

RUBBER TILE

INSTALLATION BULLETIN

These are general recommendations. Specific instructions should be obtained from the rubber tile manufacturer. The room temperature required for installation is 65°F to 75°F and the rubber tile should be acclimated at the site for approximately 4 to 8 days until it is the same temperature as the room.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

NOTE: Installation of rubber tile over resilient floorcoverings is not recommended.

Concrete: The concrete slab movement should be stabilized by a constantly maintained room temperature above 65°F.

Check floor for moisture and alkalinity. The calcium chloride test for moisture is the most reliable. The result should not exceed 3 lbs. of moisture emissions in a 24-hour period per 1,000 square feet.

A test for alkalinity should also be performed and the result should be between 5 and 9 pH.

Concrete subfloors should be clean, dry and free from grease, oil, sealers, drying agents, curing and parting compounds. Any residual compound on the surface must be removed by sanding, grinding or metal shot blasting. All adhesive residue must be removed and it is especially important with asphalt (cutback) adhesive.

Subfloors should be smooth and level to within 1/8" in 10'. Any filling or patching of the surface must be done with a Portland cement based underlayment.

Monolithic Type Floors: Surfaces such as ceramic, stone, marble and terrazzo must have all finishes removed and be smooth to ensure a good bond. This can be done with grinding or shot blasting.

Suspended Wood Floors: Should be structurally sound and be covered with an American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood. In commercial installations the plywood should be a minimum thickness of 1/2". The plywood surface should be free of grease, paint, oil, varnish and old adhesive.

INSTALLATION

NOTE: Some recycled rubber flooring contains release agents. Therefore, the backing must be sanded to remove any contaminants that may interfere with a good bond.

The layout procedure is similar to resilient tile, except rubber tile is larger in size - usually 18", 20", quarter and full meter square. When installing large areas, use a chalk line to mark any long straight lines necessary. **NOTE:** All sequenced numbers for cartons must be followed to prevent shading.

Tile should be laid out dry, making sure proper direction of each tile is maintained. This will keep raised discs or squares aligned. The tile should also be installed in a checkerboard fashion.

When dry laying, do not lay out too much tile before adhering and keep movement on the tile to a minimum.

CAUTION: Do not handle the tile by the corners, as the tile will take a set at the corners and will curl out of the adhesive.

After an area has been dry fitted, remove several rows of tiles to apply adhesive.

WARNING: Be sure to place removed dry fit tiles face-to-face or back-to-back to prevent sanded tile backing from being contaminated with the self-polishing wax residual on the face of the tile.

ADHESIVES

Rubber Flooring Adhesive: These adhesives are for installation over porous and non-porous subfloors. Use Taylor #2092 Meta Poxy Rubber & Vinyl Flooring Adhesive – a one part, fast drying, high strength, adhesive for use on, above or below grade – applied with a 1/16”x1/16”x1/16” square-notch trowel. Place tiles into wet adhesive, making sure not to compress the tile joints too tightly to prevent peaking. Open time is 10 minutes. Keep corners aligned and avoid walking on the tiles except to roll. Within 30 minutes after installation, roll and cross roll entire floor with a 150 lb. roller. Use hand roller in areas that cannot be reached with the large roller. Check 1 to 2 hours after installing flooring material and roll again if necessary. Be sure to protect the tiles from any temperature changes, such as from direct sunlight on the floor or in the room. Failure to do so could result in open or peaking tile seams.

Epoxy Adhesives: Epoxy adhesives can be used on either porous or non-porous subfloors. Use Taylor Envirobond #501 Solvent Free Epoxy Flooring Adhesive and applied with a 1/16”x1/32”x1/32” U-notch trowel. Be sure to maintain the proper notch.

This adhesive is mixed by combining part “A” and part “B” in one of the containers. **NOTE: Do not mix epoxy on the floor.** Use a power mixer with a drill motor or mix with a mixing paddle until the color and consistency is uniform. Once mixed, the epoxy should be removed from the container as soon as possible. When it is on the floor, the cooler surface and the reduced mass will slow the adhesive’s set time. After applying the adhesive, allow approximately 20 minutes open time before installing the tile. This will help eliminate tile slippage while allowing the adhesive to develop body. When placing the tile into the adhesive, make certain not to bend sharply and do not hold by a corner, as this may keep the tile from laying into the adhesive properly.

The tile should then be rolled with a 150 lb. roller. After 1 hour, reroll the tiles a second time when the adhesive has developed more body and tack. After 3 hours, reroll a third time with the roller and use a hand roller at any joints where necessary.

WARNING: Do not allow foot traffic for at least 24 hours. Do not allow rolling load traffic for at least 5 to 8 days.