

ecore™

Commercial
Flooring



ECOfit Rolls

TECHNICAL MANUAL

Installation • Maintenance • Warranty

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

ecore

Revised 01/25/2018
Supersedes all previous versions.
Check website for updates.

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INSTALLATION

I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until after all the other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic works well.
2. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

II. SUBFLOORS

ECOfit may be installed over concrete, Portland-based patching and leveling materials, and wood.

NOTE: Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

1. Wood Subfloors – Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid and free from movement with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated air space below.
2. Underlayments – The preferred underlayment panel is American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4-inch, with a fully sanded face.

NOTE: Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite and lauan are not suitable underlayments.

3. Concrete Floors – Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days before installing ECOfit. The floor must be fully cured and permanently dried.

III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10' (3.0 m).
3. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
4. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
5. Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.
6. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip™ III adhesive.
7. Moisture must be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If the levels exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the situation has been corrected.

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8. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
9. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
10. Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' test pieces of the flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring and, when removed, there should be adhesive residue on the subfloor and on the back of the test pieces.

HAZARDS:

SILICA WARNING – Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling can produce respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers). Classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen, respirable silica is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that may cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or provide protective equipment to reduce exposure to below the applicable exposure limits.

ASBESTOS WARNING – Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, or asphaltic “cutback” adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Consult the document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings” available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

LEAD WARNING – Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication “Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing” available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

IV. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

1. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges, resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. Material should only be stored on a clean, dry, smooth surface. Rolls should be stored with the end of the sheet facing up. If rubber is stored upside down, the weight of the roll may cause the end of the sheet to compress, resulting in residual indentation.
3. **Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.**

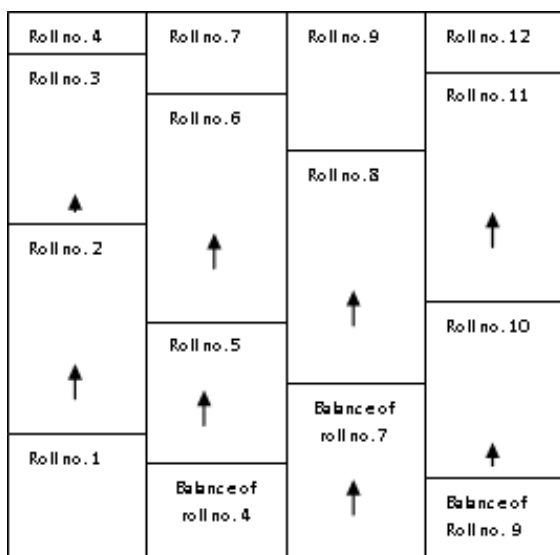
INSTALLATION

NOTE: ECOfit is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer’s responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.

4. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.

V. INSTALLATION – DRY LAY AND PREPARATION

1. All ECOfit rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. See diagram. Laying rolls in the opposite direction will cause color variations between the rolls.



2. Rolls are labeled with batch numbers and roll numbers. Do not mix batch numbers together and install all rolls in consecutive order.
3. Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should unroll all cuts and allow them to relax overnight. A bare minimum of two hours is required. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.
4. Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow.
5. Remove the ECOfit from the shrink-wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the ECOfit on the floor in a way that will use your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls at the required length, including enough to run up the wall.
6. Allow the material to acclimate and relax for a minimum of 2 hours but preferably overnight.
7. Place the edge of the first roll along the chalk line.
8. Snap a chalk line where the seam will be located. If necessary, straight cut the seam edge of the first piece. Align the first edge to the chalk line; it is very important that the seam is perfectly straight. If necessary, straight edge seam edge of second lineal drop, if the first roll does not extend the length or width of the room. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6”.

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9. Some thicker versions of ECOfit can be difficult to cut. It is recommended to trace cut these carefully. It's best to cut at a slight bevel, causing the bottom layer to be slightly shorter than the finished top layer. If the bevel is cut in the wrong direction, gaps will be seen on the top finished surface.
10. Position the second row with no more than a 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam. After adhesive is applied to substrate, the material will be worked back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate any gaps. Care should be taken to not over compress the seam. Over compressed seams will cause peaking and bond failure at seam edge.

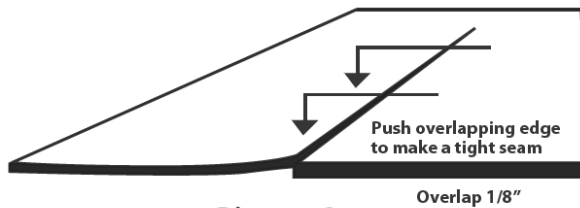


Diagram 2

NOTE: Over compressing the seam will result in bond failure at the seam edge.

11. **To alleviate cutting the long edge of the seam, it is recommended to order the rolls either the entire width or length of the room. If rolls span from one side of the room to the other, it is not necessary to cut the seams. This will substantially decrease the amount of time required to install the product.**
12. Repeat for each consecutive roll necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

VI. INSTALLATION – ADHERING THE ROLLS

1. After performing the above procedures, begin the application of the adhesive. We recommend E-Grip III, a one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. E-Grip III should not be mixed. It is specially formulated for use right out of the pail. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16" square-notched trowel.
2. Fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll).
3. Spread the adhesive using the proper size square-notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.

NOTE: Temperature and humidity affect the open time of the adhesive. Temperatures above 70°F and/or relative humidity above 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more quickly. Temperatures below 70°F and/or relative humidity below 50% will cause the adhesive to set up more slowly. The installer should monitor the on-site conditions and adjust the open time accordingly.

4. Lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Do not allow the material to “flop” into place; this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath the flooring.
5. Immediately roll the floor with a 100 lb. three section flooring roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first and then the length. Roll again within the first 60 minutes.

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6. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread the adhesive. Spread the adhesive at right angles to the seam to achieve full coverage across the seam. Roll the flooring.
7. If one side of the seam is slightly higher than the other, use a small J type hand roller, applying pressure on the high side to level out.
8. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

NOTE: Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles. They will telegraph through the material.

Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag slightly dampened with mineral spirits. Follow the mineral spirits with a rag dampened with water to remove the mineral spirits.

NOTE: Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may darken the flooring and cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.

9. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III!
10. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. Tape **MUST** be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set, which is approximately 2-3 hours. Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes, may result in adhesive residue. Ecore Commercial Flooring will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.
11. In some instances, it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well.
12. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or bond failure in the uncured adhesive.

MAINTENANCE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE INSTALLER

Ecore Commercial Flooring recommends: our environmentally friendly cleaners for ECOfit.

FLOOR PROTECTION

The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete. For example, covering the entire floor with paper or another floor covering device (plastic, plywood, etc.) until construction is completed and thorough cleaning and maintenance can be implemented.

ASSIGNMENT OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

The specifier should determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing. This responsibility should be specifically assigned to the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Ecore E-Cleaner
Ecore E-Strip

The recommendations contained in this manual are listed because of their extensive testing and field experience with the ECOfit product. These instructions are given only as guidance to our customers and for use with our recommended tools and adhesives. Ecore Commercial Flooring cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage that may result from the use of this information due to variations in working conditions and/or workmanship of the installer. Users are advised to conduct their own tests for a particular application and assign installers that are familiar with this type of flooring product.

Inspect all rolls for visual defects, including shade variances prior to beginning installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects or shade variances. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation. Ensure that all job site and subfloor conditions are met.

Steps	Cleaning Product	Mixture	Equipment
Initial Cleaning	Ecore E-Cleaner	10 oz./gal. water	Soft nylon brush or approved pad*
Daily Cleaning	Ecore E-Cleaner	2-4 oz./gal. water	Soft nylon brush, or microfiber mop
Heavy Soil & Restorative Cleaning	Ecore E-Cleaner or E-Strip	16 oz./gal. water	Approved pad*

* Please contact Ecore's Technical Department for guidance on pad selection: 800-322-1923.

VII. CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Initial Cleaning

- a. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming with a high CFM vacuum. For large areas, use auto scrubbers to clean floors.
- b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner (10 oz./gal. of water), using buffer, or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush or approved pad. Avoid flooding the floor.
- c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and vacuum up the rinse water with a wet vacuum. Allow the floor to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).

2. Daily/Regular Cleaning

- a. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum floor to remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit.
- b. Damp mop with a microfiber mop or auto-scrub using an approved pad or nylon brush with E-Cleaner (2-4 oz./gal. of water).

3. Restorative Maintenance

- a. Sweep and dry vacuum floor thoroughly.
- b. Heavy scrub floor with E-Cleaner (10 oz./gal. of water) or E-Strip. This cleaning may be performed with an auto scrubber or rotary scrubber.
- c. Vacuum soiled solution with a wet/dry vacuum.
- d. Rinse with clean water.
- e. Pick up solution with wet vacuum.
- f. Allow floor to thoroughly dry.

4. Heavy Soil

- a. Remove as much surface soil, debris, sand, and grit as possible by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
- b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner or E-Strip, using a buffer or auto scrubber with an approved pad.
- c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).

WARRANTY

All Ecore Commercial Floorings rubber flooring is guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects on both material and workmanship. If such a defect is discovered, the customer must notify Ecore, either through the contracting installer, distributor, or directly. If found to be defective within five years under normal non-abusive conditions, the sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods, or at the seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective goods.

ECOfit warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse. This includes and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Ecore Commercial Flooring, slight shade variations or shade variations, due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

Excluded from Warranty

These warranties do not apply to the following:

1. The exact matching of shade, color, or mottling.
2. Any express or implied promise made by any salesman or representative.
3. Tears, burns, cuts, or damage, due to improper installation, improper use or improper cleaning agents, or maintenance methods.
4. Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats may be required under chairs with casters/wheels.
5. Labor costs for installation of original or replacement material.
6. Sale of "Remnants", "Seconds", "Off Goods", or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "Seconds", "Off Goods", or "Remnants" such are sold "as is," and Ecore makes no warranties whatsoever, express or implied with respect thereto, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
7. Problems caused by moisture, hydrostatic pressure, or alkali in the sub-floor.
8. Problems caused by uses, maintenance, and installation that are contrary to ECOfit specifications, recommendations or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage to flooring products from rubber mats or rubber backed mats.
12. Installation of products with adhesives other than those recommended by Ecore.
13. Fading and/or discoloration resulting from heavy sunlight penetration and ultraviolet ray exposure from direct or glass-filtered sunlight.
14. Material that is not installed and maintained as recommended by Ecore.
15. Damage to flooring products from pallet jack and tow-motor traffic.
16. Environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, grease, or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens or auto repair facilities)
17. Premature wear and deterioration from spikes and skate blade exposure.
18. Differences in color between products and photography.
19. Embossing / density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. Ecore Commercial Flooring shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. These warranties give you specific rights, and you may also have rights which may vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state Consumer Affairs Office or your State Attorney General. For the latest warranty information for products within the ECOfit collection, please visit www.ecorecommercialflooring.com



800.828.9461 – www.ecorecommercialflooring.com

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

The ecore logo, consisting of the word "ecore" in a bold, lowercase, blue sans-serif font.

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