



## JELINEK CORK MOSAIC INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Jelinek Cork Mosaic installation** is similar to typical ceramic or mosaic tile installation using the glue then grout method.

**Subfloor Preparation:** The existing substrate should be checked for stability. If any areas are loose or weak, be certain it is fully secure. Small cracks or screw holes should be filled, ensuring the compound used is one that does not crack or shrink, will bond well with your substrate, and is compatible with the adhesive. Always check with the manufacturer of the filler compound prior to use. It is extremely important that the floor is perfectly flat and smooth. Failure to do so may result in individual rounds being higher or lower than the next, which will result in damage to those areas once installed. Also ensure the area is clean, including complete removal of vinyl tiles, old adhesives, loose or weak concrete, dirt, debris, and any other contaminant that may impact the bonding of the Jelinek Cork Mosaic.

**Moisture Precautions:** Jelinek Cork Mosaic floors should never be installed over any areas where there is any indication of moisture beneath subfloors. Moisture problems are especially common in basements or on freshly poured concrete or leveling compounds not completely cured. It is the responsibility of the installer to test for any signs of moisture. All subfloor moisture

problems must be permanently eliminated prior to installation. If unsure of how to fix a moisture problem, it is best to contact a professional for sound advice and/or repair.

**Note concerning installations in damp/wet areas:** These installation instructions are for standard applications. Though Jelinek Cork Mosaic is perfectly suitable in damp areas such as pool surrounds and bathrooms, we do not recommend installing the cork mosaic in completely submerged areas.

Before beginning installation, be sure to read over and fully understand each step of the installation instructions.

**Important Note:** Jelinek Cork Mosaic tiles must be placed in the area being installed and left to acclimatize for a minimum of 72 hours prior to the installation.

**Recommended adhesive:** Water based Contact Cement

**Always follow manufacturer's instructions for all products involved to allow for best results.**

**If in doubt with any part of the below steps, please feel free to call and speak with our technical support representatives by calling 1-800-959-0995.**

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### PREPARATION

1. Before applying adhesive, dry-lay and perhaps pre-cut Jelinek Cork Mosaic sheets where they will be installed.
2. Ensure that the sub floor or area being installed is clean and free of dust, dirt or debris as are the back side of the Jelinek Cork Mosaic tiles.

### INSTALLATION



**Note:** Tiles can also be adhered using a water based Acrylic Mastic as this image represents.



3. Use a water-based contact cement to install the tiles according to manufacturer's instructions. Always follow the Manufacturer's instructions as shown on the adhesive containers. Evenly apply the water based contact cement to both the back of the tile and the substrate. Be sure both surfaces are completely covered. Allow contact cement to fully dry before beginning installation. **Note:** The substrate should be a clean surface, free of any debris.
4. Carefully place each Jelinek Cork Mosaic sheet onto the prepared surface. Check the position of the tile before fixing and then press it firmly against the pre-glued surface. Use even pressure as this ensures each piece is firmly adhered. Be sure to position it correctly as it will be difficult to remove if not done correctly the first time.
5. Place the sheets next to one another as you install. If any additional sheets need to be cut, Jelinek Cork Mosaic can be cut and shaped with a sharp utility knife.
6. If staining the tiles, do so now. Stain per manufacturer's instructions and allow to fully dry before proceeding to step 7. **Recommended:** Water-based wood stain. It is also recommended to test the stain on a spare piece of tile before staining the whole floor. **Note:** Individual cork rounds may absorb stain differently. This allows for a natural and unique look.

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### INITIAL SEALING

7. To ensure that there is no “film” left from the grouting process to come, apply two coats of water-based polyurethane (recommended) to the tiles and let dry per manufacturer’s instructions. This helps when cleaning the tiles once the grouting process is complete.

### GROUTING



8. Once the water-based polyurethane is dry, evenly distribute the grout (if gap is larger than 1/16" be sure to use sanded grout) with a high quality rubber grout float, making certain all joints are being completely filled to a point level with the top of the cork. The finished joints should be uniformly smooth, without any voids or low spots. **Note:** We recommend using the Cork Mosaic grout supplied by Jelinek Cork.
9. To prevent grout from drying on top of the cork, remove the excess grout from the top of the cork within about 10 minutes using a damp sponge. This will ensure there is no film left on the tiles.
10. Allow the grout to fully cure. This could take a few days. **This is a very important step.** If the grout is not dry and polyurethane is applied over top during the next step, the potential for discoloration is high and can be extremely difficult to repair.

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### FINISHING



11. After the grout has fully cured, finish the installation of the Jelinek Cork Mosaic by evenly and thoroughly applying two additional coats of water-based polyurethane in the same manner as in step 7. It is extremely important that the grout is dry and also that the entire area has been covered with the polyurethane to ensure a complete seal. Failure to do so will result in discolouration of the grout.

**Note:** Some color variation may occur among individual tiles due to the natural qualities of cork. The color of the tile can also be altered depending on the type of finish applied. For example, clear water based polyurethane or ambering (or yellowing) polyurethane.