

INSTALLATION MANUAL

TILES



itc



BEFORE INSTALLATION⁴

THE SUBFLOOR⁵

WALL-TO-WALL INSTALLATION⁷

CREATE YOUR RUG⁹



INFORMATION

ITC carpet tiles are available in different colours, structures and patterns to create flooring that brings comfort for years to come. To achieve optimal results, a correct installation is essential. Please follow these instructions carefully.

BEFORE THE INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT ADVICE

ACCLIMATISATION & SITE CONDITIONS



Take your carpet tiles out of the boxes and let them acclimatise for at least 24 hours.

The room temperature should be between 18°C and 28°C.
The relative humidity should be between 30% and 65%.

CHECK YOUR TILES

Do they correspond to the requested specifications (product name, colour, dimensions)? Do the tiles show any defects or damages? In case of problems, do not start the fitting, but contact your supplier to find a solution.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

In a room with underfloor heating, the underfloor heating system must be switched off at least 24 hours before the carpet tiles are installed.

Moreover, the underfloor heating system should be operational for at least 10 days prior the installation to ensure that all residual moisture has been evaporated.



48 hours after the installation, the underfloor heating system can be gradually brought back up to temperature by increments of 5°C per day, until it reaches standard operating temperature conditions, with a maximum of 27°C on the back of the carpet tile. Make sure the heating circuit is fully waterproof.

NOTE

This document is for ITC carpet tiles created for residential use only. You can find commercial tiles at our sister brand Modulys.

TOOLS

for wall-to-wall installation



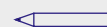
CUTTER KNIFE & BLADES



ALUMINIUM RULER



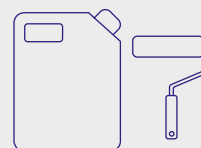
MEASURING TOOL



CHALK

TOOLS

for 'create your rug' installation



TACKIFIER & ROLLER

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

01/ IDENTIFY THE SUBSTRATE TYPE

ITC carpet tiles can be installed on any subfloor that is:

- ✓ dry
- ✓ clean
- ✓ grease-free
- ✓ firm
- ✓ stable
- ✓ flat

Traces from previous floor coverings or adhesive residues must be removed.

These general conditions must be respected regardless of the subfloor type.

CEMENT-BASED SUBFLOOR

A concrete subfloor must be level, clean and dry. If the surface is granular or porous, a primer should be applied. This primer must be compatible with the chosen adhesive. Please follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

WOOD

Installing your carpet tiles on a wooden subfloor such as plywood, chipboard, MDF or hard-board is possible. However, you must always keep an eye on the indoor climate because there is a risk of deformation from moisture or overload.

A load of 75 kg distributed over 20 cm should not result in deformation of the floor surface. Uneven floorboards must be carefully sanded and levelled to avoid any risk of imprints being seen through the carpet tiles.

Wood block floors should be smooth, sound and securely bonded. If the wooden subfloor is in poor condition and very uneven, we recommend replacing it.

ABSORBENT SUBFLOOR

If the subfloor is highly absorbent, a primer must be applied. Brushing the substrate with a wet brush will help determine the degree of absorption: the faster the water disappears, the higher the substrate's absorbency. To know which type of primer you should use can be determined by testing how quickly the water disappears. Please follow the primer manufacturer's instructions.

RAISED FLOORING SYSTEMS

If the carpet tiles are being installed on raised access floor systems, the subfloor needs to be stable and even. Height differences between the panels may not exceed 1 mm.

CARPET

A carpet cannot be used as a subfloor because it does not have the right properties.

02/ CHECK THE CONDITIONS

The subfloor must be stable and dry in accordance with the requirements of national building standards and regulations. Before the installation can start, the following conditions must be respected:

the ambient temperature should be between 18°C and 28°C

the subfloor should have a minimum temperature of 18°C

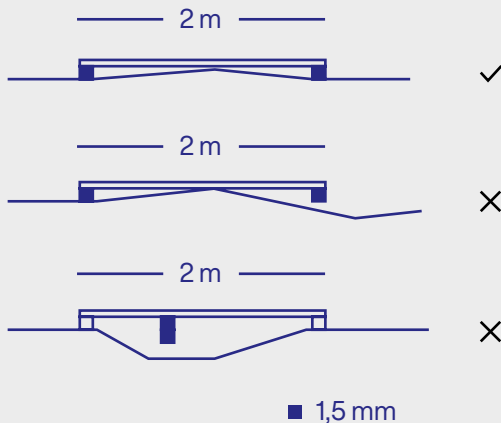
the relative humidity should be between 30% and 65%

These conditions must be respected 48 hours before installation, during installation and 72 hours after completion.

