

Installation Guidance Note: Marmoleum Modular Tiles

General Advice

The installation of Marmoleum Modular should be carried out in accordance with BS8203 code of practice for the installation of resilient floor coverings. Subfloors should be clean, smooth, sound and permanently dry.

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.

Marmoleum Modular can be used in conjunction with under-floor heating systems. A separate guidance note

"Installation of Forbo PVC and Linoleum Floor Coverings on Underfloor Heating Systems"

provides more information on the conditions for installation in such circumstances.

Acclimatisation

Remove boxes of tile from the delivery pallet (if applicable) and stacked no more than five boxes high in the installation areas for not less than 24 Hours.

In accordance with BS8203, the acclimatisation time should be extended to 48 hours if materials have been stored or transported at temperatures less than 10°C immediately prior to delivery.

Adhesive Recommendations

Forbo recommend Eurocol 414 Euroflex Lino Plus or Eurocol 646 Eurostar Premium (a low emission -EC1 adhesive) for Marmoleum tiles.

Installation options

To ensure optimum seam quality, Marmoleum Modular tiles are manufactured with slightly undercut edges.

Square tiles are recommended to be laid tessellated or chequerboard and are produced with the undercut on two sides.

Marmoleum Modular rectangular tiles are undercut on all four sides to ensure that whichever way you choose to lay these tiles for example; broadloom, staggered, chevron or herringbone, the optimal joint between tiles will be achieved.

Points to note;

Wherever possible, cuts of less than 60mm or so should be avoided as these are more likely to come loose at some stage in the life of the installation.

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.

If the subfloor has slight undulations some rows of tiles may 'gain' on others in a large area. A new line should be struck when this becomes apparent and tiles trimmed back to this line with a straight edge.

Manufacturers will produce tiles to International standard tolerances. Tiles in different batches or of different colours may be well within tolerance but of fractionally different sizes. Particularly if laying a chequerboard pattern check the different colours and see if finger pressure on butting up needs to be less with one than with the other.

Marmoleum tiles should be laid and rolled with a 68 kg roller within the open time of the adhesive. It is therefore important to only spread sufficient adhesive that can be covered within the open time of the adhesive. The adhesive must be spread evenly over the entire floor area with particular attention to edges – this will ensure any perimeter tile cuts are fully bonded.

N.B. the open time of the adhesive will depend on site conditions and porosity of the base.

Areas that cannot be rolled with the large roller e.g. abutments such as architraves or skirting boards should be rolled with a hand roller or pressed into the adhesive with a rubbing hammer.

Always clean away excess adhesive with a damp cloth before it is allowed to dry.

As with all newly installed floor coverings Marmoleum Modular tiles should be protected from heavy traffic for 24 hours and must not be washed for 48 hours after installation.

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Additional Reference documents and information:

Forbo Floor Coverings Installation Guide: www.forbo-flooring.co.uk BS8203:2001+A1:2009

The CFA Guide to Contract Flooring (Tel: 01159 411126)

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