

Installation Guidance Note: Marmoleum sheet

General Advice

Subfloor preparation for, and installation of, Marmoleum should be carried out in accordance with BS8203 code of practice for the installation of resilient floor coverings. As with all resilient floor coverings, bases 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 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.

Adhesive Recommendations

Forbo recommend Eurocol 514 Euroflex Lino Plus adhesive for Marmoleum. If a low emission EC1 adhesive is required, Eurocol 614 Eurostar Lino Plus may be used.

Installation

Cut the sheet material to the required length and then back roll each cut length before scribing in the ends to release any roll tension from the winding of the sheet linoleum.

Cutting Linoleum seams

Whether seams are to be welded or not, they should be formed to leave a tight butt joint. However, when cutting seams in linoleum sheet, allowance must be made for a fractional expansion in the width of the hessian backed material as it picks up moisture from the adhesive. This

expansion is minute and will be halted by the curing of the special linoleum adhesive, but unless allowed for in cutting, the seams will peak and fail.

Using a straight edges and pin vice

Cut a true edge on the first sheet with a straight edge. Leave this sheet overlapping the second sheet. Score the second sheet by running the pin vice along the true edge. Make sure the pin vice is vertical and pressed against the true edge. Cut through with straight and hooked blades, keeping the waste to the outside of the cutting hand and thereby giving a slight undercut. The resultant gap between the two sheets will be about half the thickness of the pin.

Cutting seams using recess scribers (overs and unders).

Cut a true edge on the first sheet as above using straight edge.

Set the 'over and unders' so that the upper scribe pin is offset to produce a gap in the seam of about the thickness of a pin of a pin vice. Test the setting on the few centimetres nearest the wall and adjust if necessary. Place the second sheet over the first. Keeping the 'under' firmly against the now

Cut through with straight and hooked blades, as above. The resultant gap between the two sheets will be about half the thickness of a pin of a pin vice as above.

Seam Welding linoleum

A correctly cut seam will close tightly during the curing of the adhesive and will not open up during the life of the linoleum. Tight butt seams are often considered to be aesthetically better

than welded seams. This is particularly so in the case of plain and cork linoleums such as Walton and Touch. So if the installer possesses the skills to achieve a good seam, and if the application allows, welding of Marmoleum is not obligatory.

If seam welding is required due to the area of application such as hospitals where hygiene is important please refer to our separate installation guidance note "Welding Linoleum".

Points to note;

Marmoleum 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 that the sheet is fully bonded at the perimeters..

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 should be protected from heavy traffic for 24 hours and must not be washed for 48 hours after installation.

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)