

## Interlocking 24" x 24" (Stocking Program) Installation Guideline

### Storage / Pre-installation

- Store tiles in a dry and clean area.
- The sub-surface must be flat/smooth, clean, and dry, structurally sound, and all debris, including old adhesive, must be removed.
- Scraping may be required to remove debris.
- Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite, and Luan Plywood are not considered suitable underlayment.
- Debris left under mats will cause height variations, telegraphing, and undulations.
- Rubber flooring may be installed between temperatures of 14°C (57°F) and 23°C (72°F).
- Room temperature must be consistent during the entire installation.
- Large fluctuations in temperature or humidity will cause expansion or contraction.
- In-floor radiant heat should be turned off at least 24 hours before the installation.

### Acclimation

- Start the acclimation process approximately 48 - 72 hours before starting the installation.
- Lay out all mats on the sub-surface in piles of 2 or fewer:
- Be sure to mix mats from several different pallets to blend minor shade variations.
- Allow them to acclimate until they have reached a consistent size.
  - Some products under certain conditions have shown expansion and contraction in size of up to 1/8" (3.2mm).
- Check for any shading or uneven color distribution.
  - This is not considered to be a product defect.
  - Rotating the mat 90° or installing it in a less visible area may help improve the effect.
- Inspect all mats for visible defects.
  - Ensure the defective product is identified before the start of the installation and notify the Rep/Dealer immediately.
  - Labor will not be covered if any defective product is installed.
  - Scythe marks are inherent in the manufacturing of recycled rubber flooring products and are considered normal.
  - Certain lighting conditions can accentuate these marks and, as such, are not considered a product defect.

### Measuring and Cutting

- If cuts are required, measure the desired length from the outside tab inwards.
- Lay tile on a flat surface, hold a metal straight edge on the desired cut line, and cut with a sharp utility knife.
- Keep scoring the cut line until separated, change, or snap off blades frequently to ensure clean cuts.

## Installation

- Do not install mats if the appropriate thickness and dimensions have not been reached.
- It is intended for indoor use only and should not be installed in areas where the temperature is inconsistent.
- Begin installation at the center point of the room, working outwards towards the walls.
- Failing to secure the open edges will result in the shifting of the surface and gaps between the tiles.
- Any perimeter tile will need to be cut to fit against the wall, allowing a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch around the perimeter for expansion and contraction.
- Create a finished straight edge by removing all interlocking tabs along the outside edge. (See Cutting section for directions)
- Make sure all tiles are laid with the arrow pointing in the same direction.

## Maintenance

- To clean the mats, vacuum them, then damp mop with warm water using a pH-neutral cleaner.
- Products containing mineral solvents and acids will attack the composite structure of the rubber flooring and cause deterioration.
- Do not use wax on the recycled rubber flooring.
- When Cleaning equipment/furnishings 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.

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