Composite Core for Dummies!



Want to understand Composite Core?

Think about carpet!

the world of carpet, there are many types of fibers, constructions, pile heights and weights.

From commercial-grade 20 oz. level-loop tiles to luxurious 90 oz. cut-pile broadloom, each has its own application and key features for the end-user. A thick, plush carpet feels heavenly under foot, but in a corporate or retail setting, it's not so good! Too thick and soft to roll a chair around on. Conversely, you wouldn't install a commercially rated carpet into your bedroom or family room where you want the most comfort. Tight, compact level loop carpet better resists impact and heavy weight, while thick cut pile gives you extreme comfort under foot. It's not that one is better than the other, it's that they have different intended applications... each good in its own right. The carpet you choose depends on your intended use and personal preference.

You can apply that same mindset comparing the differences between our COREtec® (RCB) Rigid Core Board and COREtec® (WPC) Waterproof Composite Core flooring. Both are 100% waterproof and dimensionally stable. Both feature a wide range of beautiful decors and textures. Both install easily and straight out of the box with no need for acclimation. However, each is constructed to suit specific needs based on the requirements of the intended installation.

Our COREtec® PRO PLUS is a high-density rigid core that was developed to withstand tremendous impact and resist indentation due to its high mineral content and dense core. While COREtec PRO PLUS will perform great in your mudroom or basement, it is tailor-made for commercial settings such as boutiques, shops and offices – anywhere there may be a high traffic load.

Although COREtec® PLUS is frequently used in moderate commercial environments, it is better suited for residential use. During the manufacturing of WPC, we add foaming agents that create tiny air pockets throughout to improve sound quality, insulation and cushion. This WPC core is then combined with a thick luxury vinyl top layer and attached cork underlayment, to create a truly comfortable floor.

Both RCB and WPC categories offer features and benefits that lend themselves to a wide variety of installation options and end-use. It merely comes down to customer preference, fashion/design, installation application and budget. The choice is yours...



COREtec® is a patented product of USFloors, a division of Shaw Industries

20 mil Wear Layer

- · protects against excessive wear
- · superior cleanability and stain resistance
- · rated for commercial traffic

Vinyl + Print Film

- · good quality image
- · enhances durability

Rigid Core

- · features special top/bottom layers for stability
- · high calcium carbonate content for extra rigidity

COREtec®

12 mil Wear Layer ...

Attached Cork Underlayment

· provides added sound dampening

· no need for separate underlayment

· naturally resists mold and mildew

· absorbs subfloor imperfections

- · protects against excessive wear
- · superior cleanability & stain resistance
- · rated for moderate commercial traffic

Luxury Vinyl Top Layer

- · durable, resilient
- · deep embossed texture

COREtec® WPC Core

- · extruded waterproof composite core offers better sound insulation and added comfort
- · more stable: will not expand or contract under normal conditions



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COREtec® (WPC) & Rigid Core Board (RCB) Comparison

PRODUCT	WEAR Layer	STABLE	DEEP EMBOSS, EIR	PAINTED BEVELS	QUIET	COMFORT	WARM	RESIDENTIAL	HEAVY COMMERCIAL
COREtec® PRO PLUS	20 mil	YES	NO	NO	BETTER	BETTER	GOOD	BETTER	BEST
COREtec® ONE	12 mil	YES	YES	NO	BETTER	BETTER	BETTER	BETTER	GOOD
COREtec® PLUS	20 mil	YES	YES	YES	BEST	BEST	BEST	BEST	BETTER