AIRLAY
floorcoverings

Carpet Plank Installation Guide



CARPET PLANKS.

Carpet Plank Installation Guide

These instructions have been prepared by Airlay International to assist professional contractors and layers in achieving an optimum installation of Airlay International Modular Carpet Planks. Any variation to the recommendations below may affect the warranty.

The following instructions should be reviewed prior to installation and commencement of works and also read in conjunction with the Australian Standards AS/NZS 2455:1:2019 and AS/NZS 2455.2:2019. Improper installation of modular carpet plank may void the warranty.

The guidelines contained within are in addition to the minimum guidelines set forth in the AS/NZS 2455.1:2019 and AS/NZS 2455.2:2019 for Textile floorcoverings – Installation Practice.

PRE-LAYING CHECKS

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

Airlay also recommends the flooring contractor confirm with their client the required installation style (1/4 turn/ Brick / Monolitic Non-Directional etc). All Airlay modular carpets should be installed as per the Airlay recommended Modular Carpet Plank Installation Guidelines.

PREPARATION & STORING THE MATERIAL

Store the planks on a flat surface and stack them in their original packaging. Do not stack more than 10 boxes. Before proceeding to lay them, allow the planks to rest for 24 hours in a closed area with a temperature between 15^{o}C and 35^{o}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 planks are to be installed must not exceed 75% or fall below 30%.

Airlay International's modular carpet planks should only be installed after all construction is complete. Any staining, soiling, contamination or damage caused by building construction may void the end user's product warranty. The contractor should inform the appropriate person of this warranty implication.

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SITE TESTING & CONDITIONING

Maintain the temperature of the installation site and carpet between a minimum temperature of 15°C and a maximum temperature of 35°C for 24 hours before installation. Do not begin the installation if the room or sub floor temperature is below 15°C. The adhesive will not function properly when applied over an extremely cold surface.

Ensure that relative humidity does not exceed 65%. Maintain these conditions for 24 hours prior to, during and 24 hours after installation. The concrete substrate should be tested for alkalinity (pH) before installation. This should be done at random locations on the concrete substrate and should be between 5.0 and 8.0 pH. Corrective measures such as grinding and sealing the floor with a moisture barrier should be utilised if the pH readings are outside the above guideline.

Check the concrete for moisture at several locations as per AS/NZS 2455.1:2019 and AS/NZS 2455.2:2019 by a hygrometer, the humidity test should not exceed 75% relative humidity.

Do not begin the installation if an unacceptable moisture level is detected. Do not use other methods of moisture testing as they are not reliable. If excessive moisture is present, the general contractor of building owner must be advised and a decision made if the installation is to begin.

Airlay International **will not** be held responsible for any moisture related installation failures if these guidelines are not strictly followed.

FLOOR PREPARATION

The floor must be dry, free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint, wax or any debris that could affect adhesion of the carpet modules to the floor.

Do not use sweeping compounds as they may leave oily deposits. The floor must be level and smooth. Depressions and cracks must be filled with a liquid latex additive patching compound and all protrusions levelled.

NOTE: Do not sand or scrape Vinyl Asbestos Plank (VAT) without proper attention to abatement procedures and precautions in accordance with all State and local codes.

Airlay International makes no claims as to the acceptability of this procedure as a mitigation method in lieu of asbestos removal; and accepts no responsibility if any loose asbestos containing floorings are affected upon removal of an Airlay contract modular carpet installation.

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Concrete floors must be sealed if dusting or powdering exists. As always, manufacturers are subject to change their formulations. Please refer to all manufacturers' suggested use and precautions. CAUTION: Cutback asphaltic adhesive or any other non-approved adhesives must never be allowed to come into contact with new adhesives. Installation failure could result.

RAISED ACCESS FLOOR PANELS

All panels must be smooth, level, secure and free of any material that will affect the adhesive bond. Carpet modules must be installed offset from access panel seams. Gaps between panels must not exceed 1/16th (1.6mm).

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Airlay International modular planks may be installed on internally heated floors provided that the surface temperature will not exceed 27°C . Underfloor heating must be turned off 48 hours prior to commencement of installation and shall not be turned on again until 48 hours after installation is completed allowing the adhesive to set.

APPLICATION OF ADHESIVE

Application is either by short nap mohair paint roller, airless spray gun or flat trowel.

An approved Roberts primer or equivalent must be used on all porous surfaces. It is mandatory that the adhesive must tack up before use. Colour must change to clear and it must not transfer.

Installation of Airlay Cushion Back planks – Adhesive should be applied with a V1 notch trowel. Roller application is not permitted. Our recommended adhesive is AIRLAY UNIVERSAL VINYL ADHESIVE. For all PVC Back Carpet Planks, we recommend AIRLAY PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE.

NOTE: The adhesive must be allowed to dry completely before installing the modular planks. Installing into wet adhesive will result into a permanent bond and may cause carpet to bubble and glue being transferred to pile surface.

