



Cork Flooring...

GOODFELLOW

THE WOOD SPECIALISTS



Natural Benefits of Cork

Cork is harvested from the renewable bark of the cork oak tree and is a completely natural product. The trees are not damaged or felled during the harvest - this 100% ecological product meets the requirements to protect and conserve the environment.



The ecological value of this raw material is evident - but what special properties do cork offer? The cork's structure is very similar to that of a honeycomb: each cubic centimeter contains around 40 million cells. These cells, and the spaces between them are filled with a gaseous mixture similar to air. That is what makes cork so remarkable. The unique structure and composition of cork creates the three most important characteristics in its application as flooring. Cork floors offer pleasantly warm surfaces to walk on, are extremely elastic and absorb sound.



What makes "Ez_Cork" cork flooring unique?

The ez_cork brand stands for naturally attractive cork flooring of the highest quality which provides innovative and unique solutions. No other natural material can surpass the outstanding properties of cork - and in combination with the most modern processing techniques, CORKSRIBAS takes this valuable raw material and produces natural flooring with a whole variety of advantages.

Warm

Cork's natural thermal insulation properties make ez_cork floors pleasantly warm. They provide a warm and cozy floor temperature even for bare feet, and make for a comfortable floor all year round.



Comfortable

Walking on an ez_cork cork floor cannot be paralleled in terms of comfort. Cork's elasticity protects against and relieves strain on your feet, joints and back.

Environmentally Friendly

Ez_cork floors are made with natural materials and are therefore an environmentally friendly alternative to other flooring options. Mindful of the increasing need to protect the environment, cork floors are a sensible and ecological choice.

Quiet

The unique structure of cork makes all ez_cork floors particularly quiet. Cork reduces sound transmission between and within rooms, creating a quieter and more peaceful environment in your home.

Durable

Ez_cork cork flooring with stands years of wear and still looks as good as the day it was first laid. This is a result of the unique structure of cork and the extremely resilient surface finish.

Healthy

The surface finish on ez_cork floors prevents trapped dirt, dust, germs and mold, actively contributing to a healthy and hygienic environment.

Easy Maintenance

The hygiene features on ez_cork flooring make it easier for you to clean and maintain. A vacuum cleaner and a damp cloth are all that is required to keep your floors looking as good as new. All Ez_Cork Collections are designed in such a way that they almost look after themselves.

Fast and Easy Installation

It has never been so easy to install ez_cork floors. The improved CORKLOC system for glueless floating installation means you save time and reduce installation costs.



Offers You the Natural Benefits of Cork

- Cork is warmer and more comfortable than any other flooring material.
- Reduces noise transmission
- Easy maintenace
- One of nature's truly renewable resources.
- 7/16" x 11-5/8" x 35-5/8"
- Made in Portugal



