

Carpet Tile Installation Guidelines

1. Environment Preparation

- a. The facility should be securely enclosed with the HVAC system running consistently. Carpet tiles should be acclimatized to the room's conditions for a minimum of 48 hours before beginning installation. Ensure the room's relative humidity is maintained between 10% - 65% and that both floor and room temperatures range between 65 – 95 degrees Fahrenheit. These conditions should persist for 48 hours before and after the installation process.

2. Surface Readiness

- a. Prior to initiating the installation, all surfaces should be cleared of dust, dirt, and any non-compatible adhesive residues. The foundation should be level, with any gaps or cracks wider than 1/8 inch being filled using a Portland cement-based patch strengthened with polymers or pre-treated with our recommended sealer. Refer to the industry standard ACI Concrete 302.104R Report for comprehensive guidance.

3. Handling Previous Adhesives

- a. Old adhesive residues should be scraped down to a minimal, flat layer or covered with a cement-based patch strengthened with polymers. Any remaining residues must also be sealed using our recommended premium sealer. Note: Ignoring old adhesives may lead to issues like shifting, buckling, or edge curling, which will not be covered under our warranty.

4. Moisture and pH Testing of Concrete

- a. Before starting, it is crucial to assess substrate surfaces for moisture. The property owner or their representative is accountable for conducting these tests. ASTM F 2170-2 relative humidity probe testing is mandatory. Ideal results should be up to 90% RH. Additionally, conduct alkalinity tests as per ASTM F 710, with a maximum acceptable pH of 9.0. Any results between 90% - 97% RH or pH readings between 9.0 – 11.00 will require the use of our premium sealer. On-grade or below-grade floors need a solid moisture vapor barrier. Keep records of all test results for future reference. The Manufacture is not liable for product failures due to unforeseen changes in subfloor conditions.

5. Subfloor Requirements

- a. New Concrete: Ensure the concrete has fully cured and is moisture-free. It usually requires around 90 days of curing.
- b. Old Concrete: Check older concrete structures for moisture content. Porous or dusty floors should be sealed with our premium sealer.
- c. Wood: Wooden surfaces should be even and of floor grade quality. Uneven floors might necessitate an approved underlayment. Old finishes should be compatible with our adhesives or removed.
- d. Terrazzo / Marble: Fill grout lines using a Portland cement-based patch strengthened with polymers. Sand glossy surfaces to improve adhesive bonding. Remove any waxes or similar finishes.
- e. Other Hard Surfaces: Ensure tiles are securely attached or replace them. Remove any waxes or finishes before applying adhesive.
- f. Gypcrete: Gypcrete should be fully cured and free from excessive moisture. It usually requires a 90-day curing period. Pre-treat Gypcrete with primer before adhesive application.

6. Old Carpet Handling
 - a. Scrape or remove old carpet adhesives until only a minimal residue remains. When dealing with various adhesive types, our premium sealer is required.
7. Adhesive Application
 - a. Use a full-spread adhesive system for the installation. Apply our recommended modular pressure-sensitive adhesive uniformly. Ensure the adhesive is dry to the touch before proceeding. Insufficient adhesive application may result in tile movement, which is not covered by our warranty.
8. Tile Placement Guidance
 - a. Embossed arrows on the tile backing indicate the pile direction. Regularly check alignment to ensure precision throughout the installation process. Modular carpets may present unique visual characteristics, such as noticeable seams or pattern deviations. These characteristics are typical and not considered manufacturing defects.
9. Stair Installation
 - a. For stairs, utilize single or double undercut stair nosing and cut tiles to fit both step and riser.
10. Post-Installation Measures
 - a. After completing the installation, use a 75-100 lb. roller over the entire area. Some loop pile construction tiles may exhibit yarn blossoming at the edges, which can be remedied by trimming the yarn edges.
11. Tile Replacement
 - a. In case of tile damage or excessive soiling, tiles can be replaced using spare tiles or tiles from a less prominent area of the installation.

These guidelines represent The Manufacturer's best recommendations for installing our carpet tiles.