

EarthFlex Installation

Upon Product Delivery

1. Verify packing slip matches with product and order and inspect delivered product thoroughly.
2. For tiles, do not stack more than 2 pallets.
3. For rolls, store laying down and do not stack rolls higher than 4.
4. Store product and adhesive in clean, dry environment with temperatures between 65° and 95°F.
5. The material must be acclimated to the environment where it will be laid for at least 48 hours before installation.
6. Read product and subfloor preparation and instructions carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

Preparation

Product

EarthFlex rubber tiles and rolls should be protected from excessive moisture and other damage prior to application, during application and while curing.

Subfloor Surface

The **subfloor general conditions** should be as follows:

- Must be either concrete, wood, or approved Portland-based patching and leveling materials
- Moisture vapor emission must not exceed the maximum allowable tolerance of the adhesive being used when tested in accordance with ASTM F1869, anhydrous calcium chloride test
- Must be free of wax, oil, grease, sealer, curing compound, paint, varnish, old adhesive, or other contaminants according to ASTM F710. All contaminants must be removed by mechanical abatement since chemical abatement will lead to additional contaminants.
- Be reasonably flat and free of holes or variances of more than 3/16" in 10 feet
- Must be properly prepared to be a satisfactory bonding surface for adhesion of subfloor to Pump
- Must be firm, structurally sound, dry, clean, smooth, and level

Concrete Subfloors

The **concrete subfloor conditions** should follow the general conditions above, as well as:

- Must have a permanent effective moisture barrier membrane installed that is in accordance with ASTM E1745 and E1643
- Must have a minimum of 3000 psi of compressive strength
- Must be fully cured for a minimum of 28 days and permanently dry
- All cracks must be filled with approved Portland-based patching compound
- Must be dry, sufficiently porous, and clean
- Must not be loose, sandy, and scaly or have a white powdery surface

Wood Subfloors

The **wood subfloor conditions** should follow the general conditions above, as well as:

- Must be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1"
- Must be rigid and free from movement
- Must have a minimum of 18" of well ventilated air space below
- The preferred underlayment panel is APA grade plywood with a minimum thickness of ¼" with a fully sanded face

Installation Procedures

Important Notes

- Foot traffic and rolling forces should not be allowed onto EarthFlex until 24 hours and 48-72 hours, respectively, after completed installation

Instructions for Installing Rolls

1. Make sure that the room temperature does not go below 65°F.
2. Unroll rolls in the same direction as this will eliminate color variation
3. Allow EarthFlex to relax overnight. Shaking the material can help it relax.
4. Use a chalk line to make a starting point for and edge of the floor to follow
5. Cut rolls efficiently and at the required length which includes excess to run up the wall
6. Lay rolls on the floor and allow to relax into position for a minimum of 2 hours, although 24 hours is preferred
7. Place edge of first roll along chalk line
8. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered and overlapped 3-6"
9. Position the second roll with a maximum of 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam as this will leave tight seams and eliminate gaps
10. Lay all the rolls that will be installed during that day
11. Starting at the wall, roll back half the roll width
12. Apply adhesive to substrate, half of the roll width, with a 1/16" square-notched trowel
13. Lay flooring into wet adhesive
14. Immediately roll the floor with 75lb – 100lb roller to eliminate air traps (Overlap each pass of the roller by 50%)
15. Fold back the second half of the roll and repeat steps 12-14
16. Repeat steps 11-15 with all other rolls
17. If gaps between seams exist, hold them together with masking tape

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Instructions for Installing Tiles

1. Make sure that the room temperature does not go below 65°F.
2. Measure dimensions of area to be covered
3. Use a chalk line to divide the room into 4 by drawing lines across the middle points of the width and length of the room (Make sure lines are straight to ensure tiles are aligned with the walls)
4. Start in one quadrant and use a chalk line to mark tile placement which minimizes cuts
(Overlapping middle point lines is acceptable)
5. Cut tiles efficiently to avoid waste
6. Lay tiles in the same direction onto the first quadrant of the floor
7. Apply adhesive to substrate with a 1/16" square-notched trowel to tiles farthest from the wall
8. Lay tiles into wet adhesive
9. Repeat steps 7 & 8 on first row of tiles doing the tiles farther from the wall first
10. If gaps between seams exist, hold them together with masking tape
11. Within 45 minutes of laying tile into adhesive, roll the floor with 75lb – 100lb roller to eliminate air traps (Overlap each pass of the roller by 50%)
12. Repeat steps 7-11 on subsequent rows of tiles
13. Once one quadrant is finished, move on to the remaining 3 quadrants by repeating steps 6-12

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