



# Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay

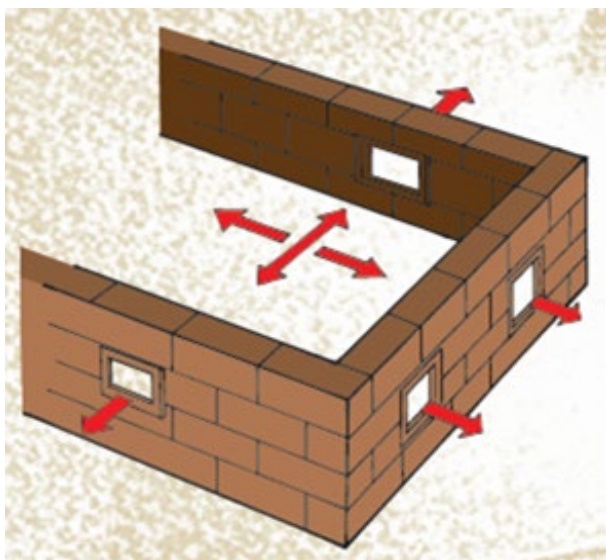
5.0mm Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay is a quality, durable product specifically designed to be used over strip timber, particleboard, plywood and concrete floors to provide a flat, uniform, indent resistant base for all vinyl type floor covering products.

## Eco - Safe - Responsible

- ✓ Manufactured to meet Super E0 Standards
- ✓ No added chemicals & no resins
- ✓ 100% natural plantation hardwood.

## Strength & Savings

- ✓ Easy to work with and fix using normal wood working tools and flooring installation equipment.
- ✓ Highly indent resistant caused by heavy point load objects such as table legs, chairs, book cases and high heel shoes
- ✓ Perfect for use in high traffic areas such as hospital rooms, corridors, schools and sports stadiums.
- ✓ Minimise the adverse effect of movement in the subfloor on the floor covering as Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay bridges any small irregularities in the subfloor.
- ✓ Tough, flexible and resistant to cracking or fracturing
- ✓ Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay is preconditioned for the Australian climate.



### **NB: Underfloor Ventilation**

Good ventilation is essential under floors to prevent distortion, possible decay and excessive movement of the sub-floor, frame supports and underlay. If inadequate ventilation exists, subsequent damage to the floor covering material or adhesive system may occur.

Hardboard Underlay - Specifications		
	Standards	Typical Values
Thickness (mm)	EN 324-1	± 0.15
Length (mm/m)	EN 324-1	± 1.0
Width (mm/m)	EN 324-1	± 1.0
Squareness (mm/m)	EN 324-2	≤ 1
Density (Kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	EN 323 / EN 316	950 - 1000
Moisture Content (%)	EN 322 / EN 622-1	6% - 9%
Internal Bond (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	EN 319 EN 622-2	≥ 1
Swelling After 24 hours (%)	EN 317 / EN 622-2	≤ 16
Bending Strength (N/mm <sup>2</sup> )	EN 310 / EN 622-2	≥ 30
Modulus of Elasticity (MOE)	EN 310	≥ 3000

## 1. Australian Standards

Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay is a wood based product that complies with the recommendations within the Australian Standards AS 1884-2021 - Floor Coverings - Resilient sheet and tile - Installation practices. Always refer to Australian Standards AS 1884-2021 for confirmation of correct installation procedures.

## 2. General Installation Guidance

The moisture content of timber, plywood or particleboard sub-floors and their structural supports must be checked before the underlay is installed - acceptable moisture content range: 9% - 14%. Tablex HB Underlay must be dry laid and left for 24 hours; this will allow the underlay to adapt to the humidity environment of the application site.

Install the Tablex HB Underlay sheets with smooth face upwards on the floor surface.

Start on a straight wall with the long edges of the underlay at 90 degrees or at right angles to the longitudinal direction of the subfloor, using a brick pattern.

Lay the Tablex HB Underlay sheets, leaving a 3mm-expansion gap around the perimeter of walls and fixtures.

The preferred gap between sheets is 0.4mm.



### 3. Cutting

Tablex HB Underlay can be cut using different tools such as a circular saw (33mm tooth), a jig saw (fine tooth timber blade), a hand saw (fine tooth), panel saw, or a utility knife (heavy duty blade - not break away type).

