KNAUF

KNAUF GIFAFLOOR

Load-bearing partial-access floor systems with high dimensional stability

Build on us.

Knauf GIFAfloor

Knauf GIFAfloor creates strong versatile flooring systems

Knauf GIFAfloor systems use engineered flooring panels made with recycled material. Fibres from wholly recycled paper are blended with a mix of natural and flue gas desulphurised gypsum to create non-combustible gypsum fibreboard panels with an A1 fire rating.

Knauf GIFAfloor panels are manufactured in a lamination process and pressed to the optimum density, resulting in an inherently strong and consistent product. Engineered tongue and grooved edge profiles ensure a strong bond when laid, creating robust monolithic floors with excellent load-bearing capability, the ideal substrate for natural stone or porcelain finishes. The addition of frames and panels can be incorporated to give access into the void below the floor, and Knauf GIFAfloor's GIFAfloor's thermal conductivity rating of 0.35 (W/mK) makes the panels ideal in underfloor heating systems.

Key Facts

What is Gifa?

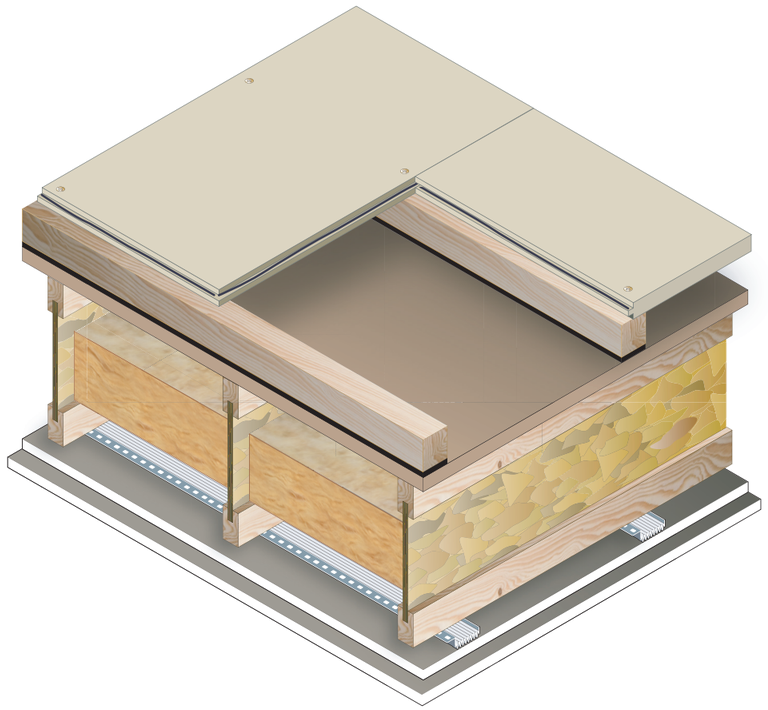
- Load-bearing gypsum fibre panels
- Ideal substrate for stone finishes
- Dimensionally stable & robust
- Engineered with tongue and groove edge profile
- Suitable for partial access to void
- Enhances underfloor heating system performance
- A1 fire rating

Strong versatile hollow floors for demanding spaces

Knauf GIFAfloor panel systems are designed to span over pedestals at maximum 600mm centres, creating extremely strong and dimensionally stable floors over voids up to 1200mm high. The loading performance can be further enhanced by adding pedestals at reduced centres or an extra panel layer. Knauf GIFAfloor systems create relatively lightweight robust monolithic floors, suitable for car showrooms, airport lobbies, and lightweight floors in high rise buildings. The systems offer flexibility and functionality both above and below the floor. Below, the void is ideal for services and air plenums, and above, partitions can be secured directly onto the Knauf GIFAfloor surface. The panels are available in sizes 1200 x 600mm, with selected thicknesses in 600 x 600mm.

Why choose GIFAfloor?