03/ LEVEL THE SUBFLOOR

Any cracks, tears or irregularities in the subfloor must be patched and levelled and allowed to dry to ensure the subfloor is flat and smooth.

Any unevenness of the subfloor must not be larger than 1,5 mm measured over a length of 2 m. Measured over a length of 20 cm, the maximum permissible deviation is 0,5 mm.



04/ CHECK THE MOISTURE

Before installing ITC carpet tiles, the substrate must be permanently dry.

It is generally recommended that the equilibrium moisture content of the wood be limited to 8% to 12%. For screeds and concrete floors, the permissible moisture content differs, depending on the type of screed.

BACKING TYPE	SUBFLOOR TYPE	ALLOWED MOISTURE CONTENT *	RELATIVE HUMIDITY **
WATER DAMP PERMEABLE	CEMENT BASED	3 CM %	75%
	ANHYDRITE-BASED	1 CM %	75 %

* based on the Carbide method

** surface relative humidity

WALL-TO-WALL INSTALLATION

| LOOSE LAY OF CARPET TILES FOR RESIDENTIAL USE ONLY

01/ MEASURE

Measure the room to find the best starting point for a maximum size perimeter tile. See 1A.

Proper planning should avoid cutting perimeter tiles more than half their width. Do not work with full tiles directly up to the wall because no wall is perfectly straight.

02/ MARK

Apply at least two perpendicular chalk lines to the substrate. See 2A. These chalk lines must extend over the entire length and width.

The intersection point of the chalk lines (see 2B) is best determined in advance so that the desired result can be obtained with as little cutting waste as possible.

03/ LAY THE TILES

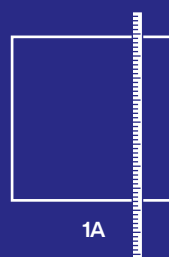
ITC carpet tiles have a weight of $>3.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$ and therefore, in accordance with EN1307 do not need to be glued.

Lay down your tiles along the chalk lines in the order of diagram 3A. The arrows on the back of the tile indicate the direction. Refer to the technical data sheet to see the possible installation method(s) per product.

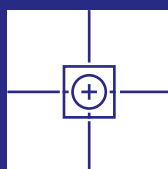
The tiles should fit together tightly but they should not be compressed.

04/ CUT

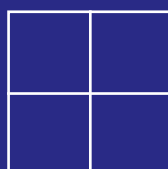
In most cases, to finish the room, carpet tiles will have to be cut with a suitable floor cutting knife. The carpet tiles must be cut from the back.



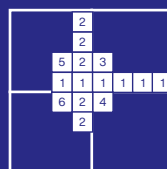
1A



2B



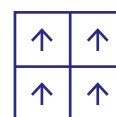
2A



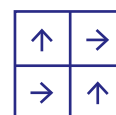
3A

INSTALLATION PATTERNS

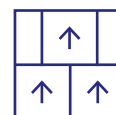
See page 8 for
more details



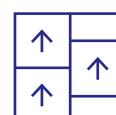
MONOLITHIC



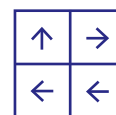
QUARTER TURN



BRICK



ASHLAR



RANDOM

GOOD TO KNOW

INSTALLATION METHOD

There is an arrow indicating the pile direction on the back of the carpet tile. This is an aid for laying the product in different directions:

MONOLITHIC/ The carpet tiles are laid in the same direction (arrows pointing in the same direction) to create a uniform floor covering.

QUARTER TURN/ The arrow on the back of the carpet tile is alternately turned 90°.

BRICK/ All the arrows point in the same direction, but each tile is moved half a row horizontally so that the 4 corner points never coincide.

