

GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Before Cutting This Material Stop And Check The Following:

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| STYLE | IS IT WHAT YOU ORDERED? |
| COLOR | IS IT THE RIGHT COLOR? |
| PATTERN | IS THE PATTERN CORRECT? |
| SIZE | IS THE SIZE CORRECT? |
| DYE LOTS | ARE THE DYE LOTS CORRECT? |

LOOK FOR VISUAL DEFECTS

To report any concerns with the carpet – Call 1-800-387-3155. No Claim will be considered for improper installation, use of improper adhesive, trowel size or failure to seal seams.

Read all instructions carefully before beginning any installation. Improper installation of carpet may void consumer's warranties. The instructions contained within are in addition to the minimum guidelines set forth in the Carpet and Rug Institute "CRI Carpet Installation CRI105-2015".

Installer Qualifications

Installation shall be accomplished by experienced, qualified installers using the proper tools and techniques and in accordance with the Carpet and Rug Institute "CRI Carpet Installation CRI105-2015". You can access this document online at: <https://www.carpet-rug.org/Documents/Publications/CRI-104-2015.pdf>.

SITE PREPARATION

Temperature and Humidity

The environment in which the carpet is to be installed must be controlled with the temperature between 65° F and 95° F (18° C and 35° C) and the relative humidity between 10% and 65%. The subfloor temperature should not be less than 65° F (18° C). These conditions must be maintained for at least 48 hours before, during and after the installation. Any big changes in temperature could cause difficulties with the installation.

Testing of Subfloors

It is the owner or general contractor's responsibility to provide to the flooring contractor a written report on moisture and alkalinity content of the slab to ensure suitability for installation. If the subfloor exceeds the permissible amount of moisture and alkalinity the owner or general contractor are responsible for making the necessary correction prior to carpet installation.

These tests should be performed and documented not less than once every 1000 sq. ft. (92.9 sq. m).

Alkalinity Testing

The recommended range for pH is between 5 and 9. A rating greater than 9 indicates an alkalinity problem and will require corrective measures as directed by the adhesive manufacturer.

Moisture Testing:

Both Peerless Contract and the CRI recommend a calcium chloride moisture test kit be used to determine the moisture emission rate of subfloors. The maximum permissible emission rate for moisture barrier backings and carpet tiles is 5 lbs (2.27 kg). Ratings between 3 and 5 lbs (1.36 and 2.27 kg) are considered acceptable for products with a porous backing. Subfloors exceeding these moisture ratings will require corrective measures.

SITE CONDITIONS

Floor Preparation

Each subfloor shall be inspected to determine the special care required to make it a suitable foundation for carpet. All floors must be clean, dry, free of dust, grease, wax, curing agents, excessive alkalinity, paint, old adhesive and any foreign substance that would prohibit proper bonding of the carpet to the subfloor.

Make sure to use the right compatible sealer for either porous or non porous surface to secure the bonding of the adhesive. Any sealer must be applied directly on the subfloor, before resurfacing with cement-based Portland products.

SEAM AND EDGE PREPARATION

Row Cutting Seams

Peerless Contract requires all seams to be row cut with exception to printed patterns. Be sure to row cut edges on pattern, trimming off a sufficient amount of rows from each side. This procedure creates a good cutting surface and removes any potential loose edges. No tufted pattern carpet will be matchable unless this row-cutting requirement is strictly observed.

The steps required in row cutting involve:

1. Reviewing the tufted pattern for the correct place to trim edges.
2. Use an awl or flat blade screwdriver to open the tufted row, to create a cutting guide.
3. Use a loop pile or cushion back cutter to trim along the row.
4. Be sure to replace cutting blades as often as needed.
5. Seal each seam with a latex sealer or hot glue gun to protect the trim.

Printed Patterns

The only exception to row cutting seams is when installing a printed pattern. Because printed patterns are created on the carpet after tufting, the patterns will not necessarily follow the rows of tufts.