Knauf GIFAfloor panels are strong and versatile and can also be used to span joisted and battened floors. The high mass of Knauf GIFAfloor panels, when installed over acoustic battens or resilient layers, can contribute towards acoustic improvements in replacement of chipboard with the feel of a solid floor underfoot. The excellent thermal conductivity of 0.35 (W/mK) for Knauf GIFAfloor panels also make them ideally suited to underfloor heating systems running between joists or over battens, potentially enabling reduced running costs. The stability and strength of Knauf GIFAfloor is not just excellent across traditional solid timber and engineered timber joists but also steel sections and trapezoidal metal sheets. Knauf GIFAfloor panels can be cut and worked to create steps and slopes, suiting any floor design.

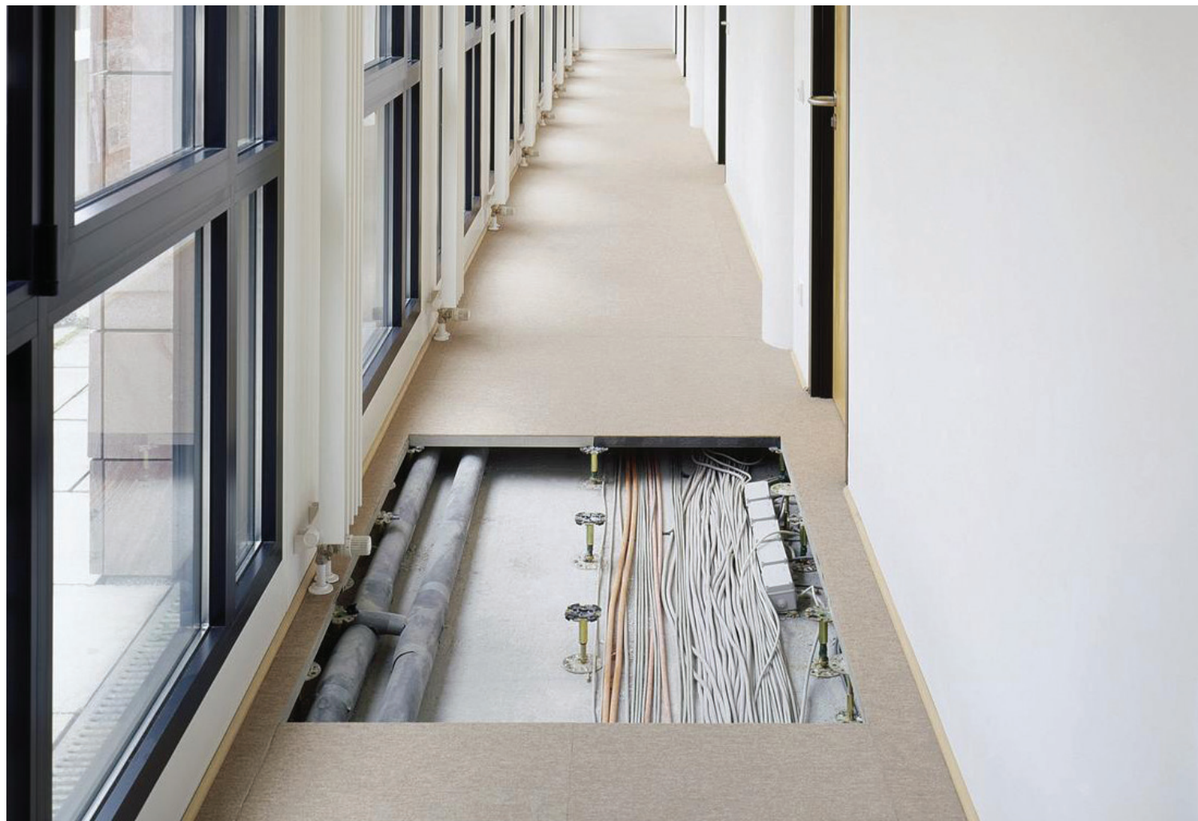


Access Frame Systems

Service void access that doesn't compromise your vision

Knauf GIFAfloor systems can be designed to incorporate access frames and access panels, providing an easy route to the service void below the floor.

