

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR MANNINGTON'S LATEX BACKINGS "WOVEN SYNTHETIC & ULTRABAC RE"

OVERVIEW

MANNINGTON has developed and tested installation procedures for all products that we manufacture. Our procedures are documented throughout this bulletin and other literature that is available upon request. These installation techniques have been developed in conjunction with CRI #104, only expanding on techniques and procedures, which may be vague. We are confident the procedures documented will provide excellent results; therefore, they should be thoroughly followed by the installation contractor.

INSPECTION

- MANNINGTON requires that the carpet be inspected prior to installation for proper style, color and potential defects.
- MANNINGTON'S claims policy views installation of the carpet as acceptance of the merchandise and limits the type of claims that can be honored on installed carpet.
- Layout all carpet and allow to acclimate prior to adhering to the floor.
- Rolls should be installed by roll numbers in consecutive order. For patterned carpet installs rolls by pattern size not by roll numbers. Do not mix dye lots.
- The carpet is to acclimate to at least 70° Fahrenheit for 24 hours prior to installation with relative humidity of 12-65%. These conditions must be maintained throughout the installation and for 72 hours after the installation has been completed.
- Mannington's latex backings are to be installed by the direct glue method only. Stretch in over cushion and double glue down installation methods will not be warranted.
- MANNINGTON carpets are to be installed by professional installers who have the training, skills and tools to properly install technically advanced commercial carpets.

FLOOR PREPARATION

- MANNINGTON cannot be responsible for claims regarding sub-floor conditions.
- Floors must be cured, dry and clear of any foreign debris. Cracks should be filled with a latex based, portland cement patching compound.
- Slab temperature must be at least 65° Fahrenheit.
- A calcium chloride test should be performed on the concrete to detect the presence of moisture. Acceptable results require that moisture content does not exceed 5 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours. One calcium chloride test should be performed for every 300 yards of carpet. Calcium Chloride Test must be performed in accordance with ASTM-F-1869-98 testing procedures. Mannington's ULTRA adhesive must be used for the 5 lb. warranty. Mannington will also accept the Relative Humidity ASTM-F-2170 test method. Acceptable moisture levels are 78% maximum relative humidity.
- Alkalinity tests must also be performed. pH should register between 5 and 9. If pH exceeds 9, wash floor with one part muriatic acid or vinegar and 10 parts water. Rinse twice and re-test after 24 hours.
- Please note that calcium chloride, relative humidity and alkalinity tests state only the condition of the floor at the time of the test. Test results are not indicative, nor do they predict, how environmental conditions may impact moisture or alkalinity in the future.
- All tests should be documented and results saved.
- Old adhesives must be compatible, removed or covered with an appropriate cementitious skim coat.
- CutBack adhesive must be removed or covered with an appropriate cementitious skim coat.

SEAL THE FLOOR

- *Note:* Porous or dusty floors may need to be sealed to prevent adhesive from tacking too quickly. If the adhesive tacks too fast, there may be no transfer of adhesive from the floor to the carpet backing; therefore, the carpet will not adhere to the substrate.
- If vacuuming or mopping does not correct a dusty or porous conditions, seal the floor with a latex primer (latex milk). The sealer can be applied with a paint roller, flat trowel or sprayed. The sealer must be completely dry before beginning installation.

INTALLATION

SEAM TRIMMING

All seams should be trimmed by row cutting. To row cut a seam simply:

- * Begin by opening a row with a flat blade screwdriver.
- * Using a loop pile or cushion back cutter with a sharp blade, follow the opened row with the cutter. Make sure the cutting blade is adjacent to the edge of the carpet that will be kept to make the seam.
- * Change the cutting blade and row cut the opposite breadth.
- * Continue this seam trimming procedure for all side seams.

When installing carpets without patterns, alternate seam trimming procedures may be used. However, we recommend row cutting as the superior method of seam trimming, thus minimizing cutting through yarn tufts. Alternate methods of seam trimming include row/trace cutting, row/double cutting with National's #575 seam cutter and straight edging.

ADHESIVES

- After edges have been trimmed, carefully fold back seams one-half of their width, exposing sub-floor.
- Apply Mannington's ULTRA adhesive with a minimum 1/8" x 1/8 x 1/8" "U" notched trowel. The spread rate should be approximately 6 - 8 yards of carpet per gallon of adhesive on smooth concrete.
- Allow adhesive to remain open long enough to develop tack, but remain wet enough to ensure transfer to the backing. Temperature and humidity will affect the amount of tack time needed. Adhesive transfer must be 100%. If a 1/8" "U" notched trowel does not provide 100% transfer, a deeper notched trowel must be used.
- Lay one breadth of the carpet into the adhesive and roll out air bubbles using a 75-100 pound roller.
- Seal the seam edge by applying a 1/8" bead of seam sealer.
- Place opposite breadth into position and work seam with slight compression ensuring seam sealer transfer.
- Roll opposite breadth forcing air pockets out away from the seam.
- Clean away any excess adhesive that may have wicked-up through seam.
- Continue these techniques throughout remainder of installation.
- Mannington doesn't recommend our latex backings for double glue or stretch-in installations.
- Porosity of the sub-floor and/or carpet backing may require a deeper notched trowel. *The installation contractor must ensure that the trowel is notched deep enough to provide 100% adhesive transfer to the carpet backing.*
- When installing these backings, a sufficient open time **must** be observed. Going into the adhesive "wet" can cause carpet to expand, thus causing bubbles.
- Re-Roll carpet 3 to 4 hours after installation to reset backing into adhesive.
- Re-Roll or tractor seams only after adhesive has had sufficient time to achieve good bonding strength.
 - * **Note:** Do not over roll seams while adhesive is wet.

SEAM SEALER

- Mannington's latex backing require a 1/8" bead of Mannington's EdgeGuard acrylic latex seam sealer when installed via the direct glue down method. The sealer should be applied so that it encapsulates the base of the yarn tufts, the primary backing and secondary backing.

TIPS

- Long drops will require extra manpower to avoid shifting the carpet when folding back.
- Placing slight back curl on cross seam edges prior to placing carpet into adhesive will help to minimize seam peaking
- Use blowers to expedite tack time, especially in times of high humidity.
- Minimize foot traffic for 24 hours and no rolling traffic for 72 hours.
- Carpet may be walked on immediately. Use plywood runners to protect carpet when moving heavy furniture.
- Chair pads are required for woven synthetic backing warranty.
- Chair pads are recommended for appearance retention for UltraBac RE.

The procedures listed above are our best recommendations for installing Mannington latex backings. This document and other literature are available upon request. If you have further questions or require additional information, please contact our Technical Services Department at 800-241-2262 Ext. 3.

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