### 4. Adhesives

#### Adhesives for wooden sub-floors

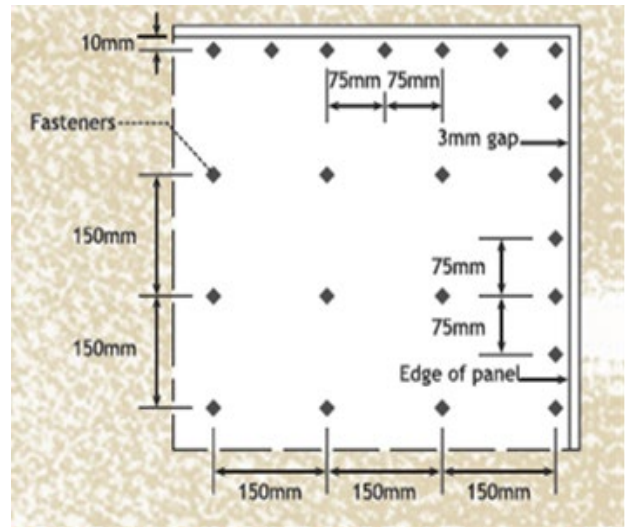
The adhesives to be used when Tablex HB Underlay is fixed to plywood, particleboard or soft solid pine sub-floors (with nails and staples) are elastomeric (flexible polyurethane) adhesives (always follow adhesive manufacturer's specifications).

#### Adhesives for Concrete sub-floors

A premium grade flexible polyurethane adhesive is suitable for this application. When structural or relative humidity changes occur, the filling of expansion joints in the underlay is not recommended.

### 5. Spacing of nails or staples

- ★ Fasten all staples or nails 0.4mm below the underlay surface.
  - Staples 22mm resin coated staples or staples 3mm longer than the thickness of the existing Sub-floor.
- ★ Avoid nailing into sub-floor joints.
  - Nails 25mm x 2.5mm head ring grooved buttress type underlay nails.
- ★ Recommended spacing when fixing to timber sub-floor
  - 10mm in from the panel perimeter.
  - 75mm around the panel perimeter.
  - 150mm through the panel body.



### 6. Fixing

To a plywood or particleboard sub-floor: adhesive and staples must be used.

To a Hardwood timber sub-floor: 18mm resin coated staples or nails are recommended. (For Best Practice, adhesive and staples are advisable)

To a concrete sub-floor: prepare the concrete sub-floor as per the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations and ensure the concrete is dry; lay the underlay allowing the recommended expansion of 0.4mm between sheets and 3mm around the perimeter; up-lift Tablex HB Underlay sheet and apply adhesive to sub-floor using a V2 trowel; place the Tablex HB Underlay sheets onto the adhesive and roll with a 40kg roller weight; allow the adhesive to cure; weight is required if changes in relative humidity delays adhesive bond

### 7. Finishing

Use a flat based sanding machine (Polyvac or similar) or sanding block. Carefully sand the Tablex HB Underlay joints to a level plane. Light sanding of the fixing points will remove any fibre build up. Sweep or vacuum the floor so that all dust and loose fibre is removed.

Tablex HB Underlay is then ready to receive the floor covering material.

### 8. Handling and Storage

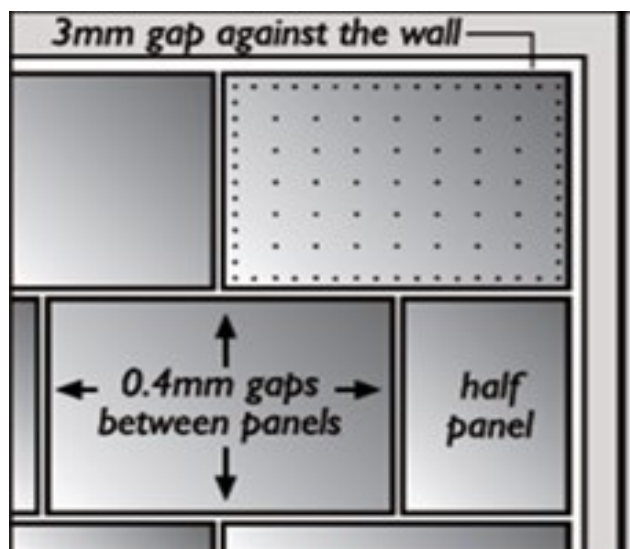
Carefully handle sheets to avoid damaging corners, edges or surfaces.

Stack panels flat on pallets or timber runners in a dry area with a moderate temperature and reasonably constant relative humidity.

**Do not** store in direct sunlight.

#### NB: Fastener Spacing

Avoid nailing into subfloor joints. Check to ensure that all staples or nails are 0.4mm below the surface of the Tablex HB Hardboard Underlay.