Knauf GIFAfloor access systems are available in 600mm x 600mm configurations as standard to suit most access requirements. Knauf GIFAfloor frames come with adjustable transition bars which provide a non-intrusive and robust edge to any floor finish, so that functionality need never be at the expense of aesthetics.



The Perfect Substrate for the Perfect Finish

Floor finishes can be bonded directly to Knauf GIFAfloor panels, eliminating the need for expensive de-bonding layers.

The structural gypsum fibre panels need only to be primed prior to application of the finished coating with appropriate flexible adhesives. Total design freedom is facilitated as Knauf GIFAfloor is the ideal substrate for carpets, laminates, timbers, stone, ceramic, porcelain and, when installed over an application of latex, vinyl floor coverings. However, Knauf GIFAfloor's strength and high dimensional stability mean that it is especially suited for stone and porcelain floor finishes, giving peace of mind in high-end project applications.

Key Facts

GIFAfloor creates a perfect substrate

- Suitable for almost any finish
- Ideal for stone, ceramic, and porcelain floors
- Minimal preparation required
- No de-bonding layer needed
- Extremely dimensionally stable

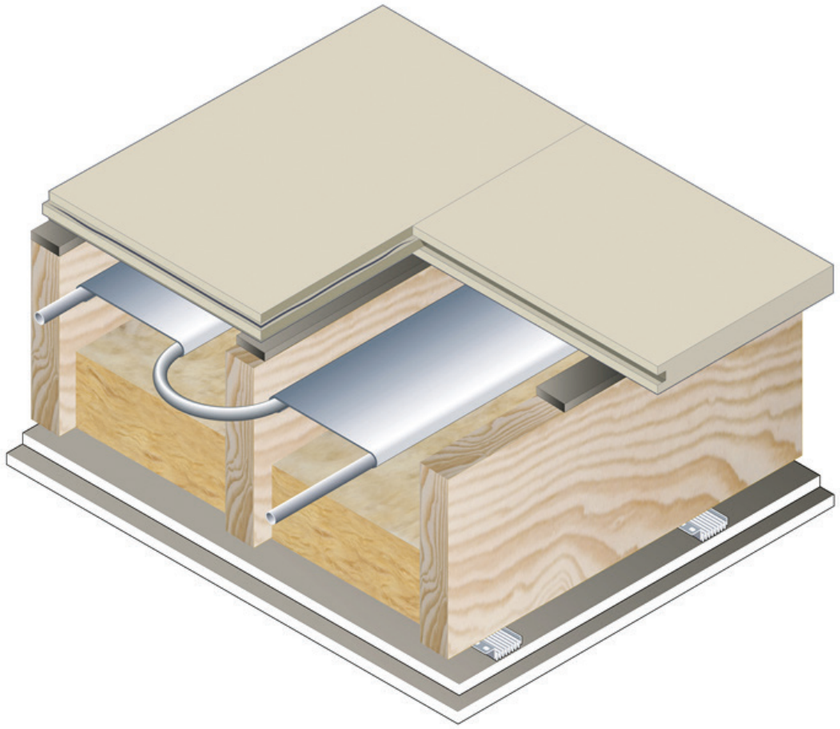
Underfloor Heating

Knauf GIFAfloor unclocks the potential of underfloor heating

Knauf GIFAfloor has low thermal resistance and a high thermal conductivity of of 0.35 (W/mK), making it ideal for underfloor heating systems. And Knauf GIFAfloor's versatility means it can incorporate underfloor heating systems in many different ways. Insulated trays can carry the heated water pipework beneath the Knauf GIFAfloor panels or pipes can be clipped into metal conductor plates running over joists and battens or along rows of pedestals. Knauf GIFAfloor can also be routed to take heating and cooling pipework directly, giving the flexibility of a wet screed solution but with a completely dry construction.