Glamour White



Gringo Caffe Latte



Gringo Caffe



Hacienda



Iceberg Natural



Traditional Natural



Iceberg Mist



Zebra Natural



Hacienda Caffe



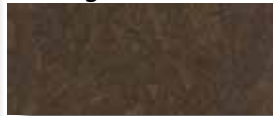
Iceberg Terra



Iceberg Caffe



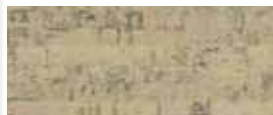
Iceberg Mocca



Iceberg Caffe Latte



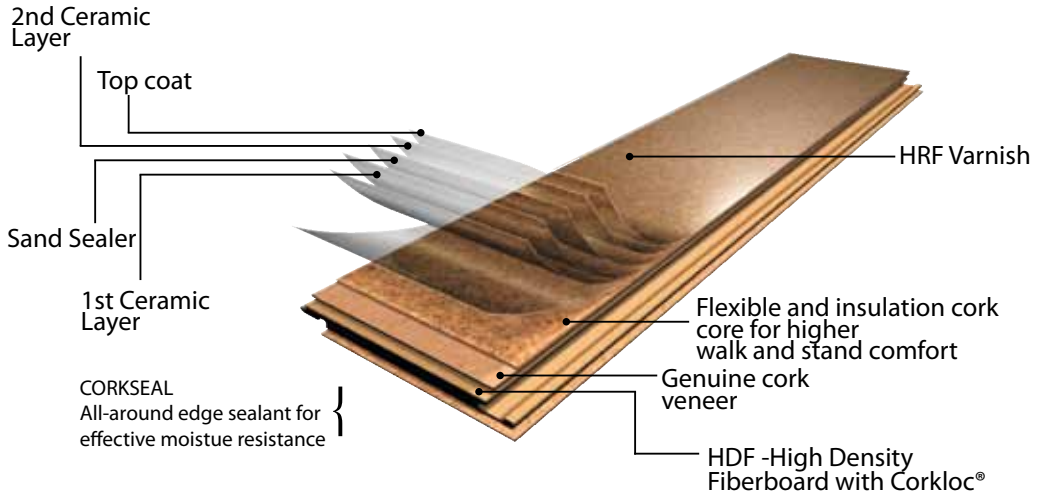
Hacienda Cream







7/16" x 5-1/2" x 35-5/8"





Cork Flooring Components



Goodfellow Warranties

	ez_cork Warranty	ez_cork High Resistance Finish
Construction and Surface	Residential Class 23, EN 685  	25 Year Warranty
Surface	Commercial Class 31, EN 685  	5 Year Warranty

Technical Data

Test Class Residential	Standard EN685	Unit Class	 23 
General Properties			
Dimension	EN427 / EN428	inches	7/16" x 5 1/2" x 35 5/8" 7/16" x 11 5/8" x 35 5/8"
Apparent density	EN672	kg/m ²	760
Mass per unit area	EN430	g/m ²	8000
Safety Properties			
Fire reaction	EN13501-1	Class	Cfl s1
Critical radiant flux	ASTM E648	Watts/cm ²	0.23
Specific optical density	ASTM E662-97	Density	Flaming: 199 Non flaming: 177
Static coefficient friction	ASTM C1028-89	Coeff.	Dry 0.65; Wet: 0.69
Additional Properties			
Impact sound reduction	ISO 140-8	dB	16
Step sound	NFS 31-074	dB	78
STC Sound transmission class	ASTM E413-87	dB	54
IIC Impact insulation class	ASTM E989-89	dB	58
Scratch resistance	EN438	N	1.60
Wear resistance	NEMA LD-3	Cycles Grams/100 cycles	3107 0.0053
Impact resistance	EN438	N mm (high falling)	Small ball: 14 Big ball: 1300

Cork

Definition of cork and its Origin?

Cork is the outer layer of the cork oak tree, *QuercusSuber L.*

Cork is harvested from the renewable bark of the cork oak tree and is a completely natural product. The trees are not damaged or felled during the harvest - this 100% ecological product meets the requirements to protect and conserve the environment.

In cork oak plantations, the first cork bark will not be harvested from a tree until it is 25 years old. Today, cork oaks are stripped of their bark by hand in the same way they traditionally have been for several hundred years. The trees are not damaged in the harvest and the bark grows back completely time and time again, taking on a smoother texture after each harvest.

A cork oak can live for up to 200 years. Harvesting only occurs once every nine years. Over the course of their long lives, cork oaks can be harvested up to 20 times - it is one of nature's truly inexhaustible resources.

Productive life span of a cork oak?

In its lifetime an average cork oak tree will generate enough closure-quality cork for 17 harvests, with an average lifespan between 170 and 200 years.

Chemical composition of cork?

The cork's structure is very similar to that of a honeycomb: each cubic centimeter contains around 40 million cells. These cells and the spaces between them are filled with a gaseous mixture similar to air. That is what makes cork so remarkable.

The cushion-like cork cells also display what is known as elastic memory. When compressed they constantly try to return to their original size, thus maintaining a tight seal. Because it is elastic, it is also able to accommodate some temperature and pressure variations without compromising the integrity of the seal.



Place where it is produced and total Production?

