

Flash Coving Marmoleum® & Linoleum Products

General Guidelines

- Marmoleum® and linoleum products may be flash coved. Flash coving is the extension of the flooring material up the wall, usually 4" – 6".
- Flash cove Marmoleum® and linoleum products using standard pattern scribing procedures for coving.
- Pay equal attention to both wall preparation and floor preparation. The flooring material can only be as good as what it covers.
NOTE: Do not flash cove material over non-porous surfaces such as vinyl wallcoverings, marlite, HPL, epoxy paint, etc. without first making sure a secure bond can be achieved. Very porous surfaces may require the use of a primer. For additional information, refer to the **Substrate Evaluation and Preparation section** of the Forbo Installation Guide.
- Cove sticks must always be used when flash coving Marmoleum® and linoleum products. A cove stick is used where the floor and wall meet to provide support for the back of the floor covering.
- Cove sticks can be made from a variety of material. Any type can be used provided:
 - It has a minimum radius of 7/8".
 - It is hard and rigid. Soft, flexible types will not give adequate support for the flooring.
 - It is a material that will not stain the floor covering.
- Outside corners of the cove stick should be mitered. Inside corners can be mitered or coped.
- Cove sticks may be glued, nailed or stapled to the wall. If using nails or staples, make sure the heads are flush so they will not show through the flooring.
- Cove caps are used to finish off the top edge of the flooring material. Caps are available in metal, vinyl and rubber. The vinyl and rubber caps are available in a wide range of colors. Metal caps are more durable and easier to scribe and fit the flooring to. When using metal caps, it is best to use miter cutters and form wrap around corners.
- Fastening the cove cap to the wall may be accomplished by several different methods, depending on the type of wall surface. The fastest and easiest method is double face foam tape, available through Forbo. For additional information, refer to the **Tools section** of the Forbo Installation Guide.
- Several methods of pattern scribing may be employed when flash coving Marmoleum® and linoleum products. The installer should always use the pattern scribing method with which they are most comfortable and that offers the best possible results.
- Material should always be visually inspected prior to installation. If there are any questions regarding the quality of material, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education 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.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the **General Installation Guidelines section** of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Marmoleum® and linoleum products.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the **Substrate Evaluation and Preparation section** of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Marmoleum® and linoleum products.
- Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions and liability for any failure directly related to inadequate site conditions becomes the responsibility of the installer and/or flooring contractor.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- **For additional information, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839 or www.forboflooringNA.com.**

Pattern Scribing With Templates

- A common method is using the "T" template and the inside corner template.
- After installing the cove stick and cap, and the floor preparation has been completed, cut the pattern felt to within 1/4" of the bottom of the cove stick and tape the felt to the subfloor to prevent movement. It is important to make reference marks at all seams on the felt to assure proper pattern alignment.
- Using a pencil and the "T" template, start in one area and progress around the room pressing the template firmly into the cove stick and under the cove cap. To mark an inside corner, place the template under the cap strip and tight to the inside corner. Mark the base and sides of the template. Repeat on the other side of the corner.
- Mark several places on the wall to show the height of the cap. Continue around the room, marking all inside corners. Door casings and other obstacles can be marked with dividers and a square. Outside corners are done by using a "boot" or mitered corner. Try to put the boot on the least conspicuous side and always ensure the grain is running in the same direction as the field.

