

# Installation Guidance Note:

## Coral Tiles - Fast Flooring / Pro Fit Quattro

The following information is provided to highlight important product and installation characteristics for Coral Tiles – Fast Flooring/ Pro Fit Quattro. The aesthetic and long-term performance of carpet tiles are dependent on a correct installation.

### General Advice

The appearance, performance and durability of the installed floorcovering will be determined to a large extent by the quality of the prepared subfloor and the conditions in which they are laid.

The installation of Coral Tiles should be carried out in accordance with the national code of practice for the installation of textile floor coverings if applicable. Areas to receive flooring should be clean, free from other trades, fully enclosed and weather tight. Subfloors should be clean, smooth, sound and permanently dry.

- Problems associated with plasticizer migration from PVC flooring can lead to dimensional instability in carpet tiles. All subfloors of this type must be removed before installation.
- Forbo does not recommend installing over finished wood flooring products, such as parquet or wood strip flooring.
- Raised access flooring panels have a tendency to settle shortly after installation and this should be taken into account when assessing the appearance of the tile installation fitted onto such flooring systems. Ridges between uneven raised access floor panels will telegraph through to the finished tile installation. Uneven or loose floor panels should be levelled or re-fixed before installing Coral tiles.

**Note:** unevenness between raised access floor panels will adversely affect the integrity of the seam between the tiles and causes lifting of the tiles and open or raised seams in between the tiles in the loose laid installation

Areas to receive flooring shall be adequately lit to allow for proper inspection of the substrate, installation and for final inspection.

It is essential that the laying area is at a steady temperature of 18 to 27°C for 48 hours prior to, during, and for 24 hours after installation. Prior to installation, the carpet tiles must be allowed to acclimatize. This is particularly important if the boxes have been stored or delivered in conditions of extreme temperature and/or humidity. Where the floorcoverings have been stored or transported immediately prior to delivery in temperatures below 10°C the acclimatization period should be extended to 48 hours. Where national codes of practice exist they take precedence over these guidelines.

Ensure that all recommendations for substrate and jobsite conditions are met prior to beginning the installation. Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions by the parties involved and liability for any failure directly related to inadequate site conditions becomes the responsibility of the installer and/or flooring contractor.

## Underfloor Heating

Coral tiles are thermal insulators (Tog value typically 1.0 – 1.1) and this should be taken into account when using with underfloor heating systems. Forbo Flooring products may be installed over underfloor heated floors providing the maximum surface temperature of the substrate does not exceed 27°C under any condition of use.

## Inspection

As with any floor covering, the use of different production batches will always result in visible shade differences. It is essential that different batches are not mixed in the same area. When ordering tiles, each floor area (plus spares) must be specified from the same batch.

Prior to installation, boxes should be checked to ensure that the correct tile type, colour, batch number and quantity have been received and that the tiles are in good condition. No claim will be accepted for incorrect colour, pattern or obvious damage if the tiles have been fitted.

The batch number is clearly marked on the side of each box and must be checked before commencement of installation with the other boxes.

## Application

Carpet tiles are using a hook tape pads for a stable connection between the tiles. The pad are equip with a black and a transparent side where the black side is the subfloor side and the transparent side is the hook tape side.

The pads can be separated in two parts during installation when small cuts are installed to fixtures e.g. walls, edge strips etc. to ensure to have enough pads for the whole installation.

**Note:** when tiles are installed in a mat well or enclosed by skirting boards or other fixed perimeters it can be consider to install tiles without the use of the hook pads. When tile edges keeps visible after installation it is advisable to reinstall with use of the hook pads

## Installation

The following instructions are intended to draw the fitter's attention to current "Best Practice", and must be followed for the relevant product guarantees to be valid. Installation must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of this guidance along with local codes of practice where applicable.

## General

Any carpet tile can be susceptible to a certain amount of pile distortion when they are taken out of their boxes. This may result in visual differences in appearance between tiles, during, and immediately following, installation. Tile edges may also be more evident immediately after installation.

these are not manufacturing defects, and after fitting and assuming normal prevailing conditions (under dynamic foot movement) this visual differential will diminish as the pile recovers to its natural position.

**Note:** as with any cut pile carpet, cut pile carpet tiles may be subject to some pile shedding following installation. This is not a product fault and if any pile shedding does occur, it will effectively cease after several cycles of vacuum cleaning and normal use.

## Floor protection

Tiles should be protected from dirt and dust before, during and after installation. Failure to do so may affect the performance warranty. When using protective sheeting ensure that all edges are sealed to prevent building debris and dust settling on the carpet tiles. Ensure that any adhesive tape residues on the carpet tile pile surface are removed before use.

## Conditioning

Prior to installation, the carpet tiles must be allowed to acclimatize in opened boxes in the laying area at a steady temperature of 18 to 27°C, no more than six boxes high, for at least 24 hours.

## Setting Out

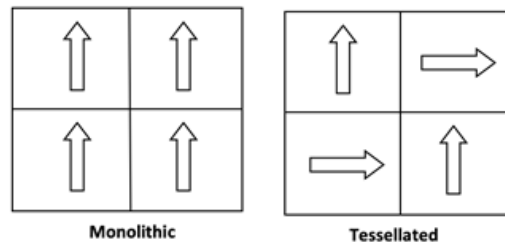
The location of the starting point of an installation is usually determined by the fitter to maximize the yield.

This may be anywhere in the room, but would normally be located as near to the true centre as possible. Small cuts in either the field or perimeter should be avoided.

Having established the starting point for the installation, making some check measurements or dry laying a few rows of tiles will help to identify any potential problems or necessary adjustments to avoid small perimeter cuts.

### Pile Direction

The arrow marks on the reverse of every tile indicate the direction of pile lay. The preference of the specifier as to “Monolithic”, “Tessellated” or other visual effects must be confirmed before tiles are installed.



**Note:** the term ‘broadloom’ is often used as an alternative description of Monolithic. Whichever term is used, it refers to the installation direction of the carpet tiles.

### Fitting tiles

It is important when fitting Coral tiles to ensure that they are each carefully placed against the adjacent tiles - do not slide the tiles into place.

Ensure that each tile butts up to its adjacent tile as tightly as possible without placing the tile any pressure which may cause peaking.

### Fitting edge tiles and cuts

It is important when fitting Coral tiles cuts to skirting boards or other fixed perimeters that the tile/cut has sufficient tolerance to allow the tile/cut to drop into place without exerting any pressure. Any tiles/cuts fitted under pressure may be subject to lifting, this will cause differences in height between the adjacent tile and be visible in the installation.

### Pile trapping

It is essential that no pile material becomes trapped between tiles during placing in position of the tiles.

Any trapped pile will distort the overall tile adhesion bond which may affect the long-term tile bonding as well as negatively affecting the tile edge aesthetic.

### If in any doubt contact us:

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