There are over 2.2 million hectares of cork forest and the annual global production is around 340,000 tons a year. With around 730,000 hectares, Portugal has a third of the total land under cork forests; these forests represent 23 per cent of the country's forested land. Therefore, Portugal accounts for over half of global cork production.

It is estimated that there are enough harvestable cork in Portugal to meet market demand for the next 100 years.

Why we should use cork?

Besides being an eco-friendly product, Cork provides the most beautiful flooring available that combines ease of maintenance, beauty, functionality and environmental sensitivity together.

Environmental advantages of cork?

Cork is a matter of increasing importance to consumers and retailers, especially in Europe, United States and Canada.

Cork is natural, biodegradable, renewable and recyclable.

Each part of the cork tree serves an ecological or economic purpose and almost nothing is wasted.

Unlike alternative closures, cork stoppers require less energy in production and capture greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

Cork forests not only contribute to a mixed agrarian economy that has sustained farmers for many centuries but also support a unique and fragile ecology that provides a habitat for endangered species.

The cork oak helps protect the soil from desertification and is well suited to the hot, arid conditions of southern Portugal. It is far less susceptible to the wildfires that ravage eucalyptus and pine forests in the north of the country from time to time.

Cork Flooring

Can I use cork flooring in a kitchen?

Yes, cork can be used in kitchens, it is very comfortable to stand on and is easy to maintain. Nevertheless, it is advised to place area rugs or mats in front of the kitchen appliances and sink to protect your cork floor from a lot of traffic, grease, dropping food, water spillages and everything else that can cause premature wear of your kitchen floor. Use felt pads on chair and furniture legs and do not drag furniture across the floor. Also avoid moisture on the floor. We also suggest using Goodfellow's clickguard sealer to prevent accumulation of moisture.

Regarding maintenance, we recommend regular sweeping and using our Goodfellow laminate cleaner directly on a cloth.

Can I use cork flooring in bathrooms?

Yes, it can also be used in bathrooms. Cork floors are warm, soft and make a very comfortable flooring surface for a bathroom. However, we recommend you take certain precautions because of the high risk of spillage.

Floating floors are not recommended for bathrooms, only tiles should be used. After installation, it is important to caulk the perimeter of the room, prior to installing molding or baseboard as this will prevent spills from damaging the sub-floor or walls. An additional protective layer should be applied to completely seal the joints such as Goodfellow's clickguard sealer, please use only our recommended products for Care and Maintenance. If the cork is installed in a bathroom, it will void warranty.

Can I install cork flooring in a basement?

For basements, we recommend installing our Cork Floating Floor over a moisture barrier 6 mil film of polyethylene. As the floating floor is not attached to the sub-floor it will rest on top of the moisture barrier.



Will the changes of moisture and temperature affect Cork floors?

Like other wood products, cork is subject to the phenomenon of expansion and shrinking in response to climatic changes but as a general rule, it is more stable than wood flooring.

Of course that with extreme environmental conditions, meaning exposure to extreme heat, moisture or dryness (more than 65%, less than 35% R.H) can cause corks to shrink and make the joints more visible. When humidity levels are higher, cork flooring can expand. When wood expands, it does so only across the grain, so the expansion is concentrated in one dimension. However with cork, any expansion or shrinkage disperses in all directions. With proper acclimation, installation, and maintenance, expansion and shrinkage of your cork floor will be less noticeable.



Why purchase a cork floor?

They are a natural product, environmentally friendly and produced from a renewable resource (bark of the cork oak tree when peeled does not damage the tree) and they are as durable as most other floors.

In addition cork flooring is sound absorbing, insulating (both heat and cold), antistatic and a relief for those with allergies. No other flooring material combines these benefits. When maintained properly, cork flooring can last for generations.

Do cork floors fade in the light?

Yes, like any other natural product, the exposure to UV light as well as sunlight will cause color variations to cork; typically a yellowing.

This is normal and should not be considered a manufacturing defect! Area rugs and large furniture will block light exposure and cause uneven coloration. To minimize, furnishings and floor coverings should be moved periodically. Covering large exposed windows will help as well.

