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# ECO-RUBBER

## INDOOR RUBBER FLOORING INSTALLATION / MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

### MAT FLOORING -- TILE FLOORING



Square Cut  
Glue Down Installation



Four Sided Interlock  
Loose Lay Installation

The following pages are guidelines only. Please read this manual before installing **ECO-RUBBER Flooring** products.

# ECO-RUBBER

## INSTALLATION / MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

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## Section I

### MATERIAL STORAGE & HANDLING

#### On receipt of merchandise:

- A.** Inspect your shipment for damage.
- B.** If adhesives are exposed to freezing temperatures, place indoors and bring to room temperature before using. Read technical data sheets and material safety data sheets for adhesive.
- C.** Referring to Sport Mat & The Evolution of Rubber Tile flooring, install same side up as received. Do not flip over.
- D.** The products in front of you have gone through quality checks to ensure correct product, number of pieces, and that the physical properties, dimensions and visual appearance have passed our standards. However, for your own protection, we ask you to inspect this shipment for any apparent shortcomings before starting the installation by laying out ALL of the tiles for thorough visual inspection and complete acclimation (see also point E below). Please note we are not responsible for any installation costs if defective product was not identified prior to installation.
- E.** Store in a dry and clean area. Rubber expands and contracts according to temperature and humidity changes. A tile laid in the morning hours at 32°F (0°C) would be a different size than a tile laid at 68°F (20°C) later in the day. Therefore, before starting the installation lay out ALL the tiles you will be installing on the next day, on the sub-surface.
- F.** Allow products to adjust to ambient temperature for a minimum of 24 hours. Acclimation is complete when the products have reached their specified dimensions. Refer to the Section IX for weights and measures.
- G.** During prolonged storage of Rubber Flooring the tiles in the lower portion of the stack will be compressed to a greater degree than those in the upper portion of the stack. This will show as a thickness variation on product from the top of the pallet compared to the bottom. Product dimension (length and width) may also be affected.
- Under normal circumstances, the product should be taken off the pallet and distributed throughout the installation area in small piles to allow for acclimation (minimum of 24 hours).
- However, if the product has been stored for an extended period of time, a longer acclimation time will be required. Exactly how long is very difficult to predict. Check length, width, and thickness periodically until the right dimensions have been reached. Refer to Section IX for weights and measures. Do not install the tiles if they are not square and the appropriate thickness has not been reached.
- H.** It is important to keep a clean working surface at all times. Protect rubber flooring from dry wall dust.
- I.** Keep ECO-RUBBER rubber flooring dry. Wet tiles will cause adhesion problems.
- J.** Petroleum distillants (e.g. solvents) as well as animal fats (e.g.: barbeque drippings) will damage the rubber flooring. See test results for other harmful chemicals and compounds.

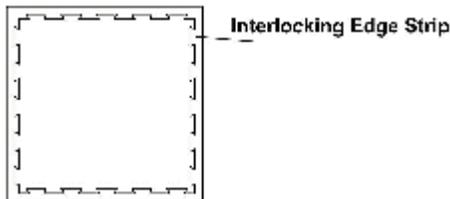
## Section II TOOLS & ACCESSORIES

### A. Tools and safety equipment required:

- Safety glasses
- Heavy duty utility knife
- Knee pads
- Measuring tape
- Transit level
- Straight edge
- Caulking gun
- Chalk snap-line
- Drill and mixer for adhesive
- V-notched trowel 1/16" (1.6 mm)
- Carpenter's square
- Paint marker
- Mineral spirits

### B. Outside interlocking edges

Regarding interlocking rubber floor tiles ECO-RUBBER includes approximately 10% of the outside edging with every order, unless otherwise requested. For example, edging can be used along walls.

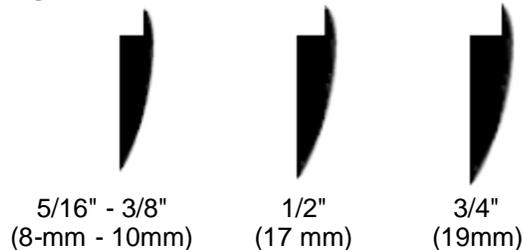


### C. Reducer strips

Sizes:

- 5/16" (8 mm)
- 3/8" (10 mm)
- 1/2" (12 mm)
- 3/4" (20 mm)

All are available in black solid core and 12ft lengths.



Attach reducer strip to mats with compatible, non-solvent based adhesive or caulking.

