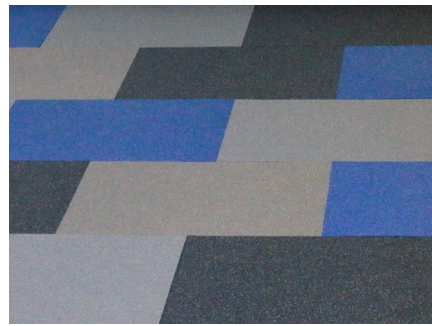


ecore™

Commercial



# Origins Tile Installation and Maintenance Manual

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

ecore™

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Supersedes all previous versions.  
Check website for updates.

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## I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

- A. Installation should not begin until after all 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 flooring should be protected with an appropriate cover.
- B. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F (18° C) for 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation.

## II. SUBFLOORS

- A. Origins tiles may be installed over concrete, approved Portland based self-leveling materials, and wood. Gypsum based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.
- B. Wood Subfloors: Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1". The floor must be rigid, free from movement, and have at least 18" of well-ventilated air space below.
- C. Underlayments: The preferred underlayment panel is APA underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4", with a fully sanded face.

**Note:** Particle board, chip board, Masonite, and lauan are not considered suitable underlayments.

- D. Concrete Floors: Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. It must be fully cured and permanently dry.

## III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

- A. Subfloor shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. It 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.
- B. Subfloor 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 feet (3.0 m).
- C. 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 cementitious based patching compound.
- D. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved cementitious based patching compound.
- E. 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 more than likely will fail in that area. Expansion joint covers designed for resilient floor coverings should be used.
- F. 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.

**HAZARDS:**

**SILICA WARNING** - Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers) can be produced by cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling. Respirable silica is classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen and is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation, or protective equipment, to reduce exposure below 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 asbestos content. Consult the documents titled, “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.

- G. 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.
- H. 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.
- I. 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.
- J. 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.

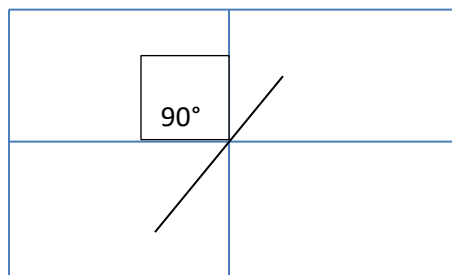
**IV. Material Storage and Handling**

- A. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original unopened packaging with all labels intact.
- B. Inspect all material for visual defects prior to 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.
- C. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.

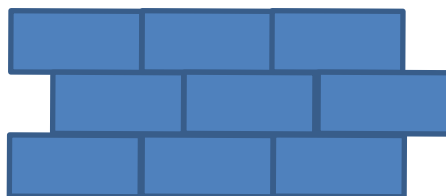
**NOTE:** Origins flooring is manufactured from vulcanized composition rubber/ cork materials and variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal and to be expected. It is the installer’s responsibility to inspect all products to ensure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning installation.

**V. INSTALLATION**

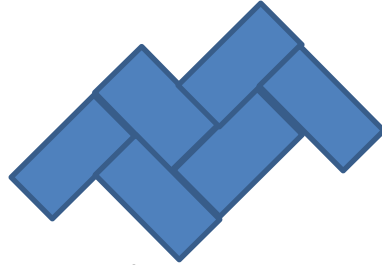
- A. Origins tiles are produced from vulcanized composition rubber / cork materials and ***without*** regard to shade match between tiles.
- B. It is the installer’s responsibility to inspect materials to ensure correct style, thickness, and color.
- C. **Only install Origins tiles in either a “running bond” or “herringbone” pattern (see below).**
- D. **Do not install in a “straight bond” or “stacked” pattern with the tiles aligned in both directions.**
- E. Origins tiles **must not be** mixed within / among other Ecore tile product groups in configurations such as “checker board”. Mixing tiles from different product groups within / among each other may result in an out- of-square installation.
- F. **Tiles are marked with ink to indicate the “down” side to be placed into the adhesive. The tiles can be installed without regard to the arrow’s direction on the back of the tile.**
- G. Measure the width of the area to be covered.
- H. Mark the center of the area at two points, one at each end.
- I. Snap the chalk line, line #1, through these two points.
- J. Determine the center point of the chalk line.
- K. Snap a second chalk line, line #2, perpendicular (at 90 degrees) to the first line. The lines should intersect at their centers. The area to be covered is now divided into quarters. Begin the installation where the lines intersect.
- L. For Herringbone, draw a line through the center at the desired angle. Begin the installation where the lines intersect, using the angled line as a starting guide.



M. **Running bond (brick or subway)** patterns require tiles in alternating rows to be offset by some portion of the tile (as determined by installer/ specifier) as shown here:



N. **Herringbone** patterns require a 12" side be placed next to a 24" side.



O. After all above procedures are performed, begin application of Ecore's E-Grip III.

**The proper trowel size for the 3.2mm Origins is a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-Notched Trowel**

P. Take care not to spread more adhesive than can be covered by flooring and rolled within 30 minutes. 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.

