

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions must be followed to retain Manufacturer's Warranties.

Installation guidelines on tretford architectural folders and the international website do not apply to Australian tretford installations.

General Information

The following instructions are to be reviewed in conjunction with AS/NZ 2455.1:2007 prior to installing tretford TILE carpet. The information supplied in these instructions are general and may not cover all subfloor conditions. For subfloor conditions not covered by these instructions please contact your local representative for guidance on how to proceed.

Gibbon Group will not be held responsible or warrant any tretford product that is not installed in accordance with these instructions & procedures.

All tretford products delivered should be inspected prior to installation to ensure the following:

- The correct style and colour has been supplied
- The correct quantity has been delivered
- That where applicable the correct dye lot has been delivered
- No transport damage has occurred. Please note that if there is any sign of transport damage please photograph the damage before opening packaging and send the photos to your local representative as soon as possible.

DO NOT install any tretford TILE products if any of the above issues are noted.

Pre-Installation Requirements

Installers please, remember to check colour, quantity, and batch against your order before use.

Contract Situations

In contract situations, we recommend tiles are secured using the LOW VOC Modu-tak pressure sensitive adhesive, located in such a way as to form a stress pattern. When installing tiles, we recommend a peelable or release adhesive.

Acclimatisation:

At times of extreme humidity changes it is recommended to allow the tiles to acclimatise on site for a period of 24 hours before installation in the area in which it is to be laid.

Please be aware that tretford is a natural fibre. Ambient humidity (RH) levels >75% at the site are to be avoided and can be mitigated by mechanical extraction if required.

Sequential Batching:

IMPORTANT: Please note, in accordance with Australian Standards, tretford Rolls and/or Tiles must be laid in sequential order. If rolls or tiles are not installed sequentially, colour variation may occur.

General Requirements & Information:

tretford INTERLIFE TILE is to be installed on dry, clean, and properly prepared subfloors as per AS/NZ 2455.1:2007. Gibbon Group are not responsible for any failure of a tretford product which is caused through moisture related issues, poor or incorrect floor preparation, incorrect installation techniques or any other failures which arise through the installer not following these instructions in conjunction with Australian / New Zealand Standards.

A primer may be required if installing onto a high porosity sub-floor. Please contact Gibbon Group Head Office for Direction.

Determining the Dryness and Alkalinity of a concrete substrate prior to installing tretford carpet:

It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to ensure the substrate is correctly moisture tested, properly prepared prior to the installation of any tretford products and complies with Australian Standards.

SUB FLOOR PREPARATION

Excessive moisture and/or high alkalinity (i.e. high pH) in a concrete substrate can cause the floorcoverings, adhesives, leveling compounds, etc. to fail and therefore all concrete slabs, regardless of age, should be correctly tested for moisture and alkalinity prior to the installation of any tretford carpet.

Even 20-year old concrete substrates have been known to have moisture issues later in life through changes in the surrounding environment. This includes, but is not limited to, new gardens installed which sit level with or higher than the existing slab thus supplying a potential water source to the existing concrete slab, leaking pipes in or near the slab, new constructions works undertaken by the builder during refurbishment of the site where water can be used by numerous different trades.

Dryness shall be considered satisfactory when the relative humidity does not exceed 75%.

Modu-Tak Adhesive must be used for all tretford installations and all moisture testing must be carried out in accordance with Modu-Tak installation instructions. Moisture meters that comply with Australian Standards are available for purchase through Gibbon Group, [Gibbon Trade Moisture Meters](#), and all testing is to be carried out in accordance with the instrument manufacturer's instructions or the moisture test results could be considered to be non-conforming.

Testing the alkalinity of the concrete subfloor:

Testing the alkalinity of the subfloor is to be done using either pH test strips or a pH meter, and the manufacturer's instructions should always be followed.

Ensure the concrete surface is porous and free of any old adhesives, primers, curing compounds, surface contaminants, etc. Care is to be taken to ensure the surface is not over cleaned however if the surface is burnished or non-porous the surface will need to be removed to allow a mechanical key between the subfloor and the adhesive or leveling compound.

In all cases pH testing must meet Australian Standards and should be done just prior to the installation of the tretford carpet so that the pH readings are taken on the concrete surface that the adhesive or leveling compound is to be installed over.

Undertaking pH testing of distilled or deionized water that is beading on the surface of the concrete substrate or testing a substrate that has just been mechanically prepared, may result in inaccurate pH test results.

Please note the following:

- All RH and pH test results should be documented and photographed for your records in case there is a moisture related problem in the future.
- RH and pH test results only indicate the RH and pH of the concrete substrate at the time of testing. The RH and pH of the concrete can increase or decrease over time due to outside influences, so it is critical that all test results are documented and photographed at the time of testing.
- Experience has shown that the RH and pH test results tend to be more accurate when the HVAC system has been in operation 24/7 for 2 weeks prior to testing.