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- Mark the cove cap on both sides of the corner. Allow for approximately a 1" overhang on the side not being filled. On the boot side of the corner, straight edge the pattern felt 1½" away and parallel to the bottom of the cove stick. Use a straight edged piece of scrap and place it on the miter of the cove stick and extend it out to the straight edged line on the pattern felt and mark.
- The use of set marks on the felt and on the subfloor will help in aligning the material during installation. Make sure to check all marks before removing the pattern felt from the floor.
- Place the pattern felt on the flooring, align pieces of felt and secure to the flooring with tape. Transfer the "set marks" first and check periodically during the marking process to ensure that the pattern felt hasn't moved or shifted. Place the "T" template on the lines drawn on the pattern felt and trace onto flooring to determine the top of the cove cap.
- When marking the inside corners, place the template on the lines made on the felt. Mark the template on the underside of the cove cap and inside the corner. Repeat on the other side.
- Place the inside corner template on the marks made on the inside corner and trace it with a pencil. Continue around the pattern, marking and connecting all areas that fit under the cove cap. Mark all door casings and obstacles using dividers and/or a square.
- On an outside corner, first mark the piece that extends past the corner and follow the same shape of the radius of the mitered cove stick. Using a square on the straight edge line of the pattern where the boot will be placed (1½" from the base of the cove stick), cut the flooring along the square, starting at the miter and continuing back a distance slightly greater than the height of the cove cap and up the material where the boot will fit in. Make sure it is cut at a 90° angle.
- After all marks have been transferred from the pattern felt, cut out the material.
- Applying masking tape at all 90° cuts may help prevent tearing during installation.

Installation

- Set the sheet into the area to be installed, lining up all set marks.
- Lap the material back halfway and spread the adhesive.
- Always use a Forbo recommended adhesive and trowel notch for Marmoleum® and linoleum installations. For additional information, refer to the **Adhesive section** of the Forbo Installation Guide. The adhesive must be spread on the wall and cove stick out onto the floor using the proper notch trowel. Forbo L910W can also be used on vertical surfaces only.
- **It is never recommended to use two face "contact tape" to flash cove Marmoleum® and linoleum products. The use of such tape can lead to installation failure.**
- Material must be placed into wet adhesive. Make sure that the material is tight to the cove stick and properly fit into the cove cap. Tuck corners into place and roll with a steel seam roller, making sure proper wet transfer has been achieved.
- Check for adhesive transfer frequently. There must be **100% wet** transfer of adhesive to the material backing in order to achieve a secure bond. 100% wet transfer is a continuous film of adhesive, when wet, on both the backing of the material and the substrate with no trace of trowel marks or ridges.
- The flooring material **must remain in contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying and curing.** In order to ensure continuous contact of the material and the adhesive, the natural "end curl" at the end of each cut of Marmoleum® must be addressed by massaging both before and during the installation to remove the tension caused by being rolled. Adequate massaging should enable the material to remain in contact with the adhesive but, if necessary, weight should be applied to ensure that the flooring material remains in full contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying.
- Immediately roll the flooring in all directions using a 100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Additional rolling is required during adhesive setup to ensure that the material is flat and fully adhered.
- The flashed coved material must be immediately rolled with a steel seam roller.

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Outside Corner

- Using an outside corner scribe and a scrap of material as a guide, mark the excess material and undercut with a bevel (45° angle) to the top of the cove stick.
- Place a straight edged piece of scrap against the miter of the cove stick. Mark all the way out to the straight edged seam of the floor and trim.
- Cut the “boot” using a square, maintaining the same direction as the flooring. Strip measure for the height of the “boot” fill piece, mark and cut to that height. Cut the length of the “boot” long enough to extend past the corner about 1/2”.
- Put the “boot” in place and use the outside corner scribe to mark from the cove cap down to the cove stick. Push the material tight into the cove stick and mark the back with a pencil along the radius of the cove.
- Remove the “boot” and with a hook knife held at a 45° angle, cut the material along the scribe line down to the pencil mark at the radius. Turn the material over and continue to cut on a bevel to the inside of the pencil mark to 3/4 of the way down.
- Put the “boot” back into place and use the straight edged scrap to complete the cut to the bottom of the miter. Remove the “boot” and spread adhesive on the wall and floor or onto the back of the “boot”. Install the “boot” and roll with a steel seam roller.
- Use the back side of a scrap of material to remove any burrs on the edges.
- If the corner is to be heat welded, trim the material flush with the wall on each side creating a “groove” for the welding rod.

Forbo’s Installation Guide contains additional information and is available for download at www.forboflooringNA.com. For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo’s Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839.