

Installation Instructions for Rubber Mats

UPON DELIVERY OF PRODUCT

1. VERIFY packing slip matches with product and order.
2. INSPECT delivered product thoroughly. Report any discrepancies of original order, product defects, etc. No reimbursement/warranty claim will be given for labor on material installed with visual defects. Any defects – size, color, or otherwise – must be reported to the place of purchase prior to installation.
3. STORE product and adhesives in clean, dry, environment with temperatures between 70° and 95° F. (21° - 35°C)
4. READ these installation instructions, warranty and other disclaimers carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS

- Measuring Tape or Ruler
- Metal Straight Edge
- Non-Retractable Utility Knife w/ Extra Blades
- White Marker or Chalk
- Chalkline
- 2x4 Wood Block
- Cellophane, Masking or Packaging Tape
- Mallet
- Commercial Grade Caulking Gun
- Optional Seam Sealant

WARNING:

DO NOT use recycled rubber products in conjunction with any petroleum based products. This includes solvents, adhesives or sealants. All substrates (especially new concrete) must be fully cured for 45 to 60 days prior to installing rubber products.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: This installation guide is intended to provide the necessary information for the proper installation of rubber mats. These instructions are believed to be based on accepted industry standards and are provided for informational use only.

Installation Instructions for Rubber Mats

ADHESIVE

Protect unopened containers from heat and direct sunshine. In cool weather, store containers at temperatures of 70° to 95°F for at least 24 hours before using.

- Wear gloves during application; adhesive is difficult to remove from skin and clothing; if adhesive gets on skin, immediately wipe it off with a dry cloth.
- Do not apply on frozen surfaces or standing water.
- Avoid contact with water or alcohol before use and before complete cure.
- Do not use in areas subject to hydrostatic head pressure.
- Do not use on wet, contaminated, or friable substrates.
- It is the user's responsibility to check the adhesion of the cured adhesive on typical test areas at the project BEFORE application.

OPTIONAL SEAM SEALING

Urethane adhesive may be used to seal seams and create a one-piece floor. Urethane adhesive acts as a bonding agent that will waterproof flooring seams, and will be as flexible as the rubber it bonds. When sealing seams, you must leave a 1/4" gap between seams for adequate adhesive to penetrate adjacent pieces. To seal seams for waterproofing, sealant should be applied post-installation and applied thinly only to the seams. Either application must be allowed to cure for 48 hours prior to use.

To assure a strong bond, it is strongly recommended to thoroughly clean the edges of the mats by steam cleaning with a mild dish detergent or wiping with a denatured alcohol. Allow the mats to completely dry prior to applying sealant.

PREPARATION

Product

Rubber mats must reach ambient room temperature to ensure a secure, tight installation with minimal size fluctuation. Each piece should be allowed to set for a full 24 hours prior to beginning installation. This allows the product to size-stabilize at the typical room temperature. Inspect the product prior to installation for measurable defects or variations.

Sub-Surface

For best installation, any sub-floor should be reasonably flat and free of holes or variances of more than 1/8" (3.17mm).

1. All sub-floors should be structurally sound and fully cured for 45 to 60 days. Test floor for vapor drive in accordance with anhydrous calcium chloride test. Vapor drive should not exceed the industry standard of <3.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet (1.36kg/100sq m) in 24 hours.
2. Repair concrete and install joint sealants and fillers as necessary.
3. Mechanical surface profiling is the preferred floor preparation method. It is the only acceptable preparation method where warranties are issued. Acid etching is not recommended. Mechanically profile the floor to medium-grit sandpaper texture. Remove curing and parting compounds and other surface hardeners and floor coatings in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

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A. Concrete

New concrete must be allowed to cure thoroughly prior to installation (45 to 60 days). If sealants are used, **DO NOT USE ONE WITH PETROLEUM BASE**. Old concrete must be repaired and have joint sealants and fillers installed as necessary. All cracks or flaws should be filled in or repaired prior to covering with rubber products. Use patching materials as appropriate. Surface must be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, dust, grease, or other foreign matter by shot blasting or other mechanical means with a commercial degreaser and allowed to dry completely before beginning installation.

B. Wood Base

Wood surfaces should be completely cleaned of dirt, dust, grease or other foreign matter and be completely dry prior to installation. Trapped moisture may rot the wood. Nails or other protrusions should be pounded down or removed, holes repaired, and surface variances repaired within the 1/8" (3.17mm) acceptable variance level.

C. Asphalt

Asphalt requires the same preparation as concrete. However, due to variations in asphalt substrates, it is the user's responsibility to check the adhesion of the cured adhesive on typical test areas at the project **BEFORE** application.

D. Over Rock Base

Begin preparing the surface 2-3" below the level of the finished floor. Fill prepared area with 3/4" minus crushed gravel, decomposed granite or limestone product. Tamp fill down to 2-3" thickness, so that it is near level with the area of installation, minus the thickness of the rubber surfacing. A border should be installed to further house the surfacing once installed. This can be a concrete curb, wood or other permanent or semi-permanent board product. If a border is not an option, sealing/bonding the seams together is recommended with a urethane adhesive, using the instructions listed.

CLEANING

Indoors: Sweep, sponge mop or vacuum rubber flooring for everyday maintenance. Outdoors: Use of a water hose, leaf blower or broom is usually sufficient. Use the Neutral pH Cleaner & Degreaser with a sponge mop and water for more extensive cleaning. Please ask your sales representative for recommended cleaning agents. **DO NOT USE Petroleum Based Products To Clean Rubber.**

INSTALLATION

Indoors

1) Assume that the walls, and/or curbs the mats are abutting are not perfectly straight or square. Begin by determining the absolute center of the area to be installed. Determine the horizontal center. Snap a chalk line. Determine the vertical center. Snap a Chalk line. This will become the starting point.

