

Site Preparation

We require:-

- A suitable clear hard standing area for our delivery trucks and pumping equipment.
- A dedicated suitable water supply.

We will agree a floor datum with you prior to installation.

It is **important** that all debris is removed from the floor prior to screeding as this will contaminate the floor or may float and contaminate the surface. Vacuum clean if necessary.

To minimise excessive water loss in the first 24 hours, any unglazed or missing doors or windows should be temporarily blocked up using polythene sheeting or similar material, however after 48 hours all windows and doors can be opened during the day.

Care should be taken not to subsequently wet the floor as this will retard the drying process.

No other trades will be able to work on or traffic over the floors during the screed laying and pumping process.

Exact quantities of screed can be determined when depth gauges are set on site using the agreed datum. There will be an extra charge for material used if it exceeds the amount specified within our quotation.

Floor Preparation

The floor beneath the insulation should be clear of debris that may affect proper placement of the insulation boards. Mechanically fix insulation boards if required.

Voids underneath or between the insulation sheets should be avoided.

A 500 gauge polythene slip membrane should be laid over your insulation sheets and lapped up the walls 150mm prior to installation of the under floor heating pipework. Joints in the polythene sheet must be taped.

A 10mm expansion strip needs to be installed around all floor/wall joints (including internal walls, columns etc.).





All edge details and penetrations in the concrete slab must be fully sealed to prevent screed leakage prior to handing over the floor for screeding.





Under floor heating pipes must be securely fixed down. Fixings need to be placed no more than 400mm apart and extra fixings are required on bends and returns to prevent floatation and lifting of the pipes during the screeding process.





Under floor heating pipes must be filled with water and pressure tested before screeding commences.

If you are using the Wavin pocketed under floor heating system the 500 gauge polythene can be omitted but all sheet joints need to be butted tight together and taped. All pipe returns need to be at the same level as the rest of the under floor heating system to maintain an even screed depth.



If the under floor heating pipes are being installed into a system plate or egg crate like system, please advise us.

Floor Finish

A calcium sulphate screed is not a wearing course. Therefore it will require a floor finish. All types of floor finishes are suitable, ceramic and porcelain tiles, carpets, laminate, wooden and engineered floor etc.

If using a thin section resilient finish such as linoleum then it is recommended that the floor be sanded accordingly.

Your screed must be completely dry and sealed before application of any bonded floor finish. We recommend checking the moisture content with a moisture meter to determine when it is safe to proceed. If you have under floor heating within your screed it must be put through a complete heating cycle and have a proven moisture content of 0.5% (75% RH) or less before applying a floor finish.

Failure to dry the floor properly prior to the application of subsequent floor finishes is likely to lead to failure of the floor finish at a later date.

Your screed will also need to be sealed prior to the application of any floor finish, if you are bonding directly to the screed please consult your adhesive supplier as to the appropriate product to use over an Alpha Hemi-hydrate Calcium Sulphate floor screed. If you are not bonding directly to the screed we recommend the use of an epoxy or acrylic sealer for this purpose. (In all instances PVA sealers like Polybond or Unibond are not suitable and must NOT be used).

Forced Drying

Your floor screed can be force dried after 7 days by commissioning the under floor heating system in accordance with BS 1264: 2001 Part 4 Clause 4.4 or with the use of heaters and or dehumidifiers.

With under floor heating systems you raise the system water temperature in $4-5^{\circ}$ C increments from the ambient temperature to 25° C, maintain for a minimum of 3 days and then gradually increase the temperature again in $4-5^{\circ}$ C increments to maximum operating temperature which should be maintained for a further 4 days (the water temperature must never be allowed to exceed 50° C), prior to returning to ambient temperature in readiness to receive floor finishes.

Please do not cover the floor during the drying process as this may adversely affect the heat distribution through the floor.

Please note: It may be necessary to commission the UFH system for greater than the 7 day commissioning period to enhance the drying. The time that is required for force drying is directly proportional to the age and thickness of the screed at the time of commissioning. In all cases it is important to remember that adequate ventilation is required to maintain good drying conditions.