

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLYNYL® TILE BRAND FLOORING PRODUCTS

* Plynyl® Tile, patent pending, will deliver years of satisfactory service when installed and maintained properly. The following guidelines will assure a secure and proper installation.

1. MATERIAL PREPARATION

1.1. Product must be allowed to acclimate for a period of 48 hours at 68-75 degrees Fahrenheit (20°–24°C) prior to installation.

1.2. Prior to installation, Plynyl must be inspected by installer and General Contractor. Any defects must be reported to Chilewich Sultan, LLC immediately at 212-679-9204. DO NOT INSTALL DEFECTIVE MATERIAL. Installation of material implies acceptance. If the material is deemed defective, Chilewich Sultan will replace it. Chilewich Sultan's liability is limited to the replacement of defective material only. Chilewich Sultan is not responsible for cost of removal or reinstallation.

2. SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

2.1. General

2.1.1. The installation of Plynyl Tile begins with proper floor and substrate preparation.

2.1.2. Floors and substrates must be clean and dry, free of dirt, oil, grease, wax, old paints, cut back adhesives, powdery surface conditions or any other substance which will compromise the adhesion or ability of the product to stick to the substrate onto which it is being installed. Any contaminant on the sub-floor must be cleaned or neutralized before applying adhesive to bond the flooring material to it. Failure to clean contaminants from the sub-floor can cause adhesive failure and allow the flooring material to come loose. Do not use sweeping agents. Sub-floors should be swept, vacuumed and damp mopped to remove soils that may contaminate or compromise the installation.

2.1.3. Floor Flatness or Levelness. The surface flatness or levelness may affect the finished aesthetic appearance of Plynyl Tile. Though the product will conform to undulations and irregularities in the substrate it is best to level and finish the substrate to minimize or eliminate severe conditions that may compromise the final appearance of the finished work product.

2.1.4. Residual Adhesives. All existing residual adhesive which would interfere with the adhesion of Plynyl Tile and the new adhesive, must be removed or covered up.

2.1.5. Any sub-floor conditions which compromise the secure installation of Plynyl Tile will be the responsibility of the general contractor or flooring contractor.

2.1.6. Use a primer over gypsum or Portland Cement based floor-leveling compounds as recommended by the manufacturer. Allow floor-leveling compounds to dry properly as recommended by their manufacturers.

2.1.7. Cover and protect Plynyl Tile edges with vinyl or metal transition strips, when they abut another material.

2.2. Concrete

2.2.1. Concrete must be fully cured for 90 to 120 days or longer, depending on the type of concrete. Concrete must be structurally sound and free of curing or parting agents. Concrete should also be tested for porosity and alkalinity. Porosity test can be taken with droplets of water placed on the concrete. If the concrete absorbs the water immediately or within a short period of time, for example 60 seconds, a sealer should be applied to the concrete. Ph tests should be taken using industry acceptable testing criteria. If pH exceeds 9, notify the owner, as the floor should be treated for elevated pH condition before installation.

2.2.2. Any cracks 1/8" (.30cm) wide or greater, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves or other irregularities should be filled and leveled with a high quality, non-shrinking, latex fortified, hydraulic cement patching compound.

2.2.3. Moisture vapor emission in concrete is very common. High moisture levels must be remediated before installation. This can be accomplished with a number of moisture barrier products commonly used and available commercially. Even floors which seem dry, may have moisture passing through them, therefore all concrete sub-floors, on or above grade, must be tested. Moisture vapor emission should be tested according to ASTM F 1869-98 Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Moisture Test using the Quantitative Method. This test should be conducted using the standard calcium chloride test kit. Moisture vapor emission rates shall not exceed 6 pounds/1,000 square feet within 24 hours using the anhydrous calcium chloride test. Remember that this test only indicates the condition of the concrete slab in the area tested and at the time of the test. Moisture vapor conditions can change over time for numerous reasons.

2.2.4. Curing and Parting agents used on concrete sub-floors may not be compatible with the adhesive and may interfere with bonding. Therefore these products are not recommended.

2.3. Wood Sub-floors

2.3.1. Wood floors should be level to prevent imperfections or irregularities from telegraphing through to flooring materials. Nails or other fastening devices in wood should be secure so as not to protrude above the floor surface. Fill any joints or seams with filler. It may be necessary to sand the floor until a smooth surface is secured.

2.3.2. Plywood underlayment, if used, must be APA rated Underlayment Exposure I with a sanded face. Follow all APA recommendations for preparation of underlayment where resilient floorings are specified. The use of any other type of plywood will void the warranty and is not recommended as it may have adverse effects on the adhesive and the installation. All edges, splits and gaps in the plywood must be filled with a hard, quick-setting filler. Allow the filler to cure completely and then sand smooth to eliminate any ridges. Ridges or gaps left in the plywood underlayment may telegraph through the flooring.

2.3.3. Follow the APA recommendations for fastening underlayment to the subfloor. Do not use construction adhesives to glue underlayment to subfloor as these may cause installation or staining problems with Plynyl Tile.

2.3.4. Never install Plynyl Tile over pressure treated wood products.

2.4. Other Types of Sub-floors

2.4.1. Terrazzo, ceramic or other hard surface floors shall be treated in the same manner as a concrete sub-floor, with additional precautions. Surface coatings or sealers must be completely removed by light sanding or other suitably effective methods and shall be filled and leveled to obtain a smooth surface with a suitable leveling compound. Grout joints in ceramic tile installations must be leveled. Alterations in adhesive application and open time may need to be made due to the nature of the surfaces of these flooring materials. Follow adhesive manufacturers recommendations and instructions.

