

# Rolled Underlays

## QQ Step Soft™

### A Recycled Rubber Underlayment



*Flooring Experts since 1951*



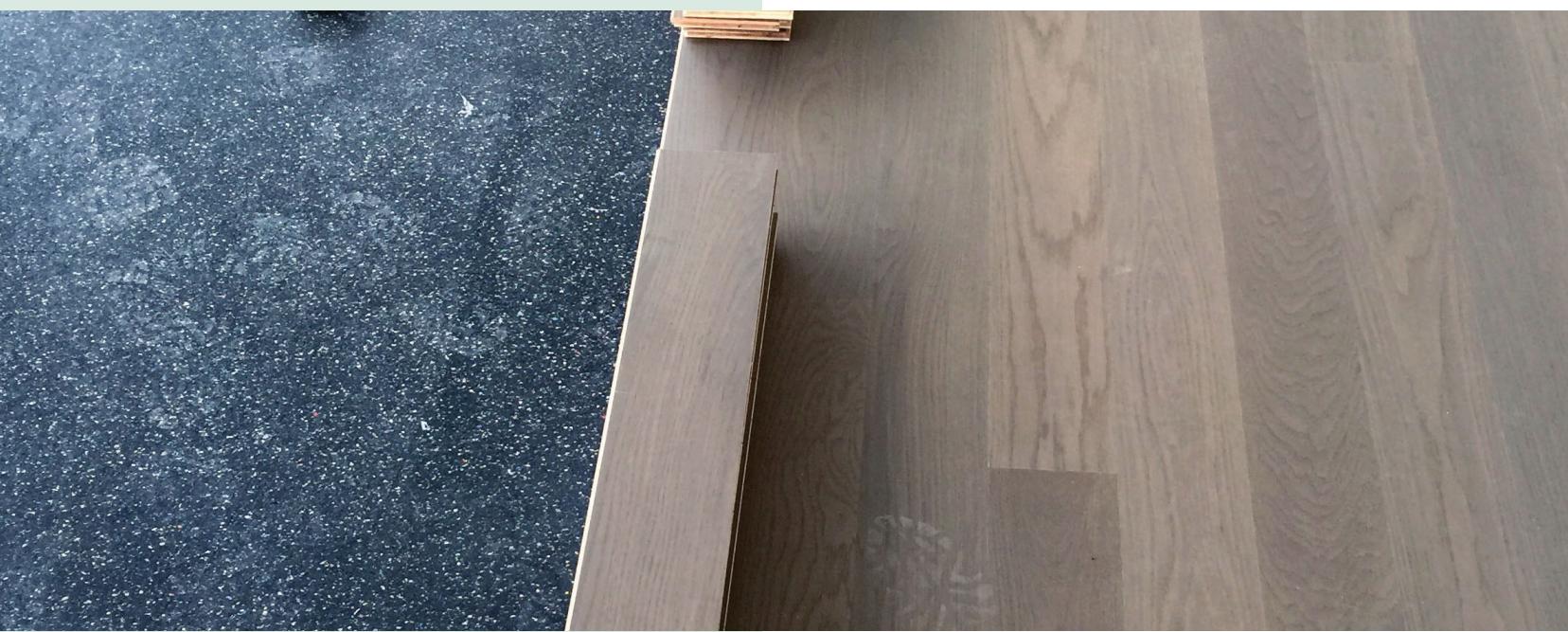
**QQ Step Soft** is a sound deadening recycled rubber flooring underlayment designed to promote quiet living and improve sound ratings.

- Offered in 2-15mm thickness
- Effective impact noise reduction
- Crack isolation capabilities
- Engineered hardness
- Increased dynamic-to-static load ratio
- Recycled material
- Low VOC content
- High density
- Low compressibility
- 95% + recycled material
- LEED eligible

**QQ Step Soft's** rubber material provides a resilient layer within the flooring assembly for reducing vibration noise.

**QQ Step Soft** is a critical component in meeting International Building Code requirements for ceiling/floor noise reduction performance.

**QQ Step Soft** passes the Federal Flammability Standard, meets CHPS standards for VOCs, and passes the ASTM C627 reliability standard for residential use.



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# QQ Step Soft **SOUND** Testing



## STC AND IIC

Sound is measured in two different ways: STC and IIC

### Sound Transmission Class (STC)

Measures the transmission of airborne noise through walls and floors.

### Impact Isolation Class (IIC)

Measures the transmission of noise caused by impact; the most common form of impact noise in residential construction is footfall.

