

# ***Centaur*** Floor Systems



## **Speckled S Rolls & Tiles**

# **INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL**

**Manufactured in the U.S.A. by: Ecore**

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Supersedes all previous versions.  
Check website for updates.

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## INSTALLATION

### I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic works well.
2. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

### II. SUBFLOORS

Centaur's rolls and tiles, may be installed over concrete, approved Portland- based patching and leveling materials, and wood.

**NOTE:** Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

1. Wood Subfloors – Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid and free from movement with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated air space below.
2. Underlayments – The preferred underlayment panel is American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4-inch, with a fully sanded face.

**NOTE:** Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite and lauan are not considered to be suitable underlayments.

3. Concrete Floors – Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days before installing Speckled S Rolls and Tiles. It must be fully cured and permanently dried.

### III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10' (3.0 m).
3. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
4. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
5. Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.
6. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip III adhesive.

## INSTALLATION

7. Moisture must be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If the emissions exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the situation has been corrected.
8. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
9. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
10. Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' test pieces of the flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring and, when removed, there should be adhesive residue on the subfloor and on the back of the test pieces.

**NOTE:** This product is suitable for installation over radiant heated substrates. Drilling through radiant heated substrates to check moisture content could damage the system. When installing over radiant heat please contact Centaur Floors for alternate methods at 800-536-9007.

### HAZARDS:

**SILICA WARNING** – Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling can produce respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers). Classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen, respirable silica is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that may cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or provide protective equipment to reduce exposure to below the applicable exposure limits.

**ASBESTOS WARNING** – Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, or asphaltic “cutback” adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast, or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Consult the document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings” available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

**LEAD WARNING** – Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication “Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing” available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

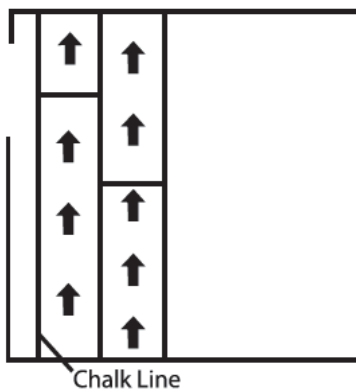
## INSTALLATION

### IV. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

1. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. Material should only be stored on a clean, dry, smooth surface.
3. **Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.**

**NOTE: Centaur's Rolls and Tiles are manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**

4. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.
5. **All rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. See diagram 1.**  
Laying rolls in the opposite direction will cause color variations between the rolls.



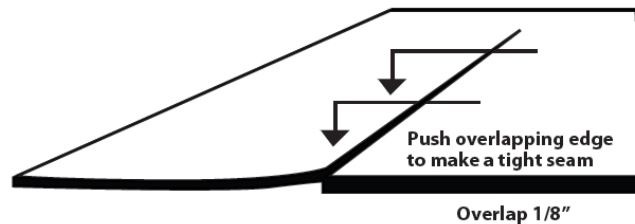
**Diagram 1**

6. Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should unroll all rolls and allow to relax overnight. A bare minimum of two hours is required. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.

## INSTALLATION

### V. INSTALLATION – ROLL MATERIAL

1. Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.
2. Remove the roll from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the rubber on the floor in a way that will use your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls at the required length, including enough to run up the wall a few inches.
3. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6". End seams will be trimmed after acclimation period using a square to ensure they fit tightly without gaps.
4. After allowing proper acclimation and rough cuts are made you may begin the installation.
5. Align the first edge to the chalk line.  
Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.
6. Position the second roll with no more than a 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam. After adhesive is applied to substrate the material will be worked back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate any gaps. Care should be taken to not over compress the seam. Over compressed seams will cause peaking.



7. It may be necessary to trim the edge of the second lineal drop if the rolls do not extend the length or width of the room. Rolls laid end to end with a variance in roll width greater than 1/4" could result in peaked seams.
8. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

## INSTALLATION

### METHOD 1 – GLUE DOWN

- a. After performing the above procedures, begin the application of the adhesive. We recommend E-Grip III, a one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. E-Grip III should not be mixed. It is specially formulated for use right out of the pail. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16" square-notched trowel.
- b. Fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll).
- c. Spread the adhesive using the proper size square-notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.

**NOTE:** Temperature and humidity affect the open time of the adhesive. Temperatures above 70°F and/or relative humidity above 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more quickly. Temperatures below 70°F and/or relative humidity below 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more slowly. The installer should monitor the on-site conditions and adjust the open time accordingly.

