



# CRAFTECH

## **BEAUFLO® CRAFTECH INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

The following information is provided for the installation of Crafterch vinyl flooring. To obtain the best results, we suggest using a professional installer. Improper installation can influence your warranty. For warranty coverage, product must be installed in accordance with Beauflor installation guidelines using Beauflor installation sundries. It is important to fully understand what is required before installation begins. Beauflor warranties extend to Crafterch vinyl flooring only and do not cover installation, moisture intrusion, substrate or structural deficiencies. Beauflor continuously seeks to improve product performance, accessories and installation techniques. To insure you have a copy of our most recent guidelines always refer to [www.beauflor.us](http://www.beauflor.us) or call 877.362.5562 before you begin installation.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Vinyl flooring is designed for interior applications only. To select the most suitable flooring among Beauflor range of products, you should consider the type of traffic in the areas intended for installation. Softer vinyl flooring is not suitable for areas under great loads, especially those subject to heavy or concentrated areas of castor action and wheels.

### **INSTALLER / OWNER RESPONSIBILITY**

Installer/Owner are responsible for final inspection and should inspect products under adequate lighting for proper color, finish, style and quality PRIOR to installation. Installation is considered acceptance. If you're not satisfied with the flooring prior to installation, contact your retailer.

**NOTE:** Beauflor will not pay labor or repair charges on claims filed for materials installed with obvious defects. Confirm you have enough floor covering and installation sundries at the jobsite to complete the installation before you begin.

### **STORAGE AND HANDLING**

Crafterch and installation sundries must be stored inside a climate controlled environment protected from weather conditions a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. Jobsite temperatures should be maintained at a minimum temperature of 65°F and a maximum of 85°F and a relative humidity of 35-55% before, during and thereafter the installation. Interior temperature should never be allowed to fall below 55°F. Storage area must be dry, without direct sunlight and away from heat generating or combustion appliances. If flooring material is to be pre-cut, it should be rolled face out around a sturdy cardboard tube and stored in a manner that will not distort product. Never store or transport in a manner that would distort the product.

### **JOBSITE CONDITIONS**

Permanent HVAC system should be operational for a minimum of one week prior to the installation of Omega+ floor covering. This will improve the accuracy of substrate moisture testing and stabilize the ambient conditions that influences the cure times of floor patching materials and installation sundries.

Flooring should be installed after other trades have finished. For optimum results, the job site, floor covering and installation sundries should be kept for 24-48 hours between 65°F and 85°F in a relative humidity of 35-55% before, during and thereafter the installation has been completed.



## **BEFORE INSTALLATION**

Before installation, Crafttech should be laid flat and left for two hours at a minimum room temperature of 65°F. If it is not possible to do this then the flooring should be loosely rolled and left in the room where it is to be installed for at least 24 hours. These temperatures will allow the flooring products to be more pliable and installation sundries cure appropriately as designed.

## **GENERAL SUBFLOOR INFORMATION**

**All Substrates** The success of any floor covering installation is determined by the condition of the substrate it's being installed upon. All substrates must be dry, flat, clean, structurally sound, free of contaminates such as grease, oil, polish, or existing adhesives. All contaminates must be mechanically removed. **DO NOT USE LIQUID SOLVENTS OR ADHESIVE REMOVERS OR OIL BASED SWEEPING COMPOUNDS TO CLEAN SUBFLOORS.** Never install Omega+ over residual asphalt-type (cut back) adhesive that could migrate through to the new floor covering. Instead remove by scraping and applying Beauflor Isolate over the entire area to encapsulate adhesive residue stains or other substrate stains.

Dry - Excess moisture conditions can promote mold and mildew growth which permanently stain floor covering and compromise indoor air quality. All substrates should be tested for moisture in accordance with the substrate type. Steps must be taken to correct excess substrate moisture conditions before proceeding with installation. Refer to appropriate substrate guidelines below for moisture remediation recommendations.

Flat - Subfloor must be flat: no more than 3/16" in 10 ft. or 1/8" in 3ft. High spots should be sanded down and low spots should be leveled using a latex based Portland cement patching compound.

**Wood subfloors** must be structurally sound and free of vertical movement. Sand joints smooth and set fasteners below the surface. Damaged subfloor panels should be replaced with resilient grade substrate panels a minimum of 1/4" thick. Beauflor doesn't warranty substrate floor panels. Test wood subfloors for moisture content using a pin-type moisture meter. Wood subfloors should have a moisture content of 12% or less. Wood subfloor systems should have an adequate cross ventilated crawl space with minimum 18" ground clearance and the ground surface covered with a suitable moisture vapor barrier. Do not install Omega+ over hardwood flooring that has been installed directly over concrete. Instead remove wood and proceed with concrete substrate instructions. **Floating installation only:** Flooring installed directly over single layer wood subfloors present a higher risk for telegraphing, fasteners, substrate stains or other contaminates. Beauflor will not assume responsibility for substrate material regardless of the underlayment used.

