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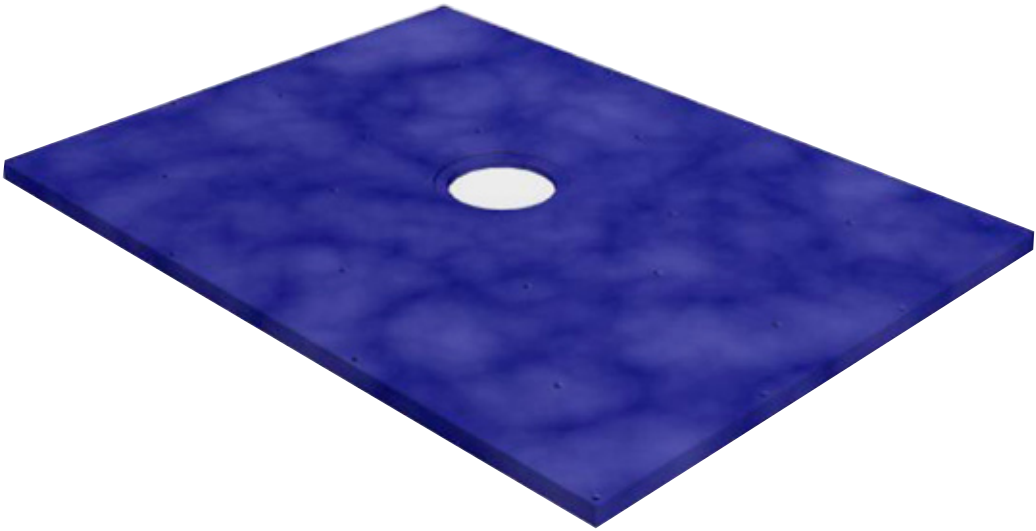
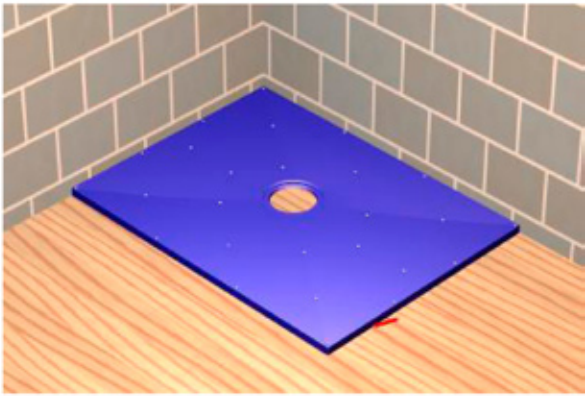
Biava Floor Former Installation Guide



- **Please read installation instructions carefully before proceeding.**
- **If you are unsure about any part of the installation, please contact our Technical Department.**
- **The dec and the drain are designed to be installed level and flush with the finished floor. The dec requires a solid platform on which to be installed.**
- **Prior to commencing with the installation check the existing floor is level. If it is not this will need to be corrected otherwise any water that escapes the graded area will puddle outside of the wet area.**
- **Please note we recommend a flow rate no greater than 22 litres per minute for use with this product. Ensure your shower unit does not exceed this.**
- **As with any wet room there may be splashes of water outside the graded area. Depending on the room lay-out consideration should be given to the use of a shower screen and to the positioning of other bathroom furniture.**

Step 1

Position the floor former into the desired location on the floor boards and mark around the outer edge with a pencil.



Step 2

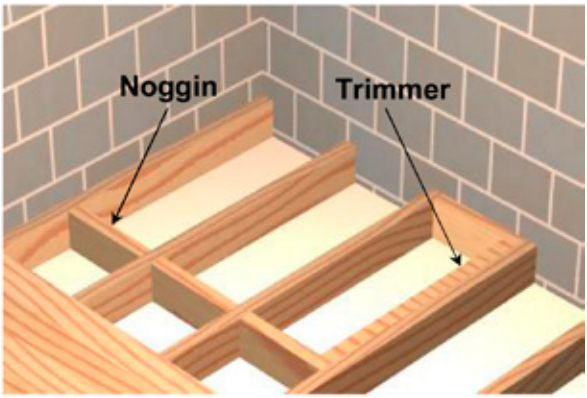
Using a suitable saw cut along the marked lines then remove the floor boards.