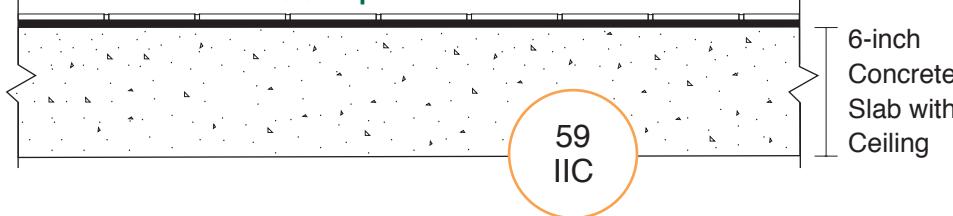
As resilient and hard surface flooring continues to dominate the floor covering market, acoustical performance becomes harder to attain. **QQ Step Soft** products offer superior acoustical performance for a variety of floor coverings including: vinyl, engineered wood, carpet and ceramic tile. **QQ Step Soft** muffles impact noise and allows installers to meet code over a variety of building assemblies.



## SOUND TEST

ASTM E492 and ASTM E2179:

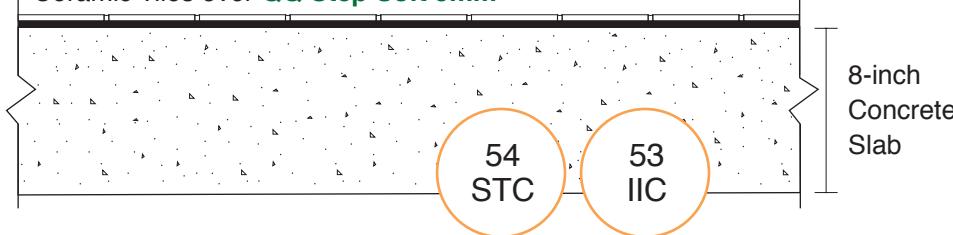
Ceramic Tiles over **QQ Step Soft 5mm**



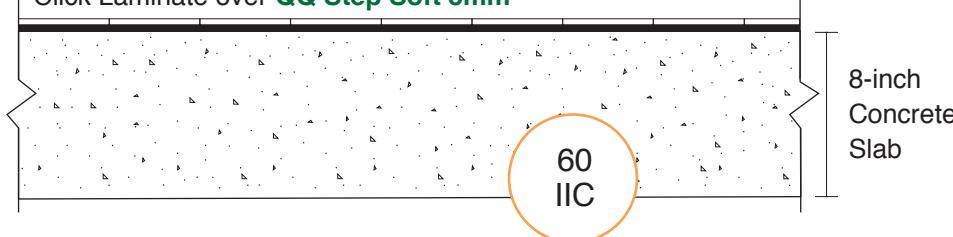
Ceramic Tiles over **QQ Step Soft 5mm**



Ceramic Tiles over **QQ Step Soft 5mm**



Click Laminate over **QQ Step Soft 5mm**



**QQ Step Soft** is suitable for use under almost any floor covering. As a general rule: install **QQ Step Soft** using the same installation method as you would install the floor covering. For example, when installing ceramic tile: thinset **QQ Step Soft** down with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " v-notch trowel, and polymer modified thin-set mortar. If installing loose lay vinyl tile, simply roll **QQ Step Soft** on the floor and use a floating floor system.

You must also ensure the subfloor is suitable for the installation of **QQ Step Soft**.

Climatize the **QQ Step Soft** product to the room for a day before installing the product.



## PREPARATION AND APPLICATION

### JOB SITE REQUIREMENTS

Before beginning the installation below, all areas to receive **QQ Step Soft** should be weather-tight and have a constant temperature of 50°F for 48 hours before, during, and after installation.

### SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

- Follow all subfloor requirements and preparation recommendations by the flooring manufacturer.
- QQ Step Soft** can be installed over concrete, Dependable self-leveling materials, OSB, plywood and gypsum concrete.
- If you will be adhering **QQ Step Soft** to gypsum concrete, use Dependable's PRIMER A to seal the gypsum before applying adhesive.
- If **QQ Step Soft** will be installed with adhesive, use only recommended adhesives. For concrete installations, test with calcium chloride test (ASTM F1869) to a maximum of 5.5 lbs. per sq. ft. in a 24-hour period. For gypsum subfloors, use manufacturer test methods to determine water content.
- Floor should be completely dry and free of dust, paint, oil, wax, solvents, sealers, etc. according to ASTM F710. Any residues should be mechanically removed.
- Subfloor should be smooth and free of defects and cracks. Non-moving joints should prevent transmission to flooring. Surface should be flat to 4mm ( $\frac{3}{16}$ ") thick across any 300mm (12") section. Grind all high spots and fill indentations with a Dependable self-leveling compound to meet flatness requirements.
- For tile or other grouted installations on wood subfloors, make sure the subfloor is prepared according to ANSI L360 standards as required by the flooring and grout manufacturer.

