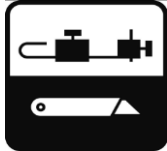


Preparing the subfloor for Flotex Tiles



The quality of the finished installation will depend on the quality of the subfloor.

In principle what is felt by the hand will be seen by the eye.

Irregularities in the subfloor will be apparent in the finished flooring. All subfloors should be smooth, sound, clean and permanently dry in accordance with AS 1884-2012 "Floor coverings - Resilient sheet and tiles – Installation practices."

Chipboard/Particle board; must be overlaid with flooring grade hardboard or plywood to prevent future potential movement. Plywood subfloors that have been treated against termite attack should be overlaid with a flooring grade underlayment.

Acclimatisation

Prior to installation, boxes of tiles should be removed from the delivery pallet and stored not more than five boxes high in the laying area. Material must be acclimatised between 18°C to 27°C for at least 24 hours before installation and the temperature maintained during laying.

The conditioning time should be extended to 48 hours if materials have been stored or transported at temperatures less than 10°C immediately prior to delivery.

Laying Flotex tiles

- The arrow marks on the reverse of every tile indicate the direction of pile lay.
- The preference of the specifier as to "broadloom", "tessellated" or indicated on product sample books and below, but if there is any doubt check with Forbo Flooring prior to installation.
- Tile must be laid butt jointed, fitted tightly and cut accurately at perimeters. Tiles can be cut using a utility knife.

Installation

Flotex tile should be installed using a high tackifier (pressure sensitive) adhesive.

Forbo recommends Forbo PS1 Tile Fix. Adhesives must be applied in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

- **It is essential that a full spread Forbo PS1 Tile Fix tackifier PS adhesive is allowed to dry clear and tacky before laying the Flotex tiles.** Failure to do so could result in a permanent non-release bond and cause adhesive to seep through joints.
- Ensure that each tile butts up to its neighbour as firmly (net) as possible without causing edge peaks, cut the perimeter tiles firmly against the wall.
- Roll completed installation with a minimum 34kg 2 - 3 wheeled roller.
- In high wheeled traffic areas of high point loading and where tiles are not constrained by fixtures e.g. walls, transition profiles. **DO NOT** use tackifier adhesives. Instead use a wet set permanent bond vinyl adhesive such as Forbo Fix 540.

Batch Matching

As with any floorcovering use of different production batches will always result in visible shade differences. It is essential that different batches are not mixed in the same area. When ordering tiles, each floor area must be specified from the same batch. The batch number is clearly marked on the reverse of tile products and must be checked before commencement of installation.

Forbo PS1 Tile Fix – Tackifier Pressure Sensitive Adhesive



Stir adhesive well before use.

Priming of porous concrete and none overlaid timber (plywood) subfloors with an acrylic floor primer is highly recommended.

General areas:

Forbo PS1 Tile Fix Tackifier Pressure Sensitive Adhesive; Apply with a long nap roller (minimum of 10 mm pile height). Allow adhesive to dry and turn clear leaving an even tacky film. Install tiles and roll accordingly. Spread rate using a long nap roll – approximately 8m² per litre.

High point load wheeled traffic areas, tiles installed on stairs and under floor heating:

Forbo Fix 540 vinyl adhesive; Spread rate V1 trowel – approximately 5m² per litre.

Spread rate is a guide only, depending on the porosity of the subfloor.

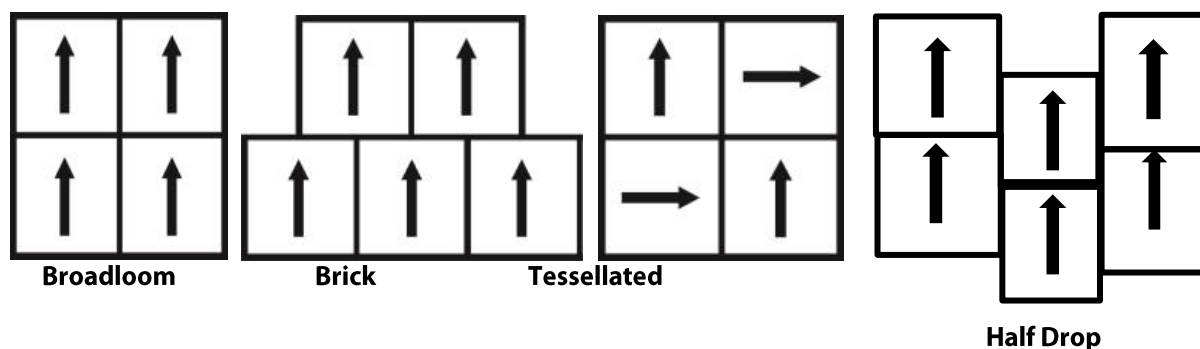
Highly absorbent subfloors must be primed prior to the application of adhesive.

