



Installation Instructions

General and Delivery

- Feng Shui Flextile is intended for installations in interior locations only.
- Feng Shui Flextile must be installed by an installer with a minimum of five years of proven experience in performing work similar to that required for Feng Shui Flextile. Acceptable certifications include The International Standards and Training Alliance (INSTALL), The International Certified Floorcovering Installers Association (CFI), and Flooring American University. Without specific prior experience with this specialized product, a Summit Flooring expert may be needed on site to consult on the installation. Please inquire for more information.
- Order materials in compliance with product supplier's ordering and lead time requirements, in order to take delivery at least 48 hours in advance of installation (to allow materials to acclimate to job site conditions).
- Accept delivery of materials only if they are in unopened, undamaged packaging that bears the name and brand of the manufacturer or supplier, project identification, and shipping and handling instructions.

Storage

- Upon receiving floor covering, immediately remove from pallet. Tile cartons shall be stacked no more than five cartons high, and shall be stored flat and parallel.
- Store material – underlayment panels, patching or leveling compounds, floor covering, adhesive, chemical welding liquid, sealer, and maintenance products if ordered – in original packaging in areas that are enclosed and weather tight with the permanent HVAC system set at a temperature between 64°F and 68°F with a relative humidity of 50 – 60% for a minimum of 48 hours prior to commencement of installation.
- The material shall be inspected before installation. **If material is distorted during storage or transporting, do not attempt to install it. Do not install flooring with visible defects.** Report any defects to Summit Flooring as soon as possible and in compliance with the warranty (available from www.summit-flooring.com).

Materials and Accessories Required

Consult the appropriate Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for handling of accessories.

- **Flooring:** Feng Shui Flextile
 - **Tools:** Sharp utility knife and extra blades, carpenter's square and straight edge for custom cuts, measuring tape, 150-lbs. roller, 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U-notch trowel
 - **Adhesive:** Taylor MS Plus
 - This adhesive, which is Green Guard Certified, shall be used for substrates compliant with ASTM F710 and ASTM F1482 specifications. Trowel and coverage guidelines are below:
 - Trowel size*: 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U-notch
 - Spread rate: 125 – 150 sqft per gallon
- *These are guidelines only. The final decision on which trowel to use will be determined by the substrate's porosity and is the responsibility of the installer.

Substrate Preparation and Pre-installation Testing

All substrates

- The substrate must be sound, clean, permanently dry, perfectly smooth, and free of cracks and contaminants, including paint, old adhesive, curing compounds, oil, grease, wax, asphalt, or other contaminants that could negatively affect the performance of the adhesive. Any irregularities in the substrate will telegraph (show through) to the finished floor.
- Floor laying work shall not begin until the installer has assessed and approved the substrate and subfloor conditions.

Concrete substrates and subfloors

- Ensure that the general contractor has followed ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete floors to receive Resilient Flooring. ASTM F710 includes requirements for moisture and pH testing, smoothness, flatness, concrete strength, and the presence of a vapor retarder under the slab. ASTM F710 requires that all concrete slabs be tested, regardless of age or grade level, using the Calcium Chloride test (ASTM F1869) and Relative Humidity test (ASTM F2170). No other test methods are acceptable. The General Contractor and installer shall both keep records of all tests related to ASTM F710 on file.
- Test procedures shall be followed exactly in order for test results to be valid. (Building shall be at in service temperature and humidity, concrete shall be properly cleaned, etc.) See ASTM F2170 for details. It is recommended that a qualified, independent third party conduct the tests.
- Test result requirements using EQ Bond adhesive are:
 - ASTM F1869: maximum MVER of 5 lbs/1000 sq ft/24 hrs
 - ASTM F2170: relative internal humidity of 60% or less
- **If concrete moisture conditions are outside the above limits, do not commence installation.** To treat concrete slabs that do not meet the above limits, several companies have produced heavy-duty epoxy-based moisture control systems.