- d. Lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Do not allow the material to “flop” into place; this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath the flooring.
- e. Immediately roll the floor with a 75–100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first and then the length.
- f. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread the adhesive. **Spread the adhesive at right angles to the seam to prevent the adhesive from oozing up through the seam.** Roll the flooring.
- g. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

**NOTE:** Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles. They will telegraph through the material.

- h. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag slightly dampened with mineral spirits. Follow the mineral spirits with a rag dampened with water to remove the mineral spirits.

**NOTE: Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may darken the flooring and cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.**

- i. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. Tape **MUST** be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set which is approximately 2-3 hours. Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Centaur will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.
- j. In some instances, it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive.

## INSTALLATION

### METHOD 2 – TAPE DOWN

**NOTE:** It is characteristic for rubber flooring to expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. Dependent upon conditions, double face tape may not be strong enough to hold rubber in place in every situation. For permanent installations it is recommended to use our EGRIP III urethane adhesive.

**NOTE:** Tape method is not an approved procedure for ice rink applications. Please contact Centaur Floors (800-536-9007) for guidelines on ice rinks or outdoor applications.

- a. Dry lay the rolls onto the subfloor.
- b. Draw a pencil line beneath all seams to be taped.
- c. Use a high-quality double-faced carpet tape with a minimum width of two inches.
- d. Fold over the first drop along the chalk line (half the width of the roll).
- e. Apply two strips of the double-faced tape along the seam, one on each side of the pencil mark.
- f. Remove the release paper and place the flooring onto the exposed tape.
- g. When butting one roll next to another, overlap the seams by no more than 1/8". Work the material back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams over the tape and eliminate any gaps.
- h. Hand-roll the seams to ensure adequate contact. Do not roll the entire floor.

### VI. INSTALLATION – TILES

1. Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any moderate to severe discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning the installation.

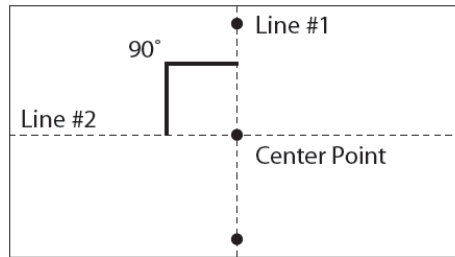
**NOTE: Centaur's tiles are manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color.**

**Tiles manufactured from mats are intended for smaller installations. Larger quantities resulting in multiple dye lots may not be of an exact match in shade or density. Every effort is made to ensure the best possible match, however Centaur makes no warranty on the exact match between dye lots. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**

2. Centaur's tiles must also be installed in the same direction. (Directional markings stamped on the bottom of the tiles must point in the same direction.)
3. Measure the width of the area to be covered.
4. Mark the center of the area at two points, one at each end.
5. Snap a chalk line, line #1, through these two points.
6. Determine the center point of the chalk line.
7. Using a Carpenter's square or another method, snap a second chalk line, line #2, perpendicular (at 90°) to the first line. The lines should intersect at their centers.
8. The area to be covered is now divided into quarters. Begin the installation at the center of the area, where the two lines intersect. See diagram 3. Centaur's tiles must be installed in the same direction. (Directional markings stamped on the bottom of the tiles must point in the same direction.)

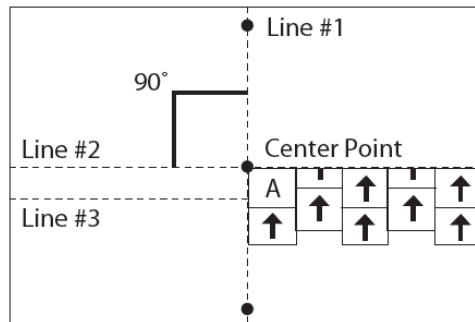


**INSTALLATION**



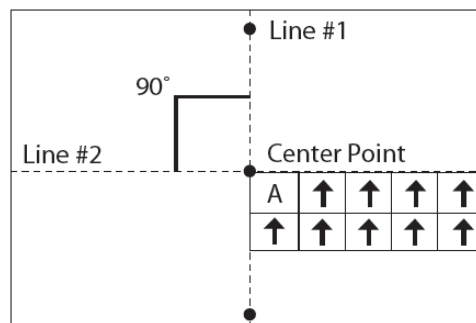
**Diagram 3**

**NOTE:** To lay in an ashlar configuration, snap a third chalk line parallel to line #2 and perpendicular to line #1. The distance between line #2 and line #3 should be half the width of the tile (9 or 18 inches). See diagram 4.