Sub-Floor Preparation

The subfloor should be dry, sound and level - as per Australian and New Zealand Standards (ref. AS/NZ 2455.1:2007 I/Amdt: 1/2009-08-31). Please refer to Adhesive Surface Preparation for Modu-Tak on the following page. For more detailed information, download the technical data sheet here: [Modu-Tak Technical Data Sheet](#)

Surface Preparation

1. All subfloors must be structurally sound, solid, well-fastened, dry, clean and free of dust, oil, grease, tar, paint, wax, curing agents, primers, sealers, loosely bonded toppings, loose particles and any other substance or condition that may reduce or prevent adhesion.
2. Painted surfaces must be sanded and scarified completely to expose the substrate, using appropriate safety precautions.
3. Various underlayments:
 - a. Concrete subfloors must be dry.
 - b. All wooden floors must be well-ventilated from below.
 - c. Cement terrazzo must be sound, solid, flawless, stripped clean and free of any contaminants or conditions that may prevent or reduce adhesion. Roughen surface by sanding or scarifying using appropriate safety precautions.

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE

Specified Adhesive:

Modu-Tak PS Adhesive

Modu-Tak is a pressure sensitive type adhesive that exhibits high levels of resistance to concrete substrates that exhibit high levels of alkalinity-up to pH 12.

Adhesive Surface Preparation

Floors must be clean, dry, sound, and smooth in accordance with AS/NZ 2455.1 .2007 & AS/NZ 2455.2.2007 and free from paint, dirt, dust, and any other deleterious materials. When adhering to highly absorbent concrete sub floors, the use of a suitable Floor Primer is strongly recommended. Modu-Tak Adhesive can be applied to concrete substrates with moisture contents up to **85% relative humidity** and falling when tested with In-Situ probe method. For concrete substrates with Hydrostatic Pressure we recommend a suitable 2-part epoxy membrane must be used.

Application

Modu-Tak Adhesive should be applied with the following method:

A "VI" 1.6mm x 1.6mm x 1.6mm notched trowel to the sub-floor for Textured and or Fibre backed carpet tiles.

Allow Modu-Tak Adhesive film to clear. Once clear, the adhesive is in a dry tack mode and floor covering may be placed in position. Tack up time will be dependent upon room temperature, humidity, airflow, and the substrate absorbency. Always ensure no contaminants come into contact with adhesive film prior to installing carpet tiles.

Application Rate

Coverage approx. 5m² per litre by VI notched trowel. Complete the installation according to the AS/NZ 2455.2.2007 and floorcovering manufacturer's installation instructions including rolling of floorcoverings on completion.

Storage and Clean up

Modu-Tak Adhesive should be stored between 10°C and 30°C in well ventilated areas. Shelf life is 12 months in sealed container.

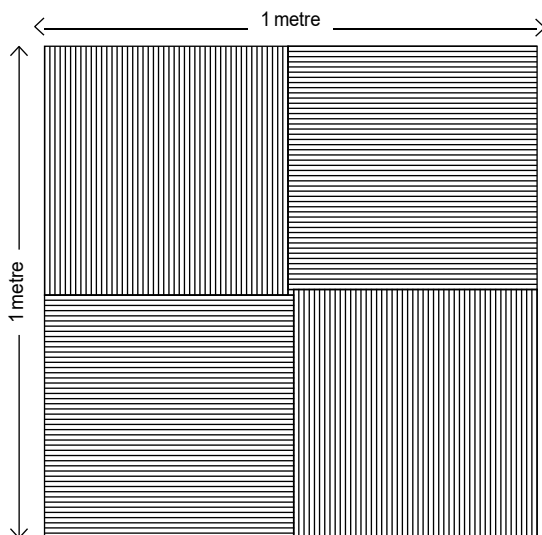
Modu-Tak Adhesive should be cleaned off any surface and tools immediately with a well dampened cloth. Do not allow to dry. Dried adhesive on tools may be softened using a suitable solvent cleaner. Solvents cleaners are not suitable for use on floorcoverings or finished surfaces.

CARPET TILE INSTALLATION

Installation Instructions (Australia)

* These instructions must be followed to retain Manufacturer's Warranties.

Laying should commence as near as possible to the centre of the room, with a square of 4 tiles. All tiles should be tessellated i. e. laid at right angles to each other. Tiles should appear to be offset against tiles laid in the same direction (see diagram). The outside of the square must however be straight and measure 1 metre on all 4 sides.



Note: Laying the 4 tiles in 1m x 1m squares helps to avoid any problems or confusion caused by the optical illusion evident at the intersection of the 4 tiles. This diagram is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.