

## Installation Guidelines for Allura Tile

---

### General Installation Guidelines

- Allura Tile may be installed on approved substrates on all grade levels.
- Areas to receive flooring should be clean, fully enclosed and weathertight. The permanent HVAC must be fully operational, controlled and set at a minimum of 68° F (20° C) for a minimum of seven days prior to, during, and seven days after the installation. The flooring material should be conditioned in the same environment for at least 48 hours prior to the installation. Areas to receive flooring shall be adequately lighted to allow for proper inspection of the substrate, installation and seaming of the flooring, and for final inspection.
- Always conduct moisture tests on any concrete slab, regardless of age or grade level.
- Conduct calcium chloride tests in accordance with ASTM F 1869. Concrete moisture vapor emissions must not exceed 8.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet in 24 hours when using Forbo V 885 adhesive. When moisture vapor emissions exceed these requirements, please request information on Forbo Moisture Limitor.
- Measure the internal relative humidity of the concrete slab in accordance with ASTM F 2170. Relative humidity must not exceed 85% when using Forbo V 885 adhesive.
- Concrete surface pH must be tested and must not exceed a pH of 11 when using Forbo V 885 adhesive.
- Always conduct adhesive mat bond tests. Bond testing will aid in determining the proper open and working times of the adhesive and help to 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.
- **Forbo's 5-Year Limited Warranty covers manufacturing defects only. Additional 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 885 adhesive.
- Use a 1/32" X 1/16" X 1/32" U notch trowel.
- Make sure all material is from the same batch number. Mix tiles from several boxes.
- Do not remove more tile from the box than can be installed in approximately 1 hour.
- Install cartons in consecutive order.
- Install tiles into wet adhesive and roll with a 100 pound roller before the adhesive has dried. Always check for proper adhesive transfer. In order to achieve a secure bond, there must be a complete wet transfer of adhesive to the tile backing.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- 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.

### Adhesive Application

1. Use only a 1/32" X 1/16" X 1/32" U notch trowel. A short open time will often be necessary to allow the adhesive to develop body. The tile **MUST** be placed into the adhesive before it has had an opportunity to dry. This enables a complete wet transfer of the proper amount of adhesive to the tile backing and is essential for a secure bond. When installing over non-porous substrates, such as existing flooring, terrazzo, etc., a longer open time may be appropriate, but *under no circumstances should the adhesive be allowed to dry before placing the tile into the 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. It is the installer's responsibility to make adjustments to specific conditions as may be necessary.

2. Immediately after placing the material into the adhesive, roll the tile in both directions using a 100 pound roller.

## Installation Guidelines for Allura Tile

---

### Installation

1. Begin laying tiles at the starting point, ensuring that the tile is laid exactly along the layout lines. If the first few tiles are not installed accurately, the entire installation will be affected.
2. Because the tiles must be installed into wet adhesive, do not spread the adhesive in an area larger than tile can be installed while the adhesive is still wet.
3. The time it takes to mark and cut the border tiles must be taken into consideration when planning the installation. Without adequate planning, it is likely that the working time of the adhesive in the area of the border tiles will be exceeded before the tiles are installed, which will result in an inadequate bond of the border tiles. The successful installation of border tiles is best accomplished by following one of two strategies:
  - a. When laying out tile, determine the edge of a field tile a comfortable distance from each wall and then snap chalk lines around the perimeter of the room. When spreading adhesive, use these lines as a guide to stop spreading adhesive and install the field tile up to the adhesive spread lines. Once the field tiles have been installed, the border tiles and be “dry” fitted (before spreading the adhesive). After the border tiles have been cut, adhesive can be applied in the area of the border tiles and the tiles can be placed immediately into the wet adhesive.
  - b. Plan the sequence of spreading adhesive so that the border tiles can be cut and placed into the adhesive before the adhesive working time has been exceeded.
4. Immediately after installation, roll the tile with a 100 pound roller in both directions to ensure adequate transfer of adhesive to the backing. Re-roll the tile periodically to ensure that the tile remains in contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying.

Forbo’s Installation Guide contains additional information on substrate evaluation and preparation, and is available for download at [www.forboflooringna.com](http://www.forboflooringna.com). For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services at +800 842 7839.

