

## ROLLED RUBBER INSTALLATION

### I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic works well.
2. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

### II. SUBFLOORS

Greatmats recycled rubber flooring may be installed over concrete, approved Portland- based patching and leveling materials, and wood.

**NOTE:** Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

1. Wood Subfloors – Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid and free from movement with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated air space below.
2. Underlayments – The preferred underlayment panel is American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4-inch, with a fully sanded face.

**NOTE: Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite and lauan are not considered to be suitable underlayments.**

3. Concrete Floors – Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days before installing rolled rubber. It must be fully cured and permanently dried.

### III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10' (3.0 m).
3. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
4. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
5. Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.
6. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip™ III adhesive.

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## HAZARDS:

**SILICA WARNING** – Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling can produce respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers). Classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen, respirable silica is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that may cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or provide protective equipment to reduce exposure to below the applicable exposure limits.

**ASBESTOS WARNING** – Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, or asphaltic “cutback” adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Consult the document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings” available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

**LEAD WARNING** – Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication “Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing” available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

7. Maximum moisture vapor emission of the concrete must not exceed 5.5 lbs. per 1000 sq.ft. in a 24 hour period as measured by the calcium chloride moisture emission test conducted in accordance to ASTM F1869. Moisture can also be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If levels are high using either test method, then a recommended vapor retardants must be used. If the emissions exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the situation has been corrected.
8. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
9. Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' test pieces of the flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring and, when removed, there should be adhesive residue on the subfloor and on the back of the test pieces.

**NOTE:** This product is suitable for installation over a radiant heat source.

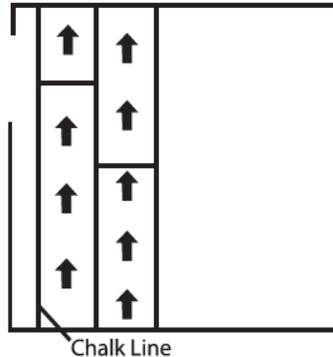
## IV. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

1. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. Material should only be stored on a clean, dry, smooth surface.
3. **Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.**

**NOTE:** Greatmats rolled rubber is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.

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- The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.
- All rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. See diagram 1. Each roll is marked on the side of the core with red or orange paint to aid in this process. Use the colored edge of the core as a guide. Laying rolls in the opposite direction will cause color variations between the rolls.**



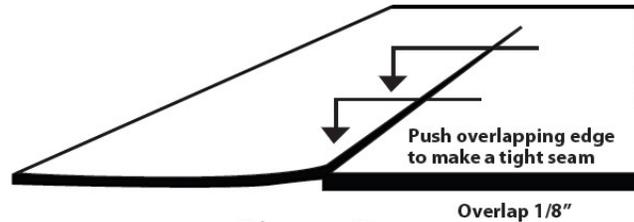
**Diagram 1**

- Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should unroll all rolls and allow to relax overnight. A bare minimum of two hours is required. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.

### V. INSTALLATION – ROLL MATERIAL

- Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.
- Remove the rolled rubber from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the rubber on the floor in a way that will use your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls at the required length, including enough to run up the wall a few inches.
- If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6". End seams will be trimmed **after acclimation period** using a square to ensure they fit tightly without gaps.
- After allowing proper acclimation and rough cuts are made you may begin the installation.
- Align the first edge to the chalk line.  
**Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.**
- Position the second roll with no more than a 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam. After adhesive is applied to substrate the material will be worked back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate any gaps. Care should be taken to not over compress the seam. Over compressed seams will cause peaking.

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7. It may be necessary to trim the edge of the second lineal drop if the rolls do not extend the length or width of the room. Rolls laid end to end with a variance in roll width greater than  $\frac{1}{4}$ " could result in peaked seams.
8. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

## METHOD 1 – GLUE DOWN (6 mm, 8mm and 9 mm Roll)

- a. After performing the above procedures, begin the application of the adhesive. We recommend E-Grip III, a one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. E-Grip III should not be mixed. It is specially formulated for use right out of the pail. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " square-notched trowel.
- b. Fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll).
- c. Spread the adhesive using the proper size square-notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.

**NOTE:** Temperature and humidity affect the open time of the adhesive. Temperatures above 70°F and/or relative humidity above 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more quickly. Temperatures below 70°F and/or relative humidity below 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more slowly. The installer should monitor the on-site conditions and adjust the open time accordingly.

- d. Lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Do not allow the material to “flop” into place; this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath the flooring.
- e. Immediately roll the floor with a 75–100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first and then the length.
- f. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread the adhesive. **Spread the adhesive at right angles to the seam to prevent the adhesive from oozing up through the seam.** Roll the flooring.
- g. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

**NOTE:** Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles. They will telegraph through the material.

- h. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with mineral spirits! Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove from hands.  
**We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III!**
- i. Hand roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. Tape should be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set (approximately 2-3 hours). Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Greatmats will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.

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- j. In some instances, it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 48-72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive.

### METHOD 2 – TAPE DOWN (8 mm and 9 mm Roll)

**NOTE:** It is characteristic for rubber flooring to expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. Dependent upon conditions, double face tape may not be strong enough to hold rubber in place in every situation. For permanent installations it is recommended to use our EGRIP III urethane adhesive.

**NOTE:** Tape method is not an approved procedure for ice rink applications. Please contact our Customer Service department (1-877-822-6622) for guidelines on ice rinks or outdoor applications.

- a. Dry lay the rolls onto the subfloor.
- b. Draw a pencil line beneath all seams to be taped.
- c. Use a high-quality double-faced carpet tape with a minimum width of two inches.
- d. Fold over the first drop along the chalk line (half the width of the roll).
- e. Apply two strips of the double-faced tape along the seam, one on each side of the pencil mark.
- f. Remove the release paper and place the flooring onto the exposed tape.
- g. When butting one roll next to another, overlap the seams by no more than 1/8". Work the material back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams over the tape and eliminate any gaps.
- h. Hand-roll the seams to ensure adequate contact. Do not roll the entire floor.

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