloor to the ComfortBase, staggering all joints. Apply a 3/8" bead of APA – approved sub floor adhesive meeting APA AFG-O1 specification as shown in the "Gluing Pattern".
4. Install the 3/4" finished hardwood floor according to the manufacturer's installation instruction over the plywood subfloor.



# ComfortBase® SPECIFICATIONS

## PART 1 GENERAL

### 1.1 Section Includes

- A. Sound-deadening acoustical flooring systems.

### 1.2 References

- A. ASTM E 84— test method for surface burning characteristics of building materials.
- B. ASTM D 1037—test methods of evaluating properties of wood-base fiber and particle panel materials

### 1.3 Submittals

- A. Submit under provisions of section 01300.
- B. Product data: manufacturer's catalog data, detail sheets, and specifications.
- C. Quality assurance/control submittals:
  - 1. Manufacturer's installation instructions.

### 1.4 Quality Assurance

- A. Manufacturer's qualifications:
  - 1. Minimum 10 years experience in producing sound-deadening boards of the type specified herein.

### 1.5 Delivery, Storage, and Handling

- A. Deliver materials in manufacturer's original packages.
- B. Inspect the materials upon delivery to assure that specified products have been received.
- C. Report damaged material immediately to the delivering carrier and note such damage on the carrier's freight bill of lading.
- D. Store materials in a dry place, indoors, or on raised platform protected from weather damage.

## PART 2 PRODUCTS

### 2.1 Manufacturers

- A. Acceptable manufacturer: Homasote Company, 932 Lower Ferry Road, West Trenton, N.J. 08628. Telephone: 800-257-9491 or 609-883-3300, Sales Department, Ext. 1500, Technical Support, Ext. 1332, Fax 609-883-3497. Web site: [www.homasote.com](http://www.homasote.com). For a local Homasote Company sales rep call the Sales Department, Ext. 1500.
- B. Requests for substitutions will be considered in accordance with provisions of section 01600.
- C. Substitutions: not permitted.
- D. Provide all sound-deadening boards from a single manufacturer.

### 2.2 Materials

- A. Sound-deadening boards: Homasote ComfortBase; physical properties as follows:
  - 1. Thickness: 1/2 inch (13mm).
  - 2. Density: 26-28 pcf (416-448 kg/cubic m).
  - 3. Tensile strength: 450-700 psi (3,100-4,830 kPa).
  - 4. Hardness (Janka Ball): 230 lbs. (104 kg).
  - 5. Water absorption by volume; ASTM D 1037:
    - a. 2 hour immersion: 5 percent maximum.
    - b. 24 hour immersion: 15 percent maximum.
  - 6. Expansion, 50 to 90 percent relative humidity: 0.25 percent.
  - 7. R-value: 1/2 inch 1.2.
  - 8. Flame spread: Class III (or C).
  - 9. Noise reduction coefficient: 0.20.

## 2.3 Accessories

- A. Adhesive: APA AFG-01 approved.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

### 3.1 Examination

- A. Examine substrates upon which work will be installed.
- B. Verify framing member spacing complies with manufacturer's requirements depending on substrates and installation methods.
- C. Verify environmental conditions are, and will continue to be, maintained in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- D. Coordinate with responsible entity to perform corrective work on unsatisfactory substrates or conditions.
- E. Starting work by installer is acceptance of substrates and environmental conditions.

### 3.2 Preparation

- A. Follow manufacturer's instructions by separating and allowing Homasote ComfortBase to be exposed to environmental temperature and humidity conditions for not less than 24 hours before start of installation.
- B. ComfortBase panels must be installed in a clean, dry condition. DO NOT INSTALL WET PANELS. It is essential to make every effort to prevent water from ponding on installed panels. ComfortBase panels must be thoroughly dry prior to closing in the structure.

### 3.3 Adjusting and Cleaning

- A. Replace panels that cannot be repaired.



To make sure you have the most current installation instructions visit <http://www.Homasote.com/installation> to see if newer instructions are online. If online is newer, print out and use the Internet version. These instructions were printed October 6, 2005.

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