

<b>Title</b>	<b>Apply cementitious underlayment systems to flooring surfaces</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>45</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for those working in the flooring surface preparation industry.</p> <p>People credited with this standard are able to apply cementitious underlayment systems to flooring surface to the level of performance required of a commercially competent tradesperson.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Construction Trades > Flooring
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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## Guidance Information

### 1 Assessment

This unit standard is intended to align with the *New Zealand Certificate in Flooring Surface Preparation – Specifications* and the *New Zealand Certificate in Flooring Surface Preparation (Level 4)* [Ref: 4299].

Evidence for this standard must reflect commercial competence.

Commercial competence refers to the ability to demonstrate knowledge and skills in the context of the currently accepted requirements of a business operating in a commercial environment.

Commercial competence must be confirmed by a person with current expertise in the flooring surface preparation trade.

### 2 Definitions

*Cementitious underlayment* is a cement based levelling compound used as an underlayment system.

*Manufacturer's application guidelines* include all the relevant producer information for a cementitious underlayment system.

*Substrate* is the base material of the floor.

*Workplace procedures* refers to the documented procedures specific to a workplace which sets out the standard and the required practices of that workplace.

### 3 Legislation, standards and guidance information relevant to this standard includes the following, and any subsequent amendments and replacements:

*New Zealand Certificate in Flooring Surface Preparation – Specifications*, BCITO, September 2020, available from [www.waihanga.nz](http://www.waihanga.nz).

Legislation accessed at [www.legislation.govt.nz](http://www.legislation.govt.nz)

- Building Act 2004
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- The New Zealand Building Code.

Standards accessed at [www.standards.govt.nz](http://www.standards.govt.nz)

- NZS 3604:2011 *Timber Framed Buildings*
- AS/NZS 2455: 2007 *Textile floor coverings – Installation practice*
- NZS AS 1884:2013 *Floor coverings – Resilient sheet and tiles – Installation practices*
- ISO 10874:2009 *Resilient, textile and laminate floor coverings – Classification*
- AS/NZS 1080.1:2012 *Timber - Methods of test – Method 1: Moisture content.*

Best practice and good practice guidelines

- FloorNZ. (2019). *Carpet Floor Coverings Planning and Installation*. Available from: [www.floornz.org.nz](http://www.floornz.org.nz)
- FloorNZ. (2019). *Resilient Floor Coverings Planning and Installation*. Available from: [www.floornz.org.nz](http://www.floornz.org.nz)
- *The Absolutely Essential Health and Safety Toolkit for Small Construction Sites*, and other Worksafe NZ publications available from [www.worksafe.govt.nz](http://www.worksafe.govt.nz).

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## Skill specification and performance level guidance

### Skill specification

Apply cementitious underlayment systems to flooring surfaces.

### Knowledge

The requirements for the finished floor surface before application of cementitious underlayment systems, and the impact if these requirements are not met.

Range clean, flat, smooth, sound, dry, pH level.

The types, purpose, and properties of cementitious underlayments.

The properties of flooring substrate and substrate surface, and how they impact the application of cementitious underlayments.

Range substrate – timber strip, processed timber sheet, composite sheet, concrete, metal;  
properties – level, fall, thickness, structural support, moisture content, fixings, surface integrity, stability, cleanliness.

The purpose of, and requirements to protect other surfaces in the vicinity to the flooring surface preparation work.

The observable signs of irregularities to a flooring surface, and how to remedy them before application of a cementitious underlayment system.

Range remedies include – clean surface, slight height variation, light grind, or organise for specialist to carry-out repairs.

The requirements for setting levels, falls or change of plane prior for the application of cementitious underlayments on flooring substrates.

The requirements for, and how to set up a mixing station for cementitious underlayment mixes.

The requirements for applying specified primers or sealers on flooring substrates prior to application of cementitious underlayments.

The mixing and application requirements of cementitious underlayments to floor substrates.

Range as per manufacturer's application guidelines.

### **Skills**

Confirm instructions for substrate preparation work, and the area of work are accurate.

Assess flooring substrate surfaces for irregularities, and remedy them before applying a cementitious underlayment system.

Range assessment of – level, fall, thickness, structural support, moisture content, fixings, surface integrity, stability, cleanliness;  
remedies include – clean surfaces, remedy slight height variations, light grind, or organise for specialists to carry-out repairs.

Reassess flooring substrate surfaces after repairs to ensure substrate surface meets the acceptable finish.

Set any levels, falls or change of plane for flooring substrate surfaces to meet job specifications and documentation.

Set up a mixing station for cementitious underlayment mixing.

Apply specified primers or sealers to flooring substrate surface prior to cementitious underlayment application.

Mix, and apply cementitious underlayments to flooring substrates surfaces to manufacturer's specifications.

Range also includes – associated repairing, self-levelling, fine finishing products.

Clean down job site and equipment after cementitious underlayment work is completed.

## Performance level guidance

Performance must reflect job documentation, workplace procedures, manufacturer's application guidelines, AS/NZS 2455, NZS AS 1884, and AS/NZS 1080.

Performance must reflect at least two different cementitious products.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2026
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### Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	25 November 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0048
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

## Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council at [qualifications@waihanga.nz](mailto:qualifications@waihanga.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.