Use extreme care whilst cutting the floor as there may be hidden pipes and cables

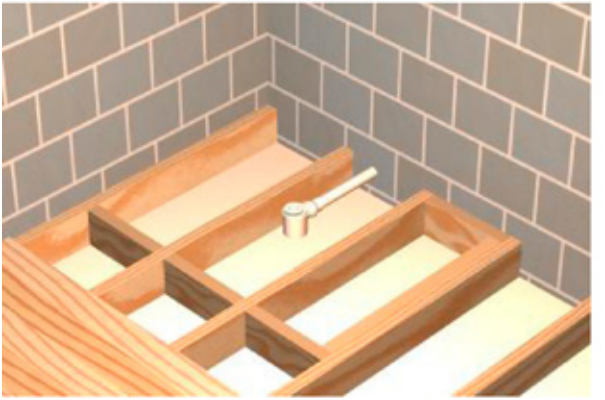
Step 3

Fit noggins and trimmers as required to support the outer edges of the former. The new timbers must be positioned so that the former and the floor boards can be supported by the same timber. (See diagrams on page 6).

Floor Boards removed for illustration purposes



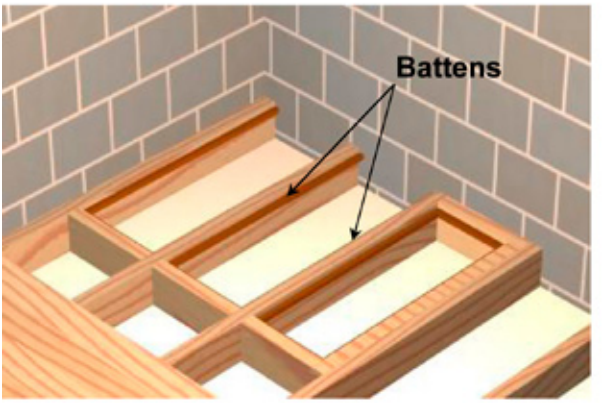
Step 4



Measure the position of the floor drain aperture and position the waste trap accordingly. Install the waste pipe work in accordance with current building regulations and connect to the trap in an approved manner.

Floor Boards removed for illustration purposes

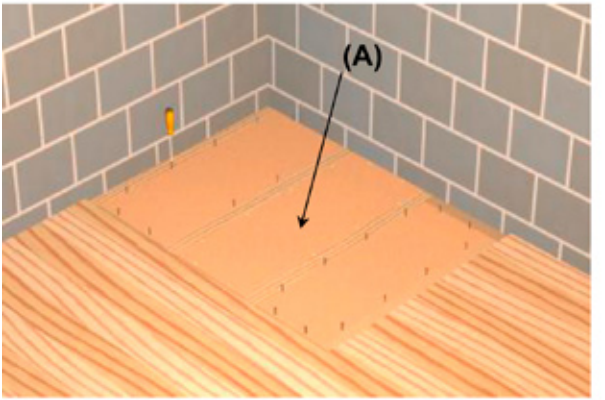
Step 5



Fix battens to the side of the joist and noggins. The battens must be fixed 18mm below the top of the joist to allow for the use of 18mm ply which will form the flat base on which the dec will be installed.

Floor boards and drain removed for illustration purposes

Step 6



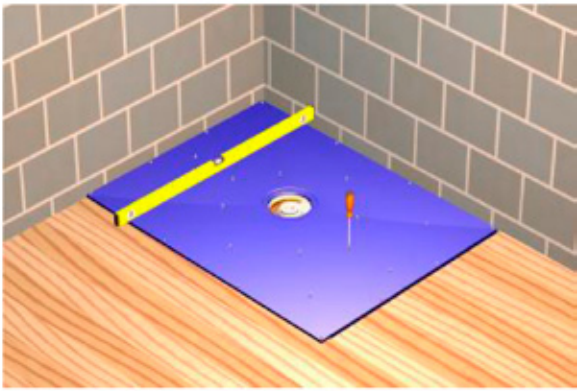
Measure and cut out the 18mm plywood panels required. Fix them all into place **except the most central panel (A) which should be positioned without fixing.** Check panels are level with a spirit level.

Step 7

Temporarily place the former onto the plywood platform. For the floor drain, mark and cut out a hole in the plywood the same diameter as the aperture in the dec. Then fix the central plywood panel into position.

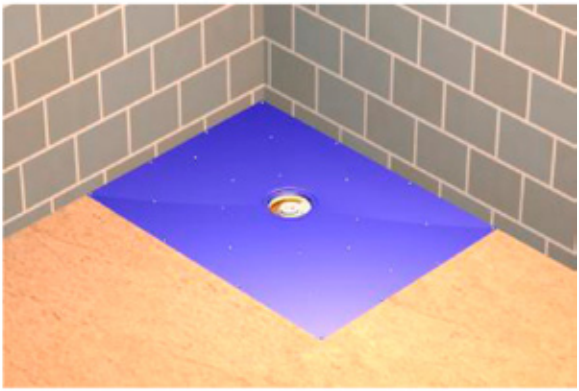
Step 8 - **See also diagrams on page 6**

Place the former onto the plywood platform and fix into place, ensuring the former is perfectly level. Drill and screw it to the plywood underneath using the screws provided (5x60mm); ensuring at least all of the outermost and inner most predefined screw positions are used.

