



GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- The flooring must be able to expand and contract without restriction. The completed assembly cannot be fastened to the building or structure.
- Site conditions and substrate must be in accordance with specifications outlined in ASTM F710; particularly those relating to flatness, moisture, moisture testing, and alkalinity.
- The flooring is only intended for interior use; in above-grade, on-grade, and below-grade applications.
- Cartons should be stored flat and fully supported. Do not double stack pallets.
- Flooring must be installed in climate-controlled structures with a fully operational permanent HVAC system. Ensure a temperature of 50° - 100°F is maintained for a minimum of 48 hours before, during, and indefinitely thereafter.
- Avoid installing in sunrooms and protect the installation from intense sunlight exposure by using window treatments.
- Use a permanently flexible sealant, such as 100% silicone, to fill the perimeter-expansion space in wet areas.

PREPARE SUBSTRATE AND CONFIRM PRODUCT

The substrate must be:

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| • Clean | • Free from slopes in excess of 1" per 6' |
| • Smooth | • Well fastened |
| • Dry | • Structurally sound |
| • Flat (to 3/16" in a 10' radius) | • Free of excessive deflection |

The product is only recommended for use over properly prepared substrates. In commercial applications ceramic grout joints must be filled using an appropriate floor patching compound. Always perform a final acceptance inspection of the substrate to ensure all substrate requirements have been fully met. Existing adhesives should be encapsulated or removed.

The following substrates are NOT APPROVED: sleeper substrates, carpet/carpet pad, radiant heat systems with surface temperatures exceeding 85°F, cushion-back sheet vinyl, floating floors, hardwood installed on concrete, engineered hardwood over concrete, parquet over concrete, concrete substrates with RH values in excess of 85% (testing per ASTM F2170) or Calcium Chloride in excess of 8lbs per 1000 square feet (testing per ASTM F1869).

Verify that the material is of the correct style, color, quantity, and of the same run number. Also, confirm that all pre-installation requirements, substrate requirements, and substrate preparations have been satisfactorily met and completed. Installation of the flooring indicates acceptance of current substrate conditions, and full responsibility for completed work. Check material for visual defects before installation. Installation of the flooring acknowledges acceptance of the materials.

Vapor Barrier: A 6-mil polyethylene film may be used under the product installed over a concrete substrate, however, is not necessary when the moisture content of the concrete slab does not exceed 85% RH or 8 lb MVER. Instances in which the moisture content of the slab exceeds 85% RH or 8 lb MVER, a 6-mil polyethylene film may be used as an alternative to a comprehensive moisture mitigation system. 6-mil polyethylene film should not be used when installing over wood substrates.

INSTALL PRODUCT

1. Remove moldings and trim from the perimeter of the project and retain for later use. These will be used to cover the perimeter expansion at the completion of the project.
2. Undercut doorjambs and casings to allow the product to slide underneath. Be sure to allow for proper expansion space. Metal doorjambs may need to be left undisturbed. In such instances, cut the material



3. Project layout should be discussed and approved by the end-user before the installation begins.
4. Always balance the layout by marking the center point on both sides of a room. Connect these points using a chalk line to create the centerline of the area.
5. Starting at the centerline, dry-lay material working toward the starting wall until no additional full-width pieces can be laid. Place a mark on the substrate at the far edge of the final piece. This mark determines where the starting line should be placed. Snap an additional chalk line at this location while ensuring that it is perfectly parallel to the centerline. (Note: If the perimeter pieces are too small, move the starting line over by one-half the width of a tile.)
6. Always ensure planks are staggered by a minimum 6" throughout the installation. Tile products should be staggered in a brick pattern, with an offset equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a tile.
7. The rows of flooring will be installed from left to right beginning on row #2. The perimeter row (row #1) will be addressed in a later step.
8. Place the long tongue-edge of the first plank of row #2 along the starting line.
9. Interlock the long side of first plank of row #3 into the long side of the first plank of row #2.
10. Fully engage the long sides using a tapping block.
11. Continue installing material, alternating between rows #2 and #3. Always fully engage the long sides, using a hammer and tapping block, before engaging the short sides. The short sides are joined by tapping down the joint using a soft faced hammer.
12. Measure, mark, and cut the final pieces of rows #2 and #3 ensuring both sides of the rows have proper expansion space. Residential projects require a $\frac{1}{4}$ " expansion space and commercial projects require a $\frac{3}{8}$ " expansion space.
13. Double check that the assembly is aligned with the starting line. Adjust as necessary.
14. Scribe, cut, and install row #1 while accounting for proper expansion. Use a pull bar to fully engage the long edges.
15. Place the appropriately sized spacers along the left, right, and starting wall. Slide the assembly over and against the spacers of the starting wall.
16. Continue the installation installing subsequent rows one after another.
17. Scribe, cut, and install the final row while accounting for proper expansion. Use a pull bar to fully engage the long edges.
18. Remove all spacers and then reinstall moldings and trim.
19. In commercial applications be certain to use T-moldings to separate:
 - any expanse greater than 100' in any direction.
 - narrow openings or doorways between adjoining spaces.

NOTE: Various Federal, State, and Local government agencies have regulations governing the removal of in-place asbestos-containing material. If you contemplate the removal of a resilient floor covering structure that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos, you must review and comply with all applicable regulations. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphalt "cut-back" adhesive, or other adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibers and/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 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 asbestos content. RFCI's Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Covering are a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures. For further information, visit the Resilient Floor Covering Institute website at www.rfci.com.