### D. Adhesive

ECO-RUBBER recommended adhesive:

1. Chemrex Urethane 948 (V.O.C. compliant)
  - One component polyurethane adhesive
  - 313 ml gun grade: 2 lbs (10 oz tube)
  - approximate coverage: 3/8" bead equates to 300 lineal feet
2. Chemrex Urethane 941 (V.O.C. compliant)
  - One component polyurethane adhesive
  - 2 gallon pail: 26 lbs (12 kg)
  - approximate coverage: 150 sq. ft. per pail using a 1/16" (1.6 mm) trowel
3. Chemrex Urethane 941 (V.O.C. compliant)
  - One component polyurethane adhesive
  - 5 gallon pail: 55 lbs (25 kg)
  - approximate coverage: 375 sq. ft. (35 m<sup>2</sup>) per pail using a 1/16" (1.6 mm) trowel



### E. Sealer

Most installations do not require a sealer or coating. Note that sealants and waxes may alter the surface characteristics of the flooring.

### Section III BEFORE STARTING THE INSTALLATION

**A. The sub-surface** must be level, clean, and dry. It is recommended that all concrete slabs be tested for hydrostatic pressure.

Simply test by placing a piece of plastic sheet 2x3 ft<sup>2</sup> (60x90cm<sup>2</sup>) over concrete and tape edges. Moisture or dark areas noticeable under the piece of plastic after 24 hours indicate that the area is not considered to be dry.

**B. During storage** ECO-RUBBER flooring tiles must be kept dry and adhesive must be stored above 50°F (10°C) in a dry, heated space.

**C. Check the room temperature**

- Temperature range for adhesive use: above 50°F (10°C) and below 104°F (40°C)
- In-floor radiant heat should be shut OFF.

Higher temperatures and humidity increase the curing rate and reduce the working time (pot-life) of adhesive resulting in adhesion problems. Follow instructions on label of can!

### Section IV PREPARATION OF THE SUB-SURFACE

#### A. Concrete sub-surfaces

New concrete sub-floors must be thoroughly cured and free from hydrostatic pressure before ECO-RUBBER Flooring is installed (a minimum of 28 days after pour). Consult adhesive specifications for allowable moisture tolerance.

If existing concrete is too rough, you can smooth it by sanding or applying a cement based leveling compound (patch), allowing a curing time as recommended by the patch manufacturer. Follow manufacturer's installation guidelines. Surface must be clean and dry before starting the installation.

#### B. Wooden sub-surfaces

In general installations over wooden sub-surfaces are acceptable. The surface must be smooth, i.e. holes, cracks, or uneven areas should be patched. Secure nails to prevent future protrusion. The owner needs to be made aware that spillage of water or other liquids, especially over non-glued rubber surfacing, must be dealt with immediately as trapped moisture from spillages may cause deterioration and premature rotting of the wood.

### Section V INSTALLING SQUARE CUT TILES

#### A. Glue Down Installation

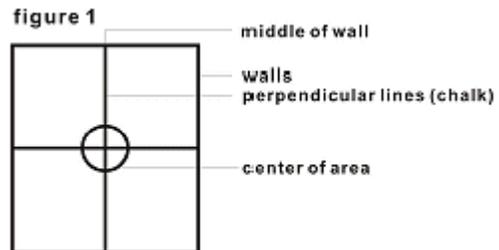
(e.g. concrete) This installation method is required for ice arenas or any other indoor areas where moisture is present.

##### 1. Arranging the Tiles

The installer should have all relevant information about the tile arrangement from the owner.

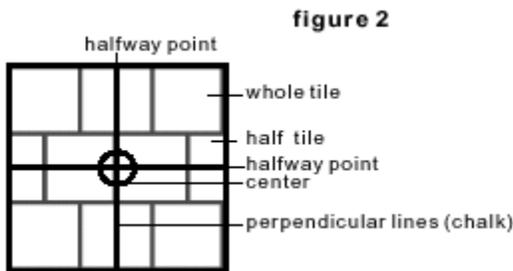
Occasionally uneven distribution of color granules may appear in a tile. This can be rectified by rotating the tile or installing it in a less visible area. Install tiles same side up as received, do not flip over.

Establish a starting course by finding the mid-point on all four walls. Use a chalk line and mark the two center lines across the whole area. Use the chalk line as your starting point to lay out the tiles. (fig. 1).



Make two chalk lines on either side of the center line and measure the size of the rubber tile. Start first row by laying a tile between the center line and the chalk line.

Start second row on either side of the center line towards the chalk line. Make sure that second row is installed by staggering the tiles. This will avoid any four corners from meeting at one spot.(fig. 2)



## 2. Measuring & Cutting

Lay tile on a piece of plywood, hold the metal straight edge on the cut line, and cut with sharp razor knife. Let the tile droop or hang over the edge of the wood base and keep scoring the cut until separated. For odd angles, circular patterns, etc. a cardboard template is suggested. Change or snap off blades frequently to assure clean cuts.

