



## **INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR TIMELESS DESIGNS RUBBER SPORTS FLOOR**

Installation of rubber flooring will only be as good as the sub-base. Please review the following suggestions. Installation of rubber flooring should not begin until all other installations have been finished. Floor should be maintained at a minimum temperature of 65 degrees for 48 hours before, during and after installation.

### **UPON DELIVERY OF PRODUCT**

1. Verify packing slip matches with product and order.
2. Inspect delivered product thoroughly. Report any discrepancies of original order, product defects, etc. No reimbursement/warranty claim will be given for labor on material installed with visual defects. Any defects-size, color, or otherwise- must be reported to the place of purchase prior to installation.
3. Store product and adhesives in clean, dry, environment with temperatures between 70-95F.
4. Read product and sub-floor preparation, instructions, warranty and other disclaimers carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

### **WARNING**

DO NOT use recycled rubber products in conjunction with any petroleum based products. This includes solvents, adhesives or sealants. All substrates (especially new concrete) must be fully cured for 45 to 60 days prior to installing rubber products. Please ask your sales representative for recommended cleaning agents.

### **INTRODUCTORY NOTE**

This installation guide is intended to provide the necessary information for the proper installation of Timeless Designs Rubber Sports Floor. These instructions are believed to be based on accepted industry standards and are provided for informational use only.

Manufacturer does not warrant any installation performed pursuant to these instructions or otherwise and specifically disclaims liability for any direct or indirect personal injury, property damage or other costs or losses resulting from installation. Timeless Designs Rubber Sports Floor should be installed by qualified and experienced personnel.

### **RECOMMENDED TOOLS**

Measuring Tape or Ruler  
Metal Straight Edge  
Knife or Non-Retractable Utility Knife with Extra Blades  
White Marker or Chalk  
Chalk line  
2x4 Wood Block  
Cellophane, Masking or Packaging Tape  
Mallet  
Recommended Adhesive

## **PREPARATION**

All sub-floors should be thoroughly cleaned, filled and primed. Remove paint, varnish, oil, grease, and wax. On wood floors, use a chemical paint or varnish remover. On concrete use a solution of Trisodium Phosphate (or Xylol for rubber based paint). For oil, grease or wax, scrub with Trisodium Phosphate or machine sand. In all cases, complete with thorough washing and rinsing. Before installing any material, be sure that the area that is being installed is completely dry. Concrete floors must be made even with latex floor fill. Fill cracks with latex crack filler. If floor is new, be sure it is completely dry & sweep area clean.

In wood floors, fill cracks with plastic wood, sand uneven boards, re-nail loose boards, or replace where necessary, and prime with floor size. If needed, floor may be covered with 5-ply 5/8" plywood or hardboard or plywood, and primed with floor size.

## **MOISTURE TESTING:**

Industry standards for moisture emission testing must be followed. Although some adhesives are waterproof when cured, wood and concrete flooring can be sensitive to excessive moisture. Concrete subfloors must be tested and conform to industry standard subfloor moisture parameters showing less than 3.0 lbs./1000 sq. ft./24 hours using a Calcium Chloride Moisture test, according to ASTM F-1869.

## **CONCRETE**

New concrete must be allowed to cure thoroughly prior to installation (45 to 60 days). If sealants are used, DO NOT use one with petroleum base. Old concrete must be repaired and have joint sealants and fillers installed as necessary. All cracks or flaws should be filled in or repaired prior to covering with rubber products. Use patching materials as appropriate. Surface must be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, dust, grease, or other foreign matter by shot blasting or other mechanical means with a commercial degreaser and allowed to dry completely before beginning installation.

## **WOOD BASE**

Wood surfaces should be completely cleaned of dirt, dust, grease or other foreign matter and be completely dry prior to installation. Trapped moisture may rot the wood or interfere with installation adhesives. Nails or other protrusions should be pounded down or removed, holes repaired, and surface variances repaired within the 1/8" acceptable variance level.

## **ASPHALT**

Asphalt requires the same preparations as concrete. However, due to variations in asphalt substrates, it is the user's responsibility to check the adhesion of the cured adhesive on typical test areas at the project BEFORE application.

