

Floor leveller

Read through these instructions carefully a couple of times before you begin so as to familiarise yourself with the installation procedure.

You will need:

- dust pan and brush
- broom
- gap filler
- contact adhesive
- sandpaper
- steel trowel
- paint brush
- stirring stick or drill and mixing paddle
- two clean 20L buckets
- knee pads

If your existing concrete is in good condition but has some holes and pits, then you may use any common cement-based filling compound to fill and smooth.

If your concrete sub-floor is very rough or uneven, or if you need to create a new smooth sub-floor over your existing ceramic tiles, then I advise the use of 'Mapei Ultraplan Eco' engineered floor-levelling cement.

The first thing to do is to make your area watertight. Ultraplan Eco, when mixed with water, will initially be a liquid, so all possible leak points must be filled. If you have a doorway where you would like Ultraplan Eco to stop, then make sure you board it up with a piece of timber or rigid cardboard and seal this too. Make a careful inspection of all edges and crevices and in all cupboards etc. as there are few things more frustrating than watching your hard work dribble away down a small hole.

If you are levelling over existing ceramic tiles, it is essential to use a spirit-based contact adhesive as a primer before you start. Apply this with a brush and/or roller to the entire floor area and allow to fully dry. This will take at least 1 hour. Ventilating the area with a fan will speed the process.

If you are levelling a rough existing concrete floor, it may not be essential to prime with contact adhesive, but it is advisable to ensure superior adhesion. I have personally seen jobs where the floor leveller let go of the sub-floor after the new coverings had been installed, and the whole lot had to be dug up and done again!

Mixing Ultraplan Eco

Place 10-15cm of water in a clean 20L bucket. Add approximately half a 20kg bag of Ultraplan Eco and mix well (a drill and paddle is ideal for this).

Ultraplan Eco will begin to set in about half an hour so don't muck about. Continue to add more product and continue to mix until it is quite thick (about the consistency of honey).

A basic rule is to mix in as much product as you can before the mixture becomes dry or overly difficult to stir.

Ideally have one person mixing and another ready to pour and spread.

Spreading Ultraplan Eco

When spreading Ultraplan Eco, you'll need to be on your knees and the floor has been primed with contact adhesive, so kneepads are essential. Pour your mix and move it around with a steel trowel, pushing it into corners and crevices. Generally keep the depth at about 5-6 mm. If lots of little bubbles appear in the mix, then you are applying it too thickly.

Tip: Be sure to start at the furthest point from your desired exit. If your area is a complicated shape, then have a plan in mind and keep your pace consistent.

This part is very easy. It shouldn't take long. Once it is done, stand back and watch Ultraplan Eco level itself.

Twelve hours later your new smooth sub-floor is ready to install with new coverings.

Check it over. It may need a scrub with sandpaper here and there, especially if it was mixed up too thinly or if water gathered in one area.

You are now all set and ready to go, enjoy your installation. And enjoy your new floorcoverings. If you get into any trouble, give me a call – 0412 269 495.

Kind regards,

David Fisher