Use a metal straight edge as a guide to cut from pattern to pattern. Do not attempt to cut long distances between two patterns by popping a chalk line. Slight variations in the carpet might cause you to cut too far into some patterns that extend beyond your straight line. At the same time, you would not be cutting far enough into patterns that do not meet the line.

Seam Sealing Glue Down Seams

All seams must be properly sealed using a continuous bead of seam adhesive large enough to cover the primary backing, yarn bundles and secondary backing. The adhesive must not be used on the carpet fiber but only at its base, where the backing was cut.

Our latex backings can be seam sealed with either a latex or solvent based seam adhesive or hot glue. Our polyurethane backings must be sealed with a latex-based seam adhesive or hot glue.

Seam Sealing Hot Melt Seams

A good quality latex seam adhesive (Roberts 8015 or Parabond 4263) must be used and applied to secure both cut edges and allowed to dry completely prior to beginning the hot melt seaming process.

Transition Edges

When finishing carpet against other flooring materials a transition strip or molding should be used. All cut edges should be sealed before being placed into or covered by the transition strip. Carpet transitions are required to prevent severe edge damage caused by hard surface cleaners and equipment as well as concentrated traffic.

CUSHION RECOMMENDATIONS

When performing a Stretch-In installation proper cushion choice is very important. A cushion, too soft or too thick will cause excessive flexing of the carpet and result in open seams, delamination and re-stretching problems.

Peerless Contract's cushion requirements is as follows:

- Density of 10 lbs/ft³ (4.54 kg/0.03 m³), or greater with a maximum thickness of 1/4" (6 mm) for commercial applications
- Density of 6 lbs/ft³ (2.72 kg/m³) or greater with a maximum thickness of 3/8" (10 mm) for residential applications.

DOUBLE-GLUE INSTALLATIONS

Peerless Contract recommends using an attached polyurethane backing system versus the double-glue installation method. Attached polyurethane backings decrease installation time, adhesive requirements and create less opportunity for installation failure.

However, if a double-glue installation is absolutely necessary there are no exceptions to the following requirements:

1. The proper pad must be selected: a cushion for commercial application is recommended even for a residential site. A cushion of less than 10 lbs/ft³ (4.54 kg/0.03 m³) of density cannot be forced in this way without tearing in the use.
2. A premium permanent adhesive must be used between both pad to floor and carpet to pad.
3. Use a 1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" (3.2 mm x 3.2 mm x 3.2 mm) V notch trowel in adhering the "Pad To Floor" and a 1/8" x 1/16" x 1/8" (3.2 mm x 1.6 mm x 3.2 mm) U notch trowel when adhering the "Carpet To Pad" re-notching as necessary.
4. Carpet seams must be at right angles to cushion seams or offset at least 6" (152 mm) to either side.
5. Apply latex seam sealer to both edges and let dry completely before hot melting seams.
6. Use a silicone free, low profile, double glue hotmelt tape.
7. Roll carpet with a maximum 30 - 50 lbs (13.6 – 22.7 kg) roller.
8. Absolutely no traffic for a minimum 48 hours.

Any deviation from the instructions above could result in wrinkles, bubbles and separation of pad from floor or carpet from pad.

INSTALLING PATTERNED CARPET

Plan to Power Stretch

Peerless Contract requires the use of a "Senior Power Stretcher" for all stretch-in installations and for stretching to match patterns in direct glue and double glue installations.

A two-headed power stretcher, a mini carpet stretcher as well as a "Deadman" works great in matching patterns.

Knee kickers should only be used to position carpet, never to install, achieve final stretch or pattern match.

Pattern Matching

All textile products due to their nature and flexibility have some degree of inherent distortion. Thus when introducing a pattern into the construction, additional installation steps are required to assure a suitable pattern match. It is a fact that pattern carpet installations take longer to install versus non-patterned installations. This is due to the additional steps required to assure an acceptable pattern match such as; dry laying carpet, row cutting on pattern, positioning carpet with knee kick, use of dry lines to check and create

a reference point for pattern straightness, power stretching patterns into alignment and possibly stay nailing to hold carpet in place while adhesive sets.