## **OVER ROCK BASE**

Begin preparing the surface 2-3" below the level of the finished floor. Fill prepared area with 3/4" minus crushed gravel, decomposed granite or limestone product. Tamp fill down to 2-3" thickness, so that it is near level with the area of installation, minus the thickness of the rubber surfacing. A border should be installed to further house the surfacing one installed. This can be a concrete curb, wood, or other permanent or semi-permanent board product.

## **CLEANING**

Indoors: Sweep, sponge mop or vacuum rubber flooring for everyday maintenance. Outdoors: Use of a water hose, leaf blower or broom is usually sufficient.

**\*\*Please do not use petroleum based products to clean rubber.**

## **INDOORS INSTALLATION**

Timeless Designs Rubber Sports Floor should be installed by a trained professional flooring installer with experience installing rubber flooring. Assume that the walls, and/or curbs the rolls are abutting are not perfectly straight or square. Begin by determining the vertical center of the area to be installed. Snap the chalk line. Snap two additional chalk lines 24" out from either side of the original chalk line. This is the guideline for the edges on the first 48" roll. **Insure that the flooring is placed so that any roll curl is facing down. This will prevent the ends from curling up.**

Placing the roll end against the wall, unroll the first piece over the prepared area. Maneuver the rubber to lie precisely within the two chalk lines by tapping with a mallet and wood block. If the length of the rubber roll exceeds the length of the floor, use a straight edge and non-retractable utility knife to trim the excess length, **leaving an extra inch for the final cut.**

Repeat steps above for remaining rolls. See curing times on back page for traffic acceptability.

To insure a tight fitting seam when butting one roll up to another, overlap the seam by 1/8". Working from one end, work the overlapping roll down into the seam. If a gap appears, lift the roll and overlap the seam to before the gap and repeat the process. If rippling appears on the far side of the overlapping roll, remove this by stretching the material by pulling or a kicking motion. **Always insure a tight fitting seam prior to applying adhesive. Prior to curing the adhesive will not have sufficient grab to fix a misaligned seam. Never apply tape to the surface of the flooring as it may leave a residue on the surface when removed.**

After the entire room has been laid out and allowed to fully acclimate to the room and floor temperature, trim the roll lengths as required for a perfect fit. Beginning with a roll aligned along a front edge or wall, pull the roll back one half of the length. Apply adhesive. Lay the flooring back down being careful to not allow air pockets. Repeat the process for the other half of the first roll and moving on to the other adjacent rolls. When laying the other rolls be sure to overlap the seams by 1/8" and force the overlap into the seam. Be very careful to not allow the portion of the roll that is overlapping to touch the adhesive first. Thoroughly roll the flooring with a 50-100 lb carpet roller to assure bonding of the rubber to the adhesive. Be careful not to shift the roll while rolling. Rolling should be done again at 30 and at 60 minutes after the initial placement of the roll onto the adhesive. Rolling should be done both widthwise and lengthwise. This will ensure maximum contact and ultimate bond.

### **If adhesives are needed:**

The recommended adhesive should be applied thinly and evenly with the recommended trowel. Follow immediately with rolled rubber material. Gloves are strongly suggested during application, as the adhesive could adhere to the skin and once dried is difficult to remove. **DO NOT** allow mineral spirits to come in contact with the rubber rolls.

**Adhesive Clean up Tips:** Before you trowel with the recommended adhesive, cover the unused portions of the trowel with duct tape. After you are finished, tear off the tape before the material cures. Clean all tools and excess adhesive immediately after use with mineral spirits. Use proper

precautions when handling solvents. Cured adhesives can be removed by cutting with a mechanical tool. DO NOT allow mineral spirits to come in contact with rubber rolls.

### **OUTDOORS INSTALLATION**

Outdoor installations typically require complete adhesion for maximum floor strength. Use the same procedures as the indoor installation, using the recommended adhesive process. Take note of the outdoor temperature when using adhesive, as it will affect the curing time. In some areas, evening or night installations are best due to extreme heat.

Colored product installed outdoors will be subjected to harsh UV rays, and as such may discolor.