With no screed to dry, Knauf GIFAfloor underfloor heating solutions make installation and commissioning of the heating system faster and allow floor finishes to be laid within hours, not weeks.

Once installed, Knauf GIFAfloor enhances the efficiency of underfloor heating systems, through its thermal Thermal Conductivity rating of 0.35 (W/mK), giving reduced energy consumption and improving the system response time. So underfloor heating solutions with Knauf GIFAfloor are an alternative choice for building owners, developers and occupiers alike.



GIFAfloor Environmental Credentials

	Sustainability in Manufacturing
✔	Knauf GIFAfloor panels are made with 10% recycled content (from gypsum and paper)
	Sustainability in Construction
✔	Reduces cement content of building
✔	Reduces load on tower blocks, reducing foundation and steelwork requirements
	Sustainability in Construction
✔	Optimises benefit of air and ground source heat pump due to lower water flow temperature needed compared to traditional heating systems
✔	Contributes towards sound insulation
	Sustainability at End of Life
✔	Easy to dismantle and recycle
✔	Fully recyclable at the end of its life

39 times less CO_2 emissions

Global Warming Potential ($KG\text{-}CO_2/M^2$). Concrete screed in 50mm height vs calcium sulfate screed 25mm height. Screed with 2 KN working load.

No.1 Embankment Place

One of London's most iconic buildings is being refurbished using Knauf GIFAfloor in a programme that will bring the 1980s building right up to the 21st centry standards with a BREEAM Outstanding rating.

No 1 Embankment Place, the nine-storey post-modern office designed by Sir Terry Farrel that spans the railway tracks of Charing Cross station, is the headquarters for PwC, which is updating and retrofitting its estate in line with sustainability targets having achieved a BREEAM outstanding rating for its More London office near Tower Bridge - the first building in London to do so.

Knauf GIFAfloor has been installed to replace part of the existing raised access flooring by TFA Interior Projects as part of a complete overhaul of the building's internal infrastructure, including refurbishment and fit-out of the offices, decommissioning of existing plant and installation of new central plant and engineering infrastructure, along with a new entrance area.

Non-combustible with an A1 fire rating, Knauf GIFAfloor's high thermal conductivity makes the panels ideal in underfloor heating systems and optimises benefit of air and ground source heat pumps due to lower water flow temperature needed compared to traditional heating systems.

As a replacement for wet screed, the product also speeds up the construction programme said Tim Hudson, director for TFA Interior Projects. "The board is solid and easy to handle, so it requires a minimum of effort to fit upon the pedestals that hold it in place and, because it's engineered, interlocks into place to form a firm, safe surface that other trades can use as a platform," he said.

"There is no waiting around for the screed to cure and then, when everyone else has finished, we can apply the final finish." The Knauf GIFAfloor system is a partial-access raised floor system providing the ability to run services under the floor with ease. It is manufactured from natural gypsum based calcium sulphate and is ideal for raised floor areas requiring continuous finishes such as sheet vinyl or hard finishes such as stone and large format porcelain.

The 1200 x 600mm panels are installed on a conventional 600mm grid access floor under structure. Due to the tongue and groove design the Knauf GIFAfloor system is flat and smooth once installed, with the further advantage that joints will not track through the applied finish.

As a result finishes can be applied directly without having to screw fix panel to the pedestals and then fixing plywood – a necessity with traditional raised access flooring installations. Access to the floor void can be incorporated with conventional access floor panels or access frames.

Documentation

To access the suite of documents for our GIFA flooring range **click here**.

Also Available from Knauf

Knauf Brio and Knauf Hugo range of low density dry screed floor panels that are quick and easy to apply, with acoustic options available for enhanced acoustics and UFH thermal efficiency.

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Creation Date: 01/04/2022
Revision Reference: 002
Revision Date: 05/06/2025