

Installing Forbo Marmoleum Wall Panels

- Forbo Marmoleum Wall Panels are available in two types:
 - Standard Panels have a 1/4" MDF core, with approximate total thickness of 0.36" (9.2 mm).
 - Sustain Panels have a 1/4" NAUF (No Added Urea Formaldehyde) core, with approximate thickness of 0.36" (9.2 mm).
- Both types of panels meet CARB Phase 1 requirements and have a Green Guard certified backing. Non-harmful, low VOC adhesives are used to adhere the Marmoleum and backer to the core.
- 38" x 96" panels are available for use where material will run horizontally.
- 48" x 78" panels are available for use where material will run vertically.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in **Forbo's General Installation Guidelines** prior to installing Forbo Marmoleum Wall Panels.
- Always refer to and follow the recommendations in **Forbo's Substrate Evaluation and Preparation Guidelines** prior to installing Forbo Marmoleum Wall Panels.
- Store Marmoleum Wall Panels stacked and lying flat.
- Marmoleum Wall Panels can be successfully installed over a variety of substrates provided the surface is sound, smooth, flat, clean, and permanently dry. Drywall and wood panels are the most common substrates used in wainscot applications. Regardless of the substrate, it must be free of dust, dirt, grease, paint, old adhesive residue, oils, solvents, or any other contaminant that could interfere with a secure bond. If there is an existing wall finish, it must be fully adhered or fastened. Any loose areas must be removed and repaired, re-adhered, or mechanically fastened to ensure the integrity of the Marmoleum Wall Panel. Installation directly over existing vinyl wallcovering is not recommended. For recommendations regarding other substrates, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services.
- NOTE:** Regardless of the specific type of substrate that is being installed over, the final determination of suitability for that purpose is the responsibility of the installer and/or installation contractor.
- Always conduct adhesive mat bond tests before beginning the installation. Mat Bond testing will aid in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (open time and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.
- 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.
- NOTE:** 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.
- Use a high-quality construction adhesive.
- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for removing adhesive. Always conduct a small test in an inconspicuous area to ensure adhesive removal recommendations do not damage the Marmoleum.
- Install protective outside corner guards over all outside corners.
- 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.

Panel Layout

- Establish a level line for placement of the Marmoleum Wall Panels.
- Determine the location of the panel joints. It is recommended that the panels be centered along the length of the wall with the minimum number of vertical joints. Border pieces should be larger than 1/2 the panel width when possible.

Installation

- If the panels are to be installed off the floor and not supported by a solid baseboard, the lower "J" Mold must be secured to the wall. Use screws at each vertical wall stud. It may be necessary to countersink the screw heads to avoid interference with the panels.
- NOTE:** If the wall is not flat, it may be necessary to use temporary bracing to hold the panel in contact with the adhesive while the adhesive is drying.
- It is recommended to begin the installation at an outside corner working toward an inside corner. This will make it easier to install the inside corner pieces. If there are no outside corners, begin the installation with the first full width panel away from an inside corner to the left.
- If necessary, cut the first panel to be installed to size and make any cutouts for electrical outlets, etc.
- NOTE:** Always use a sharp saw and cut with the saw teeth cutting into the face of the Marmoleum Wall Panel to minimize chipping along the cut edge.
- Dry fit the panel and draw a pencil line on the substrate at the side(s) of the panel.

Installing Forbo Marmoleum Wall Panels

Adhesive Application

- Use a high-quality construction adhesive for adhering Marmoleum Wall Panels.
- Apply a 1/4" – 3/8" bead of adhesive to the wall 1" – 2" away from the edge around the perimeter of the area where the panel is to be installed, and vertically 18" – 20" on center in the middle of the area.
- Place the panel into position and roll firmly to ensure the panel is pressed completely into the adhesive.
- Immediately pull the panel away from the wall and then back again. This will allow the adhesive to build tack and also enable the identification of any area that the panel was not in full contact with the adhesive. Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for removing adhesive.
- Use 6d finish nails to temporarily hold the panel in position while the adhesive is drying. The nails should be placed in areas that will be covered later by molding whenever possible.

NOTE: If the hole will not be covered, use Marmoweld ETU to repair the Marmoleum material. Refer to **Forbo's Marmoweld ETU Installation Guidelines** for additional information.

- Continue this process for each panel along the wall, placing the connector "T" molding between each panel as the work progresses.
- Starting with the first panel on the adjacent wall, adhere the inside corner molding to the panel before adhering the panel to the wall.
- Continue this process around the room until the installation is complete.

What is Ambering?

Ambering is the slight yellow hue to Marmoleum when it is first removed from the packaging. This is a natural phenomenon that happens with Marmoleum and is completely normal. Linseed oil, a natural oil extracted from flax seeds and one of the main ingredients in Marmoleum is what causes this yellow hue. This very important ingredient in Marmoleum provides several unique characteristics:

- Linseed oil, along with wood flour, makes the floor naturally antistatic, repelling dust, making Marmoleum easy to clean.
- When exposed to air and light, the linseed oil oxidizes from within the Marmoleum and continues for the life of the product. This makes the material harden over time and become more durable.

As time passes, the ambering will fade as Marmoleum is exposed to light, but its unique characteristics will not. The process may take as little as a few hours in bright sunlight, but it can take longer with artificial light. Areas that are not exposed to any light will retain the yellow hue until they are exposed to light. If an area of Marmoleum is covered for an extended period, it's possible the yellow hue will re-appear. Don't be alarmed – it will fade once again when it's exposed to light.

Because this is a natural occurrence in the product, there is no set time frame for the yellow hue to fade. This is not a material defect. It's actually a sign that Marmoleum is revealing its unique and valuable characteristics! Performing floor care procedures will not inhibit the process. It just takes a little bit of time and understanding what great benefits this process brings to Marmoleum! All colors of Marmoleum are subject to ambering, however it can be more noticeable in certain colors. Light blues, greens, greys, and beiges will display a more visible yellow hue than darker colors. To discover the true color of Marmoleum, follow these few simple steps:

1. Take a piece of Marmoleum and cover one half with heavy paper, cardboard, or another piece of Marmoleum.
2. Place these pieces in direct sunlight for approximately 1 hour.
3. After the time has passed, remove the cardboard or heavy material and see the visual difference first hand.

Forbo's General Installation Guidelines contain additional information and are available for download at www.forboflooringNA.com. For additional information, contact Forbo's Product Support & Education Services at 1-800-842-7839.