\*The instructions provided are assuming you use a recommended Polyurethane Adhesive. If another adhesive product is used, be cautious as to the manufacturer's instructions, curing times, and bonding window.

### **CUTTING TIPS**

Tips on cutting sheet rubber: Mark the mats you will need to cut with chalk or a chalk line. Put your straight edge on the corresponding marks you have placed on the mats. Holding the straight edge firmly in place, score the mats two or three times\*\*. Grab the mat close to the score line, lift and bend the mat toward you. The score line will "break open". Make several more passes with the knife, working down the established cut, until the cut is complete.

\*\*This process may be easier by cutting the mat on a raised surface such as the 2x4 block used During

### **CURING TIMES**

#### **Indoors**

Recommended Adhesive Standard Set:

Firm Set 1-2 Hours

Light Traffic 8-10 Hours

Heavy Traffic 24 Hours

Non-Adhesive

Normal Traffic Immediate

#### **Outdoors**

Normal Traffic Immediate

# Timeless Designs™

## **INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR RUBBER SPORTS FLOOR INTERLOCKING TILE**

### **UPON DELIVERY OF PRODUCT**

1. Verify packing slip matches with product and order.
2. Inspect delivered product thoroughly. Report any discrepancies of original order, product defects, etc. No reimbursement/warranty claim will be given for labor on material installed with visual defects. Any defects-size, color, or otherwise- must be reported to the place of purchase prior to installation.
3. Store product and adhesives in clean, dry, environment with temperatures between 70-95°F. (21-35°C)
4. Read product and sub-floor preparation, instructions, warranty and other disclaimers carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

### **WARNING**

DO NOT use recycled rubber products in conjunction with any petroleum based products. This includes solvents, adhesives or sealants. All substrates (especially new concrete) must be fully cured for 45 to 60 days prior to installing rubber products

### **INTRODUCTORY NOTE**

This installation guide is intended to provide the necessary information for the proper installation of Timeless Designs Interlocking Tile Rubber Sports Floor. These instructions are believed to be based on accepted industry standards and are provided for informational use only.

Manufacturer does not warrant any installation performed pursuant to these instructions or otherwise and specifically disclaims liability for any direct or indirect personal injury, property damage or other costs or losses resulting from installation. Timeless Designs Interlocking Tile Rubber Sports Floor should be installed by qualified and experienced personnel.

### **RECOMMENDED TOOLS**

Measuring Tape or Ruler  
Metal Straight Edge  
Non-Retractable Utility Knife with Extra Blades  
White Marker or Chalk  
Chalk line  
2x4 Wood Block  
Cellophane, Masking or Packaging Tape  
Mallet

## **PREPARATION**

Interlocking tiles must reach ambient room temperature to ensure a secure, tight installation with minimal size fluctuation. Each piece should be allowed to set for a full 24 hours prior to beginning installation. This allows the product to size-stabilize at the typical room temperature. Inspect the product prior to installation for measurable defects or variations.

### Sub-Floor:

For best installation, any sub-floor should be reasonably flat and free of holes or variances of more than 1/8" (3.17mm).

- All sub-floors should be structurally sound and fully cured for 45 to 60 days. Test floor for vapor drive in accordance with anhydrous calcium chloride test. Vapor drive should not exceed the industry standard of <3.0 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. (1.36kg/100 sq. m) in 24 hours.
- Repair concrete and install joint sealants and fillers as necessary.
- Mechanical surface profiling is the preferred floor preparation method. It is the only acceptable preparation method where warranties are issued. Aced etching is not recommended. Mechanically profile the floor to medium-grit sandpaper texture. Remove curing and parting compounds and other surface hardeners and floor coatings in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

### Concrete

New concrete must be allowed to cure thoroughly prior to installation (45 to 60 days). If sealants are used, DO NOT use one with petroleum base. Old concrete must be repaired and have joint sealants and fillers installed as necessary. All cracks or flaws should be filled in or repaired prior to covering with rubber products. Use patching materials as appropriate. Surface must be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, dust, grease, or other foreign matter by shot blasting or other mechanical means with a commercial degreaser and allowed to dry completely before beginning installation.

