



## INSTALLATION GUIDE

Effective March 28, 2018

### Overview

Preparation is the key to any successful flooring installation. Reasonable time should be spent to ensure that your subfloor is prepared well. Concrete floors should be smooth and level, and for best results tiles should be adhered to the sub-base, however for solid sub-floors it is not necessary (subject to end use) if tiles can be locked in place in suitable areas that are bordered with suitable edge strips or walls to butt to. To determine the appropriate installation works consideration should be given to the end use. Aerobics boxing and extreme use activity require full adhesion to the sub-base and a minimum of three coats of gloss floor finish. Loose lay installations must give consideration to temperature variations during and after installation. Facilities that are intending to use air conditioning require the tiles to be contracted by cooling the tiles via the air conditioning system and/or by compression fitting the tiles to ensure any future cooling of tiles will not cause gapping. The tiles should not be installed over carpet. If Impact-Tile™ is to be installed over Olympact™ underlay, it is paramount to contract both the underlay and top tiles using air conditioning, and the tiles must be fully adhered to the underlay and sub-base using A1 Rubber's® specified 2 part polyurethane adhesive. See data sheet for spread rates.

All Tiles should where possible be installed in brick pattern, and if installing over Olympact™ underlay the tile joins must be run differently so the joins don't line up from layer to layer.

### Step 1

Once the subfloor is prepared, establish your starting point by laying out one row of loose tiles horizontally at the front entry point of the area. Form a line across the room with the intention of working horizontally backwards to the rear of the room. The front row of tiles should be the first row of tiles that will be walked onto. Adjust their position to give equal gaps at the walls, trying to avoid thin slivers. This first row of tiles should be either fully glued or for loose lays be glued down along the front leading edge or held in place with appropriate nails (nails to be removed after installation) or a protective aluminium or timber strip can be installed to hold the position of the front row of tiles whilst the remaining tiles are installed. For tiles over Olympact™, the ramp edging can be used to hold the position of the front row of tiles.

### Step 2

Lay the next row of tiles horizontally directly behind and offset to in a stretch bond pattern (brick pattern). For loose lay installations, attempt to push firmly against the first full row of tiles and over cut at the walls by 10mm or more [dependant upon length of run] to cause a horizontal direction force reduction tight fit. Continue laying horizontally down the room in stretch bond pattern until the floor is complete and apply the adhesive as you go for fully adhered applications. Ensure the tiles are tightly laid and over cut along the back wall to cause a vertical direction force reduction tight fit for loose laying.

### Step 3

To mark tiles for cutting, (in instances where the walls are square) place the tile pushed forward into the wall and lay it under the adjacent already laid tile. The edge of the top tile provides the line along which to mark for cutting. Using a straight edge, over cut the line with a very sharp Stanley knife to enable a force reduction



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tight fit. Install the cut tile with cut edge to the wall. If the walls or the cut requirement is not square simply take measurements from the installed tile to the wall and mark the tile appropriately for cutting. Remember to over cut the tiles for a snug fit.

### Step 4

Within loose lay installations, for areas of high traffic or extreme use the tiles should be fully adhered to the sub-base.

### Step 5

For floors with expected high useage, it is required that they be coated with two coats of Prothane gloss. Be careful not to flood the tile with the sealer to avoid it swelling from the solvents. If swelling occurs, the tiles will typically contract after the solvent dissipates. Perform a test coat on a small area prior to full application if required

#### Disclaimer

The installation instructions contained herein are given to the best of our knowledge. It is the installer's obligation to check for any defects before any products are installed, claims will not be warranted for any visual defects after installation. A1 Rubber® will not warrant any claim due to any actions whatsoever of the installer. In practice, the difference in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. Therefore professional construction advice should be sought in areas that are not covered in this installation guide. A1 Rubber® reserves the right to change the properties of its products. Application, use and interpretation of these instructions are beyond our control and thus full installation responsibility falls exclusively with the installer.

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