#### NB: Sheet Layout

Mark out the underlay and start along a straight wall with the horizontal edges at right angles to the longitudinal direction of the sub-floor. Use an ashlar/brick pattern. Leave a 3mm expansion gap around the perimeter walls and fixtures and a 0.4mm expansion gap between the panels.

## Prior to Starting

- Betanzos HB Hardboard Underlay is a wood based product that complies with the recommendations within the Australian Standards AS 1884 – 2021 Floor Coverings - Resilient sheet and tile - Installation practices. **Always refer to Australian Standards AS 1884-2021 for confirmation of correct installation procedures.**
- Betanzos HB Hardboard Underlay must be allowed to achieve equilibrium with the ambient conditions of the job site 24 hrs prior to being installed.
- Good ventilation is essential under floors to prevent distortion, possible decay and excessive movement of the sub-floor, frame supports and underlay. If inadequate ventilation exists, subsequent damage to the floor covering material or adhesive system may occur.
- Check the sub-floor moisture content.  
Timber, Plywood & Particleboard must be between **9%-14%**
- Any structural issues or damage to the sub-floor must be repaired or replaced prior to underlay installation.

## Sheet Layout

- Install underlay smooth side up
- Mark out the underlay and start along a straight wall with the horizontal edges at right angles to the longitudinal direction of the sub-floor. Use an ashlar/brick pattern.
- Leave a 3mm expansion gap around the perimeter walls and fixtures and a 0.4mm expansion gap between the panels.

## Cutting

- Betanzos HB Underlay can be cut using different tools such as a circular saw (33mm tooth), a jig saw (fine tooth timber blade), a hand saw (fine tooth), panel saw, or a utility knife (heavy duty blade - not break away type).

## Spacing of staples or nails

- Fasten all staples or nails **0.4mm** below the underlay surface.
  - Staples 22mm resin coated staples or resin coated staples 3mm longer than the thickness of the existing Sub-floor. E.g. particleboard and plywood flooring.
  - For hardwood tongue & groove flooring 18mm Resin coated.
  - **NB:** We recommend Powerhold Staples in conjunction with Betanzos HB Hardboard Underlay.
- Avoid nailing into sub-floor joints.
  - Nails 25mm x 2.5mm head ring grooved buttress type underlay nails.
- Recommended spacing when fixing to timber sub-floor
  - 10mm in from the panel perimeter.
  - 75mm around the panel perimeter.
  - 150mm through the panel body

## Fixing

- To a plywood or particleboard sub-floor: adhesive and staples must be used. We recommend Max Bond Hardboard Adhesive (MHB) in conjunction with staples when fastening Betanzos HB Hardboard Underlay
- To a Hardwood timber sub-floor: 18mm resin coated staples or nails are recommended. (For Best Practice, adhesive and staples are advisable)
- To a concrete sub-floor: prepare the concrete sub-floor as per the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations and ensure the concrete is dry.
- Lay the underlay allowing the recommended expansion of **0.4mm** between sheets and **3mm** around the perimeter.
- Up-lift Betanzos HB Underlay sheet and apply adhesive to sub-floor using a V2 trowel.
- Place the Betanzos HB Underlay sheets onto the adhesive and roll with a 48kg roller weight.
- Allow the adhesive to cure.
- **NB:** Weight is required if changes in relative humidity delays adhesive bond time or causes the underlay to lift around the perimeter.

## Adhesives for wooden sub-floors

- **For best practice,** We recommend Max Bond Hardboard Adhesive (MHB) in conjunction with staples when fastening BetanzosHB Hardboard Underlay to Particleboard, Plywood or Soft Pine Sub-Floor  
**NB:** Always follow adhesive manufacturer's specifications.

## Adhesives for concrete sub-floors

- A premium grade flexible polyurethane adhesive is suitable for this application. When structural or relative humidity changes occur, the filling of expansion joints in the underlay is not recommended.  
**NB:** Always follow adhesive manufacturer's specifications.

## Finishing

- Use a flat based sanding machine (Polyvac or similar) or sanding block.
- Carefully sand the Betanzos HB Underlay joints to a level plane. Light sanding of the fixing points will remove any fibre build up.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor so that all dust and loose fibre is removed.
- Betanzos HB Underlay is then ready to receive the floor covering material.

## Handling and Storage

- Carefully handle sheets to avoid damaging corners, edges or surfaces.
- Stack panels flat on pallets or timber runners in a dry area with a moderate temperature and reasonably constant relative humidity.
- **Do not** store in direct sunlight.