It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to understand the project scope, which includes the product selected for installation and properly addressing any additional installation steps in the original labour quote. Peerless Contract will not be responsible for any additional labour incurred on pattern installations that should have been addressed in the original labour quote.

Peerless Contract does not guarantee exact pattern match of our products. This is due to the fact that carpet is a textile and cannot be manufactured to exact measurements. We do state that our patterns when within certain parameters can be matched by carefully following the proper pattern matching steps.

Peerless Contract manufacturing tolerances for tufted carpet are as follows:

- Pattern match, 2 inches in 12 ft. Length
- Bow, 1 ½ inch across the 12 ft. Width
- Skew, 1 ½ inch across the 12 ft. Width
- Edge straightness, +/- 1 inch from a centre line.

Roll Sequencing

Pattern elongation / size variation unlike other inherent characteristics to be discussed, is more gradual and is not detectable unless measured or compared to other patterns during the dry laying phase. This characteristic requires that patterned carpet be sequenced and installed according to its pattern count measurement and not by its roll number.

Again, all pattern products must be dry laid first! Sequencing by pattern count measurement (largest to smallest) will guarantee that you are always stretching the smaller patterns to the larger ones.

Typically, the installer should be prepared to over-come 1" (25.4 mm) of pattern elongation in 12 feet (3.66 m) on any pattern installation. However, as much as 2" (50.8 mm) of pattern elongation can be corrected in a 12 feet (3.66 m) length. The goal is to install the longest pattern first, then the next longest, and the next longest and so on. This procedure is critical in that it is impossible to shrink a longer pattern to match a shorter one.

Example: Ten pattern repeats are measured on each roll and the measurement determines sequence. On defined pattern products, Peerless Contract will provide a pattern-sequencing sheet for your convenience in staging your project.

Direct Glue

After roll sequencing is established and carpet is dry laid, glue half of the roll with the longest pattern measurement and half of the roll with the next longest pattern measurement lengthwise. Apply seam sealer and power stretch the roll with the shorter pattern measurement to match the longer one by starting in the centre of the seam and stretching towards the ends. Stay nails may be required to secure the carpet as the adhesive sets.

Stretch-In

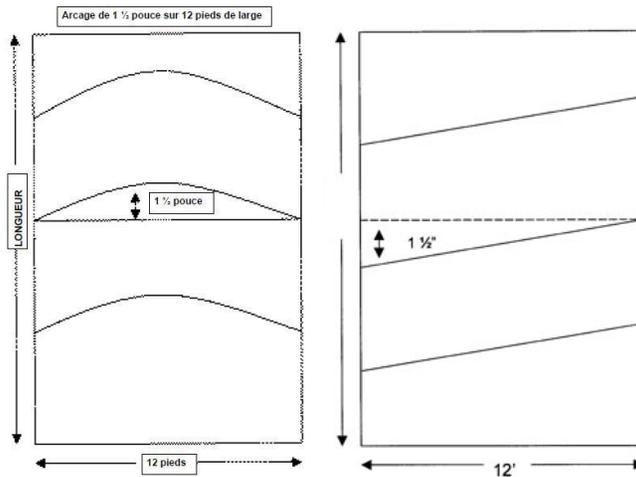
Establish roll sequencing, dry lay carpet and apply latex seam sealer to both edges. Pre-stretch the sections with shorter pattern measurements to align with longer patterns in order to make hot melt seam. A two-headed power stretcher or "deadman" must be use to achieve this. Once the seam is made, proceed with proper stretch installation (CRI Carpet Installation manual, figure "Stretch Diagram").

The use of architectural or double tackless strip is required to be used throughout a stretch-in commercial installation or in a residential installation on a distance over 25 feet (7.6 m).