**OSB (underlayment grade)** OSB underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Fasten and reinforce panels according to the manufacturer's instructions. Completely sand the floor with a sander so the floor is smooth and flat then apply a coat of Substrate Primer, if needed.

**Concrete subfloors** must be clean, dry, flat and smooth. Use a cementitious Portland based patching compound to level uneven surfaces, crack and control joints. Never install over expansion joints. Test subfloor moisture vapor emissions using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test method ASTM F 1869. Moisture emission rates must not exceed 5 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. or test method ASTM F-2170 In-Situ Relative Humidity – 75% RH or less is acceptable. Do not install over soft or cushioned backed flooring.



**Suspended:** Concrete with a minimum of 18" of well -ventilated air space beneath it.

**On Grade:** Concrete substrate in direct contact with ground at surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

**Below Grade:** Concrete substrate partially or completely in direct contact with ground at surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

VCT – well bonded on and above grade

Ceramic – well bonded with a skim coat

Terrazzo – well bonded

Self-leveling Patching Compounds – latex fortified Portland cement based only.

Resilient floor – No more than 2 layers, well bonded, non-cushioned (residential only)

Gypcrete – Seal with a Substrate Primer. Issues related to adhesive release due to cracking, crumbling or deteriorating of gypcrete are not the responsibility of Beauflor

**PH LEVELS:** pH level must be between 5 and 9.

### **BEFORE INSTALLATION**

Before installation, cushion vinyl floor covering should be laid flat and left for two hours at a minimum room temperature of 65°F. If it is not possible, the flooring should be loosely rolled and left in the room where it is to be installed for at least 24 hours. These temperatures will allow the flooring products and installation sundries to be more pliable and perform as designed.

### **INSTALLATION TOOLS**

Sharp Utility Knife

Soft Bristled Push Broom

Cold Weld Seam Sealer (Chemical)

Cold Weld Seam Cleaner

Beauflor Multipurpose 4N1 Adhesive

Straight Edge

Premium Grade Silicone Caulk

One Sided Seam Tape

Tape Measure

Acrylic Double Sided Tape

Denatured Alcohol

U Notch Trowel 1/16 x 1/32 X 1/32

3 Section 75# Roller

### **LOOSE LAY METHOD – 225 SQ. FT OR LESS - RESIDENTIAL ONLY**

\*\*Loose lay installation method allows Crafftech to be installed over many substrates unsuitable for fully adhered cushion vinyl products such as lightweight concrete, OSB, particleboard and chipboard. Loose lay installation isn't suitable for areas with heavy pivot points, rolling traffic, stairs, appliances prone to vibration (washing machines) and landings. Substrate moisture and consistent ambient temperature requirements still apply. Loose lay is suitable for areas that require no more than one seam. Use Low Gloss Cold Weld Seam Sealer and one sided seam tape. For areas requiring multiple seams, Omega+ should be installed fully adhered. Do not install cabinetry on top of loose laid vinyl floorcoverings. Loose



lay installation method should not be used if the Crafttech backing becomes creased, distorted or the room layout is complex. Perform appropriate substrate moisture test and insure ambient temperatures are within tolerance.

Remove all furnishings, appliances, shoe moldings, quarter round and transition strips. Undercut all decorative trim moldings and door jambs to leave a 1/8" relief gap to allow flooring to slip underneath.

Prepare substrate. Remove all foreign substances. Sweep or vacuum floor to remove all dirt, debris or contaminants.

Remove Crafttech from core taking care not to allow the floorcovering to wrinkle, crease or become distorted.

Position Crafttech to allow for best overall room design. Place seams in the least conspicuous and least traveled area in the room.

Make rough cuts leaving 2"-4" excess to be trimmed later.

Apply double face tape at doorways with a transition strip and next to sliding glass doors, and apply an X of double face tape underneath appliances.

Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow material to lay flat before final cuts are made.

Allow flooring to relax and lie flat. Use a push broom to remove distortions or air pockets.

After final cuts are made, inspect all expansion gaps to insure no pinch points have been created and appropriate expansion space has been observed. A minimum 1/8" expansion gap is required around the perimeter and all vertical objects.

Apply silicone caulk next to sliding doors, patio doors, around metal door jambs, bathtubs, showers and other similar areas.

Use a minimum 3/8" quarter round or baseboard to cover expansion gap.

Transition strips, thresholds, in-floor vents and quarter round should leave a 1/8" – 3/16" gap to allow Omega+ to move freely during periods of expansion and contraction and eliminate pinch points. Always fasten quarter round and decorative trims to the wall and not through the floor.

