

G-FLOOR INSTALLATION GUIDELINES



READ COMPLETELY BEFORE INSTALLATION

Handling procedures

Because G-Floor products are intended for use in high-traffic areas, preparation is especially important. In most cases, remove all existing floor coverings before installing these commercial products. (You must follow all federal, state, and local regulations regarding the removal of existing flooring.) All concrete under floors must be tested for moisture before starting the installation.

The concrete should be tested for moisture using either the anhydrous calcium chloride test following ASTM F1869 procedures and or the in situ relative humidity test following ASTM F2170. The maximum permissible moisture vapor emission rate ("MVER") is determined based on product construction and adhesive type. **A MVER of up to 8 lb moisture per 1000 sq-ft per 24 hr is the maximum acceptable MVER with G-Floor homogenous vinyl.** NOTE: While either of these industry accepted moisture-testing methods may be used, the results are not interchangeable; if both tests are performed they must both be in the acceptable range to be considered valid.

It is imperative to maintain the material, adhesive, and job site at a temperature between 65°F and 85°F for 48 hours before and during the installation. If the material has been stored at colder temperatures, it will need to be unrolled and allowed to relax overnight before proceeding with the installation. G-Floor recommends contracting a qualified commercial flooring installation service for all commercial installations. NOTE: IT MAY NOT BE THE FLOOR COVERING INSTALLER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CONDUCT THE TESTS. IT IS, HOWEVER, THE FLOOR COVERING INSTALLER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THESE TESTS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED AND THAT THE RESULTS ARE ACCEPTABLE PRIOR TO INSTALLING THE FLOOR COVERING. WHEN MOISTURE TESTS ARE CONDUCTED, IT INDICATES THE CONDITIONS ONLY AT THE TIME OF THE TEST.

NOTE: If the flooring contractor elects to install new floor covering over an existing floor covering, the flooring contractor assumes all responsibility as to the suitability and continued performance of the existing floor covering. If removal of existing resilient floor covering is required, follow all recommended Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) work practices as described at www.rfci.com. This product may also be installed over properly prepared and approved wood panel or wood composition panel underlayment on wood subfloor systems.

Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before

installation. G-Floor will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.

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Floor Preparation

Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction marks and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. G-Floor recommends priming extremely porous floors with an acrylic latex primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to insure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor/underlayment.

Patching & Leveling Compounds

We recommend the use of latex /Portland cement trowelable underlayment or self-leveling cementitious products for repairing or leveling concrete subfloors. Sand and fill approved underlayment panel joints using a latex/Portland cement compound. Do not use gypsum based (white) floor patch.

Cutting & Fitting

G-Floor products are flexible and will handle easily when cutting and fitting. This product characteristic enables the installer to fit the material using freehand knifing techniques.

- Plan your layout before cutting material. Measure and square up area to be installed
- If the job site is complex and requires a precise fit, use pattern-scribing techniques.
- The material may also be fit using direct scribing techniques.
- Once the pattern has been matched and the material has been fit, it is necessary to tube or lap back half of the sheet to expose the underfloor for the adhesive application.

Applying Adhesive

DO NOT USE MULTI-PURPOSE OR VCT ADHESIVE MUST BE PLASTICIZER MIGRATION RESISTANT

There are three different types of adhesives that we recommend - MAPEI Ultrabond ECO® 360, Taylor 2091 TPS™ Adhesive, or HENRY® 650. This information is provided for guidance. The recommendations and instructions of the adhesive manufacturer must, in all cases, be followed. Only adhesives recommended by the BLT Technical Department and are approved as suitable, should be used. BLT does not make any warranties regarding the approved adhesives, or assume

that other manufacturers' adhesives would not prove satisfactory. Correct handling of adhesives is recommended at all times.

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- Take care when folding the material back. Always fold the material in a wide radius to avoid sharp kinks and creases, which may cause damage to the image and/or product. Fully adhere G-Flooring to an approved under-floor.
- After you have trimmed the material to fit the room, tube or lap it back to expose the under-floor.
- Apply adhesive with notched trowels 1/16 in. x 1/32 in. x 1/32 in.
- If the notches are too large they place too much adhesive which can lead to trowel-marks showing through the flooring and/or excessive indentations. This may cause swelling and buckling of the flooring. If the trowel notches are too small the adhesive will not hold the flooring down.
- Spread adhesive covering 100% of the exposed subfloor, leaving no gaps or puddles.
- Keep trowel away from vinyl backing because it may scratch the flooring and show through.
- Maintain uniform coverage by keeping the trowel clean and properly notched.
- In most cases it is advisable to give the adhesive sufficient open time. Usually about 5-10 min. (Follow adhesive manufacturer instructions) Open time allows the moisture to flash off the adhesive, permitting the adhesive to develop more body and immediate tack. Open time is always determined by subfloor porosity and atmospheric conditions. Be certain to provide ample open time on non-porous subfloors and at seam lines. **IMPORTANT: When providing open time, do not permit the adhesive to "skin over" or dry. Too much open time will result in insufficient bonding**
- After the adhesive has begun to tack-up, roll the sheet forward into the adhesive to avoid trapping air. Do not drop or flop the material into the adhesive. Roll the floor covering with a three-section, 100 lb (or heavier) floor roller in both directions.

- After the first half of the sheet has been adhered and rolled, fold back the second half and repeat the procedure. Wait one to two hours and re-roll the flooring again to ensure full contact has been achieved. Re-rolling the material will also help remove any trapped air bubbles.

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Seams

Traditional Double-cutting method; using "Johnsonite cold weld liquid"

- After aligning the pattern and providing adequate overlap, adhere the sheets of material up to the predestinated dry zone.
- Cut the seam using a utility knife with a new, sharp blade. Using a steel straightedge, cut through both sheets of flooring at a 90° angle to the floor covering.
- Do not lift knife out of floor during seam cutting.
- Once you have cut the seam, remove the selvage and fold back the sheets to expose the dry zone.
- Apply adhesive with a properly notched trowel across the dry zone.
- Allow the adhesive to develop tack and lay the sheet that was on the bottom during the cutting process into the adhesive first.
- Place masking tape over the seam and press it down firmly.
- Cut through the masking tape over the join between the two sheets using a straight knife
- Press the needle of the tube firmly into the seam and pull the tube along the joint. Control the flow of liquid so that a 5 mm wide glue line appears on top of the masking tape.
- Wait about 10 minutes for the glue to bond and then pull the masking tape off.



Additional Notes:

Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation. Report any defects PRIOR to installation.

- After installation is complete, keep traffic off of floor for at least 24 hours and heavy objects or rolling loads for 72 hours.
- DO NOT slide heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on a hard board between the flooring and object and gently reposition them.
- Use permanent caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors, patio doors, around metal doorjamb or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, apply caulk around the toilet, next to the bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl. Note: if there is a ceramic sanitary cove and no place to install trim mold, you can apply silicone caulk around the walls.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace

small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.