Summit Flooring does not endorse or prefer any of these systems and provides the below list for information purposes only.

- Ardex: 724.203.5000 (www.ardex.com)
- Bostik: 978.777.0100 (www.bostik-us.com)
- Koester/Koster: 757.425.1206 (www.koesterusa.com)
- Mapei: 800.426.2734 (1.800.42.MAPEI) (www.mapei.us)

Wood subfloors

- For wood subfloor systems, ensure the subfloor conforms to the guidelines of ASTM F1482 Guide to Wood Underlayment Products Available for Use Under Resilient Flooring. Requirements include
 - Double layer construction of a wood subfloor/underlayment assembly, with a minimum total thickness of 1". The base layer shall be plywood over joist on center. The second layer shall be plywood underlayment.
 - A minimum of 18" of cross-ventilated air space beneath all wood subfloors. Use a moisture barrier to insulate and protect the crawl space.
- To cover unsuitable substrates in a wood subfloor system, use underlayment grade plywood (i.e. arctic birch panels, APA Group 1 exterior-grade A/C plywood).

Other subfloors

- To cover ceramic tile subfloors, which will be uneven, use a Portland cement-based leveling or underlayment compound. Strictly follow the manufacturer's instructions and ensure compliance with ASTM F710 for use of these compounds.
- Do not install Feng Shui Flextile over:
 - Existing resilient flooring including sheet or tile products (as telegraphing of the existing flooring through the surface of new sheet vinyl is possible over time)
Note: If removal of existing resilient flooring is required, strictly follow the Resilient Floor Covering Institute's paper on "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" available on www.rfci.com. Also, be aware that existing floors and/or adhesives may contain asbestos. Various federal, state, and local government agencies regulate the removal of asbestos-containing material. Review and comply with all applicable regulations.
 - Surfaces containing any type of residual adhesive
 - Non-compatible substrates, such as asphalt, any bituminous or asphalt-saturated material, or floor coverings made of (or containing) rubber
 - On-grade or below-grade concrete that is subject to excessive moisture
 - Gypsum-based underlayments
 - Radiant-heated floors

Site Conditions

- The flooring shall be installed only after other trades have finished, and a permanent HVAC system is operational. Temporary heat is not acceptable.
- During installation
 - Maintain the room temperature between 64°F and 68°F. Relative humidity between 50% and 60% is preferable. Excessively high or low interior air relative humidity will have a detrimental effect on the floor covering.

- Maximize fresh air ventilation by using exhaust fans, at point of use, and by opening windows and doors as necessary. Face fans out of the area where flooring is being installed, not into the area.
- Because some materials used during installation may be flammable, make sure no sources of ignition or open flame exist near the use of those materials.

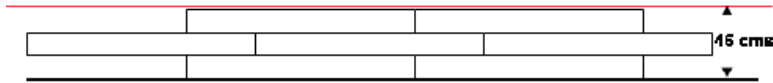
Layout

- The flooring dealer or contractor shall provide a layout drawing to the architect or end user for the intended installation that contains the following information:
 - Date and scale of drawing
 - Location, swing, and clearance of all doors
 - Existing substrate/subfloor conditions
 - Notation identifying who is responsible for:
 - removal of existing floor coverings and/or underlayments
 - preparation of existing substrate
 - moisture and pH testing
 - removal of debris from new floor covering installation
 - protection of finished floor covering after installation
 - Initial maintenance procedures
 - Name of manufacturer, product style, and pattern to be installed
 - Product quantities required
 - Location and type of all edge moldings and base required
- An effective entrance system that traps dirt and water shall be in place in applications where Feng Shui Flextile is installed near entrances, and shall be shown as part of the layout. Summit Flooring recommends a permanently installed two- to three-part entrance system at all outdoor entrances (20-30 linear feet for major entrances; less for infrequently used entrances).
- The end user shall receive a copy of the layout drawing for approval prior to install.

