

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.

Subfloor preparation should be carried out in accordance with BS8203:2017 Code of practice for the installation of resilient floor coverings. Areas to receive flooring should be clean, free from other trades, fully enclosed and weather tight. Subfloors should be clean and free of contaminants, smooth, sound and permanently dry.

Always conduct moisture tests on **all** substrates. All ground based level floors should have an effective moisture barrier.

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. The material and adhesive should be conditioned in the same environment for at least 24 hours prior to the installation. Where the floorcoverings have been stored or transported immediately prior to delivery in temperatures below 10°C the acclimatisation period should be extended to 48 hours.

Marmoleum tiles should be stored in cartons stacked no more than five boxes high laying flat.

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

Use material from the same batch/dye lot and install in sequence. The use of different production batches will always result in visible shade differences. The batch number is clearly marked on the material packaging and must be checked before commencement of installation.

Do not remove more tiles from the box than can be installed within 1 hour.

Square tiles should be installed in alternating directions (tessellated). Rectangular tiles may be installed in any direction.

As with all newly installed floor coverings Marmoleum Modular should be protected from heavy traffic for 48 hours or, if the floor is to be subjected to high point load or wheeled traffic, for five days. The floor must **not** be washed for 48 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 and application

Forbo recommend either Eurocol 414 Euroflex Lino Plus adhesive for Marmoleum tile or, if a low emission EC1 adhesive is required, Eurocol 646 Eurostar Premium should be used. Use a B1 or 6mm x 2mm V notched trowel to apply Eurocol 414 or an A3 trowel to apply Eurocol 646.

Note: Trowels will wear during use, check the trowel both before and during use to ensure that the proper, specified trowel notch is used and maintained.

The open time of the adhesive will depend on site conditions and porosity of the base. It is best practice to conduct an adhesive bond test before starting the installation. Bond testing will assist in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (waiting and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.

A short waiting 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.

Install tiles into wet adhesive and roll with a 68 kg 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. Remember to take into account your open time from the results of the bond test.

Note: 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.

Areas that cannot be rolled with the large roller e.g. abutments such as door frames 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.

If alternative adhesives are to be used consult with the supplier for usage information, guidance and warranty.

Installation

Layout

1. Forbo tile products are installed using conventional tile installation techniques.
2. It is customary to start from the center of the room. In corridors and small spaces, it may be simpler to work lengthwise from one end, using the center line as a guide.
3. The center line is drawn as follows: a chalk line is snapped from center of wall A-B (=E) to the center of wall C-D (=F). The center of line E-F is found (M). Draw a perpendicular line through M using the 3:4:5 method to establish G-H (Figure A).
4. Starting at center point M, measure out lengthwise and widthwise to the walls. 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.
Adjust the position of lines E-F and G-H if necessary.

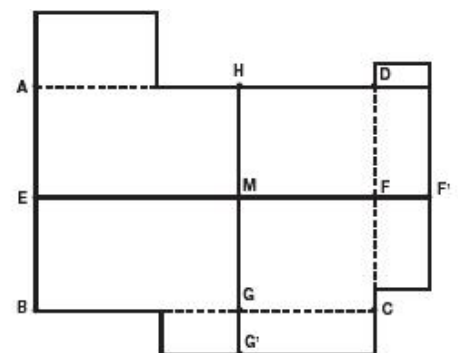
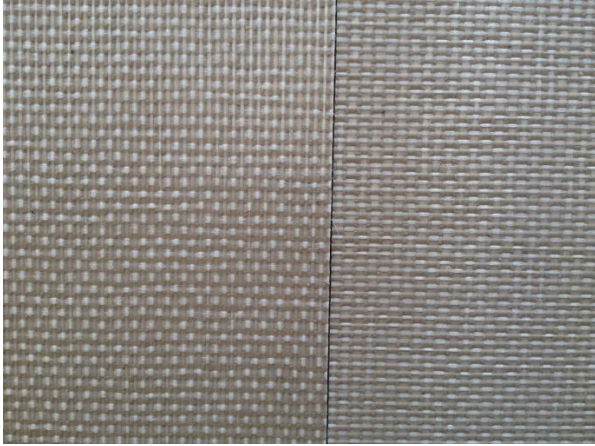


Figure A

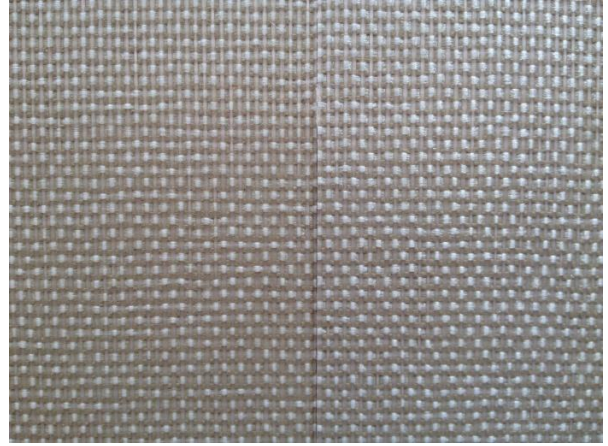
Laying Tiles

Marmoleum Modularsquare tiles should be laid tessellated.

With most designs, the manufacturing direction of the tiles can be seen by the direction of the structure i.e. the marble direction). If it is difficult to see by the structure, for example with plainer designs, it is also possible to see the direction of the tile by looking at the poleyester backing.



Correct



Incorrect

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 the tiles can be installed while the adhesive is still wet. 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.
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 tiles up to the adhesive spread lines. Once the field tiles have been installed, the border tiles can 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 placing the tiles into wet adhesive, roll the tiles with a 68 kg roller in both directions to ensure adequate transfer of adhesive to the backing. Re-roll the tiles periodically to ensure that the tile remains in contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying. 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.

On completion of the installation

First impressions may have more impact on the client than hours of skilled fitting.

The completed installation should be cleared of scrap material and debris, the floor swept or vacuumed and any traces of adhesive residues removed from the floor and skirtings.

As with all newly installed floor coverings Marmoleum should be protected from heavy traffic for 48 hours or, if the floor is to be subjected to high point load or wheeled traffic, for five days.

If the floor covering is to be protected from other trades or site traffic prior to project completion, a protection product should be chosen that is appropriate for the type and level of traffic likely to be experienced and the potential for impact, scratching or indentation damage.

In many cases it is customary for the initial floor preparation to be left, or subcontracted, to a professional cleaning and maintenance contractor who will have the staff and equipment to do the job thoroughly. The floor must not be washed for 48 hours after installation.

If the optimum performance of any new floor covering is to be achieved, it is important that the correct cleaning and maintenance procedures are used from day one. Cleaning and maintenance guides for all Forbo Flooring linoleum products are available for download at: www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/linoleumdownloads.

Cleaning and maintenance guides should be passed onto the main contractor, client or end user as appropriate on completion of the installation, and before any hand over clean is started.

If in any doubt contact us:

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Additional Reference documents and information:

Forbo Floor Coverings Installation Guide: www.forbo-flooring.co.uk

BS8203:2017

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