

SITE CONDITIONS AND FLOOR PREPARATION

INSTALLATION BULLETIN

SITE CONDITIONS

TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY

The temperature should be between 65°F and 95°F with the relative humidity between 10% and 65%. If installing over concrete, the slab should be at least 65°F. *Note:* Open time of adhesives may vary with changes in temperature and humidity conditions.

RADIANT HEATED FLOOR

Floorcovering may be installed over radiant heated floors provided the maximum surface temperature of the floor does not exceed 85°F under any conditions of use.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Fresh air ventilation should be maintained during the installation by opening doors and windows or by utilizing exhaust fans and by operating the ventilation system at full capacity. Ventilation should be continued for 48 to 72 hours after installation at normal room temperature. Job site conditions must meet flooring manufacturer's guidelines.

FLOOR PREPARATION

Each subfloor should be inspected to determine any special care required to make it a suitable foundation for carpet.

CONCRETE

New Concrete: Should be cured, clean, level and dry. It should be free of curing or parting agents, any chemicals or other contaminants that interfere with the bonding of the adhesive.

Old Concrete: Must be clean, level, dry and free of paint, dirt, adhesives, solvent residue, oils and other contaminants. The flooring contractor should obtain from the owner or general contractor, a written report on the moisture and alkalinity conditions of the slab to determine its suitability as a substrate for the material to be installed.

Moisture: The moisture emission rate of a concrete floor is expressed in lbs/1000 sq. ft./24 hours according to ASTM F1869-98 test method. The test for emission rate requires a minimum of 60 hours to a maximum of 72 hours to conduct; therefore, proper installation planning is a must. An emission rate of 3 lbs. or less is acceptable.

The emission rate can be determined by utilizing a calcium chloride moisture test kit. This is a very precise test and must be conducted carefully with strict attention to the test kit manufacturer's instruction.

NOTE: There are other test methods such as concrete moisture meters, and plastic sheeting (approximately 2 ft. square and sealed around the edges with duct tape). Twenty-four hours are required for the plastic sheeting test. However, these tests only indicate the presence of moisture and are not a precise measurement of vapor emissions. A calcium chloride test must be done if these tests show signs of moisture.

Alkalinity: The pH on the surface of the concrete can be determined by slightly wetting the floor with distilled water and applying pH test paper. Digital meters are now available from tool manufacturers such as Taylor Tool (no affiliation to W.F. Taylor Co., Inc.). A pH range of above 5 and below 9 is acceptable. A reading of 9 and above requires corrective measures. Taylor Envirotec #2000 Alka Prime Pre-coat is excellent for neutralizing the surface alkalinity while preparing porous surfaces and promoting adhesion of the adhesive.

CAUTION: Presence of Alkali (pH 9 and above) and moisture emission rate of above 3 lbs./1000 sq. ft./24 hours are good indicators of excessive vapor emissions. Consult with the building owner or contractor before proceeding with any installation.

METAL

Metal floors must be level and cleaned of grease, oil, dirt, paint, and rust.

WOOD

Wood Subfloors: Require a minimum of 18 inches of air space underneath with cross ventilation. Plywood, hardwood and particleboard used as subflooring must be underlayment grade installed to the manufacturer's specifications. Joints shall be filled and rough areas sanded smooth. Old wood should be checked for soundness, and loose boards should be re-nailed. Rough and uneven areas shall be sanded smooth and primed.

Oil Contaminated Floors: Cover with a suitable underlayment such as hardboard, plywood, or particleboard.

Painted Wood Surface: The suitability of a painted wood surface can be checked by gluing down a 2 ft. sq. of carpet. If the adhesive bond is strong and the paint does not pull up with the carpet after 72 hours, the carpet can be installed. Glossy surfaces should be roughened prior to installation.

Sanded and New Floors: Coat with Taylor #2000 Alka Prime Pre-coat to provide a good surface for glue-down.

RESILIENT FLOOR COVERING

Carpet should not be glued down directly over existing sheet vinyl, homogeneous or laminated solid vinyl tile, and some rubber flooring products.

Direct glue-down over vinyl asbestos tile (VAT) and/or vinyl composition tile (VCT) is acceptable as long as it is well adhered to the substrate, and should be free of all waxes, sealers, floor finishes and other foreign materials. Follow RFCI guidelines for removal of resilient flooring.

NOTE: The installation of a second layer of finish flooring material, including some carpets, can trap moisture, resulting in failure, even over subfloors that had never previously shown any signs of moisture. Moisture test should be performed prior to installation over existing resilient tile.

EXCEPTION: Solid vinyl or PVC backed floorcovering to be installed over cutback or pre-existing pressure sensitive adhesives must have a barrier coating such as Taylor Touchdown #500 Nu-Flor Barrier Coat (see Barrier Coating section below) between the pre-existing adhesive and the newly applied pressure sensitive or vinyl adhesives.

ATTENTION: With the issue of removal and abatement of asbestos containing tile and cutback adhesives, it has become an issue of whether or not flooring adhesives can be applied over old/fully cured cutback adhesives. In the past, adhesives containing solvents have reactivated these cutback adhesives contributing to adhesive failure and bleed through. Follow RFCI guidelines for removal.

W.F. Taylor Envirotec Healthguard Adhesives and Meta-Tec Adhesives: Taylor's innovation of flooring adhesives containing no solvents was introduced in 1990. These adhesives will not reactivate fully cured cutback adhesives. The Envirotec Healthguard and Meta-Tec series of flooring adhesives are recommended for use over cutback. Applying adhesive over old cutback will retard the drying of new adhesive; allow more open time before installing floor covering.

BARRIER COATING

Taylor #500 Nu-Flor Barrier Coat is a 2-part water base curing system for sealing of old existing adhesive residue from cutback adhesives, multi-purpose adhesives, and pressure-sensitive adhesives prior to installation of new floorcoverings with new adhesives. Nu-Flor Barrier Coat is specifically recommended for use where new vinyl back floorcoverings are being installed to prevent plasticizers in the vinyl back materials from reactivating or further plasticizing the pre-existing adhesives indicated above. It may also be used as an asbestos encapsulator over vinyl asbestos tile (VAT).

Floor Preparation

1. Cutback Adhesives should be reduced to a thin, well-bonded residue using wet scraping method. Please refer to following statement by the Carpet and Rug Institute:

“Warning: Some sheet vinyls, resilient tile, and cutback asphaltic adhesives may contain asbestos. Unless positive beyond any doubt that the floor is a non-asbestos product, assume it contains asbestos, and treat it in a manner prescribed for a floor containing asbestos. Recommended work practices prohibit sanding, dry scraping, bead blasting, or mechanically pulverizing resilient flooring, backing or lining felt. Do not use power devices, which create asbestos dust in removing cutback asphaltic adhesives. Various federal, state, and local government agencies have regulations covering the removal of asbestos containing materials.”

W.F. Taylor Co., Inc. makes no claims as to acceptability of the above procedure as a mitigation method in lieu of asbestos removal, and accepts no responsibility if loose asbestos containing materials are affected upon removal

2. Multi-purpose type adhesives and pressure sensitive adhesives should be reduced to a thin well-bonded residue.
- 3 All surfaces should be swept thoroughly clean or vacuumed before application of Taylor #500 Nu-Flor Barrier Coat.

Application

Add all of Part B to Part A in mixing pail and mix thoroughly for approximately three (3) minutes. Apply with a brush or medium nap paint roller – an epoxy roller cover is recommended.

A tack free state will be achieved in 3 or 4 hours, but Nu-Flor Barrier Coat must be allowed to cure overnight (approximately 12 hours) prior to an application of new adhesive.