

## Carpet Tile Installation Guidelines

Enviratile® Carpet Tile Installation Guidelines should be reviewed by contract installers prior to commencement of works on site. All installations should be in accordance with AS2455.1:2007 and AS2455.2:2007. Should the installer(s) have any queries in relation to the installation guidelines below, please contact your commercial representative.

### Pre-Laying Checks

It is the flooring contractor's responsibility to verify that the carpet supplied is the correct product, colour and quantity for the project, prior to installation. Enviratile® will not be responsible for any visible defects after the carpet has been installed.

Labels on each carton contain important information regarding product, colour and manufacturing batch (dye lot information). It is not recommended to mix dye lots in the same area.

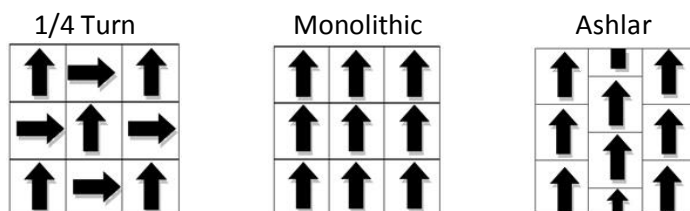
Enviratile® may recommend a number of installation styles for any given design (1/4 turn / Ashlar / Brick / Monolithic / Random). Manufacturer's recommendations are included in the product specifications and should be adhered to. Directional arrows are printed on the back of all tiles.

The flooring contractor/installer should confirm with their client the required installation style before laying. Seams may be more or less apparent dependant on installation method.

Due to the design of some tile patterns, dark or light lines may occur at the seams. This is not a manufacturing defect. Repositioning tiles or replacing with another tile may be needed to overcome these visible lines.

Direction of the installation will not affect the performance of the product.

Installation style examples:



### Site Testing and Conditioning

It is the installer's responsibility to check the condition of the floor and determine if there are any issues to be addressed prior to installation. In particular the following need to be checked with concrete floors:

- Moisture
- pH (Acidity or alkalinity)
- Porosity

The sub floor must be tested for moisture using a hygrometer or other approved method in accordance with AS2455.1:2007. All Enviratile® tiles are designed to perform up to an RH level of 80% without the use of a moisture barrier. If excessive moisture is detected, the contractor or building owner must be advised and a decision made as to whether the installation is to begin.

Using an accepted test for alkalinity, determine that the pH is within the range of pH5 – pH9. If pH is between 9 and 12, a suitable sealant should be applied. Please contact your local Enviratile® commercial representative prior to commencing installation. Under no circumstance should the installation commence if pH levels are in excess of 12.

High porosity surfaces are often indicated by a dusty or powdery appearance and must be primed in accordance with AS2455.1:2007. Areas that have been filled with levelling compound may also require sealing. Enviratile® recommends RLA GS 400 Premium Wall and Floor Primer or Holdfast Primer 88 or their equivalents.

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Enviratile® carpet tiles should be allowed to condition on site for a period of 24 hours or more in a recommended temperature range of 15 - 35°C. The temperature must remain within this range for the entire installation period and a minimum of 48 hours after installation completion. The relative humidity of the area where the tiles are to be installed should be within the range of 30 - 75% RH.

### Floor Preparation

Sub floor must be dry, free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint or any other materials or debris which could adversely affect adhesion of the carpet to the floor. The sub floor must be plane and smooth as defined in AS2455. Depressions and cracks must be filled using an approved levelling compound in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All protrusions must be levelled.

Timber sub floors must be prepared utilising a hard underlay in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. In accordance with AS2458 and/or BS1142 reduced density or medium density fibre board types MDF and MDFMR or medium density fibrous cement sheet is acceptable.

Underfloor Heating must be switched off 48 hours prior to installation and not turned back on for a minimum of 48 hours after completed installation. Turning heating elements back on prior to the 48 hour curing time may affect the performance of the adhesive. Heating surface temperature should not exceed 27°C.

