

UNDERLAYMENT OPTIONS

Underlayments are the backbone of any tile installation. They're the unseen heroes—leveling uneven surfaces, sealing cracks, waterproofing, soundproofing and more. Yet both residential and commercial consumers overlook them, until, of course, the installation fails. Here then are the latest entries.

TEC® ULTRA WEAR SURFACE



TEC® Ultra Wear Surface is a dual-purpose pumpable/pourable, cement-based product that can be used as an interior wear surface or as a high-performing self-leveling underlayment designed for use over a variety of substrates. When used as an interior wear surface, the resulting smooth finished surface is ready to accept topical colorants/coatings to complement any design require-

ments. As an interior self-leveler, the resulting smooth finished surface is ideal for the installation of all types of floor covering, including carpet, ceramic or natural stone tile, resilient, laminate flooring and wood flooring.

PROPANEL LIGHTWEIGHT WATERPROOF BACKER BOARD



ProPanel Lightweight Waterproof Backer Board from Fin Pan, Inc., offers installers a board with the latest in polymer waterproof coatings. ProPanel has passed the demanding Hydrostatic Water

Pressure Test for waterproofness. At only 6 pounds per 1/4" or 1/2" x 3' x 5' board, ProPanel is easier to carry, cut and install than traditional backer boards. Best of all, ProPanel is the most competitively priced waterproof backer board on the market today.

NEXT GENERATION DUROCK



USG's next generation of Durock cement board features advanced cement technology that reduces the board's weight by up to 25 percent—making it the lightest cement board

on the market. A Ducker Worldwide comprehensive market research study found it installs 20 percent faster due to easier handling, cutting and fastening. Because it's easier to cut, it generates less dust, mess and waste. USG has also increased the recycled content by 40 percent and formulated

it using less energy-intensive raw materials, reducing its overall carbon footprint. Durock is moisture and mold resistant and does not deteriorate, swell, soften, delaminate, decay or disintegrate in the presence of water. It's also non-combustible and can be used in a variety of fire-rated designs. It comes in a 5/16", 1/2" and 5/8" thicknesses and a variety of sizes.

durocknextgen.com or usg.com

CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS' TWO NEW PRODUCTS



Custom Building Products is introducing two new products. EasyMat® Tile & Stone Underlayment is 25 times lighter and 4 times faster to install than backerboard. It offers a bonded anti-fracture system, reduces impact sound transmission, and qualifies for a lifetime

warranty when used with a system of products.

FractureFree™ Crack Prevention Membrane is a new, ready-to-use, elastomeric, crack prevention membrane protects that floors from cracks due to minor surface movement.

Q.E.P.'S NATURAL CORK UNDERLAYMENT

Q.E.P.'s Natural cork Underlayment reduces sound transmission from both the surface of a floor as well as through the floor to living spaces below. Designed for use under ceramic tile, stone, marble, engineered hardwood and laminate floors, it also acts as a crack isolation membrane that resists transfer of stress cracks from sub-floor through to flooring surfaces and reduces thermal transmission, increasing the effectiveness, of floor heating systems. Natural cork underlayment is easy to install in both glue-down and looselay configurations.

MAGBACKER

MagBacker is a high-performance, magnesium oxide panel designed for use as a tile backer, floor underlayment and/or wet area panel. It can be installed in high-moisture areas such as shower stalls and steam rooms. It offers light weight, fast installation, strength/performance, low health risk, fire rating, and minimal impact on the environment.