### MATERIAL AND STORAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Deliver and keep all material in original packaging until ready to use.
- All claims of damage must be reported to the freight company. Any defects in the material should be reported to Dependable immediately.
- Acclimate all material within required temperature for 24 hours prior to install.
- Allow material to relax after rolled out and before adhering to subfloor to allow normal stretching in the roll process to release.

### PERIMETER ISOLATION BARRIER INSTALLATION

- Perimeter Isolation is installed before the **QQ Step Soft**. The Perimeter Isolation should be installed around the entire perimeter of the room where **QQ Step Soft** will be installed.
- Perimeter Isolation is produced with a sticky side for adherence to the wall. Place the sticky side to the wall and cover all areas to receive **QQ Step Soft**.
- Wrap Perimeter Isolation around all penetrations including plumbing, electrical, cabinetry and thresholds.
- Place the Perimeter Isolation so that it is  $\frac{1}{16}$ " above the subfloor to prevent wrinkling at wall/subfloor intersection.
- Install **QQ Step Soft** flush with the Perimeter Isolation strip but not compressed or with a gap larger than  $\frac{1}{16}$ ".
- Trim excess when finished flooring is complete.

### ADHESIVE INSTALLATION

- Using a chalk line, snap a line perpendicular to the longest wall in the room and establish a straight point of reference for the installation of the **QQ Step Soft**.
- Cut the **QQ Step Soft** to the proper length and trim it for any penetrations or wall angles.
- Place the **QQ Step Soft** along the snap line, cut the adjacent piece, trim it and place it adjacent to the first piece.
- Fold the two pieces in half and apply the mastic to the area under the **QQ Step Soft** using a 0.125," V-notched trowel. Apply adhesive perpendicular to the seams.
- Place the material so that no bubbles or waves are seen in the area by unfolding the **QQ Step Soft** into the wet mastic or mortar. Ensure that no air is trapped below.
- Repeat this installation for the second half of the **QQ Step Soft** by folding in the other half sheet; trowel the mastic under and place the second half into the wet adhesive mastic.
- Repeat this process until the room is completely covered. Ensure that there is no greater than a 0.25" space between the wall and the **QQ Step Soft**.
- Ensure that all mastic is installed to a uniform thickness, as puddles or differences in thickness can telegraph through the sound mat.
- Wipe any excess mastic from the top side of seams while working.
- Roll with 100-pound roller to remove any air bubbles or adhesive inconsistencies.
- Allow install to cure for 24 hours.

### Adhesive Yield

Floor Type	Recommended Trowel	Approximate Coverage
• QQ Step Soft to Approved Substrate		80 sq. ft. / U.S. gal
• Engineered Wood 1/2" or Less to QQ Step Soft		50 sq. ft. / U.S. gal
• Engineered Wood 1/2" or More to QQ Step Soft		35 sq. ft. / U.S. gal

### THIN SET INSTALLATION

- Using a chalk line, snap a line perpendicular to the longest wall in the room and establish a straight point of reference for the installation of the **QQ Step Soft**.
- Cut the **QQ Step Soft** to the proper length and trim it for any penetrations or wall angles.
- Place the **QQ Step Soft** along the snap line, cut the adjacent piece, trim it and place it adjacent to the first piece.
- Fold the two pieces in half and apply the mortar (Multipurpose Latex-Modified, High-Performance Mortar recommended) to the area under the **QQ Step Soft** using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " x  $\frac{1}{4}$ " square notch trowel. Apply mortar perpendicular to the seams.
- Place the material so that no bubbles or waves are seen in the area by unfolding the **QQ Step Soft** into the mortar. Ensure that no air is trapped below.
- Repeat this installation for the second half of the **QQ Step Soft** by folding in the other half sheet; trowel the mortar under and place the second half into the mortar.
- Repeat this process until the room is completely covered. Ensure that there is no greater than a 0.25" space between the wall and the **QQ Step Soft**.
- Ensure that all mortar is installed to a uniform thickness, as puddles or differences in thickness can telegraph through the sound mat.
- Wipe any excess mortar from the top side of seams while working.
- Roll with 100-pound roller to remove any air bubbles or inconsistencies in the mortar.
- Allow install to cure for 24 hours.

