

Installation Guidelines: Marmoleum® Sheet

General Installation Guidelines

- The installation of Marmoleum Sheet should be carried out in accordance with the national code of practice for the installation of resilient floor coverings if applicable. Areas to receive flooring should be clean, free from other trades, fully enclosed and weather tight. Subfloors should be clean, smooth, sound and permanently dry.
- Areas to receive flooring shall be adequately lit to allow for proper inspection of the substrate, installation and for final inspection.
- It is essential that the laying area is at a steady temperature of minimum 17 °C, 48 hours before, during and 48 hours after installation. The material and adhesive should be conditioned in the same environment for at least 48 hours prior to the installation. Where national codes of practice exist they take precedence over these guidelines.
- Take the Marmoleum® rolls off the pallets.
- Always conduct moisture tests on all substrates. All ground based level floors should have an effective moisture barrier.
- Ensure that all recommendations for substrate and jobsite conditions are met prior to beginning the installation. Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions by the parties involved and liability for any failure directly related to inadequate site conditions becomes the responsibility of the installer and/or flooring contractor.
- Prior to installation rolls should be checked to ensure that the correct colour, batch number and quantity have been received and that the material is in good condition. No claim will be accepted for incorrect colour, pattern or obvious damage if the material has been fitted.
- Use material from the same batch/dye lot and install in sequence. The use of different production batches will always result in visible shade differences. The batch number is clearly marked on the material packaging and must be checked before commencement of installation.
- Do not reverse sheets lay for seaming.
- Install one length of sheet at a time, making sure to place the material into wet adhesive and roll afterwards with a 60 to 75 kg roller (See point 3).

Adhesive selection and application

- For installing Marmoleum Sheet a low emission EC1 adhesive is required, such as Forbo Eurocol 614 Eurostar Lino Plus. If alternative products are to be used consult with the supplier for more information, guidance and warranty.
- Always conduct an adhesive bond test before starting the installation. Bond testing will assist in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (Waiting and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.
- Use a trowel to apply the adhesive. Trowels will wear during use, ensure that the trowel has got the proper and specified notch.

Installation

1. Measure the area to be installed and determine the direction in which the material will be installed and seam placement. Seams must be a minimum of 15 cm away from any subfloor joints such as days joints, saw cuts, etc.
2. Cut the sheet material to the required length and then back roll each cut length before scribing in the ends to release any roll tension from the winding of the sheet linoleum.
3. Marmoleum should be laid and rolled with a 60 - 75 kg roller within the open time of the adhesive. It is therefore important to only spread sufficient adhesive that can be covered within the open time of the adhesive. The adhesive must be spread evenly over the entire floor area with particular attention to edges – this will ensure that the sheet is fully bonded at the perimeters. Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Dried adhesive residue can be removed with a clean white cloth and soapy water.
4. Whether seams are to be welded or not, they should be formed to leave a closed butt joint. However, when cutting seams in linoleum sheet, allowance must be made for a fractional expansion in the width of the hessian backed material as it picks up moisture from the adhesive. This expansion is minute and will be halted by the curing of the special linoleum adhesive, but unless allowed for in cutting, the seams will peak and fail.
5. Cut a true edge on the first sheet with a straight edge. Leave this sheet overlapping the second sheet (± 2 cm). Spread the adhesive with the recommended trowel and lay the sheet into the wet adhesive. After adhering, immediately roll the flooring in both directions using a 60 - 75 kg roller starting across the width and then lengthwise. The natural “roll curl” at the end of each cut should be manually relaxed to remove the tension in the material that is caused by being stored in a roll. Score the second sheet by running the scribe along the true edge. Make sure the scribe is vertical and pressed against the true edge. Cut through with straight and hooked blades, keeping the waste to the outside of the cutting hand and thereby giving a slight undercut. Adhere the second sheet and roll the seam with a hand roller. Repeat the same procedure for each sheet, completing one sheet at a time until the job is completed.
6. A correctly cut seam will close tightly during the curing of the adhesive and will not open up during the life of the linoleum. Closed butt seams are often considered to be aesthetically better than welded seams. This is particularly so in the case of plain designs. So if the installer possesses the skills to achieve a good seam, and if the application allows, welding of Marmoleum is not obligatory.
7. If seam welding is required due to the area of application such as hospitals where hygiene is important please refer to our separate installation guidance note “Welding Linoleum”.

For further information or in any doubt please contact your local Forbo technical representative.