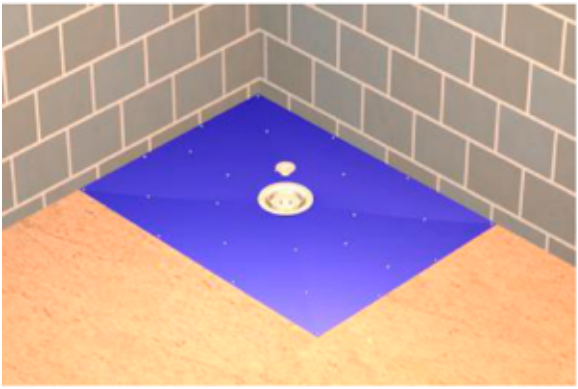


Step 9 - **See also diagrams on page 6**

It is necessary that the rest of the floor is at the same height as the top of the former. Therefore it may be required to raise the rest of the floor. Do this by screwing sheets of appropriate thickness tile backer board, plywood or other suitable underlay to the floor boards.



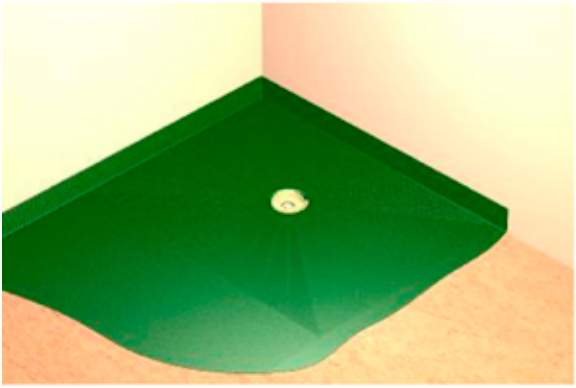
Step 10



Drill and screw into place the floor drain base component using the ¾ x 8 csk self tapping screws provided. Then screw in the 1.5" waste fitting using the dust cap. Leave the dust cap in for now. Ensure all the remaining floor drain components are removed.

See also drain instructions

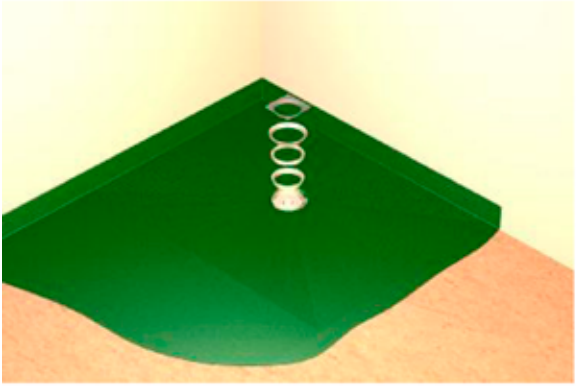
Step 11



The floor should now be completely level. Lay the waterproof membrane and any under floor heating elements at this point.

For more detailed information see manufacturers specific installation instructions.

Step 12



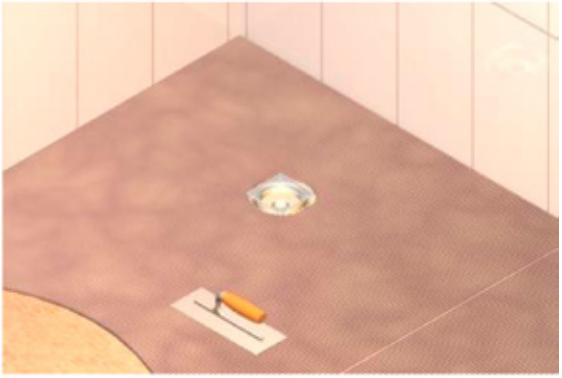
Insert the membrane clamp height adjustment ring, height extension ring (where necessary) and stainless steel frame.

For more detailed information see manufacturers specific installation instructions.
See also Drain Instructions

Step 13

Now the surface is ready for tiling in the appropriate manner.

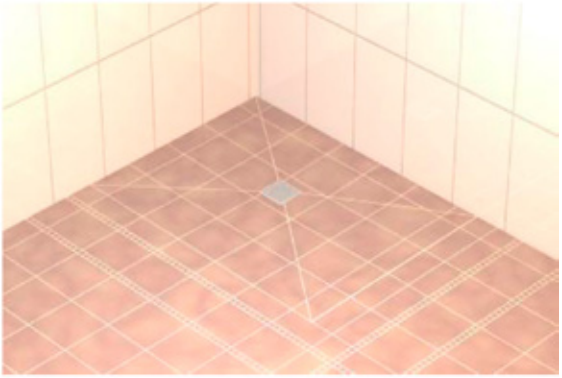
For more detailed information see manufacturers specific installation instructions.