Healthcare facilities may require the sub floor to be sealed. Enviratile® recommends products such as Roberts Medi-Seal Plus or equivalent, used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

### Adhesive Recommendation / Application

Under normal conditions, Enviratile® recommends the solvent free pressure sensitive adhesives listed in Appendix A which must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Should the surface RH exceed 75% when tested with a hygrometer in accordance with AS2455, then adhesives specifically developed for these conditions should be used.

Application rates must be determined by the installation contractor as this will be subject to subfloor conditions. For further information regarding application rates, recommendations and warranties, please contact your adhesive manufacturer.

**Enviratile® carpet tiles require a 100% application of adhesive across the floor, paying particular attention to areas close to walls and partitions.**

Application of adhesive to the sub floor is to be via either a long nap roller or a V notched trowel in accordance with the specific instructions provided by the adhesive manufacturer. Application rates will vary dependant on the porosity of the sub floor and should be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. **(Note: Spraying is not regarded by Enviratile® as an acceptable method of application even where indicated as such by the adhesive manufacturer)**

For releasable "peel up" installations, the adhesive must be given sufficient time to 'tack off' and almost dry prior to laying of carpet tiles. If tiles are laid into wet adhesive, there will be a much higher adhesive transfer to the backing and a permanent bond may occur.

It is the installer's responsibility to ensure the sub floor condition and adhesive application rate allows the carpet tiles to be securely stuck yet easily uplifted as required.

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### Installation Instructions

Installation should commence at the intersection of two chalk lines at 90° as shown in Diagram 1 below. Chalk lines must be as close as practicable to the centre of the room/area, running parallel to the longest wall. It may be necessary to shift the centre line to ensure border tiles are a minimum of ½ tile width, unless otherwise specified in the overall design scheme.

Installation must continue until the completion of a quadrant prior to moving onto another adjoining quadrant. Installing tiles using the pyramid method shown in Diagram 1. allows multiple alignment checks.

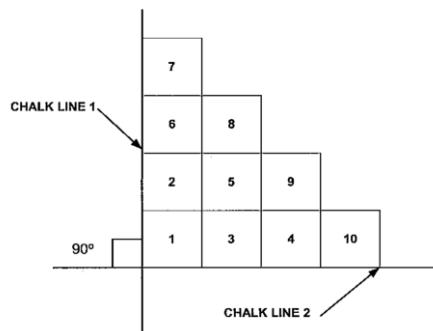


Diagram 1.

Slide tiles into position to prevent yarn from being trapped between the tiles. Trapped yarn may adversely affect the overall appearance of the installation and cause alignment problems.

Tiles must be installed using a consistent spacing and tension. If tiles are laid too loose, then visual gaps and ragged edges may be evident. Too tight and peaking and buckling may occur. As a general guide, there should be approximately 0.5mm between carpet tiles and so the space gained during installation of 50cm tiles should equal 5mm measured over 11 tiles (10 joins).

### Cutting

Enviratile® carpet tiles should be cut from the backing side using a straight edge where possible. Templates should be utilized around irregular shapes such as columns or curved areas.

### Post Installation

It is recommended that plywood sheeting be placed over tiles during the removal or replacement of furniture or any heavy objects within 24 hours of the installation. Should protective sheeting be required, a non-staining building material paper should be used. If plastic sheeting is used post installation it will be the responsibility of the contractor should any condensation occur. Do not use adhesive tapes on the face of the tiles as this can cause soiling or marking of the pile.

**Enviratile® carpet tiles are not recommended for use on a separate underlay. Enviratile® does not guarantee the stability or performance of tiles if laid on a separate underlay. Enviratile® is not responsible for subfloor conditions. It is the responsibility of the installer to obtain a successful installation.**

**IMPORTANT WARNING: Enviratile®'s Carpet Tile Installation Guidelines are intended to assist in achieving an optimum installation. Any variance from any of the instructions above by the installation contractors will become their responsibility and may void otherwise applicable warranties.**

For further information, please contact your local Enviratile® Commercial Sales representative.

## APPENDIX A

### Recommended adhesives for Enviratile® Carpet Tiles:

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| RLA Polymers:   | Polymer P999<br>Roberts 656             |
| Mapei:          | Ultrabond Eco Tack<br>Ultrabond Eco 800 |
| Ardex:          | AF236                                   |
| Green Solutions | GS300                                   |