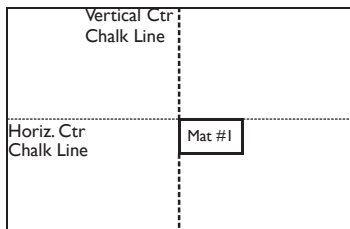
Installation Instructions for Rubber Mats

a. If Adhesives are Needed:

Apply urethane adhesive prior to laying each mat and apply only within the area of the mat to be laid down. The adhesive should be applied thinly and evenly with a 3/16" x 1/4" x 1/4" "V" trowel. Do not apply more adhesive than can be utilized within a 30 minute window. In ideal temperatures there is approximately 30 minutes of open time to apply the adhesive and maneuver the rubber mat onto the adhesive and position prior to curing onset. Wipe off excess adhesive on hands or equipment with mineral spirits. Gloves are strongly suggested during application, as the adhesive is aggressive on skin. DO NOT allow mineral spirits to come in contact with the rubber sheet goods.

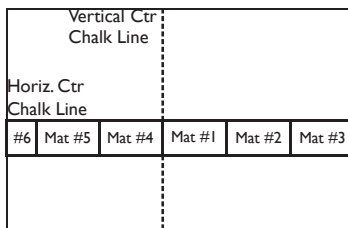
2) Place the first mat in the joint of the two chalk lines (Figure 1). Maneuver the rubber mat to lay precisely aligned within the two chalk lines by tapping with a mallet and wood block.

Figure 1



3) Place the next mat at one end of the original mat. (When butting one mat up to the next, adjacent to or end-to-end, overlap the joints by about 1/4". Then "walk" or "work" the joint back with your hands, to eliminate the overlap and to avoid adhesive (if used) being shoved into seam areas. This will help ensure tight joints without gapping. If gapping does begin to occur during installation, use masking, cellophane or packing tape to hold the mats together until the adhesive cures. Do not use duct tape as it may leave residue on the surface when removed.)

Figure 2



4) Continue this method to the wall or stopping point in that direction. Resume laying floor on the opposite side of the original mat and continue installation to the wall or stopping point in that direction. (Figure 2) If the rubber exceeds the floor space, use a straight edge and non-retractable utility knife to trim the excess length. (see cutting tips) NOTE: If using adhesive or tape: after the first 60 minutes have passed, and the adhesive has begun to set, thoroughly roll the first row of matting with a 50-100-lb carpet roller to assure bonding of the rubber to the adhesive. Be careful not to shift the roll outside of the chalk lines while rolling. Rolling should be done again at 75 and at 90 minutes after the initial placement of the mat onto the adhesive. Rolling should be done both widthwise and lengthwise. This will ensure maximum contact and ultimate bond.

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Figure 3

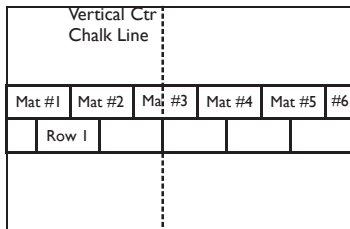
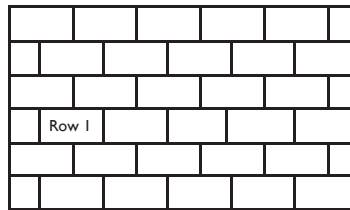


Figure 4



5) Begin laying the next row at one end of the room (Figure 3), adjacent to the first row, by applying adhesive first and then placing the mats, fine tuning placement with a 2x4 and mallet. To achieve the recommended "brick" (Figure 4) laying pattern, it may be necessary to cut the first and last mats (see cutting tips).

ADHESIVE CLEAN UP TIPS:

Before troweling with urethane adhesive, cover the unused portions of the trowel with duct tape. After troweling, tear off the tape before the material cures. Clean all tools and excess adhesive immediately after use with mineral spirits. Use proper precautions when handling solvents. Cured adhesive can be removed by cutting with a mechanical tool. DO NOT allow mineral spirits to come in contact with the rubber sheet goods.

Outdoors

Outdoor installations may require complete adhesion for maximum floor strength. Use the same procedures as in the indoor installation, using the urethane adhesive process. Using a sealant will also add strength and immobility to the floor (if using a seam sealant, leave 1/4" gap between mats). Take note of the outdoor temperature when using adhesive, as it will affect the curing time. In some areas, evening or night installations are best due to extreme heat. Colored product installed outdoors will be subject to harsh UV rays, and as such may discolor.

CUTTING TIPS

When using a utility knife, be sure to keep the blades sharp to aid in the cut, and help reduce the possibility of injury due to dull blades.

1. Mark the mats you will need to cut with chalk or a chalk line.
2. Put your straight edge on the corresponding marks you have placed on the mats.
3. Holding the straight edge firmly in place, score the mats two or three times**
4. Grab the mat close to the score line, lift and bend the mat toward you. The score line will "break open".
5. Make several more passes with the knife, working down the established cut, until the cut is complete.

**This process may be made easier by cutting the mat on a raised surface such as the 2x4 wood block used during installation. Gravity will depress the cut edge down and away from the cut, and will be less likely to catch the knife blade.

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DISCLAIMER:

Recycled rubber, as with any recycled product, can vary. Tolerances in thickness and width have been made as stringent as is possible, but some variance is to be expected. Rubber's nature is to expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity.

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