CORRECTION OF PATTERN DISTORTION

In all three instances, the names imply a variation of the pattern in relationship to the straight lines (or in the case of “trueness of edge” what should be straight lines) of the selvages. These pattern distortions cannot be cut out. Instead they must be stretched square again (as they were when exiting the tufting machines needle bar) in order to assure proper pattern match.

Below are diagrams of the additional inherent characteristics of patterned carpet, followed by the installation steps for each one. Bow, trueness of edge and skew.



CORRECTING A BOW

Bowing, as indicated in the diagram, is when the pattern has gained or lagged in the middle of the roll width. Routinely, installers should be prepared to correct 1" (25.4 mm) or less of bow. However, up to 2" (50.8 mm) can be corrected, using recommended professional methods and tools. Remember, when cutting end seams or cutting to a wall, you must cut on pattern and work bow from end to end.

Direct Glue

Follow sequencing procedure and row cut selvages on pattern. Cut the end of carpet on pattern, which has the bow touching the wall and edges away. Spread adhesive within 6" (152 mm) of both sides so seams can be made after bow is straightened. Push the corners to the wall and stay nail creating a wrinkle/ bubble in the centre. Work the wrinkle through the glue with a power stretcher and stay nailing when necessary. This will straighten the pattern across the width and make up the shortfall of carpet pattern on the opposite side of the room.

Stretch-In

Sequence rolls accordingly. Make side seams, being sure to match pattern. After side seams are created, cut both ends on pattern.

Stretch the short edges to the wall and align the pattern. Continue to stretch accordingly to align the pattern to all walls.

CORRECTING A SKEW

Skew, as indicated in the diagram, is a distortion of the pattern line across the carpet. Again, installers should be prepared to routinely correct up to 1" (25.4 mm) skew in a 12 foot (3.66 m) width, even though as much as 2" (50.8 mm) can be corrected using recommended professional methods and tools. Most of the same instructions for correcting a bow apply to the correction of a skew.

Direct Glue

Spread adhesive to within 6" (152 mm) of both edges so patterns can be matched at the seam after skew is straightened. Cut end on pattern and push the short edge to the wall. This will create a wrinkle on the longer side. The wrinkle is then pushed through the glue correcting the skew as you work to the other end. Stay nail when necessary, leaving nails in for 24 hours. Finish by applying adhesive and seam sealer to edges and matching pattern.

Stretch-In

Make the seam as prescribed earlier, matching the pattern. At this point, the carpet should be at a slight angle to the wall. Force the short side into the tackless strip, creating a wrinkle on the long side. Attach the long side to the tackless while stretching across the room. This will force the wrinkle diagonally into the short pattern on the opposite side of the room.

CORRECTING TRUENESS OF EDGE

Carpet that has trueness of edge variations takes on the shape of an S. This condition is relatively easy to correct and should not prevent proper pattern matching.

Remember, even in this situation, the seams must be row cut on pattern (follow the S shape) and straightened using the techniques below.

Direct Glue

Snap a chalk line where the first seam is to be made and spread the adhesive for half of the width. Bring the most extended parts of the S to the straight line. Power Stretch the valley portions to the straight line, stay nail and leave for 24 hours. Repeat the above steps on the second half of the width and continue as needed throughout the rest of the project.

Stretch-In

Make hot melt seams as previously described. As the seam is made, carefully match the pattern. Stretch each side to a straight line against the walls. This will take out the S shape and the seam will flatten.

SUMMARY

If you have any questions concerning the information contained in this installation document or need further assistance, please contact the Peerless Contract Technical Services Support at 1-800-387-3155, ext. 5394.

The CRI Carpet Installation Guide is always available on the web site of the Carpet & Rug Institute. PDF versions are available for download at these addresses:

Commercial Installation: <https://www.carpet-rug.org/Documents/Publications/CRI-104-2015.pdf>

Commercial Installation: <https://www.carpet-rug.org/Documents/Publications/CRI-105-2015.pdf>

INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATION – ADHESIVE AND TROWEL

Follow the basic guidelines for direct glue down installations as set forth in the CRI CARPET INSTALLATION STANDARD CRI104 or CRI105 published by the Carpet and Rug Institute. Available online at <http://www.carpet-rug.org/cri-installation-standards.html>

Ensure that the substrate is ready for the application of the adhesive, otherwise apply the recommended floor preparation compound to insure proper bond to the substrate.