### FLOATING INSTALLATION

- Allow the **QQ Step Soft** to acclimate to the room for one day prior to installation.
- Remove the packaging from the rolls.
- Using a chalk line, snap a line perpendicular to the longest wall in the room and establish a straight point of reference for the installation of the **QQ Step Soft**.
- Cut the **QQ Step Soft** to the proper length and trim it for any penetrations or wall angles.
- Place the **QQ Step Soft** along the snap line, cut the adjacent piece, trim it and place it adjacent to the first piece.
- Roll with 100-pound roller to remove any air bubbles.
- Tape all seams with high-quality, 3"-wide duct tape.

### FLOORING INSTALLATION

For all flooring types: follow the manufacturer's installation instructions. Use their recommended materials. Do not use mechanical fasteners through the **QQ Step Soft**, as this will negate the acoustical performance of the system.

## FINISHED FLOORING INSTALLATION

### TILE

1. Follow all manufacturer and Tile Council of North America recommendations for procedures and installation, including adhesives and accessories.
2. Tile and grout should not be in contact with any wall or penetration, and no penetrations should be made through the QQ Step Soft to the subfloor, including for expansion joints.
3. If cement backer board is required, glue it to the QQ Step Soft with the recommended adhesive or mortar.
4. If crack suppression is required, glue it to the QQ Step Soft with the recommended adhesive.

### ENGINEERED WOOD

1. Engineered wood can be glued down or floating.
2. For engineered wood that is glued, follow all recommended installation instructions from the manufacturer and from the Hard Wood Flooring Association.
3. Finished wood or laminate should not come in contact with any walls or penetrations, and no penetrations should be made through the Step Soft to the subfloor.

### VINYL

1. Follow all manufacturer recommendations for procedures and installation including adhesives and accessories.
2. Apply a thin layer of moisture cure urethane to top of QQ Step Soft and allow to cure before applying vinyl manufacturers recommended adhesive.
3. Apply adhesive to cured thin layer of urethane. Moisture cured urethane with a 1/32" trowel often is best but also follow the recommendations of the flooring manufacturer.
4. Follow vinyl flooring manufacturer's recommendations for installation over a resilient material such as QQ Step Soft.
5. Test all proposed installations to determine if vinyl flooring QQ Step Soft assembly is strong enough to support appliances, furniture, etc. For installations using QQ Step Soft with a thickness greater than 2 mm, consult with vinyl manufacturer to determine if vinyl installation is permitted.

### BASEBOARD INSTALLATION

1. Trim perimeter isolation strip to top of finished flooring.
2. Install baseboard to wall but do not allow it to contact flooring, as this will negate the acoustical performance of QQ Step Soft.
3. Seal perimeter with acoustical caulk that remains resilient.

### MATERIALS RECOMMENDATIONS

All materials must be delivered to the job site in original containers with all of manufacturer's labeling intact. No modifications are allowed.

#### Gypsum Sealer

PRIMER A

Specco S-55 Concentrate

#### Adhesives

Apac 440 (for vinyl tile)

BASF Chemrex CX-941

Bosticks Best

Chemque Fortane

Mapei ECO 420

Others can be evaluated by Dependable Technical Support

#### Thin Set

Bostik Hydroment Single Flex Mortar

Others can be evaluated by Dependable Technical Support

#### Perimeter Isolation Strips

Keene Building Products' Quiet Qurl® Perimeter Isolation with Quik Stick

### SUBSTITUTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

No substitutions/modifications permitted.

If substitutions or modifications are required, please contact Dependable at 1-800-227-3434 for review. All substitutions/modifications approved by Dependable must be documented from Dependable to be valid.

### LIMITED WARRANTY:

Dependable, LLC warrants to the initial purchaser only that the goods sold hereunder will be free from defects in material and workmanship and, except as otherwise set forth herein, will conform to the specifications provided. If any failure to meet this warranty appears within one year from the date of shipment of the goods, on the condition that Dependable, LLC. will correct any such failure by either replacing or repairing any defective goods, at Dependable, LLC's option.

The preceding paragraph sets forth the exclusive remedy for all claims based on failure of or defect in the goods sold hereunder, whether such failure or defect arises before or during the warranty period and whether a claim, however instituted, is based on contract, indemnity, warranty, tort (including negligence), strict liability or otherwise. The forgoing warranty is exclusive and is in lieu of all other warranties whether written, oral, implied or statutory.



Flooring Experts since 1951



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