

## Masonite

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
- ❑ suitable nails or staples (see below)
- ❑ hammer
- ❑ tape measure
- ❑ straightedge
- ❑ Stanley knife and blades
- ❑ pen or pencil
- ❑ sandpaper
- ❑ Basecoat 45

### **Installing Masonite underlay**

To install over timber boards or un-even particle board, I recommend the use of Masonite underlay which is available from most hardware stores. Masonite sheets should be staggered (laid in a brick-work-type pattern). Small gaps between the sheets (0.5mm) are acceptable and even beneficial to allow for expansion and contraction due to heat and humidity.

If you use staples to fix the sheets in place, make sure you select a staple at least 20mm long and make sure the gun fires the head of the staple underneath the surface of the Masonite sheet.

Fire the staples close to the edge of the sheet (no more than 10mm) and approximately 50-70 mm apart. Keep them neat and secure the sheet around

the perimeter first. The body of the sheet will need between 8 and 20 staples evenly spaced (just use common sense).

Adjacent sheets should be stapled so that the perimeter staples line up with each other two by two either side of the join.

If you use nails to fasten the Masonite, choose a dome-head-type nail with a ribbed shaft. The dome head will sink underneath the surface of the Masonite and the ribbed shaft will prevent it from wiggling back. (Do not use flat head nails!)

That done, give the Masonite a sand with sandpaper. The more particular you are at this stage, the more sheer and smooth the finish will be. If there are any gaps or rough edges in the Masonite, fill them up with some Basecoat. Let that dry, sand it back and give it a good vacuum.

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