

Flash Coving Vinyl Products

General Guidelines

- Vinyl Sheet and Vinyl Modular products may be flash coved. Flash coving is the extension of the flooring material up the wall, usually 4" – 6".
- 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 vinyl 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.
- 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 Department 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 Vinyl Sheet and Vinyl Modular products.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the **Substrate Evaluation and Preparation section** of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Vinyl Sheet and Vinyl Modular 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 Department at +800 842 7839 or www.forboflooringna.com.**

Installation

- 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.
- When spreading the adhesive for coved material, the adhesive must also be applied to the back of the material that is being coved and allowed to flash off. A 2" paint roller works well to apply the adhesive.
- 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.

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- 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.

Outside Corners

The recommended method for outside corners is the **“Butterfly” or “V-Plug” method.**

- Cut a rectangle from the flooring material.
 - The length should be twice the height of the flash cove.
 - The width should be the distance from the cap to half way down the radius of the cove stick.
- Draw a center line dividing the length in two.
- Cut from both corners down to the center line making a triangle.
- Round the bottom point of the triangle.
- Warm the back of the material along the center line and fold flat.
- When cooled, open the triangle to a 90° angle.
- Install all Butterfly corners first.
- Once in place, spread adhesive up to the Butterfly.
- Install the field material and make relief cut so the material overlaps both edges and the bottom point of the Butterfly corner.
- Ensuring the field material is well seated on the cove stick, trim the field net fit to the Butterfly corner.

45° Inside Corners

- Fold the material upon itself tight into the corner.
- Use the angle template and cut material at a 45° angle.
- Wrap the material around the corner.
- Cut off the excess material leaving approximately 1" overlap at the seam.
- Force the material tight into the corner and base with a stair tool. Trace cut the seam at the 45° angle.

Straight Inside Corners

- Push the floor covering as close to the inside corner as possible, ensuring it is well seated on the cove stick.
- Make a cut from the bottom of the material to the top in line with the corner.
- Fold one side in and fit to the corner.
- Fold the second side in and fit to the corner being careful not to scratch or mar the first side.
- Groove net fit seams with the Forbo Hand Groover and angle template. Heat weld all seams using an appropriate welding tip.
- After the welding rod has cooled, trim the rod in two passes, using a crescent knife and trim plate or the X-Acto Knife.
- A heated smoothing tool may be used to touch up minor irregularities in the finished weld.

Flash Coving Colorex® SD/EC

Since it takes time to scribe and cut flash coved Colorex® SD/EC tiles, it is advisable to first spread adhesive only where the full tiles will be laid. When the field is complete, scribe and cut the border tiles before the adhesive is spread. When fitting is complete, adhesive can be spread in the border area and border pieces can be installed and rolled while the adhesive is still wet.

When flash coving Colorex® SD/EC in conductive applications, Forbo C 930 adhesive must be used on the wall to maintain conductivity. The recommended trowel notch size is a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch.

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.