



## **INSTALLATION OF SHEET AND TILE CARPETS**

### **GENERAL PREPARATIONS**

#### **When Should Burmatex floorcoverings be installed?**

Burmatex products should not be installed until all other work, such as decorating and especially overhead trades, has been completed.

#### **What are the general regulations and ideal conditions to meet before installation?**

Site conditions must comply with British Standards Code of Practice – BS CP 102, BS 5325 and supplementary specifications. The working area must be clean, fully enclosed, weathertight and heated to a temperature of 18°C (64.5°F) for 72 hours prior to installation. There should be adequate lighting.  
**AREAS MUST BE WELL VENTILATED WHEN USING ADHESIVES**

#### **What about the floor surface itself?**

All sub floor surfaces should be dry (max 5.5% moisture using concrete protimeter and hygrometer tests which should show a maximum of 75% relative humidity). If not, the drying of primers, sealers and adhesives may be retarded. An appropriate damp proof membrane is essential. Dusty and porous surfaces should be sealed.

Uneven or worn wooden floors and floorboards should be replaced or patch levelled then covered with flooring grade hardboard (rough side up) or plywood. Sheets should be positioned, joints staggered and nailed at 100-150mm (4-6") centre's. All hardboard and plywood should be primed. Ensure that the floor surface is smooth, flat, sound and free from all contaminants. Refer to CFA 'Manual for Installation of Textile Floorcoverings' for specific installation instructions.

The laying of textile floor coverings over bases of wood blocks often results in problems. These arise from a number of factors, the most common being dampness from the ground and loose, uneven or unsound blocks. The fixing of fabricated underlays may help to provide a smooth level surface but it is often found that the impact of hammering staples or nails into the blocks fractures the wood block adhesive, especially if embrittled with age. Because of those problems, it is advised that woodblocks be removed and the base repaired before textile floorcoverings are installed. If this is not possible, it must be recognised that a troublefree installation cannot be guaranteed. If any doubt exists that the blocks are adequately protected against moisture or that they are soundly bonded, they must be removed.

**What about unusual conditions or defective materials?**

It is the responsibility of the installation company to contact the manufacturer for specific advice and to advise the customer of any adverse conditions.

Burmatex cannot be held responsible for workmanship problems or incorrect installation but will endeavour to offer free advice for particular installations.

**Can Burmatex tiles and carpet be laid over old carpet?**

No. Old carpet, needlefelt, felt-backed vinyl or other soft floorcoverings are not suitable surfaces on which to install new carpet or tiles.



## **INSTALLATION OF SHEET AND TILE CARPETS**

### **INSTALLATION OF CARPET TILES**

#### **What are the first checks to carry out?**

You should check the batch/dye lot numbers, as all tiles should be from the same batch. Unpack the carpet tiles and condition them at the point of installation for at least 48 hours before fitting.

#### **What about areas of intense traffic or abuse such as heels, around photocopiers and coffee machines, etc?**

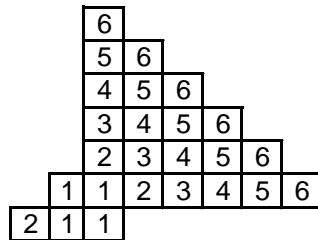
Where there are castor chairs, filing cabinets and other areas that undergo heavy traffic, tiles should be fully adhered using a suitable release or permanent bond adhesive. Please consult the back page for recommended adhesives.

#### **How should tiles actually be laid?**

1. Plan the installation carefully. Draw a chalk line down the centre of the area or from a doorway.
2. Find the centre point and draw a transverse line at a right angle to the first (as diagram **A**).
3. Lay one row of tiles along each leg or cross.
4. If necessary, re-draw the chalk lines so that there is at least half a tile border along each wall.
5. Using a 'V' – notched trowel (1/16" x 3/16") for F3 and F44 or brush for F41, apply the adhesive evenly over the whole area.
6. Allow to dry for a minimum of 30 minutes or longer depending on humidity and temperature.
7. Tack is then ready and tiles can be laid at any time thereafter.
8. Working outwards from the centre of the cross, lay tiles in position, pressing firmly to ensure adhesion.
9. When fitting perimeter tiles, butt one tile against the skirting, position tile to be cut exactly on top of the one immediately behind it, overlapping the butted-up one. Where this crosses, mark and cut. The cut tile will then fit the required space exactly.

10. Unless otherwise indicated, Burmatex carpet tiles must be laid at 90° to each other (tessellated).
11. Tiles should be butted firmly together but be careful not to compress them against each other.
12. Tiles should not be laid over any underfloor heating systems where the temperature exceeds 27°C or on concrete treated with oil based chemical substances. Low temperature heating systems may be tiled over.

(A)



**Note:**

It is advisable to use Burmatex barrier tiles around all areas where spillage's may occur, such as coffee machines photocopiers, fax machines, etc.



## **INSTALLATION OF SHEET AND TILE CARPETS**

### **INSTALLATION SHEET CARPET**

#### **What are the first checks to carry out?**

Ensure that the rolls are from the same batch by checking the batch/dye numbers. Check that you have the correct adhesive (See the recommended adhesives page). Switch off any underfloor heating at least 48 hours before and after the adhesive is applied.

#### **Should the carpet be laid in any particular direction?**

All carpet rolls must be laid with adjacent pieces in the same direction.

#### **Is there a best way to lay the carpet?**

Follow these simple instructions:

1. Cut the carpet to the required length plus 5cm ("2) before spreading the adhesive.
2. Lay the first piece lapping up the side and end walls.
3. Lay the next joining edge in the same way ensuring an overlap of 5cm (2") on each seam. Proceed this way until the entire floor is covered.
4. Fold back the length of all pieces and, holding the trowel at an angle of 60°, spread the adhesive evenly to within 20cm (8") of the seam over an area that can be covered within the open time.
5. Placing a straight edge along the centre of the overlap, cut through both pieces with a sharp knife and remove the surplus.
6. Lift the edges of both pieces, apply adhesive, lay the carpet and roll thoroughly with a 68Kg (150lb) roller.