

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

SikaBond®-T55

Trowel Grade Polyurethane Elastic Adhesive for Wood Flooring.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

SikaBond®-T55 is a one-component, highly flexible, easy to trowel, low-VOC, low odor, moisture cured polyurethane adhesive for full surface bonding of wood flooring. SikaBond®-T55 will tenaciously bond wood to most surfaces, including concrete, plywood, and leveling and patch underlayments that have been properly prepared.

USES

SikaBond®-T55 may be used to bond all engineered, solid plank flat milled, shorts, bamboo, cork and parquet hardwood flooring designed by the manufacturer for glue down applications. This adhesive can also be used for many other bonding applications that are common for light commercial and residential applications including acoustic rubber underlayment systems.

CHARACTERISTICS / ADVANTAGES

- 400% Elongation
- Bonds unlimited thickness solid and engineered wood
- Low-odor
- Easy to trowel formulation
- Fast curing - unfinished wood flooring can be sanded after 12 hours of cure time
- Crack bridging
- Suitable for most common types of wood floors
- Especially good for problematic woods such as beech and bamboo
- Suitable for bonding wood floors directly onto old ceramic tiles
- Suitable for in-floor radiant heat installation
- Footfall-sound-dampening adhesive
- Contains no water
- Eliminate sleepers and plywood over concrete and gypsum substrates
- Permanently elastic – allows planks to expand and contract without damage to the adhesive or substrate

APPROVALS / STANDARDS

LEED® V4.1 CDPH Standard Method v1.2	SCAQMD, Rule 1168 (25 g/L limit)	BAAQMD, Reg. 8, Rule 51-226 (20 g/L limit)
passes	passes	passes

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Chemical Base	1-component Polyurethane, moisture curing
Packaging	5 gal. (18.93 L) unit
Color	Tan

should be greater than 60 °F (15 °C) and in case of floor heating, less than 70 °F (20 °C). For substrate temperatures, the standard construction rules are relevant

Substrate Moisture Content

Moisture requirements are set forth to protect the wood flooring products that can expand and contract with different moisture levels. SikaBond®-T55 is not affected by moisture or vapor transmission. The guidelines below are included to provide the best practices in moisture vapor testing that exists today. Permissible substrate moisture contents are listed on the chart below. For more information on the use of the CM method please contact Troy Corporation at 973-443-4200.

Application	Moisture level requirements using Tramex method (%)	Moisture level requirements using CM method (%)
3/4" solid or engineered over concrete	4 %	2.5 %
3/4" solid or engineered over concrete with Sika® MB layer	6 %	4.0 %
3/4" solid or engineered over in-floor heating over concrete	3 %	1.8 %
3/4" solid or engineered over gypsumbased	Tramex should not be used to measure gypsum	0.5 %
3/4" solid or engineered over in-floor heating over gypsum-based	Tramex should not be used to measure gypsum	0.3 %

The National Wood Flooring Association recommends the use of moisture testing devices that identify actual moisture content in percentages (%). For best results in measuring the moisture levels in cement based subfloor use the Tramex measuring device to find the highest reading in the application area and then run the CM method at that highest point to determine the worst case. As a general guideline for floors with no in-floor heating if the Tramex is below 4 % the Sika® MB will not be necessary and between 4 % and 6 % Sika® MB will be required - however, the CM method must be used to make final determination of concrete moisture levels – use chart above. For moisture content and quality of substrates the guidelines of wood floor manufacturer must be observed.

Curing Rate

4.0 mm/24h at 73 °F(23 °C) and 50 % RH.
Floor may accept light foot traffic after 4 hrs. and sanded 12 hrs. after installation (depending on climatic conditions and adhesive layer thickness).

Skin Time / Laying Time

~ 45–60 minutes at 73 °F(23 °C) and 50 % RH

BASIS OF PRODUCT DATA

Results may differ based upon statistical variations depending upon mixing methods and equipment, temperature, application methods, test methods, actual site conditions and curing conditions.