Step 14

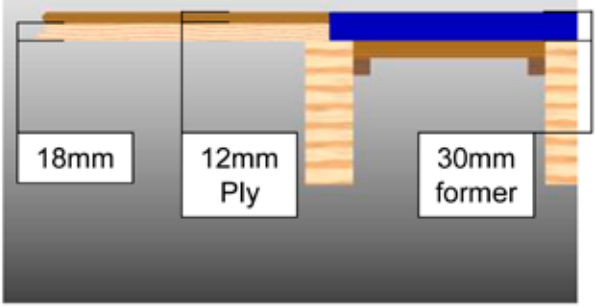
When the floor has been tiled and grouted, remove dust cover from trap and refit the dip tube and finally fit the grating.

The Installation is now complete.



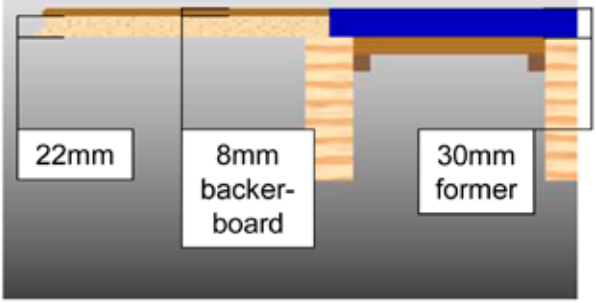
NOTE

Diagram 1



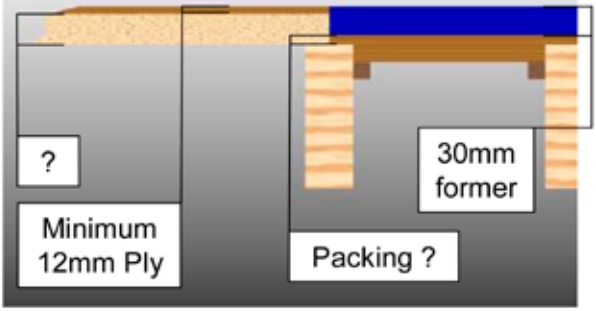
If the floor boards are **18mm** thick, then the thickness of backer board or plywood needed to make the floor flush with the former will be **12mm**.

Diagram 2



If the floor boards are **22mm** thick, then use a suitable **8mm** tile backer-board.

Diagram 3



If the floor boards are neither of the above thicknesses, the former will need to be raised so that the floor is flush with the top of the former. This can be achieved by inserting additional layers under the former.

Code of practice suggests that a minimum of 12mm ply must be used when covering the floor boards.

Floor former - Frequently Asked Questions

What is a floor former?

A floor former is often mistaken for a shower tray but it is not, in fact it is a preformed floor base with a built in gradient.

Its purpose is to offer a simple means of forming the gradient within the construction of either existing or new floors.

On completion the floor former will be completely covered with tiles, with only the Stainless Steel Grate visible.

Does it have to be sunk into the floor?

The floor former has been designed to be recessed to a flush finish with the prepared floor.

In circumstances where the floor cannot be breached the entire floor can be raised to accommodate the floor former.

How thick is it?

The floor former is 30mm thick.

Is it available in different sizes?

There are 4 different sizes - 1200mm x 900mm, 1400mm x 933mm, 1600mm x 1067mm & 1000mm x 1000mm.

Does it need to be fitted level?

It is extremely important that the floor former is fitted level. This is easily checked by placing a spirit level on the perimeter of both sides of the former. Because the gradient is built into the floor former it will only function properly if it is level around its perimeter.

What size is the waste outlet of the gully?

The Gully has a 50mm solvent weld socket (BS5255), supplied with a 50mm - 40mm reducer.

How is the floor drain fitted?

The gully flange fits into the rebate making the top of the gully flange a flush fit with the surface of the floor former.

Is the gully cleanable from the top?

Yes, the gully is accessible from above meaning it can be cleaned without removing the entire drain.

This is achieved by the removal of the grating or cover, followed by the dip tube, allowing easy access to the sump of the trap for cleaning.

What about different thicknesses of tiles?

To compensate for different thicknesses of tile the gully has a height adjustable ring which can take a tile thickness of between 6mm-16mm. Also included is a 10mm extension ring to increase the height up to 26mm if required.

What if there is a joist in the way of the gully?

The former has been designed with the waste off centre so that if a joist is in the way of the gully the floor former can be rotated either 90 or 180 degrees, which in most cases will reposition the gully away from the joist.

A joist must never be notched or cut to allow installation of the trap.

Can it be fitted in timber floors?

Yes, the floor former is designed to be installed into timber floors. Please refer to the full installation instructions.

Can it be fitted in screeded or concrete floors?

Yes, the floor former can be installed into screeded or concrete floors. Please refer to the separate installation instructions available on request. Special care should be taken in this instance to avoid any obstructions such as cables or pipe work installed under the floor.

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