Make sure that you measure carefully so that the tile will fit properly and does not leave gaps, resulting in the installation being out of alignment.

## 3. Adhesive

### a. General

- Please read label on adhesive packaging thoroughly before starting with the installation.
- Moisture is the single greatest cause of bonding failure!
- Higher temperatures and humidity cause the adhesive to cure faster.
- Use safety glasses, rubber boots, and rubber gloves when applying adhesive.
- Room must be well ventilated.

- For first aid and safety instructions see labels on can, technical data sheets, and MSDS.

### b) Applying Adhesive

All substrates must be structurally sound, smooth, clean, dry, and free from dust, loose material, grease, oil, wax, sealers, curing agents, and other foreign materials.

Apply adhesive with 1/16" (1.6 mm) V-notch trowel. ECO-RUBBER will sell upon request.

Put the tile that you are installing on top of the tile already glued down and pull towards the area you want to fill until the tile falls into place, then firmly press tile up to edge of existing tile. This will keep excess adhesive from protruding between the seams.

Do not allow adhesive to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive using a damp cloth with mineral spirits (use sparingly). Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves when applying adhesive.

Do not use tape of any kind to help secure seams during glue down installation. Tape residue cannot be removed from the top surface.

When applying adhesive, glue must be spread evenly under each tile to avoid differences in tile height. Allow 48 hours setting time. Avoid heavy traffic.

### c. Clean Up Adhesive

Excess adhesive should be cleaned immediately with hot water or mineral spirits, as cured adhesive bonds tightly and is difficult to remove. Do not use solvents as they cause deterioration of the bonding between the rubber granules.

Do not allow adhesive to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive using a damp cloth with mineral spirits (use sparingly). Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. **We strongly suggest wearing gloves when applying adhesive.**

#### d. Rolling

Roll each row upon finishing that row. Roll the entire floor when project is completed. Work in both directions. Note that adhesive is slippery when first spread and tiles will shift position even if only disturbed slightly. No foot traffic of any kind should be allowed for the next 12 hours (24 hours for ice skate blade and golf shoes), allow 72 hours for maximum strength.

A 50 to 70 pound roller should be used to ensure the underside tile surface is fully bonded to the glue and sub-floor. Too much rolling or too heavy a roller could cause the tiles to buckle and adhesive to move upwards through the seams. Furthermore, stretching of the rubber flooring can eventually lead to gaps between the tiles.

#### Guideline:

5/32" (4mm) thick floor - use a 50 lb. roller

1/4" (6mm) thick floor - use a 50 lb. roller

1/2" (12mm) thick floor - use a 70 lb. roller

#### 4. Sealer

Recommended Products:

- TASKI Vision (mat sealant)
- TASKI Combiplus or TASKI Wiwax (neutral cleaning detergent)
- TASKI - ICE (amine floor stripper)

#### a) Post construction

- Sweep the floor. Dry vacuum to ensure any dirt is removed.
- Wet scrub floor with Taski Profi cleaner (6 - 8 oz/gal of water) using buffer or auto scrubber with Taski contact pad or soft nylon brush.
- Wet vacuum soiled solution, rinse, and allow to dry thoroughly (6 – 8 hours).

#### b. Initial application of sealer

- Apply 3 thin coats of Vision Matte.
  - Allow to dry between each coat.
  - Note: Apply floor finish with synthetic wax mop. While the finish is wet, buff the floor with floor buffer (150 – 300 rpm) and soft nylon brush. This application drives the finish into the floor and causes proper sealing and coating of the floor.
  - In certain environments, e.g. office, the floor may become scuffed due to heavy foot traffic and may require more frequent spray or dry buffing with a mint or white pad. When spray buffing use TASKI Wiwax diluted 50/50 with water.

### Section VI

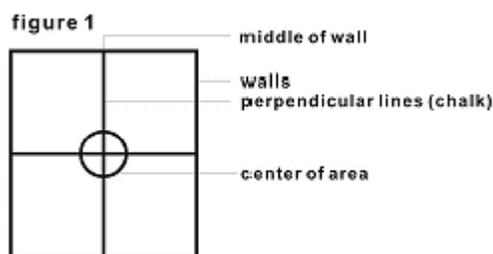
#### A. Installing Interlocking Tiles

Loose Lay, No Glue Installation. This installation method is for indoor, completely dry areas only.

