

Installing Flotex® Sheet Flooring

- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the **General Installation Guidelines section** of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Flotex® sheet flooring.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in the **Substrate Evaluation and Preparation section** of the Forbo Installation Guide prior to installing Flotex® sheet flooring.
- 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.
- Flotex® sheet flooring may be installed on approved substrates on all grade levels.
- For the tolerance in the sequence of roll numbers, refer to the **Installation Direction & Sequence section** of the Forbo Installation Guide.
- Use Forbo FRS 885, Sustain 885m, Sustain 1195 or 660 adhesive.
- Use a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel to apply the adhesive. Replace the trowel blade when proper coverage is no longer attainable.
- Store Flotex® rolls standing upright. **Storing the rolls laying down can result in pile crush. Forbo will NOT honor claims relating to pile crush if the rolls were stored laying down.**
- Flotex® Modular is thicker than the Flotex® Sheet. Mixing Flotex® Modular and Flotex® Sheet products in the same area will require ramping of the sheet product to meet the same height as the modular flooring when combined. Special attention needs to be paid to ensuring that the proper heights are achieved. Failure to account for this height difference during installation may result in undue wear and possible damage to the product. This is critical when installing borders or motifs.
- Do not allow heavy traffic or rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours following the installation. For installations over non-porous substrates, additional time may be necessary because the adhesive may take longer to cure.
- Wait a minimum of five days following the installation before conducting initial cleaning. For installations over non-porous substrates, additional time may be necessary because the adhesive may take longer to dry and cure.
- 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.**

Cutting and Fitting the Sheets

- Prior to cutting, organize the material by roll number to ensure that the rolls and cuts will be installed in consecutive order. Forbo will not honor shading claims where Flotex® has been installed out of sequence. Make sure that all rolls are from the same batch/dye lot.
- **IMPORTANT!! Because of the unique patterns and designs of the Flotex® sheet collections, it is important that the pattern repeat is taken into consideration when calculating material requirements and during installation. For pattern repeat information, refer to Forbo's Technical Bulletin "Pattern Repeat for Flotex Sheet Installations."**
- Whenever possible, run the arrows toward the main light source.
- Unroll the material and cut the individual pieces to length, making sure to allow for pattern match and trimming. Do NOT reverse the sheets. Run all arrows in the same direction.

NOTE: When installing Flotex® sheet in corridors, always run arrows lengthwise. Where corridors intersect, it is recommended that material be turned to follow the length of that corridor section. In some cases, a decorative border may be used as a separator to avoid a pattern cross match at the intersection. Some designs may allow for corners to be mitered in lieu of adding a border strip. Aesthetic acceptance should be confirmed by customer prior to installation.
- Dry lay the pieces, butting the factory edges for seaming. Make sure that the seam edges are net fit, with no fullness or gaps.

NOTE: For cross seams or fills that are not pre-trimmed, straight edge the material from the face. Hold the knife blade at a right angle to the face of the material. Overlap and trace cut the seam.

Adhering the Sheets

- After dry laying the area, carefully open the first sheet approximately half way. Open the adjacent sheet 1/3 of the way. This will make adjustments to the seam much easier than if a full half of the second sheet is in the adhesive. Take care that the sheets do not shift during handling. Mark the location of the seam by following the first sheet with a pencil line before rolling back.
- Draw a pencil line as a spread line in front of where the material is folded over to assure an even and straight line of adhesive.
- Spread adhesive on the exposed substrate. Take care not to leave ridges or puddles. Be sure to spread adhesive all the way to the pencil line without leaving any voids.
- The open time and working time of adhesives will vary depending on site conditions such as ambient temperature and humidity, the porosity of the substrate and air circulation. It is the installer's responsibility to make adjustments to specific conditions as may be necessary to ensure 100% wet adhesive transfer to the material backing. A general indication of proper open time is when a light touch

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produces transfer of adhesive to the finger, but a firm touch will flatten and “smear” the adhesive. For additional information, refer to the **Adhesives section** of the Forbo Installation Guide.

- The adhesive should be allowed to develop body before placing the flooring material into the adhesive, but **DO NOT ALLOW THE ADHESIVE TO DRY**.
- 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**.
- Carefully place the Flotex® sheet into the adhesive one at a time, starting with the first sheet and carefully follow the pencil line. Roll seams with a steel seam roller.
NOTE: Do NOT use a carpet stretcher, knee kicker or carpet tractor on Flotex® sheet.
- 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 use of a three-section wall roller or steel seam roller is required at walls, under toe kicks or anywhere the full weight of a 100 lb. roller cannot access or be applied.
- Proper sheet placement and rolling will result in a complete “explosion” of the trowel ridges, creating a continuous flat film of adhesive. Complete transfer of the sheet backing will appear in the surface of the adhesive.
- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white cloth. Dried adhesive can be removed with a clean white cloth and Forbo Adhesive Remover. If this is not available, a solution of properly diluted neutral pH cleaner may be used. The area should then be rinsed with clean, cool water to remove all residues from the floor.
- **NOTE:** If using Forbo 660 adhesive, refer to the **Adhesives section** of the Forbo Installation Guide for additional information.
- Trim the excess material at doorways and walls. Use a steel seam roller to press the Flotex® firmly into the adhesive after trimming. Be sure to complete all trimming before the adhesive working time has expired.
- Repeat this sequence for the other half of the area until the job is completed.

Decorative Inlays

- Lay and adhere all field areas in the room following the guidelines outlined in these instructions.
- Measure out the locations for the decorative inlays. Mark off the inlay locations with white chalk on the surface of the Flotex®.
- Place a cutting guide in position along the chalk lines and cut the field piece along the lines.
- Remove the cut piece and scrape any ridges that may remain from the original adhesive.
- Cut the inlay piece to fit, re-apply adhesive and place the inlay into position. Be sure not to leave any voids in the adhesive.
- Using a steel seam roller, press the inlay firmly into place.
- Roll the completed inlays with a 100 lb. roller. A three-section wall roller or steel seam roller is required at walls, under toe kicks or anywhere the full weight of a 100 lb. roller cannot access or be applied.
- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white cloth. Dried adhesive can be removed with a clean white cloth and Forbo Adhesive Remover. If this is not available, a solution of properly diluted neutral pH cleaner may be used. The area should then be rinsed with clean, cool water to remove all residues from the floor.

Decorative Borders

- Draw pencil lines around the area where the field material will stop, making sure to allow for trimming the border material.
- Lay the field material so that it extends slightly over the chalk lines.
- Using the pencil lines as a spread line, adhere all field areas in the room following the guidelines outlined in these instructions.
- Be sure to spread adhesive all the way to the pencil line without leaving any voids.
- Using a straightedge as a guide, cut the field material along the chalk lines.
- Apply adhesive in the area of the border and place the border material into position. Be sure not to leave any voids in the adhesive.
- Using a steel seam roller, press the border firmly into place.
- Trim the border material at the perimeter. 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 use of a three-section wall roller or steel seam roller is required at walls, under toe kicks or anywhere the full weight of a 100 lb. roller cannot access or be applied.

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Installing On Stairs

- Flotex® is not recommended to be wrapped on stairs.
- A stair nosing must be used, with an individual piece of Flotex® for each stair.
- For additional information, refer to the **Flash Coving section** of the Forbo Installation Guide.
- Adhere the Flotex® on the treads and risers using Forbo FRS 885 or Sustain 885m adhesive.

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.