LIMITATIONS

- Wood limitations can be found in coverage section
- P5 trowel or larger must be used with all solid woods and when applying over gypsum-based subfloor.
- Room temperatures should be between 60 °F and 90 °F during installation unless otherwise specified limitations by wood flooring manufacturer.
- Do not use on wet, contaminated or friable substrates.
- When needed Sika® recommends the use of Portland Cement based patching and levelling compounds for best results.
- Gypsum based sub-floors are very susceptible to excess moisture and will be degraded if exposed to excess moisture from below or above.
- Below grade installations are typically more difficult to control moisture and room humidity levels – if this cannot be done sufficiently then below grade applications should use structurally sound Engineered hardwood only.
- Do not use in areas subject to hydrostatic head or in areas subject to secondary source of moisture.
- Do not use over concrete with curing compounds, sealers or other surface treatments that could impact the adhesion.
- This adhesive will not prevent moisture related damage to wood flooring installations.
- Sub-floor should be level – do not use adhesive as a levelling agent.
- Cutback or other asphaltic based residue should be removed.
- Chemically treated woods (ammonia, wood stain, timber preservatives, etc.) and woods with high oil content must be tested for adhesion prior to application.
- Adhesive should be kept above 60 °F for best workability.
- Sufficient ambient moisture is necessary for proper curing.
- Solid wood applications are best performed by an experienced installer.
- When bonding solid wood Sika® recommends the use of straps to fully connect tongue and groove – especially when wood pieces are not perfectly straight – ensure starter rows are set and properly cured to handle tension from straps.
- Installations over radiant heat require that slab temperature be kept below 70 °F during installation and for 48 hours after installation – then raised slowly up to final desired temperature. Follow wood floor manufacturer's temperature guidelines.
- Wood floors in non-insulated areas or areas without a damp proof membrane, must only be installed after the application of Sika® MB to control the moisture, if

within product limitations. For detailed instructions consult the Product Data Sheets or contact our Technical Service. In case of chemically pre-treated types of wood floors (e.g. ammonia, wood stain, timber preservative or woods that have been pre-sealed on the back side) and woods with high oil content SikaBond® should only be used if adhesion tests are run by applicator prior to starting application. Do not use on PE, PP, TEFLON, and certain plasticized synthetic materials. (Carry out pre-trials). Some primers can negatively influence the adhesion of SikaBond® (pretrials suggested). Do not expose SikaBond® to alcohol; this will impact the curing of the SikaBond®.

ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY

For further information and advice regarding transportation, handling, storage and disposal of chemical products, user should refer to the actual Safety Data Sheets containing physical, environmental, toxicological and other safety related data. User must read the current actual Safety Data Sheets before using any products. In case of an emergency, call CHEMTREC at 1-800-424-9300, International 703-527-3887.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

SUBSTRATE QUALITY

Substrate must be clean and dry, homogeneous, even, free from grease, dust and loose particles. Paint, laitance and other poorly adhering particles must be removed by mechanical means.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- SikaBond®-T55 can be used on properly prepared, structurally sound concrete, cementitious patch/underlayments, chipboards, ceramic tiles, plywood.
- Concrete substrate must have a concrete surface profile of CSP 1-3.
- For on-grade subfloors Sika® recommends the use of Sika® MB, Sika® MB Redline, and Sika® MB EZ Rapid for best protection against sub-floor moisture – moisture testing is required by the wood flooring manufacturer for best results with the wood flooring products.
- Below grade applications are generally not recommended unless proper precautions are taken to protect the wood flooring from sub-floor and in-room humidity extremes.
- A 3,000 psi compressive strength is the minimum requirement needed for SikaBond wood floor installations, including glue-down wood floors, or glued/mechanically anchored subfloors. Sika products such as SikaLevel®-01 Primer Plus, Sika® MB, Sika® MB Redline, and Sika® MB EZ Rapid can be used on substrates as consolidators to satisfy the minimum psi compressive strength requirements.
- Preparation is a critical step in the installation process

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- and will ensure a successful long term tenacious bond.
- All concrete, cement screed and gypsum based subfloors must be structurally sound, clean, dry, smooth; free of voids, projections, loose materials, oil, grease, sealers and other surface contaminants. Thoroughly clean with an industrial vacuum. Remove laitance or weak areas mechanically and thoroughly.
- For application over ceramic tiles it is necessary to grind tile surfaces and clean thoroughly with an industrial vacuum.
- For substrates with old well bonded non-water-soluble adhesive or adhesive residue use Sika® MB, Sika® MB Redline, or Sika® MB EZ Rapid – see appropriate product data sheet for installation instructions and proper details. If surface contains asphalt (cutback) adhesive, follow the Resilient Floor Covering Institute “Recommended Work Practices” for removal. When the asphalt (cutback) adhesive is sufficiently removed use the Sika® MB, Sika® MB Redline, or Sika® MB EZ Rapid to help promote adhesion to the subfloor or use a Sika® Level patch/level product in conjunction with the correct primer.
- SikaBond®-T55 will adhere to most common patching/levelling compounds. Due to differences in asphalt-based adhesive types and performance capabilities, applicators must verify that preparation of the surface is sufficient prior to using Sika® MB or Sika® Level patch/level compound. For unknown substrates, please contact Sika® Technical Services for best practices at 1-800-933-SIKA.