#### 1. Arranging the Tiles

The installer should have all relevant information about the tile arrangement from the owner.

Occasionally uneven distribution of color granules may appear in a tile. This can be rectified by installing it in a less visible area. Install tiles same side up as received, do not flip over.



Establish a starting course by finding the mid-point on all four walls. Use a chalk line and mark the two center lines across the whole area. Use the perpendicular chalk line as your starting point to lay out the tiles (fig. 1).

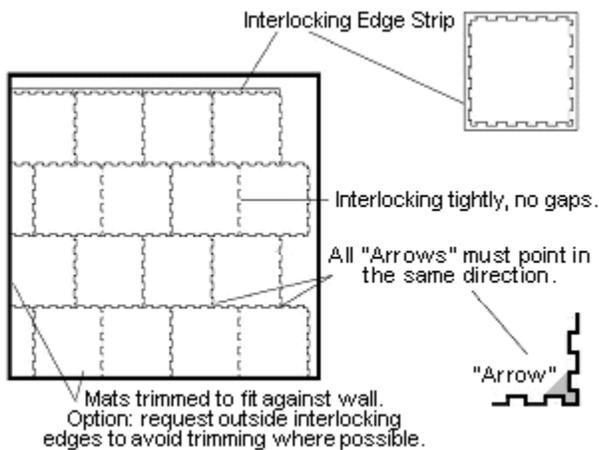
It is not necessary to stagger the interlocking tiles. However, the staggered method is recommended to avoid four corners from meeting in the same spot.

Assure a tight fit by tapping tiles as they are being installed.

- Make sure that all tiles are laid down with the "arrow" pointing in the same direction.(fig. 2)

- The interlocking tiles are delivered with outside interlocking edge pieces. The strips can be used to create a finished straight edge. The other option is to trim off the interlocking tabs.(fig. 2)

- Rubber tiles (square cut or interlocking) should never be laid on top of carpet as the floor will shift and move.



## 2. Measuring & Cutting

Lay tile on a piece of plywood, hold the metal straight edge on the cut line, and cut with sharp razor knife. Let the tile droop or hang over the edge of the wood base and keep scoring the cut until separated. For odd angles, circular patterns, etc. a cardboard template is suggested. Change or snap off blades frequently to assure clean cuts. Make sure that you measure carefully so that the tile will fit properly and does not leave gaps, resulting in the installation being out of alignment.

## 3. Sealer

Recommended Products:

- TASKI Vision (mat sealant)
- TASKI Combiplus or TASKI Wiwax (neutral cleaning detergent)
- TASKI - ICE (amine floor stripper)

### a. Post construction

- Sweep the floor. Dry vacuum to ensure any dirt is removed.

- Wet scrub floor with Taski Profi cleaner (6 - 8 oz/gal of water) using buffer or auto scrubber with Taski contact pad or soft nylon brush.

- Wet vacuum soiled solution, rinse, and allow to dry thoroughly (6 – 8 hours).

### b. Initial application of sealer

- Apply 3 thin coats of Vision Matte.
- Allow to dry between each coat.

- Note: Apply floor finish with synthetic wax mop. While the finish is wet, buff the floor with floor buffer (150 – 300 rpm) and soft nylon brush. This application drives the finish into the floor and causes proper sealing and coating of the floor.

- In certain environments, e.g. office, the floor may become scuffed due to heavy foot traffic and may require more frequent spray or dry buffing with a mint or white pad. When spray buffing use TASKI Wiwax diluted 50/50 with water.

## Section VII GENERAL CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Typically, ECO-RUBBER Flooring requires less maintenance than other types of flooring. Vacuuming then damp mopping is the preferred method, very little or no detergent is necessary. Change water frequently.

Use a mild detergent. Products containing solvents and acids will attack the composite structure of the rubber flooring and cause deterioration. Sealants, waxes, etc. can alter the surface characteristics and appearance. ECO-RUBBER does not assume any responsibility for damages caused by chemical additives.

### A. NON-SEALED FLOORS

#### 1. Fitness center applications:

- Dry vacuum floor thoroughly.
- Damp mop with mild detergent.
- When cleaning fitness equipment with disinfectant, or other strong cleaners, be careful that overspray or excess cleaner does not drip onto the rubber flooring.

Strong chemicals may cause the surface to deteriorate.

- Periodically moving interlocking tiles from high traffic areas to lower use areas extends the life of the floor.

#### 2. Ice arena applications:

The ideal machine to use is one that combines vacuuming, washing, rinsing, and drying.

