

Installation Guidelines: Allura Flex

General Installation Guidelines

- Allura Flex 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 material and adhesive 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.
- Store Allura Flex in cartons stacked and laying flat.
- Always conduct moisture tests on **all** concrete substrates, regardless of age or grade level.
- Determine the moisture vapor emission rate (MVER) of the concrete by testing conducted in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F 1869. The MVER of the concrete must not exceed 5.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet in 24 hours when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive. When moisture vapor emissions exceed these requirements, refer to the Moisture Limitor section of Forbo's Installation Guide for additional information.
- Determine the internal relative humidity of the concrete by testing conducted in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F 2170. The internal relative humidity of the concrete must not exceed 75% when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive. When the internal relative humidity exceeds these requirements, refer to the Moisture Limitor section of Forbo's Installation Guide for additional information.
- The concrete surface pH must be tested and must not exceed a pH of 10 when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive. Concrete substrates with pH readings less than 7.0 or above 10.0 will require remediation prior to installation.
- Always conduct adhesive mat bond tests before beginning the installation. Bond testing will aid in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (open time and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.
- 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.
- 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.
- Use Forbo FRT 950 adhesive.
- Use a 3/8" nap roller to apply the adhesive.
- Use material from the same batch/dye lot. 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.
- Roll immediately with a 100 pound roller in both directions and check for proper adhesive transfer.
- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Dried adhesive residue can be removed with a clean white cloth and mineral spirits.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- For additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services.

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Applying Adhesive

1. After establishing the starting lines, apply Forbo FRT 950 adhesive with a 3/8" nap roller.
2. Allow the adhesive to turn clear and dry to the touch before installing the Allura Flex. After turning clear, the flooring **MUST** be placed into the adhesive within four hours.
3. When installing over non-porous substrates, such as existing flooring, terrazzo, etc., a longer open time may be required for adhesive to dry.

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. It is the installer's responsibility to make adjustments to specific conditions as may be necessary.

Installing Allura Flex

1. Beginning at the starting point and carefully following the starting lines, install the Allura Flex 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.
NOTE: Most Allura Flex designs are non-directional; however, the following installation advice is given. Stone, concrete and sand tiles may be laid either in bond (broadloom) or brick pattern. Textile designs should be installed checkerboard. Traditional wood designs do not require shuffling prior to installation, but dry laying will identify best use of design.
2. Cut the perimeter tiles to size using a utility knife.
3. Roll the completed installation 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.
4. Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Dried adhesive residue can be removed with a clean white cloth and mineral spirits.

Forbo's Installation Guide contains additional information on substrate evaluation and preparation, and is available for download at www.forboflooringna.com. For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services at +800 842 7839.