



**SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL FLOORING
STRENGTH SERIES RUBBER FLOORING
INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR ROLLS AND TILES**

I. Roll Installation Guide

A. Substrate

1. Suitable substrates include but are not limited to permanently dried concrete and wood.
2. To eliminate the telegraphing effect of defects in the substrate through the flooring, the substrate must be smooth.
3. Remove all dust, dirt, grease, and foreign materials from the substrate.
4. Moisture in the substrate negatively affects any adhesive product and should be eliminated prior to installation.

B. Roll Install Procedure

1. Inspect flooring prior to installation for manufacturing defects, correct color, and size. See warranty statement for details.
2. Assume for installation purposes that the walls in the room are not square or straight.
3. A full glue down installation is recommended for maximum wear and durability, but tape down applications are acceptable for low traffic installations. Substrate quality is equally as important for tape down installations as it is for full glue down installations.
4. Unroll / unpack the flooring in one direction and allow it to equilibrate with the installation environment for a period of 12 hours or more prior to final installation. This will allow the flooring time to relax as it is stretched somewhat during manufacturing.
5. Roll out the rubber in such a fashion that will minimize excess cuts and waste during the final installation. If a tape down installation method is chosen, the tape can be applied to the substrate as the flooring is being laid out in this step. The top layer of the tape can be exposed when the final cuts are complete.
6. Slightly overlapping the rolls along the length will help insure tight seams during the adhering process.
7. Cut all rolls to the required length making allowances to run up a wall and / or for overlap on a head seams where required.
8. Begin the final installation by starting with the roll that is against the truest wall. Square this roll with the room.
9. Proceed to butt the next roll against the first roll utilizing the factory edge. All interior seams (those not against a wall) may be butted against



the preceding roll using the factory edge. Head seams or other joints may be overlapped and double cut using a sharp utility knife as necessary.

10. Starting with the first roll, fold back half of the roll lengthwise along the wall and apply the adhesive to the substrate using the manufacturers recommended coverage rates and trowel size. Note the adhesive manufacturers “open time” and only apply as much as you can install within this time period. In order to minimize trapped air LAY, don’t drop, the flooring back into the adhesive.

11. Trim the roll to the final length. Leaving a slight gap at the walls roughly the thickness of the material being installed is a good idea and can be hidden with most moldings. Under normal interior conditions, the rubber flooring is very stable and won’t grow or shrink, but because it’s rubber, it can stretch. Leaving the gap allows for this stretch and will help prevent any bunching at the walls.

12. Roll the floor immediately with a 100 lb roller to maximize contact of adhesive with the floor working from the middle of the roll to the wall.

13. Fold back the other half of the first roll and the first half of the second roll and apply adhesive to the substrate under both being careful to not apply too much adhesive at the seams. Excess adhesive will ooze up through the seam.

14. Lay flooring into wet adhesive and roll. When laying down the second roll, the initial overlap allows you to “work” or “walk” the joint back with your hands thereby insuring a tight seam and effectively eliminating oozing adhesive.

15. Repeat this folding, spreading, trimming, and rolling procedure for each consecutive roll until complete.

16. Roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled. Use masking tape to hold together seams that appear to have gaps. Do not use duct tape, as it will leave a residue on the floor.

17. Allow the adhesive to cure per the adhesive manufacturer’s recommendation prior to excess foot traffic and rolling loads across the flooring. Premature traffic could cause gaps to form in the seams.

II. Tile Installation Guide

A. Substrate

1. As with the rolled goods above, substrate preparation is critical to a good installation.

B. Tile Installation Procedure

1. Inspect flooring prior to installation for manufacturing defects, correct color, and size. See warranty statement for details.

2. A successful installation depends on several factors and your flooring contractor will help you choose the correct installation method based on



your needs. Summit International Flooring's Strength Series Rubber Flooring Tiles have been successfully installed with "loose laid", tape down, and full glue down applications. The entire floor should be dry laid prior to adhesive application. This eliminates problems associated with the differences in "open time" of different adhesives.

a) Square Cut Tiles

- (1) Starting in the center of the room. Snap a chalk line lengthwise down the center of the room.
- (2) Begin laying tiles lengthwise along the chalk line towards the opposite wall.
- (3) When a wall is reached, try to refrain from cutting the last tile to fit until all the tiles are installed.
- (4) Continue laying the tiles in rows until the room is complete except for the areas along the walls. Some installers prefer to use a staggered "bricklike" pattern as they feel it minimizes stress between the tiles.
- (5) Finish the areas along the walls by cutting in tiles to fill the gaps. Leaving a gap at the wall roughly the thickness of the material being installed is a good idea.
- (6) Tiles can be finish cut slightly larger than needed (~5/32") and then undercut to ensure a professional result.

b) Interlocking Tiles

- (1) Snap a chalk line on the sub-floor 24" from one wall in your room. Snap another chalk line on the sub-floor 24" from an adjacent wall. You now have a set of perpendicular lines making an approximate 90-degree angle.
- (2) Begin laying the interlocking tiles along one of the chalk lines, snapping the locks together as you go making sure the "arrow" of each tile points in the same direction.
- (3) Leave the perimeter of the room open until the field is installed.
- (4) Continue locking the tiles together in successive rows until the field area is covered.
- (5) Go back and cut in the tiles along the walls in the room. Leaving a gap at the wall roughly the thickness of the material being installed is a good idea.
- (6) This method should maximize the usage of the tiles and the strength of the interlock mechanism while minimizing the cuts that need to be made.