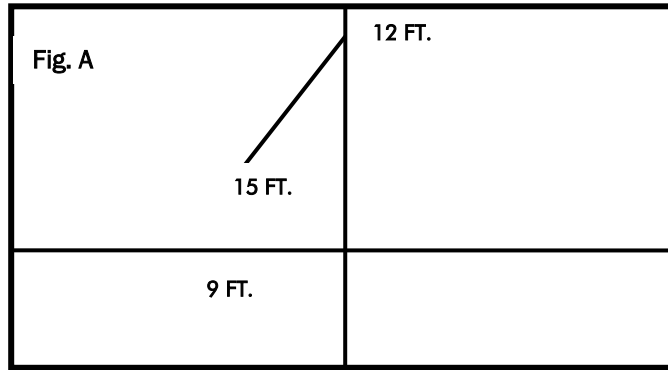




Installation Instructions

- Note:** It is the responsibility of the installer to verify, before installation, that all material conforms to the owner's specifications including product, color and dye lot. If the product in the cartons does not match what was ordered call our Product Services Dept. immediately at (800) 451-1250. **IF THE WRONG PRODUCT OR COLOR IS INSTALLED, BEAULIEU COMMERCIAL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CORRECTIONS.**
- Preparation:** It is the owner's or general contractor's responsibility to provide an acceptable substrate for the specified installation, which must also be inspected by the installation contractor prior to installation. The subfloor must be clean, dry and free of dirt, oil, grease, paint and non-compatible adhesives or coatings, including old cut-back adhesive. **Existing adhesive trowel ridges must be leveled by scraping, sanding or patching prior to adhesive application to ensure proper pressure sensitive adhesive contact.** All cracks should be filled using a Portland base leveling or patching compound. Use of latex additive in lieu of water will create better bonding properties. **Should you encounter asbestos containing or other hazardous materials, you should stop the installation immediately and obtain assistance from a qualified remediation consultant prior to continuing the preparation process. Do not install over resin or silicate based curing compounds. Do not use oil or silicate based sweeping compounds. Bond tests must be performed over concrete with unidentified sealers or primers. Apply Nexterra adhesive and tile in a 4 ft. area and let set for 24 hours then check adhesive bond to the floor**
- Moisture Emissions:** The building owner, or the general contractor, or their testing agent must submit to the flooring contractor a written report on the vapor emissions level and the surface alkalinity of the concrete subfloor. All subfloors must be tested for moisture emission rates using an anhydrous calcium chloride moisture test. The test must be conducted in strict compliance with ASTM Test Method F 1869. The moisture emission rate is measured in pounds of moisture over a 1,000 sq. foot area during a 24 hour period. Nexterra Tiles should not be installed in areas where the emission rate is greater than 5.0 lbs. On subfloors with readings greater than 5.0 lbs., corrective action must be taken to reduce the vapor emissions to 5.0 or less. The subfloor must be re-tested and readings of 5.0 or less must be obtained before installation.
- Alkalinity:** The pH range of the subfloor must be between 7-9. Any reading above 9pH will require corrective measures. Testing must be performed in accordance with ASTM Standard Practice F-170. **Note: results of Moisture and pH testing must be available and submitted with any claim.**
- Site Conditions:** **Carpet tiles should not be brought to the job site until the facility (work area) is properly acclimatized, as if it were in use by the building occupants.** This is achieved by making sure the specified lighting & HVAC systems are in place and are operating correctly. Installation of carpet tiles should be the last item on the construction schedule to prevent soiling, staining or construction damage caused by other trades that may void the product warranty. **Do not cover the tiles with plastic protective covering. Use plywood, masonite or non staining building material paper.**
- The conditions of the installation environment must be between 65-85°F (18-29.5°C) with a relative humidity range between 40 & 60%. **These conditions must be maintained at least 48 hours before, during, and 72 hours after installation completion.** If ambient temperatures are outside these parameters, the installation cannot begin until the HVAC systems are operational and the conditions above are met. Carpet tiles and adhesive must be acclimated to conditions in which they are to be used for a minimum of 48 hours.
- Floor Priming:** **Plywood floors:** must be completely primed with a latex additive comparable to ParaChem's M615 or M620. This is to prevent excessive absorption of adhesive and to ensure a proper adhesive bond. Plywood substrates must be no less than ¾ inch thick. Particle board or thin plywood are not acceptable substrates. **Gypcrete Floors or substrates:** must be swept and vacuumed to remove excessive dust, then primed. **Concrete:** that is porous or dusty must be swept and primed. **Portland Patching compounds and Skim coats:** are porous and must be primed.
- Layout:** Begin the layout by carefully marking working lines on the floor surface to act as the starting position and guide for your carpet tile installation. First, determine that your room is as square as possible: Take measurements to determine the center of the room and snap two chalk lines that intersect at the center of the room. These lines will provide a guide for squareness as you install the carpet tile as well as divide your room into 4 manageable quadrants.* It may be necessary to offset the centerline to ensure that perimeter tiles are no less than 12" (half of a tile). Position the first tile at the intersection of the horizontal and vertical layout lines, dry lay a few tiles in one of the recommended installation methods for that particular product (monolithic, quarter turn, ashlar, etc.), to give you and the customer indication of the overall appearance.



