

Installing Forbo Sheet Vinyl Flooring

8.2 INSTALLING FORBO SHEET VINYL FLOORING

GENERAL INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

General Installation Guidelines

- Smaragd, TractionStep, TractionStep Slip Resistant, and Eternal Wood and Form may be installed on approved substrates on all grade levels.
- The permanent HVAC must be operational and set at a minimum of 68° F (20° C) at least one week prior to installation. Acclimate material to jobsite conditions for a minimum of 48 hrs. prior to installation.
- Always conduct moisture tests on all concrete slabs regardless of age or grade level.
- Conduct calcium chloride tests in accordance with ASTM F1869. Concrete moisture vapor emissions must not exceed 5.0 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. in 24 hrs. when using Forbo V 920 or C 930 adhesive, or 3.0 lbs per 1000 sq. ft. in 24 hrs. when using Forbo 540 or 540 EL adhesive (available in Canada only). When moisture vapor emissions exceed these requirements, please request information on Forbo Moisture Limitor.
- Measure the relative humidity in the center of the concrete slab in accordance with ASTM F2170. Relative humidity must not exceed 75%.
- A pH test should be conducted and must not exceed a pH of 10
- Always conduct an adhesive mat bond test. Bond testing will aid in determining the proper working time of the adhesive and identify bonding problems prior to the installation.
- Material should always be visually inspected prior to installation. If there are any questions regarding the quality of material, contact your local Forbo representative or Forbo Technical Services PRIOR to installation.
Any costs (including labor) associated with the replacement of material that was installed with visual defects that could have been seen prior to installation are not covered under warranty.
- Use Forbo V 920 adhesive or Forbo 540 adhesive (available in Canada only).
- Use a 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" fine notch trowel only.
- Forbo sheet vinyl flooring products have a glass fiber interlayer which gives them their dimensional stability. These materials will not shrink or compress. If cut too full or back rolled, it will result in a bubble.
- Install rolls and cuts in consecutive order.
- Reverse sheets for seaming when installing Smaragd, TractionStep, TractionStep Slip Resistant, and Eternal Form.
- Do Not Reverse sheets for seaming when installing Eternal Wood.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- Ensure that all recommendations for subfloor and jobsite conditions are met prior to beginning the installation. Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions by the parties involved.

CUTTING AND FITTING SHEETS

Forbo sheet vinyls are very flexible and easy to handle. In most cases a qualified installer will be able to hand fit the material in areas where base or trim moldings will be installed after the installation is completed. NOTE: For installation into wet areas or ramps, see page 19 for proper adhesive recommendation.

NOTE: Because of the abrasive qualities of the metalized carborundum chips in the Step products, knife blades will have a very short life.

1. Cut the required length off the roll, including enough to run up the wall 2-3" at either end.
2. Push the length of the sheet as close to the starting wall as possible, letting the extra length run up the wall at each end.

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1.



3. Set the scribes to a minimum of 3/8" more than the greatest distance between the wall and the flooring material. Scribe the shape of the wall onto the flooring. Next, cut the material along the scribe line using a hooked blade knife (Fig. 1).
4. Push the fitted sheet tightly against the wall.
5. Trim approximately 1/2" off salvage edge of seam with a straightedge and sharp knife.
6. Cut second sheet with proper extra length.
7. Position second sheet with a 1/2"-1" overlap over first sheet at the seam.
8. Repeat steps 5, 6, 7, for as many sheets as necessary to complete the area or those sheets that can be installed that day.
9. Lap back all overlapped sheets as one, half way back. DO NOT BACK ROLL VINYL BACKED FLOORINGS.
10. Snap chalk line along area where adhesive will be spread to assure an even and straight line of adhesive. Spread adhesive over the entire area. Be very careful not to leave any adhesive ridges or puddles. On non-porous substrates, let adhesive flash off before laying flooring in to it. On porous substrates, the flooring may be laid in to the wet adhesive.

NOTE: The actual open time and working time of adhesives is determined by the ambient air temperature and humidity, the amount of air circulation, the substrate type and porosity, the working characteristics of the adhesive being used, and the trowel notch being used. Adjustments to recommended open and working times might be necessary as site conditions vary. See Adhesives for additional information regarding adhesive open time and working time.

2.



11. Push lapped flooring from the fold onto adhesive one sheet at a time, working toward the wall. DO NOT FLOP MATERIAL IN – air will be trapped, causing bubbles.
12. Roll floor with 100 lb. roller in both directions. Roll across with width first, then across the length.

NOTE: To ensure proper bonding of the material, it is recommended to roll the material next to the walls with a hand seam roller.

13. After material has been laid into the adhesive, underscribe the seams using the short scribes with either the scribe blade or scribe pin (Fig. 2).

NOTE: Set scribes so that the seam will have a slight gap, about half the thickness of a razor blade. If cut too full, it will result in bubbles or ridges. Heat welding Forbo Vinyl Sheet flooring is required.

14. Cut material along scribe line with hooked knife.
15. Roll the seam with a hand roller.
16. Repeat the same procedure on the other half of the room. TAKE CAUTION NOT TO OVERLAP ADHESIVE LINES OR LEAVE RIDGES OF ADHESIVE. IT MAY TELEGRAPH THROUGH THE MATERIAL.
17. Heat weld seams the following day. See heat welding instructions.

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Installing Tractionstep SD

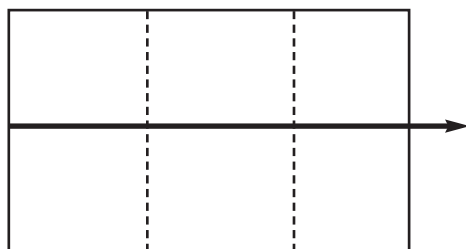
The installation of Tractionstep SD is the same as for standard Tractionstep except for the adhesive and grounding procedure.

- Use only Forbo C 930 or Forbo 540 EL (available in Canada only) adhesive.
- Use a 1/16" X 1/16" X 1/16" square notch trowel.

Grounding Instructions:

For Installations of 2,000 sq ft or less

Install fabric grounding strap into wet adhesive the entire width of the room running crosswise to the direction of the Tractionstep "SD" sheets. Allow enough excess to connect to the ESD control system ground.



For Installations of 2,000 sq ft or greater

At 20 foot intervals install fabric grounding strap into wet adhesive the entire width of the room running crosswise to the direction of the Tractionstep "SD" sheets. At the side walls, run a grounding strap, perpendicular to and overlapping the other straps the entire length of room. Allow enough excess to connect to the ESD control system grou