Installation

1. Thoroughly sweep the substrate to remove all dirt and debris.
2. 24 hours prior to installation, lay out the flooring on the subfloor up under normal, occupied lighting conditions in the configuration required for installation. This step will ensure the flooring acclimatizes to the climate properly.
 - Bamboo is a natural product which is affected by humidity. High humidity will cause bamboo to swell. Low humidity will cause bamboo to shrink. It is of the utmost importance that the product be installed with an expansion gap distance of 3/16" – 3/8" from walls, door frames, beams, etc.
3. Install Feng Shui Flextile parallel to the main light source.
4. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect the dry laid installation and notify the appropriate authority of any imperfections or irregularities prior to final adhesive installation.

- For the first row, place a line at a distance of the width of 3 boards plus the expansion gap distance from the wall, parallel to the installation direction. The first row has to be placed exactly at this line. We recommend placing a slat or beam on the floor to ensure correct alignment of the first row.



- Apply the adhesive according to the manufacturer's instructions and install the first two rows.
 - To install each board, place one corner of the board in the correct position. Press the rest of the board into the adhesive.
- Remove the slat or beam used to align the first row of boards.
- Install the remaining boards following the same technique.
 - Place of corner of the board in the correct position. Press the rest of the board into the adhesive.
- To install the last row of tiles:
 - Cut the boards leaving 3816" – 3/8" expansion gap space to the wall.
 - To cut between the bamboo strips, use a sharp utility knife.
 - To cut through the bamboo strips, use a jigsaw with a fine blade.
- After installation, using a 150-lbs. floor roller, roll the adhered areas at least twice, once in each direction (horizontally and vertically) to ensure that the adhesive has transferred completely to the backing.

Clean Up and Final Finish

- Maintain the room temperature between 65°F and 68°F for 48 hours after installation. Thereafter, maintain temperature at a minimum of 65°F.
- Check appearance of entire installation. Use a dampened mop with a no-wax floor cleaner specifically formulated for hardwood floors to remove any adhesive from the flooring.
- Commercial vacuum with a soft accessory to clear the area of debris and grit.
- Keep all traffic off flooring for 24 hours to prevent indentation while the adhesive sets.
- Wait 72 hours before doing initial cleaning or allowing rolling traffic or furniture on the floor.
- Lift furniture when moving. Do not slide furniture across the floor.
- Installing entrance matting systems at all exterior entrance ways is recommended to maximize the useful life and appearance of the flooring.

Actions not to take

To ensure the long life and beautiful appearance of your Feng Shui Flextile floor,

- Do not use or drag furniture with sharp edges (for example, desks, shelving units, and cubicle assemblies). Furniture should be fitted with floor protectors that are large enough to distribute the furniture's weight evenly. Keep the floor protectors clean and replace them periodically.
- Do not use soft chair caster wheels, including polyurethane wheels, on office chairs. Wheels must be at least 2" in width and made of hard polyamide or similar (wheel type H per EN 12529) so that they will roll easily, preventing unnecessary wear and tear on the flooring.
- Do not drag furniture across the floor. During a move-in day, floor protection should be used to prevent damage from movers, dropped furniture, or soiling from dirty moving equipment.
- Do not use certain materials (for example in rubber feet, rubber mat, shopping carts) if they will be in contact with the floor for a long time, as they can cause discoloration that cannot be removed.
- Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar.
- Do not use a wet mop or sponge to clean the floor. Excessive amounts of water will cause your floor to swell.
- Never wax bamboo.
- Do not use oil soap, scouring powder, abrasive cleansers or harsh detergents to clean bamboo.
- Please visit www.summit-flooring.com for complete cleaning and maintenance instructions.

Please address any questions or comments to:



Summit International Flooring

Summit International Flooring
P.O. Box 90
Livingston, NJ 07039
(877) 496-3566
(973) 740-2009 (f)
www.summit-flooring.com