I have pets! Will they damage my cork floor?

Only you can know what are the habits, activities, and potentially destructive actions of your pet better than anyone else!

Our cork floors are coated with a finish that could be scratched by the claws of cats and dogs running on the floor. Anyway, because cork is resilient and will move away from pressure the surface will be less subject to abrasion than a similarly treated hardwood floor. Keeping your pet's nails trimmed will help keep your floors looking beautiful.

Is cork flooring a good soundproof material?

Sure, cork is being widely used for sound reduction in buildings and it is a very effective way to meet building codes for sound control.

Are the Cork Floors resistant to fire?

The fire resistance is classified (EN 13501-1) based on energy (flame) and smoke contributions. Regarding the energy contribution for floor covering the best classification is A1 (no flammable) and the worst is D.

Smoke contribution is classified into two levels – S1 and S2 – being S1 the best. All CORKSRIBAS range products are tested following EN ISO 9239-1.



Installation

Where can ez-cork flooring be installed?

It can be installed virtually anywhere on, above, or below grade except in bathroom or areas with high humidity level.

Can I do my own installation of the cork floor?

Sure, floating floors simply lock together and do not use any adhesive.

What is recommended before I begin to install my cork flooring?

Prior to installation, the sub-floor must be properly cleaned of dirt and debris, dried, and leveled. Failure to properly prepare your subfloor can cause problems in the future.

During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to a level consistent with the conditions which will prevail when the building is occupied. In most cases, this means maintaining a temperature range of 18°C to 28°C (65 F to 82F) and relative humidity range of 35% to 65%. In order to reach this climate, use heating or air conditioning in the appropriate length of time prior to beginning installation.

Packaged boards should be acclimatized at a job site in a dry, well-ventilated area for a minimum of 48 hours so that flooring may acclimate.

Remove the boards from the packages just before starting laying them.

Can cork be installed and used over radiant floor heating systems?

In fact, cork flooring can be used over radiant floor heating systems. Due to the insulation properties of the cork floor, this will heat up more slowly than conventional laminates or wood floors, providing a slower release of heat over time.

The surface temperature of the subfloor must not exceed 28°C (82°F).

Don't forget that rugs or mats placed on top of the floor may function as heat accumulators and will increase the floor surface temperature more than the maximum surface temperature recommended (must not exceed 20 – 22°C).

Does CORKSRIBAS cork floors contribute to LEED points?

Yes! Based on the LEED framework, CORKSRIBAS products contribute points towards achieving the following credits:

Indoor Environmental Quality – EQ

- EQ 4.4 (1 Point): Use Low-Emitting Materials (wood or agrifiber products) that will reduce the amount of indoor air contaminants that may be potentially irritating and/or harmful to the comfort and well-being of the installer and occupants. CORKSRIBAS Cork products have no added urea-formaldehyde resins as stated under this credit.

Materials and Resources – MR

Credits:

- MR 4.1 (1 Point): Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of the post-consumer recycled content plus one-half of the pre-consumer content constitutes 10% of the total value of the materials in the project.
- MR 4.2 (1 Point): Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of the post-consumer recycled content plus one-half of the pre-consumer content constitutes an additional 10% (total of 20%) beyond MR credit 4.1 of the total value of the materials in the project. 100% of the cork content in all CORKSRIBAS Cork products is recycled from other cork pre-consumer manufacturing processes.
- MR 6 (1 Point): Use rapidly renewable materials and products (made from plants that are typically harvested within a ten year cycle or shorter) for 2.5 % of the total value of all building materials and products used in the project.

Innovation and Design Process – ID (1-4 points)

- The intent of this credit is to provide design teams and projects the chance to earn additional points for exceptional performance above the LEED requirements. Cork's natural characteristic such as its cellular structure provides sound proofing properties. The transmission of vibrations from mechanical equipment can be reduced using cork flooring and underlayment. All CORKSRIBAS Cork products qualify for one category, or more, under LEED credit program.