All direct glue down installations using ActionBac (AB) – Latex Plus (LP) – EPIC System–18 (EP) – Moisture Barrier Latex (MA) - Kanga Back (KT) coating systems must be performed using either of the following Premium Grade Flooring ADHESIVES:

- Mapei Ultrabond Eco185 - or - Roberts 3200 – or - Parabond 4094. for plain carpets.
- Mapei Ultrabond Eco220 - or - Roberts Max 3300 - or - Parabond 4099. for pattern carpets.

Note: Remember that carpet that is moisture proof should never be laid down over wet adhesive, open time must be respected to ensure proper evaporation and eliminate installation failure.

The adhesives manufacturer instructions must be followed for floor preparation. Check for their trowel size and open time recommendations. Beaulieu Canada recommends using a minimum size of 3/32 X 3/32 X 3/32 V notch trowel. For all rough or porous surfaces, a larger notch size is recommended, use a 1/8 X 1/8 X 1/8 V notched trowel.

Carpet Adhesive Open time:

The open time covers two phases:

1. The evaporation time: The period of time taken for the water to largely evaporate, allowing the adhesive to become sufficiently cohesive to hold the covering. This evaporation time varies depending on the porosity of the substrate and the local climatic conditions (temperature, humidity).
2. The working time: The period of time when the adhesive is still active enough to allow the covering to bond to the substrate when rolled.

Carpet Adhesive Drying time:

The covering may only be put into normal use and furniture installed after the adhesive has set completely. The setting/ drying time varies between 24 and 48 hours, depending on the type of adhesive used and the ambient humidity and temperature factors specific to the site.

CAUTION: If the covering is put into normal use before the adhesive is completely set, a load bearing weight on the covering can lead to an irreversible imprint.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|------------|
| Open Time | | | |
| | | | |
| Evaporation Time | Working Time | | |
| | | Drying Time (Chemical curing of adhesive) | |
| | | | |
| Adhesive Application | Beginning of install | End of install | Normal use |

SEAMING

Use of seam sealer is MANDATORY! To prevent fraying and ravelling at the seams a 1/8” continuous bead of seam adhesive should be applied to the base of both cut edges where the face yarns enter the backing. Use carpet latex seam adhesive, these products are formulated to anchor the carpet tufts and prevent breaks to occur where cuts have been made for seams.

Solvent-free seam sealer ADHESIVES:

Mapei Ultrabond ECO2285 – or - Roberts 8015 - or - Parabond 4263 must be used to secure cut edges.

WARNING!

To overlap and/or double-cut seams is not a recommended installation procedure. Seams should be cut with a Loop Pile or Cushion Back Cutter as recommended by Beaulieu Canada.

- Open up the row with a row separator prior to using a row cutter to follow the row, thus cutting the carpet in exactly the same place between two tufting rows. This cutting method eliminates fuzzy edges caused by cut loops along the edges and intermittent colour doubling on multicoloured graphic carpet.
- Using a row separator and cutting between the same manufacturing row all along the cut edge will also minimize many other situations where the seams will show as a demarcation in the installation instead of an unobtrusive line.

Lack of adhesion has many causes and installation failure soon follows. Beware of low quality adhesives, in your selection of trowels do not cut on the notch size recommendation, insure that the adhesive evaporation time is respected taking into account such issues like flooring condition/preparation, temperature/humidity parameters and also ventilation conditions. If adhesive does not have a 100 % transfer and display legs (strings) when pulled back, the installation at that time should be stopped and corrective measures should be taken.

Please visit our website at peerlesscontract.com for the most up-to-date version of this document as it may have been revised and updated since this printed version.
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