APPLICATION METHOD / TOOLS

Read and understand data sheet completely before beginning installation. Follow all industry standards, as well as hardwood and bamboo flooring manufacturer’s recommendations for floor flatness, acclimation, design, layout, application, etc. of wood flooring material. If jobsite conditions are outside of flooring manufacturer’s recommendations, take necessary corrective actions as recommended by the floor manufacturer to address these issues. Whether the moisture content of substrate exceeds or is within the manufacturer’s recommendations, to address current or possible future subfloor moisture, apply SikaBond®-T55 as directed. SikaBond®-T55 is applied to the properly prepared substrate directly from the pail and uniformly distributed by trowel as described on this Product Data Sheet. Press the wood floor elements firmly into the adhesive so that the wood floor underside is sufficiently wetted. The elements can then be joined together using a rubber hammer and an impact block and/ or rubber

mallet. Many types of wood floors have to be tapped from the top. Leave gaps at room perimeters and at any floor wall partition to allow wood flooring to move naturally – follow recommended guidelines from wood floor manufacturer. Spacers should be used to ensure perimeter space is maintained. The wood flooring manufacturer’s laying instructions, acclimation requirements, room humidity/environmental control requirements as well as standard construction rules must be observed.

Plywood over concrete

Use a minimum 3/4” (18.3 mm) subfloor panel cut to smaller 2’ x 8’ or 4’ x 4’ sections. Kerf the back of the panels 1/2 the thickness of the material (3/8”) on a 12” x 12” grid. Lay sections in a staggered joint pattern in the adhesive, with 1/8” spacing between sheets, and 3/4” minimum expansion space at walls and all vertical obstructions. Flatness tolerances should be to within 3/16” in 6’ or 1/4” in 10’ for nail down over the wood subfloor. Do not use flooring fasteners longer than 3/4” to be certain not to puncture the moisture control membrane. Using a Sika P5 trowel, apply adhesive/membrane to substrate and then set plywood into the wet adhesive/membrane. For adhesion only, ensure at least 90% coverage and transfer. For moisture protection, ensure 100% coverage and transfer. Allow the adhesive/membrane to fully cure before nailing or using the SikaBond adhesive/ membrane to install flooring. Make sure that nails do not penetrate through the adhesive membrane.

Crack Preparation

All moving joints and moving cracks must be honored up through the floor preparation and floor covering installation, finishing with an appropriate Sika flexible sealing compound. Dormant hairline cracks can be covered with Sika MB or Sika MB Redline. Dormant joints and dormant cracks greater than a hairline that will not be honored must be pre-filled in strict accordance with the installation instructions provided by the Sika Technical Service Department.

Removal

All tools must be cleaned immediately after use with SikaBond® Remover or standard industry cleaning solvent. Any adhesive that is permitted to cure on the tool will need to be removed by mechanical mean.

SikaBond® Remover can be used to remove uncured or cured adhesive and fingerprints from wood surface.

OTHER RESTRICTIONS

See Legal Disclaimer.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER

- KEEP CONTAINER TIGHTLY CLOSED
- KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
- NOT FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION
- FOR INDUSTRIAL USE ONLY
- FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY

Prior to each use of any product of Sika Corporation, its subsidiaries or affiliates ("SIKA"), the user must always read and follow the warnings and instructions on the product's most current product label, Product Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet which are available at usa.sika.com or by calling SIKA's Technical Service Department at 1-800-933-7452. Nothing contained in any SIKA literature or materials relieves the user of the obligation to read and follow the warnings and instructions for each SIKA product as set forth in the current product label, Product Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet prior to use of the SIKA product.

SIKA warrants this product for one year from date of installation to be free from manufacturing defects and to meet the technical properties on the current Product Data Sheet if used as directed within the product's shelf life. User determines suitability of product for intended use and assumes all risks. User's and/or buyer's sole remedy shall be limited to the purchase price or replacement of this product exclusive of any labor costs.

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