If a scrubber machine is used, these steps should be taken:

- Mix mild detergent with water.
- Use string mop to dampen floor.
- Let solution act for approximately 10 minutes.
- Use scrubber machine.
- Use clear water to rinse, change rinse water frequently.
- Remove excess water for quicker drying.

### B. SEALED FLOORS

#### 1. Daily cleaning or as needed:

- Dry vacuum floor thoroughly; or
- Auto scrub or wet mop floor using TASKI Combiplus or TASKI Wiwax.

#### 2. Periodic cleaning:

- Dry vacuum floor thoroughly.
- Wet scrub floor with TASKI Profi (4 oz/gal). This application is done with an auto scrubber or buffer and wet vacuums. Use TASKI purple pad for scrubbing the floor.
  - Allow solution to remain on the floor for 5 minutes.
  - Wet vacuum soiled solution. Rinse and allow to dry (1 – 2 hours).
  - Apply 1 – 2 thin coats of TASKI Vision Matte using wet buffing with soft nylon brush.

#### 3. Tips about sealers:

- Use high suction cubic feet per minute (CFM) vacuum to pick up dust.
- Wait for floor to dry between applications of floor finish or sealer.
- Apply thin coats of floor finish with wax mop and follow floor buffer with a soft nylon brush.
- For large areas, use an auto scrubber with a contact pad or soft nylon brush to clean the floor daily.
- For stripping a rubber floor, use TASKI Ice-It and nylon brush.
- For poorly maintained floors, it may be necessary to continue cleaning with Ice-It for an extended period.
- For food areas: cleaning should be done with Profi (2 – 4 oz/gal water).
- Removing gum: use a generic gum remover.
- For high traffic areas, floors may be top scrubbed and recoated as needed.

## Section VIII

### LOGO INFORMATION

- Custom logos are packaged depending on logo size.
- a. One mat logos are usually packaged in a separate box
- b. Larger logos are packaged on top of the pallet
- c. Smaller pieces are always packaged separately in either a plastic bag or small box
  - Use care when opening the packaging as small logo pieces as they may fall out.
  - Refer to Section I, Material Storage & Handling.

### LOGO INSTALLATION

#### A. Glue Down

Loose lay the background mat(s) and larger logo pieces for approximate fit. Remove the logo. Apply adhesive to sub-floor, not to the logo pieces. See Section V, b) for adhesive instructions.

#### B. Interlock

Lay the background mat with the "arrow" pointing in the same direction as the rest of the floor. See Section VI,1.



One Mat Logo



Two Mat Logo



Three Mat Logo



Four Mat Logo

**Section IX**  
**WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

**PACKAGING INFORMATION - Eco-Rubber Flooring Tiles:**

All Eco-Rubber products are packaged on wooden pallets, covered with a plastic hood, and secured by steel strapping.

Thickness		Typical wt. per tile		Tiles per pallet
5/32"	4 mm	10 lbs	4.5 kg	200
1/4"	6 mm	16 lbs	7.3 kg	150
5/16"	8 mm	20 lbs	9 kg	120
3/8"	10 mm	23 lbs	10.5 kg	100
1/2"	12 mm	27 lbs	12 kg	80

**Pallet** (net weight): **65 lbs** (29.5 kg)

**PRODUCT INFORMATION - Eco-Rubber Flooring Tiles:**

Thickness tolerance of ± 0.5 mm

**Square cut**

38" x 38" = 10.02 ft<sup>2</sup>

96.5 cm x 96.5 cm = 0.93 m<sup>2</sup>

**Interlock**

37" x 37" = 9.5 ft<sup>2</sup>

94 cm x 94 cm = 0.88 m<sup>2</sup>

THICKNESS	
5/32"	*4 mm
1/4"	*6 mm
5/16"	8 mm
3/8"	10 mm
1/2 "	12 mm

THICKNESS	
5/16"	8 mm
3/8"	10 mm
1/2 "	12 mm

*\* Glue down installation recommended.*

**Conversion Chart:**

1 in	=	2.54 cm
1ft	=	30.5 cm
39.4 in	=	1.00 m
2.2 lbs	=	1.0 kg

Weights and measures may change without notice. All measurements are nominal and subject to variation.

**Section X**  
**DISCLAIMER**

The installation guidelines in this manual represent typical installation work procedures. Every site is different and ECO-RUBBER does not claim to have covered all possible circumstances. Eco-\$mart, Inc. does not warrant installation work not directly performed by ECO-RUBBER, and specifically disclaims liability for any direct or indirect personal injury, property damage or other costs or losses resulting from installations or applications by third parties. Please see the Limited Warranty for the particulars of warranty coverage relating to ECO-RUBBER products.



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