2.4.2. Metal Floors. Plynyl Tile may be installed over metal or raised access flooring. New metal floors are often coated with oils during their manufacture, and these oils must be removed to insure proper adhesion.

2.4.3. If Plynyl Tile is to be installed over resilient tile then all tile must be tight and securely attached to the sub-floor and any loose or broken tile replaced.

3. QTSCU UNDERLAYMENT

Chilewich is confident that our product will perform if our and Ecore International's guidelines are followed. We cannot warranty products supplied by other companies or installations done by others but we will warranty our product if the following conditions are met:

3.1 The QTscu underlayment (www.qtevolution.com) is installed as per the manufacturers installation instructions. The installation has to provide a smooth level surface.

3.2 E-Grip III has to be backtroweled over the entire top surface of the underlayment to provide for a complete barrier coat. This layer of adhesive has to dry a minimum of 24 hours before installing Plynyl tile.

3.3 An Ecore International representative must sign off on their installation before the installation of Plynyl tile.

3.4 Plynyl flooring must be installed using AAT320.

3.5 The final installation has to be allowed to cure 24 hours before traffic is allowed on-site.

Ecore International Contact Information:

Phone: 717.295.3400

Web Address: www.ecoreintl.com

4. RADIANT HEATED FLOORS

4.1. Plynyl may be installed over radiant heated floors provided the temperatures do not exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit (30°C). Make sure the heating system is off during installation since a heated floor will dry out the adhesive prematurely.

5. JOBSITE CONDITIONS:

5.1. Installation of Plynyl Tile should begin only after all other trades have completed their work. Realizing that this is often not the case, the flooring material should be protected using masonite covering or other covering materials which will not trap moisture or vapor from curing adhesive. Plastic coverings should not be used.

5.2. THE WARRANTY WILL BE VOID IF PROPER PROTECTION IS NOT USED DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS.

5.3. WARRANTY WILL BE VOID IF PAINT, OR GYPSUM BOARD DUST AND DEBRIS, IS FOUND ON PLYNYL TILE.

5.4. Dragging heavy or sharp objects across Plynyl will damage it. Rips and tears in Plynyl can't be repaired and must be replaced.

6. TILE INSTALLATION

6.1. Installation of Plynyl flooring materials should be undertaken the same way one would install carpet relative to layout and starting points. See CRI 104 for standard industry specifications.

6.2 A full spread of adhesive must be used to insure a trouble free installation. The manufacturer will not be held responsible for problem tile that are not properly installed with a full spread. Experience has shown that free-lay or grid glue installations will have tiles kick up and not lay flat when subjected to foot or rolled traffic movement.

6.3. Tiles come packed 20 tiles to the box. All tiles will have arrows on the back so the installer can determine the direction of each tile required to satisfy the design.

6.4 Tiles may be turned alternately for installation. However, turning the tiles 90 degrees will alter the appearance and color reflection of the tiles. Be sure of the direction of the tiles and the appearance desired before proceeding, as different directions will give a different appearance. Tiles are 18" square and can be laid in any pattern desired, all in one direction, in a "basket weave", quarter-turned or even in an ashlar pattern.

6.5 The weave of Plynyl Tiles is not parallel to the cut edge of the tile but is at an angle. This is an inherent characteristic of the product not a defect. The weaves in each tile will not run perfectly square and perpendicular to one another, which is how they are supposed to appear. Some patterns will also exhibit a light and dark shading in the material that is also normal. This is also evident at the seams where tiles of the same style may have different shades. It is recommended to mix the tile so that a random pattern of tile is achieved.

6.6 The installer should mark two straight lines at right angles to each other on the floor, to establish where the field of tile is to be installed.

6.7 Spread adhesive up to the lines. Allow the adhesive time to tack up. Length of time depends on temperature and humidity but generally will be 10-20 minutes. The adhesive should be sticky to the touch but will not transfer to the finger. If there is a situation where the tiles are not laying flat, the adhesive should not be allowed to get too dry, lay the tiles in to the adhesive while its still wet.

6.8 Lay the tile into the adhesive, making sure that the edge aligns with the drawn lines. Fit tiles together to eliminate gaps between tiles but not with too much pressure, which may cause tiles to buckle.

6.9 Tile should not generally be rolled. However installer should check installation 24 hours after completion for any tiles that may be lifting. Then to correct the installer may use a 75 pound (or less) roller to re-adhere tiles to the floor. Additional adhesive on these particular tiles may also be required.

6.10. Trim white strands at tile edges with scissors. These strands are exposed during the tile manufacturing process, they are normal to every Plynyl installation. Once trimmed they will not return.

6.11 Maintain normal temperatures for 48 - 72 hours after installation to allow time for adhesive to cure.

6.12 Wait 24 hours prior to a full move-in to allow for adhesives to cure.

7. ADHESIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Chilewich Sultan LLC recommends their adhesives for all Plynyl installations. Installations using products other than the approved ones will not be covered by the warranty. Adhesives will be shipped with all orders.

7.2. For releasable tile installations use AAT #320 releasable adhesive. It is to be installed with a 1/16" U shaped trowel. Spread rate = 200- 220 square feet per gallon.

7.3. For exterior applications use AAT #2020. It is to be installed with a 3/32" V shaped trowel. Spread rate = 117 square feet per gallon. This adhesive must be kept at room temperature to utilize the spread rate.

7.4. Use AAT #570 as a primer/sealer over gypsum and Portland Cement based floor leveling compounds.