Q. Place the first tile. Press firmly on the tiles to remove any curling or trapped air. Do not try to stretch or compress fit the tiles. The tiles can be installed without regard to the arrow's direction on the back of the tile.

**NOTE:** 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.

R. If some seams are gapping, it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painter's tape. **Tape MUST be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set (approximately 2-3 hours). Allowing tape to remain longer or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Ecore will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.**

S. Roll a 75 pound or 100 pound roller over the tiles to ensure proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass. Re-roll again after 30-45 minutes.

T. After rolling, keep all foot 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 debonding in the uncured adhesive.

U. After allowing adhesive to cure 72 hours, perform initial cleaning and allow to fully dry.

**VI. Application of LOBADUR<sup>®</sup> 2K Invisible Protect, 2-Component waterborne coating *is required*.**

1. Wait until adhesive is fully cured, and floor has been cleaned and it is fully dried.
2. Acclimate the Origins and LOBADUR to room temp. Do not apply at temperatures below 55°F.
3. Shake larger base container well.
4. Pour contents of small, .09 gal can of hardener into the larger, base .91 gallon container (ratio of 10 : 1) and then shake to mix. To mix smaller quantities, use ratio of 10 : 1 and shake to mix. Pot life: 2 hours.



5. Apply using LOBATool Roller Deluxe 120 and paint tray.



6. Coverage 400-500 sq. ft. / gal. **NOTE: Avoid streaks, puddles and lap marks. Do not thin. Do not add water. Maintain adequate ventilation during coating and drying process.**
7. Apply second coat when first coat is dry (3 -4 hours); apply second coat at right angle to first.
8. Clean up with water.
9. Light foot traffic after 24 hours; floor is still susceptible to scuffing / marring. Full use and covering possible after 5 days.
10. Plasticizer containing materials e.g. furniture pads, chair mats, may lead to discoloration of finish. Use felt furniture pads.

## Maintenance

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE SPECIFIER:**

Proper protection and maintenance of Origins post-installation should be specified by the architect/designer. Protect flooring from damage and construction debris by using an appropriate floor covering. All sections shall be fully covered until such time that the recommended initial cleaning may be performed. The specifier should determine and assign the specific type of cleaning and products, dependent upon the type of material being installed.

### **FLOOR PROTECTION, CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE**

#### **It is the Specifier's responsibility to provide the following.**

Specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete.

Determination and assignment to the appropriate party of the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing of floor. Origins published procedures shall be followed.

#### **It is the General Contractor's responsibility to provide the following.**

A building or installation area that is fully enclosed from the elements, including finished roof, windows, doors, etc.

Temperature shall be climate controlled with a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F for 48 hours prior to, during, and after the flooring installation, for acclimation of flooring materials.

Areas of the flooring that are subject to direct sunlight through doors or windows shall have the doors or windows covered for such time until the installation of the material is complete.

Protect flooring from damage and construction debris by using an appropriate floor covering. All sections shall be fully covered until such time that the recommended initial cleaning may be performed.



## CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

Steps	Green Products	Dilute	Diluted Coverage	Pads & Brushes
Cleaning prior to coating	Ecore's E-Cleaner	10 oz./gal. water	2,000 sq. ft./gal.	Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal
Finish	LOBADUR <sup>®</sup> 2K Invisible Protect	None	450 sq. ft./gal.	LOBATOOL Roller Deluxe 120
Daily cleaning after coating	Ecore's E-Cleaner	2-4 oz./gal. water	6,000 sq. ft./gal.	Microfiber Mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 4200 Beige Pad or equal

### I. CLEANING AND FINISHING PROGRAM

#### A. Initial Cleaning

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
2. Scrub floor with Ecore's recommended E-Cleaner, using buffer or auto scrubber with pads per table above.
3. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to dry thoroughly.

#### B. Floor Finish

1. Application of LOBADUR<sup>®</sup> 2K Invisible Protect, 2-Component waterborne coating is required.
2. See application instructions above.
3. Light foot traffic after 24 hours; floor is still susceptible to scuffing / marring. Full use and covering possible after 5 days.

#### C. Daily/Regular Cleaning

1. Clean with wet cloth or mop only after full cure. Do not clean with water or detergent during first week.

**Note:** When cleaning floors finished with LOBADUR<sup>®</sup> 2K Invisible Protect, use only a Microfiber Mop, Soft Nylon Brush, or White or Beige pad.



Paint Tray



Adjustable width roller frame



LOBATOOL Roller Deluxe 120



Rectangular Mop Bucket



Applicator Trim Pad



Foam Brush



Safety Glasses



Safety Knife



Microfiber cleaning mop & Pad



Gloves



Shop Towels



Rags

## Warranty

All Ecore 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.

Origins warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, normal wear or quality of installation expected from the use or environment of installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Ecore, shade variations, shade variations due to exposure to sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

**Excluded from Warranty** – Origins warranty does not apply to the following:

1. The 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 "seconds," "off goods," or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "seconds" or "off goods," 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 Ecore Commercial 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, rubber backed mats, or car tires.
12. Installation of products with adhesives other than those recommended by Ecore Commercial.
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 Commercial.
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 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. Please visit [www.ecorecommercial.com](http://www.ecorecommercial.com) for the complete and latest warranty information.



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