



# Guide to Underlayment

Self-leveling underlayments are used for interior applications to create a level, smooth clean substrate prior to installing new floor coverings such as carpet, wood, laminate, ceramic or resilient flooring. The products are used in both new construction and restoration work. Selfleveling products are easy to mix, easy to install and are ideal for large areas.

Trowel grade underlayments are also available, and often compliment the self-leveling products. While they can be used over large areas, they are ideal for small areas, transitions, and sloped substrates.

## Cement & Gypsum Underlayment Overview

Similar to sheetrock, gypsum based underlayments have good sound and thermal insulation, while often carrying a fire rating. The limitations behind gypsum include thicker minimum applications of around <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>", and have slower cure times, requiring up to a week prior to final floor installation. These products also have lower compressive strengths, and like sheet rock are sensitive to water exposure.

Cement based underlayments often exhibit higher compressive strengths of 4000-5000 psi, with a quick turnaround. Many cement based underlayments can be walked on in 2-4 hours, with the installation of final floor coverings in 14-16 hours. Cement based underlayments can typically be installed from a minimum 1/8" up to 4" thick with the addition of pea gravel. Primers are often used to seal the substrate, reduce pinholing, and ensure a high-quality bond to the surface.

Dayton Superior cementitious underlayments are designed for use over concrete substrates, but can be successfully used over wood, lead and copper with the proper preparation. Underlayments are used prior to installing tile, carpeting or sheet goods and are designed for interior use.

### Note:

Underlayments are not intended to be long-term wearing surfaces. For these applications,

consider the Dayton Superior Level Topping or Level Topping EXT.

## **Dayton Superior Underlayments**

#### <u>LeveLayer®</u>

#### Premium Self-Leveling Floor Underlayment

- Cement-based product
- Used with Level Primer J42/J42RTU
- Featheredge up to 2" thickness, neat
- Applications over 2" add clean pea gravel per Data Sheet
- Can be applied over wood. Contact Tech Service
- Over 5,000 psi compressive strength
- Typically accepts floor coverings in 14 hours

### Econolevel™ Self-Leveling Floor Underlayment

- Cement-based product
- Featheredge up to 1" thickness, neat
- Applications up to 5" add clean pea gravel per Data Sheet
- Can be applied over wood. Contact Tech Service
- Over 4,000 psi compressive strength
- Typically accepts floor covering in 14 Hours

## Sure-Leveler

## Self-Leveling Floor Underlayment

- Applications from a 1/8" up to 1"
- Over 5,000 psi compressive strength
- Typically accepts ceramic tile in 12-24 Hours
- Typically accepts resilient floor covering in after 72 hours





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## Sure Finish

### Trowel Grade, Premium Feather Finish

- Trowel grade underlayment
- Can also be used in exterior and vertical applications
- Application thickness from a true featheredge up to <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>"
- No priming needed
- Quick turnaround, with a final set in 30 minutes
- Economical skim coat up to 25 ft<sup>2</sup> per pound

### Level Primer J42/ J42RTU Primer and Bonding Agent

- Re-emulsifiable
- Reduces pinholes in levelers
- Increases bond between the levelers and substrate
- J42 concentrate can be used undiluted over wood and tile for additional bond strength.
- The J42 RTU is "Ready to Use", no dilution required
- MAS "Certified Green"
- Compliant per CDPH V1.2 for LEED projects