

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Taylor Technical Services

tech@tayloradhesives.com (706) 712-5823 T³C (Taylor Technical & Training Center) 3343 Dug Gap Rd. Dalton, GA 30721

PREPARING GYPCRETE AND LIGHTWEIGHT CONCRETE FOR LVP/LVT INSTALLATION

Both gypcrete and lightweight concrete are considered very porous substrates. When it comes to installing vinyl plank and tile (LVP/LVT) flooring over these substrates it is important to prepare them properly. Often this will include priming the gypcrete or lightweight concrete prior to applying adhesive.

FAST FACTS:

- These substrates are often dusty, making them difficult for adhesives to bond
- These substrates are often extremely porous and will absorb excess causing over absorption of adhesive
- Priming dusty substrates will consolidate the dust, providing a bondable surface

BEST PRACTICES:

- Prime gypcrete and lightweight concrete with an approved primer prior to applying any flooring adhesive
- Test the substrate for moisture per the substrate manufacturers guidelines
- Always follow ASTM F710 standards for proper substrate preparation
- Always follow the flooring manufacturer's recommended substrate preparation guidelines
- Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommended substrate preparation guidelines
- Always use patching/leveling materials that are compatible with the substrate

TAYLOR PRODUCTS:

- 2025 Universal Latex Primer
- Zephyr Moisture Barrier, Encapsulator or Primer Coating

GYPCRETE

This is a non-structural concrete and is a mixutre of gypsum plaster, Portland cement, and sand. Often used in radiant-heated flooring to avoid corrosion of PEX tubing and increase thermal efficiency, it will not shrink, crack, or curl.

LIGHTWEIGHT CONCRETE

Also known as LWC, this is a low-density, structural concrete. Made with lightweight coarse aggregate like shale, clay, or slate, it is much lighter than those found in normal concrete. Vertical, multi-story structures often use this to reduce their overall weight.

Watch this short **TIP** to see how it's done:





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www.tayloradhesives.com 800 College Drive, Dalton, GA 30720

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