### Wood Base

Wood surfaces should be completely cleaned of dirt, dust, grease or other foreign matter and be completely dry prior to installation. Trapped moisture may rot the wood. Nails or other protrusions should be pounded down or removed, holes repaired, and surface variances repaired within the 1/8" (3.17mm)

### Asphalt

Asphalt requires the same preparations as concrete.

## **CLEANING**

Indoors: Sweep, sponge mop or vacuum rubber flooring for everyday maintenance.

Outdoors: Use of a water hose, leaf blower or broom is usually sufficient.

Use the Neutral pH Cleaner and Degreaser with a sponge mop and water for extensive cleaning.

**\*\*Please do not use petroleum based products to clean rubber.**

## **INSTALLATION**

Interlocking tiles do not require any specialty tools or flooring experience to install however it is very important to understand that the tiles are designed to fit together in certain ways (they cannot be assembled randomly). First note that there is an intended top and an intended bottom.

This is because the fingers of the dovetail design will tend to lift on one side and lay flat on the other.

#### Step One-Identify the Intended Top from the Bottom

Holding the tile in front of you, note that in the center of each of the four sides is a flat double dovetail. On two of the sides, the tabs extending out from this flat double dovetail are thin and the tabs on the sides are thick. The orientation of these four tabs is important. First flip the tile from front to back so that when you look at the double flat dovetail on the top the tab is extended on the left. Then rotate the tile until the two small center tabs are at twelve o'clock. Repeat this process with each tile so that the orientation of these center tabs is the same for all tiles.

#### Step Two-Decide your intended layout

Interlocking tiles may be laid in straight rows and columns or in a brick pattern offsetting either the rows or the columns by 50%. Since the seams do not ordinarily show, it is unlikely that after the tiles are installed that you will be able to detect which pattern was chosen. There is some locking benefit to the offset brick pattern.

#### Step Three-Snap Center Lines

Begin by measuring the length and width of the room. Divide the distances as measured in inches by the width of the tile. Measure from the inside tab on one side to the outside tab on the opposite side. This will result in the number of full tiles plus a partial tile. Snap a center line for the width of the room such that the partial tile on either side of the room is no less than 6" wide. Repeat this for the length of the room.

#### Step Four-Lay Tiles

Place the first tile at the center of the room where the two lines you snapped in Step Three intersect. Place the tile such that the inside of the dovetail is aligned to both the width and length line. Refer to Step One for proper tile orientation. Place the second tile on the opposite side of one of the lines. Position the tile such that the pattern of the two small center tabs (two large and two small) are in the same relative positions as the first tile. Align the dovetail patterns and press together with your thumbs. Complete the process by hitting the seam area with a rubber mallet. The third tile may be positioned with the inside of the dovetail aligned to the other line aligning with one of the tiles, or such that  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the tile locks with the first tile and  $\frac{1}{2}$  locks with the second tile. Remember that with every tile you must repeat the relative position of the center tabs (two large and two small). Continue laying tiles in all directions until there is not enough room to lay any more full tiles within the space to be filled. There should be a space of least 6" on all four sides of the room.

#### Step Five-Trim to Fit Room

Beginning in one corner, first measure from the wall to the inside dovetail pattern at each end of the tile. Then measure from the corner of the wall to the center of the edge of the tile. Position the tile such that the corresponding edge will align to the edge to be fitted and trim to fit the space from the corner to the center of the tile and to the wall or edge. Maintain a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap between the edge piece and the wall to allow for expansion. Save the remaining piece to fit to the opposite wall. Continue around the room, measuring and fitting each piece and allowing a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap for expansion. Finish with molding or  $\frac{1}{2}$ " quarter round molding.

#### Cutting Tips:

This procedure works best when using a non-retractable utility knife. When using a utility knife, be sure to keep the blades sharp to aid in the cut, and help reduce the possibility of injury due to dull blades.

- Mark the mats you will need to cut with chalk or chalk line.
- Put your straight edge on the corresponding marks you have placed on the mats.
- Holding the straight edge firmly in place, score the mats two or three times.
- Grab the mat close to the score line, lift and bend the mat toward you. The score line will “break open”
- Make several more passes with the knife, working down the established cut, until the cut is complete.