

CARPET MODULES

INSTALLATION BULLETIN

These are general recommendations. Specific instructions should be obtained from the carpet manufacturer.

SITE CONDITIONS AND SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

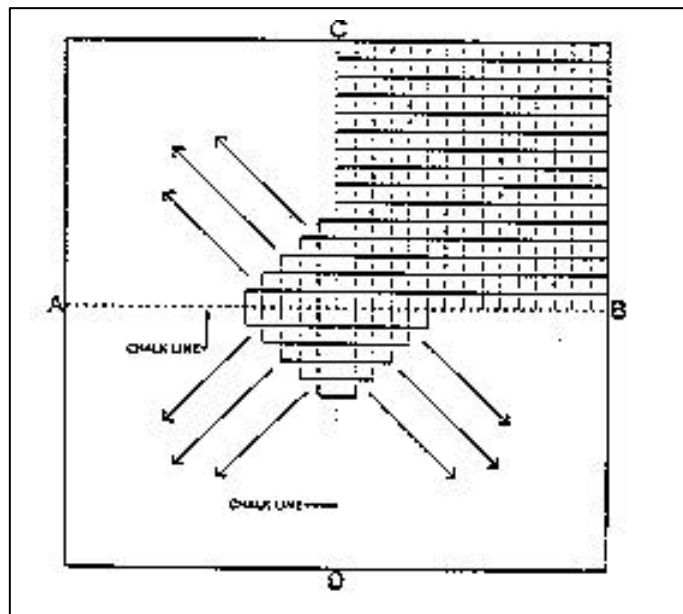
See Installation Bulletin WFT-1001 (rev. 02/02/04) Site Conditions and Floor Preparation for full instructions.

Check floor for moisture and alkalinity. The floor must be free of dust, oils, alkali, paint, grease, or other foreign matter. Check entire floor and secure loose boards, etc. Cracks 1/8" or more, holes, and unevenness must be filled with a compatible polymer modified cementitious floor patching compound. Surfaces should be vacuumed and thoroughly cleaned before application of the adhesive.

Carpet and adhesive must be stored at a minimum temperature of 65°F for at least 72 hours prior to installation. Carpet should be spread in the room 24 hours prior to actual installation, with room temperature between 65°F and 95°F. Building must be heated at a minimum of 65°F for at least 72 hours prior to installation with the relative humidity not more than 65%. The temperature should be consistently maintained at that level during the installation and for at least 72 hours after completion of installation.

LAYOUT

Determine the center of the room, using standard tile laying methods (in some cases the "center" or starting point is not the actual center of the room, to accommodate doorways or partitions, or to allow the perimeter modules to be at least half-size or larger)



TROWEL AND ADHESIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Trowel size will be determined by type of flooring, porosity of substrate and smoothness of backing. See adhesive label for proper trowel recommendation. At a minimum, use a 1/16"x1/32"x1/32" u-notch trowel. Most installations will require a 1/16"x1/16"x1/16" sq. notch trowel. Taylor Envirotec #2027 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive, or Meta-Tec #2082 Tuff-Lok X-Link Carpet Tile Adhesive is recommended.

INSTALLATION

Following the Quadrant Method for installation, a chalk line is dropped across the room in both directions, through the center, to divide the room into four sections. On both sides of each chalk line apply a strip of adhesive at least nine inches wide. When the adhesive becomes dry or tacky, start installing each section in a pyramid fashion, starting from the center and working outward.

Additional modules within the quadrant should be installed using the "stair step" technique, the tiled area grows steadily away from the center of the room – not growing along either of the snapped chalk lines, but rather along an imaginary diagonal line between them. The installation continues to grow from the center to the corner of the room, finishing the quadrant, and then moves on to the next quadrant.

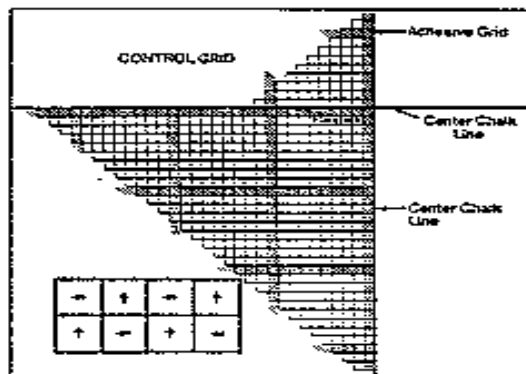
When placing tiles, brush the face pile back from the tile edge and "tip" the tile into place, in order to keep from trapping any pile yarns in the joint.

Joins

It is important that the tiles in the completed installation be snugly joined together. Continually check that tiles are being placed together with correct firmness - neither so loose as to allow gaps, nor so tight as to cause the tile to buckle. To check for correct snugness, measure the distance across ten tiles. The gap between tiles should be less than one-quarter inch per each ten tiles, so the entire distance from start to finish of ten installed modules should be between 180" and 180 1/4".

Control Grid

Throughout the installation, adhesive should be installed at regular intervals to keep the tiles from shifting when in place. A control grid consists of a row of modules anchored in place with the same adhesive as previously used to align the center line tiles.



Note: Manufacturers may differ in their desired size of grid so be sure to check with the carpet manufacturer for their specific instructions. Using a control grid is by no means a hard and fast rule. In areas that get extra heavy or rolling traffic, pressure sensitive adhesive should be spread over the entire floor for a more secure installation.

Professional judgment should be used for each installation. A complete layout showing furniture placement, traffic lanes, etc. should be reviewed prior to installation to determine which area will require overall use of adhesive versus grids of adhesives. *Note:* A more secure installation would be a full spread of the floor with the pressure sensitive in all areas.

All tile butting against perimeter walls of the room should be adhered in place. Molding strips should not be installed until carpet modules are in place or, in existing structures, should be removed and reinstalled after placement of the carpet modules.

To fit the last row of modules to the perimeter walls, follow these simple steps:

1. Adhere the last full module closest to the wall.
2. Place a new module face down, aligning it as closely as possible with the last whole module near the wall.
3. Place another module face up, pressing it snugly against the perimeter wall and overlapping the face-down tile which you placed on the whole module.

Then, draw or scribe a line across the back of the face-down module, using the edge of the top most module which is held flush to the perimeter wall as a straight edge. Remove both the measuring module and the face-down module, and cut the face-down module along the line which you scribed on the back. This module will fit perfectly in the remaining space between the last whole module and the perimeter wall.

PROTECTION OF THE INSTALLATION

Do not walk or move furniture on the carpet tiles until all grid and perimeter anchors are complete. After this, furniture can be brought into the room, laying sheets of plywood or hardboard over the surface to keep any tiles from being dislodged by dollies or carts bearing heavy furniture.