**Note:** DO NOT apply double face tape around the perimeter of the installation area.

## **SEAMING**

It is important that each piece is cut from the same parent roll. This will ensure that you have true color match along the seam. To keep seam visibility to a minimum, position the seams whenever possible so that: 1) Main traffic runs parallel to instead of across the seam. 2) Light doesn't strike directly across the seam. 3) Seams are not located in areas subject to pivoting traffic. 4) In doorway openings connecting adjoining rooms, parallel seams are required. If pieces are cut from different rolls, please check with your supplier to insure rolls have the same batch number. Beauflor will not accept responsibility for color variation.

Seam cuts required in the primary part of a room should be made after the product has been rough cut and is lying flat in position but prior to final fitting. Overlap the vinyl flooring and bring the pattern into an exact match. The most accurate method of maintaining the pattern grout line/plank joint width is to make the seam cut alongside the grout line/plank joint. With sheets aligned, position the steel straight edge so it completely covers the grout line/plank joint of the top sheet. Using the straightedge as a guide, cut the length of the seam in the "shadow" of the grout line/plank joint with a utility knife. This technique will ensure that all grout lines/plank joints are of the same width. (Scribe cutting will produce the best results on the seam). Cut the seam net, not full. Do not add fullness to the cut by placing scrap under the seam. Keep the utility knife blade parallel to the straightedge, at a 90° angle to the floor covering. Fold back one side of the cut seam and remove the scrap piece. Using a pencil, mark a line on the substrate along the seam to be used as a reference for positioning the acrylic single sided tape. Install the tape centering it under the seam. Use a hand roller or clean cloth to press it against the substrate. Peel the release layer off of the tape begin to carefully reposition the two sides of the seam on top of the tape.



Carefully fold back about 8" of the vinyl along both edges. While the edges are folded back apply a small bead of a Low Gloss Cold Weld Seam Sealer to the edge of the vinyl that is on the floor. Tuck the seam edges together and wipe off excess with a clean dry cloth. If seam sealer hardens on the surface use denatured alcohol on a rag to clean up the seam. Protect the seam and allow it to dry. Do not clean or allow heavy furnishings or appliances to be moved across the seam for 24 hours. When possible use some type of hard material to roll appliances into place or lift appliance.

**Note:** When using a new blade for cutting seams, clean oils off of the blade with denatured alcohol to prevent contaminating the seam.

### **Fully Adhered Installation Instructions**

All substrates must meet the same requirements as listed in General Subfloor Information in regard to moisture, temperature, stability, smoothness and general suitability for fully adhered Craftech vinyl flooring.

Perform appropriate substrate moisture test and ensure ambient temperatures are within tolerance.

Remove all furnishings, appliances, shoe moldings, quarter round and transition strips.

Undercut all decorative trim moldings and door jambs to leave a 1/8" relief gap to allow flooring to slip underneath.

Prepare substrate. Remove all foreign substances. Sweep or vacuum floor to remove all dirt, debris or contaminants.

Remove Craftech from core. Do not allow the floorcovering to wrinkle, crease or become distorted.

Position Craftech to allow for best overall room design. Place seams in the least conspicuous and least traveled area in the room.

Make rough cuts leaving 2"- 4" excess to be trimmed later.

Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow material to lay flat before final cuts are made.

Allow flooring to relax and lie flat. Use a push broom to remove distortions or air pockets.

After final cuts are made, inspect all expansion gaps to insure no pinch points have been created and appropriate expansion space has been observed. A minimum 1/8" expansion gap is required around the perimeter and all vertical objects. Final cuts must be made prior to applying adhesive.

Fold back material one half at a time and using a 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U notch trowel, apply Beauflor Multipurpose 4N1 Adhesive.

Allow adhesive to become semi-wet (TACK) before placing floor covering into adhesive.

Position Omega+ in place so that no shifting can occur. Do not lift the vinyl into place because it may shift slightly and wrinkle.

Use the 3 section 75 lb. roller to roll the fully adhered flooring to ensure good contact with adhesive bed and remove air pockets from flooring.

Apply silicone caulk next to sliding doors, patio doors, around metal door jambs, bathtubs, showers and other similar areas.

Use a minimum 3/8" quarter round or baseboard to cover expansion gap.

Transition strips, thresholds, in-floor vents and quarter round should leave a 1/8" – 3/16" gap to allow Omega+ to move freely underneath during periods of expansion and contraction to avoid pinch points.

Always fasten quarter round and decorative trims to the wall and not through the floor.

**WARNING:** Do not sand, dry-sweep, dry-scrape, drill, saw, bead-blast or mechanically chip or pulverize previously installed resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphaltic "cutback" adhesives or other adhesives. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless



positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Follow recommended Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) guidelines for removal of existing resilient flooring at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com).

These installation instructions provide general guidance on the installation of Beauflor Omega+ floorcovering only. For additional guidance on your specific installation needs, contact us at 877.362.5562.