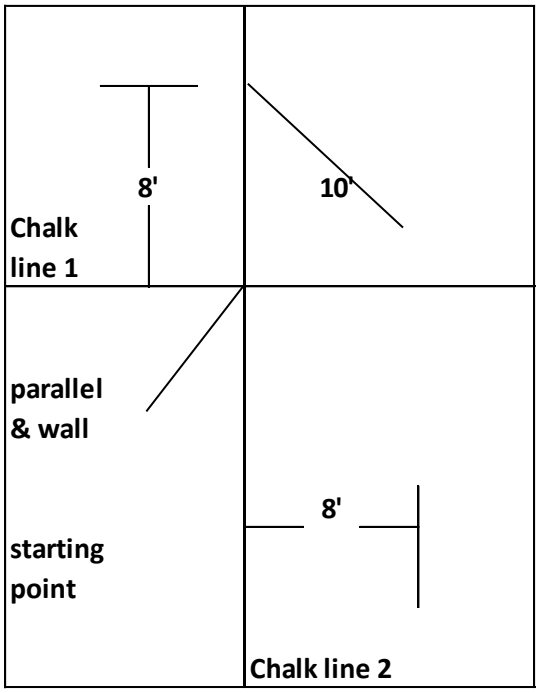
SITE LAYOUT

1. The starting point in a modular installation must be as near to the centre of the room as possible and must be positioned to utilise the largest perimeter cut module size.

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2. Snap a chalk line parallel to one major wall bisecting the starting point. It may be necessary to offset the centre chalk line to assure perimeter modules will be at least half size.
3. A second chalk line must be snapped from the starting point at 90^{O} to the first line. This can be accomplished using a 3-4-5, 6-8-10, or larger triangle, depending on the room size (see Illustration A). Metres or feet may be used to lay out the triangle in these proportions.

Illustration A:



INSTALLATION

1. Each module has directional arrows on the backing. This allows for one-directional or multi-directional installation. Some styles may be linear in design and require quarter turning. All lineal planks must be quarter turned unless requested by the client and signed in writing.

Note: Lineal patterns when installed directional may produce an undesired effect when lines of the same colour meet on two edges. Installers need to monitor this during installation and reposition planks where appropriate. Patterns that are random in nature may contain additional colour ways to the ones displayed on the samples. Please consult your commercial sales consultant for further information.

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2. Installation must begin at the intersection of two chalk lines. Installation must continue until completed in one quadrant and then proceed to an adjoining quadrant until all our quadrants are completed. Larger areas may require chalk lines bisecting the original four quadrants.
3. Install modules using the pyramid technique (see Illustration A below). This allows multiple alignment checks. If the edges do not align and the misalignment increases with progression of the installation, the source of the problem must be identified and corrected.

Illustration B:

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="6">chalk line 1</td><td colspan="5"></td></tr>
<tr><td>16</td><td colspan="4"></td></tr>
<tr><td>11</td><td>17</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>7</td><td>12</td><td>18</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>8</td><td>13</td><td>19</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>5</td><td>9</td><td>14</td><td>20</td></tr>
<tr><td>chalk line 2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>15</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">adding point</td></tr>
</table>

4. Slide modules into position to prevent yarn from being trapped between the modules. Trapped yarn will adversely affect the appearance of the installation and will cause alignment problems.
5. Modules must fit snugly but not be compressed. Check for fit by measuring the length of ten (10) full modules after installation. The measurement must not be less than, or exceed by more than 5mm, the length of the modules being multiplied by ten (10) for example: if 500mm x 500mm modules are being installed, the measurement should be between 5000mm and 5005mm.

CUTTING TECHNIQUES

1. Modules may be cut from the backing side by overlaying the modular plank, marking and cutting. A template should be used. Care must be taken to ensure the arrows are pointing in the correct direction.

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2. Modules may also be cut by letting them cover up the wall and cutting with a cushion back wall trimmer or similar tool. DO NOT COMPRESS.

STAIRS

Riser

Always ensure that the arrow on the back of the carpet plank is pointing down the riser. The riser of the carpet plank is securely held in position by the stair nosing; adhesive need only be applied to the top section of the riser.

Tread

Arrow must run into the step at a right angle. Apply adhesive to all the tread. Then fit stair nosings.

POST INSTALLATION CARE

- Roll the entire installation with a 35kg roller once it is completed.
- Use plywood over the carpet when heavy objects are moved within 24 hours after. Should plastic sheeting be required post installation it is the responsibility of the contractor should any condensation occur.
- Protective chair matts under chairs are recommended. This will prevent excessive wear to the face and possible transfer of the pressure sensitive adhesive to the back of the carpet.

All Airlay International modular planks are not recommended for use on a separate underlay. Airlay International does not guarantee the stability or performance of planks if laid on a separate underlay. Airlay International is not responsible for subfloor conditions. It is the responsibility of the installer to obtain a successful installation.

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