**Diagram 4**

9. After the above procedure is performed, begin application of E-Grip III, Centaur’s recommended one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16” square-notched trowel.
10. Spread the adhesive using a 1/16” square-notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.
11. Place the first, tile A, into the wet adhesive making sure that the edges are precisely placed along the chalk lines and where they intersect. Press firmly on the tiles to remove any curls or entrapped air. See diagram 5.



**Diagram 5**

**Reminder:** Arrows on bottom of tiles must point in the same direction.

## INSTALLATION

12. Lay whole tiles from left to right along chalk line #1 up to the wall on the opposite side of chalk line #2. The last tile will likely have to be cut to fit against the wall.
13. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag slightly dampened with mineral spirits. Follow the mineral spirits with a rag dampened with water to remove the mineral spirits.

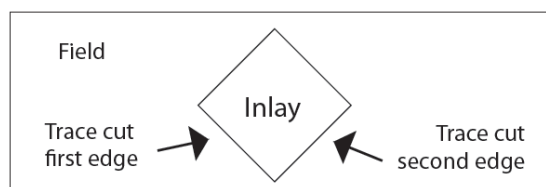
**NOTE: Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may darken the flooring and cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.**

14. Continue this process with each row until you reach the wall across from chalk line #1.
15. Go back and fill in gaps between the two original chalk lines and the wall on those two sides.
16. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. Tape should be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set (approximately 2-3 hours). Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Centaur will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.
17. Roll a 75-100 lb. roller over the floor within 45 minutes to ensure a proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled.
18. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be kept free from rolling loads for a minimum of 48-72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive and cause tiles to shift.

### VI. INSTALLATION – ACCENT TILE INLAY

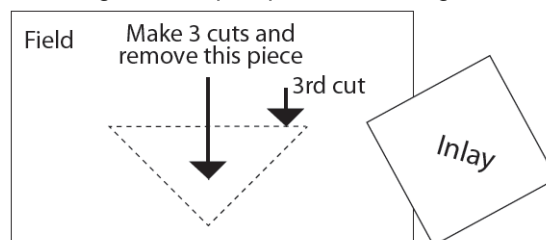
**NOTE:** Total glue down is the only recommended method for permanent installations.

1. Cut inlays into field area before spreading adhesive. **Logos and inlays are NOT approved for double stick tape installations.**
2. Position the inlay on the field area at the desired location for trace cutting.
3. Starting at one corner and using a straight edge, trace-cut along one edge of the inlay. See diagram 6.



**Diagram 6**

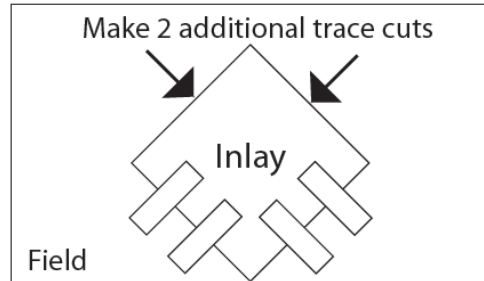
4. Starting at the same corner, trace-cut along an adjacent edge of the inlay. Remove the inlay.
5. Make a third cut and remove the triangular-shaped piece. See diagram 7.



**Diagram 7**

## INSTALLATION

6. Position the inlay into the triangular-shaped hole. Be sure that the corner and edges are butted tightly against the field piece. Tape the edges in place with masking tape. See diagram 8.



**Diagram 8**

7. Using the straight edge and the square, continue trace-cutting the remainder of the field for the inlay.
8. Remove and discard the scrap pieces.
9. Place the inlay into the field and tape the remaining edges with masking tape.
10. Fold over the material and apply adhesive to the subfloor as for a regular installation.
11. Continue the installation, following the directions for the glued down method.

**MAINTENANCE****IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE INSTALLER**

**Centaur recommends Ecore's environmentally friendly maintenance products**

**FLOOR PROTECTION**

The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete, such as covering the entire floor with paper or other floor covering device (plastic, plywood, etc.) until construction is completed and thorough cleaning and maintenance can be implemented.

