

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Why Use Cork?**

- Cork provides the most functional, beautiful flooring available that combines functionality, ease of maintenance, beauty, and environmental sensitivity together.

### **Is Cork Durable?**

- If properly maintained, cork flooring can last for over 80 years, even under high traffic.

### **Why is Cork Durable?**

- Expanko Cork flooring can be purchased with factory applied polyurethane or wax finishes which are extremely durable and resistant to scratches and gouges.
  - Because of cork's natural resilience, it tends to give if materials are dropped or moved across it, whereas, hard flooring surfaces will scratch or gouge.
  - Cork flooring is extremely dense and is resistant to many chemicals that can degrade floor materials.

### **Is it Easy to Maintain?**

- Regular damp mopping with a well wrung out mop and mild soap (Ivory Liquid) is all that is necessary to maintain your cork floor. Cork is not easily stained, therefore; it does not require scrubbing or use of harsh cleaners.

### **Can Cork be Refinished?**

- Both waxed and polyurethane finished tiles can be refinished many times during the life of the floor.
- Any experienced homeowner or hardwood flooring Refinisher/Installer can refinish cork.

### **How Long does the Finish Last?**

- The life of the finish directly relates to the care given to the floor. Polyurethane finish can last up to 10 years in a residential installation if properly maintained.
- Polyurethane is an extremely durable surface; however, it will wear if gravel and dirt is not regularly cleaned from the floor.

- Wax is also a very durable finish, however, it does require periodical paste wax application and buffing. Paste wax application every 12 months is typical for properly maintained residential installations.

### **How is Cork Installed?**

- Cork is installed onto a smooth level sub-floor using Expanko 2260, water based, zero VOC adhesive. This is an easy to use, one application, trowel on adhesive. (After the tiles are laid, they must be rolled with a 100 lb., 12 inch wide roller.)
  - The cork floor will be ready for regular use 72 hours after installation.

### **Who Installs Cork?**

- Any experienced flooring installer who is comfortable with hardwood and/or ceramic tile installation.

### **What Type of Sub-Floor is Required?**

- Above grade - Concrete or plywood.
- Cork should not be installed below grade unless sub-floor moisture emission is less than 3 lbs./1000 ft./24 hours.
- Cork floors should not be laid over flooring surfaces including hardwood, vinyl, carpet, stone, and ceramic tile.

### **How are Tile Shades Achieved?**

- Tiles are shaded through our unique baking process. No dyes or stains are used.
- Darker shades are baked for longer periods of time and at higher temperatures than the light shades.

### **Will Cork Fade?**

- Yes, cork will fade when subjected to UV rays. Window treatments are recommended.