ASHLAR/ All the arrows point in the same direction, but each tile is moved half a row vertically so that the 4 corner points never coincide.

RANDOM/ The tiles are placed randomly without any recurring pattern.

The technical datasheet shows which installation methods are recommended for the carpet tile in question. Please choose one of the recommended installation methods. If you would like to deviate from the described installation options, always consult us first.

A non-recommended installation method will invalidate the warranty. Carpet tile seams will never be invisible, and are usually most visible immediately after installation. Seams become less and less visible with routine vacuuming and use.

STRUCTURES & PATTERNS

01/ CUT PILE CARPET TILES

As the name implies, carpet tiles with a cut pile have cut-through pile loops, providing a soft and luxurious look. When installing these carpet tiles, ensure the pile does not get trapped between the seams of the tiles.

02/ TIP-SHEARED CARPET TILES

Tip-sheared carpet tiles are constructed as a loop pile with different heights. When the carpet is sheared, the higher loops are cut, but the lower ones are not. This creates an alternating pattern of loop and cut piles. The varying pile heights can create a visible seam effect during installation. Improve this by interchanging tiles.

03/ MINITUFT CARPET TILES

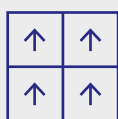
Minituft carpet tiles require extra attention during installation. Due to the low-profile structure, open seams will be visible immediately. A tight fitting installation is an absolute must to minimise this.

A thorough check of the seams should be carried out and adjusted by replacing the tiles with another tile if required.

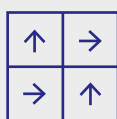
04/ PATTERN REPEAT

The construction, pattern repeat or cutting of the tiles can result in an undesired visual end result. This can be easily adjusted by replacing the tile with another tile. For example, when 2 tiles with a stripe along the edge are placed next to each other, you will see a thicker stripe. Replace one of these tiles to avoid this visual effect.

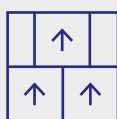
INSTALLATION METHODS



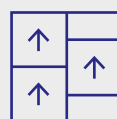
MONOLITHIC



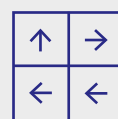
QUARTER TURN



BRICK



ASHLAR



RANDOM

CREATE YOUR RUG

| QUICK AND EASY WITH TACKIFIER (ANTI-SLIP ADHESIVE)



01/ MEASURE & TEST

Measure the area in which you would like to create your rug.

Determine the method (see page 8) and the pattern you would like to create and lay out the tiles. The arrow on the back of the tile indicate the direction. Refer to the technical data sheet to see the possible installation method(s) per product.

If you choose BRICK or ASHLAR installation method, you might need to cut your edge tiles. Prepare these cuts before you apply the tackifier. Always cut tiles from the back with a suitable cutter knife and new blades.

02/ APPLY THE TACKIFIER

Tackifiers or anti-slip adhesives form a sticky film layer on the subfloor. Their colour is white during

application and turns transparent once dried.

These sorts of adhesives are durable, non-hardening layers. You can remove, change or replace tiles any time. The sticky layer itself can be removed with water.

Use a roller to apply a thin layer of tackifier to the subfloor and ensure that it is evenly distributed over the entire rug area. Always check the instructions of the tackifier manufacturer and respect the recommended waiting times.

03/ LAY THE TILES

Lay down your tiles in the prepared area. The tiles should fit together tightly but they should not be compressed.



LOVE YOUR ITC CARPET TILES

- Please ensure that the installed floor covering is protected sufficiently if other workers are expected to enter the area. Place heavy equipment on hardboard plates so that the carpet tiles do not get damaged.
- Ensure that no temperature peaks occur during the 7 days following installation.
- Keep your carpet tiles clean! Use small mats or some left-over tiles in doorways outside/inside or in other areas where the carpet tiles are next to a hard floor to prevent spots spreading to the carpet.
- If stains occur, treat them immediately. ATTENTION: aggressive cleaning products could attack the colour of your tiles. Have a look at our cleaning instructions for more detailed information.
- Freshly fitted carpet tiles can have that typical 'new' smell. This smell disappears after a few days of ventilation and heating.

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