

## Pacific Rubber Tile Flooring Installation Instructions

### Handling and Storage

1. Greatmats flooring and adhesives must be site conditioned at room temperature for 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation. Room temperature must be maintained between 65° and 85°F (18° and 30°C) with HVAC system operating. A minimum temperature of 55°F (13°C) must be maintained afterwards. The ambient relative humidity should be between 40% and 60%.
2. In areas that are exposed to intense or direct sunlight, the product must be protected during the conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods, by covering the Pacific Rubber Tiles or the light source.
3. The highest quality of materials and workmanship is employed in the manufacture of Greatmats Pacific Rubber Tiles and careful inspection is made before shipment. However, a quality installation is the responsibility of the installer. It is the installers responsibility to verify the accuracy of the order and to ensure the materials are checked for damage, defects, and satisfactory color match. An authorized Greatmats representative must be notified of any defects before installation proceeds.
4. Greatmats cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage that may result from the use of this information, due to processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

### General Subfloor Preparation

1. All subfloors must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. The surface must be free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material, which could affect installation.

Caution: Do not use oil based sweeping compounds. Fill all depressions, cracks, and other surface irregularities with a good quality Portland cement based underlayment patching compound.

NOTE: Contamination on the substrate can cause damage to the resilient flooring material. Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, etc., must not be used to write on the back of the flooring material or used to mark the substrate as they could bleed through and stain the flooring material. If these contaminants are present on the substrate they must be mechanically removed prior to the installation of the flooring material.

Caution: Do not use liquid solvents or adhesive removers. Greatmats does not recommend installing over existing resilient floors. All existing flooring and adhesives must be removed prior to installing the new flooring material. Remove existing adhesive mechanically - do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents.

Caution: Do not install rubber flooring in areas that are exposed to grease, oil or animal fats.

Caution: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.

## Pacific Rubber Tile Flooring Installation Instructions continued

- Concrete subfloors must be constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's ACI 302.2 "Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials" and prepared to receive resilient flooring according to ASTM F 710 "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring".

Do not install Pacific Rubber flooring over expansion joints.

All concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture, pH (alkalinity), and proper adhesive bond: Moisture tests shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM F 1869 "Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride" or ASTM F 2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using in situ Probes". Three tests should be conducted for areas up to 1,000 sq. ft. and one additional test should be conducted for each additional 1,000 sq. ft. of flooring.

Results must not exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours when tested to ASTM F 1869, or exceed 80% when tested to ASTM F 2170. If the tests results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

A pH test for alkalinity must be conducted. Results should range between 7 and 9. If the test results are not within the acceptable range of 7 to 9, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected. An adhesive bond test should be performed using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test areas should be a minimum of 36" x 36" and remain in place for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the concrete.

- Wood subfloors must have a minimum 18" (47 cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and the ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces should be sealed with a polyethylene moisture barrier.

Subfloors should meet local and national building codes. Trade associations, such as the APA -"The Engineered Wood Association", offer structural guidelines for meeting various code requirements.

Single Wood and Tongue and Groove subfloors should be covered with 114" (6.4 mm) or 112" (13 mm) APA approved underlayment plywood. Use 114" (6.4 mm) thick underlayment panels for boards with a face width of 3" (76 mm) or less. For boards wider than 3" (76 mm) face width use 112" (13 mm) underlayment panels. Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality Portland cement based patching compound.

Do not install over OSB (Oriented Strand Board), particle board, chipboard, lauan or composite type underlayments.

- Terrazzo and Ceramic floor surface must be thoroughly sanded to remove all glaze and waxes. Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean the grout lines. Use a Portland cement based leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions.
- Steel floor surface must be mechanically abraded to assist with the adhesive bond. The floor must be cleaned to remove all dirt, rust and other contaminants. When applying adhesive the non-porous installation instructions must be followed.
- Concrete floors equipped with a radiant heating system: Turn the heat down to 65°F (18°C) for at least 48 hours before installation. Heat may be gradually returned to operating temperature 48 hours after installation. Temperature should not exceed 105 degrees F.

# Pacific Rubber Tile Flooring Installation Instructions continued

## Rubber Tile Installation

1. Recommended Adhesives: SurvivorGrip One-Part Urethane Adhesive, available from Greatmats.
  - a. Trowel: porous and non-porous substrate: 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" U notch. For application in areas subject to heavy point loads, rolling loads, topical moisture, or temperature extremes use, 95 sq ft gal coverage at that trowel size.
  - b. Caution: When using SurvivorGrip Adhesive the installer must work off of the flooring material or use kneeling boards to prevent adhesive displacement during the installation and rolling process.
2. Installation Procedure:
  - a. Square the area and establish reference points on substrate.
  - b. Lay out the tile so that a minimum of one-half of a tile forms the border along the perimeter.
  - c. Apply the adhesive to the substrate. Follow directions on adhesive label for proper adhesive use.
  - d. Use established reference points and install the flooring.
  - e. Lay tiles with the directional "male" corner pointing in the same direction.
  - f. Pattern tiles may be 'quarter turned' to create a checkerboard pattern.
  - g. Tiles should be lightly butted together when placing the flooring into the adhesive.
  - h. Do not force tiles together creating a ledge condition at the seams and corners. Sliding tiles will result in forcing the adhesive out between the seams.
  - i. Work off the flooring when using SurvivorGrip or use kneeling boards.
  - j. Periodically, lift the corner of an installed tile to ensure proper transfer of adhesive.
  - k. Roll floor in both directions with a 100 pound 3 section roller. Use a hand roller in areas that cannot be reached with a large roller.
  - l. Inspect the floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.
3. Traffic:
  - a. No traffic for 24 hours after installation.
  - b. No heavy traffic, rolling loads, or furniture placement for 72 hours after installation
  - c. Adhesive Clean Up, Excess SurvivorGrip adhesive should be removed during the installation process.

## Pacific Rubber Tile Flooring Installation Instructions continued

- Before the adhesive sets, remove excess adhesive from flooring and clean tools with denatured alcohol applied to a clean white cloth. (Follow manufacturer's precautions for when using denatured alcohol.)
- Do not allow adhesive to dry on the flooring surface.
- Removing dried adhesive may cause irreparable damage to the flooring surface.

### Maintenance

1. Wait 72 hours after installation before performing initial cleaning.
2. A regular maintenance program must be started after the initial cleaning.
3. Refer to the Greatmats Pacific Rubber Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

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