**ASSIGNMENT OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE**

The specifier should determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing. This responsibility should be specifically assigned to the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

**PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

Ecore's E-Cleaner

Ecore's E-Strip

The recommendations contained in this manual are listed because of their extensive testing and field experience with the Centaur products. These instructions are given only as guidance to our customers and for use with our recommended tools and adhesives. Centaur cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage that may result from the use of this information due to variations in working conditions and/or workmanship of the installer. Users are advised to conduct their own tests for a particular application and assign installers that are familiar with this type of flooring product.

Inspect all rolls and tiles for visual defects including shade variances prior to beginning installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects or shade variances. It may be necessary to lay out and hand select tiles for color consistency. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation. Ensure that all job site and subfloor conditions are met.

**MAINTENANCE**

Steps	Cleaning Product	Mixture	Equipment
Initial Cleaning	E-Cleaner	10 oz./gal. water	Soft nylon brush or approved pad*
Daily Cleaning	E-Cleaner	2-4 oz./gal. water	Soft nylon brush, or microfiber mop
Heavy Soil & Restorative Cleaning	E-Cleaner or E-Strip	16 oz./gal. water	Approved pad*

\* Please contact Centaur for guidance on pad selection. 800-536-9007.

**VIII. CLEANING PROCEDURES**

1. Initial Cleaning
  - a. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming with a high CFM vacuum. For large areas, use auto scrubbers to clean floors.
  - b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner (10 oz./gal. of water), using buffer or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush or approved pad. Avoid flooding the floor.
  - c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, picking up the rinse water with a wet vacuum and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).
2. Daily/Regular Cleaning
  - a. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum floor to remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit.
  - b. Damp mop with a microfiber mop or auto- scrub using an approved pad or nylon brush with E-Cleaner (2-4 oz./gal. of water).
3. Restorative Maintenance
  - a. Sweep and dry vacuum floor thoroughly.
  - b. Heavy scrub floor with E-Cleaner (10 oz./gal. of water) or E-Strip. This cleaning may be performed with an auto scrubber or rotary scrubber.
  - c. Vacuum soiled solution with a wet/dry vacuum.
  - d. Rinse with clean water.
  - e. Pick up solution with wet vacuum.
  - f. Allow floor to thoroughly dry.
4. Heavy Soil
  - a. Remove as much surface soil, debris, sand, and grit as possible by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner or E-Strip, using a buffer or auto scrubber with an approved pad.
  - c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).

## WARRANTY

All Centaur rubber flooring is guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects on both material and workmanship. If such a defect is discovered, the customer must notify Centaur either through the contracting installer, distributor, or directly. If found to be defective within three years under normal non-abusive conditions, the sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods, or at the seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective goods.

Centaur roll and tile warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, normal wear or quality of installation expected from the use or environment of installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Centaur, slight shade variations or shade variations due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

**Excluded from Warranty** - These warranties do not apply to the following:

1. The exact matching of shade, color or mottling.
2. Any express or implied promise made by any salesman or representative.
3. Tears, burns, cuts or damage due to improper installation, improper use or improper cleaning agents or maintenance methods.
4. Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats may be required under chairs with casters/wheels.
5. Labor costs for installation of original or replacement material.
6. Sale of "Remnants", "Seconds", "Off Goods" or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "Seconds", "Off Goods", or "Remnants" such are sold "as is," and Centaur makes no warranties whatsoever, express or implied with respect thereto, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
7. Problems caused by moisture, hydrostatic pressure, or alkali in the sub-floor.
8. Problems caused by uses, maintenance, and installation that are contrary to Centaur specifications, recommendations or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage or discoloration to flooring products from rubber mats, rubber backed mats, or car tires.
12. Installation of Centaur products with adhesives other than those recommended by Centaur.
13. Fading and/or discoloration resulting from heavy sunlight penetration and ultraviolet ray exposure from direct or glass-filtered sunlight.
14. Material that is not installed and maintained as recommended by Centaur.
15. Damage to flooring products from pallet jack and tow-motor traffic.
16. Environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, grease or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens or auto repair facilities.)
17. Premature wear and deterioration from spikes and skate blade exposure.
18. Differences in color between products and photography.
19. Embossing / density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. Centaur shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. These warranties give you specific rights, and you may also have rights which may vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state Consumer Affairs Office or your State Attorney General.

For complete and latest warranty information for products within the Centaur Flooring collection, please visit [www.centaurfloors.com](http://www.centaurfloors.com).

***Centaur***  
Floor Systems

800-536-9007 – [www.centaurfloors.com](http://www.centaurfloors.com)

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