Wet adhesive can be removed with a clean rag dampened with clean water.

Dry adhesive can be removed with a clean rag dampened with mineral turpentine.

Areas that could be affected by intense heat magnification from direct sunlight passage through window areas – Use a hard set adhesive.

Tile Installation options:



Flotex Tile Range Recommended Laying Options:

Integrity 2:	Tessellated
Complexity:	Tessellated; Brick
Pinstripe:	Tessellated; Brick; Half drop
Stratus & Cirrus:	Broadloom; Tessellated; Brick; Half drop

Tile set out for corridors and main traffic paths:

To forestall potential problems with the deviation of wheeled traffic when crossing the dense pile of Flotex, we strongly recommend that the tiles be laid in a broadloom direction along the main traffic paths. On the back of each tile is a pile direction arrow. All tiles ranges except the "tessellated" installation option can be installed in the direction of the arrows as shown in the diagram.

At the junctions of corridors a contrasting colour boarder can be used to disguise changes of design features and areas of non-critical light direction which could give slight shade variations to the colour of the adjoining tiles.



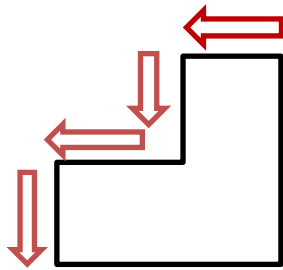
Installation of tiles on stairs:

The tiles must be adhered with a permeant bond adhesive.

The stairs should always be fitted with stair nosings.

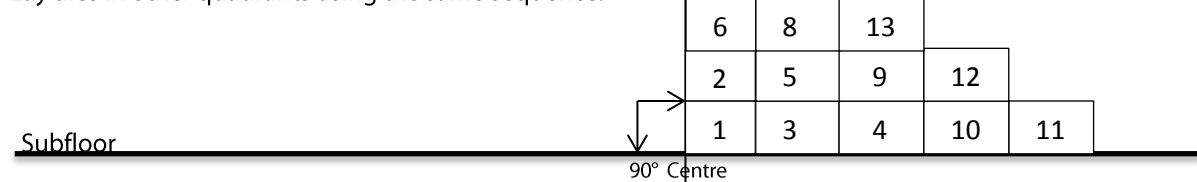
The stair tread tiles must be installed with the arrows facing towards the direct of the stair nosing.

The stair riser tiles must be installed with the arrows facing down towards the stair nosing.



Tile installation sequence to minimise tile runout:

Lay tiles in other quadrants using the same sequence.



Under floor heating; as with all Forbo floorcoverings, Flotex tiles can be used in conjunction with under-floor heating systems.

Where underfloor heating units are installed the heating units shall be—

(a) Turned on prior to laying of the Flotex tiles for a minimum of seven days to ensure that the moisture condition of the heated subfloor will permit successful laying of the tiles.

(b) Turned off 48 hours prior to the commencement of installation to allow the subfloor to return to the normal temperature range of $\leq 10^{\circ}\text{C}$. The heating units shall remain turned off during the laying operations and shall not be turned on again until 48 hours after the laying is completed in order to allow the adhesive to set. Once the heating unit is turned back on it shall be increased at no more than 2°C per day until the desired temperature has been achieved, and shall not exceed a temperature greater than 28°C . **NOTE:** Because underfloor heating may cause some localized hot spots which may be damaging to a newly laid floor, it is advisable to avoid maximum heating conditions for a period of seven days after installation.

Flotex tile installation video: <https://youtu.be/DyhFodxFca8>