*To verify that the lines are square with each other measure 12' from the center point up the length and make a mark. On the same horizontal quadrant line measure 9' across the width and make a mark, the diagonal measurement between the two marks should be exactly 15' if your lines are square. If your measurement is not 15' adjust your lines accordingly (see fig. A).

Applying Adhesive:

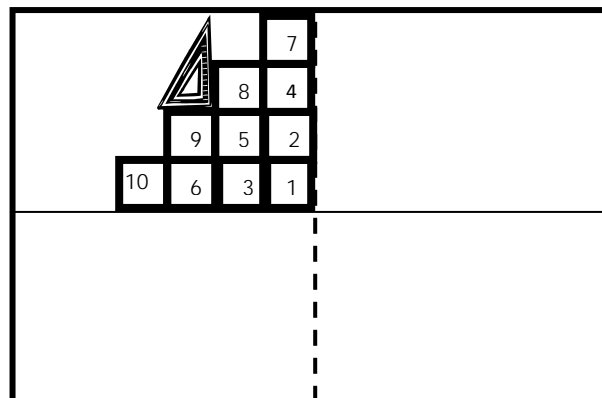
Beaulieu Commercial requires using **Nexterra Solv-Free Pressure Sensitive Adhesive** for the installation of Nexterra Carpet Tiles. For other adhesive recommendations please contact our Technical Services Department at (800) 451-1250. The subfloor should be scraped clean of old adhesive, and thoroughly swept before applying adhesive. The adhesive should be spread in one quadrant at a time, and should be spread only over areas that you will install in the current day

The full spread adhesive application method is required for Nexterra Tiles. The adhesive must be spread using a 1/16 x 1/16 x 1/16 square notch trowel. The entire area should be covered with adhesive. The adhesive should be given adequate time to dry completely until it becomes clear and tacky. Drying times will vary based on local conditions but can be greatly reduced by using circulating fans. The adhesive is ready for installation when you can place your hand in the glue and remove it with no transfer to your hand. **A 4 gallon pail of adhesive will yield coverage of 55-65 sq. yds. depending on the condition of the subfloor.**

Installation:

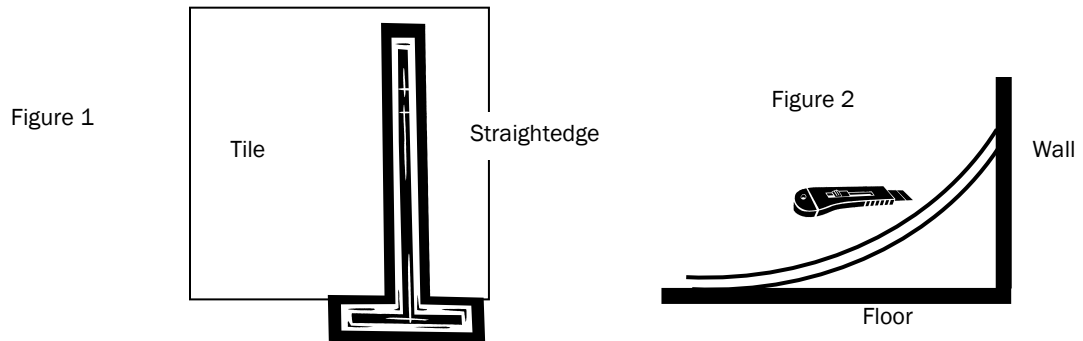
Once the adhesive properly sets up place the first four tiles carefully along the intersection of your first quadrant, stair stepping each tile as you go (see fig. B). This pyramid technique keeps the entire layout square and in reference to the chalk lines. Slide each tile into position from the side to prevent trapping yarn. Trapped yarn will affect the appearance of the installation and cause alignment problems. **Do not compress tile when installing, this will cause peaking, requiring reinstallation. Use a framing square to randomly check squareness of installation.**

Fig. B



Tile Trimming:

Nexterra Tiles cut well from the back. Tiles should be cut so that the trimmed edge will always be placed against the wall. After installation, all areas must be rolled with a roller with a max. weight of 75 lbs. Change blades often for easier, clean precise cuts.



(Figure 1) One method of trimming the tiles is to measure the distance between the wall and the closest installed full tile. Utilizing the measurement, mark the back of the tile to be trimmed with a pencil or pen and a straight edge or other straight object. Using a sharp blade, score the tile along the marked line and bend or break the tile. Sever the tile along the line using a sharp blade.

When trimming around doors and columns, rigid “utility type” blades often work better than more flexible slotted blades. Nexterra Tiles are easiest cut by scoring the back with a rigid blade, and then bending or breaking the tile. The tile can then be severed with a sharp blade.

(Figure 2) If preferred, Nexterra tiles can be trimmed by coving the tile up the wall, and trimming free hand. Wall trimmer #3040 Perfect Cutter from National Carpet Equipment (800) 245-0267 (www.nationalequipment.com) or Goof Proof wall trimmer from ProKnees, Corp. (800) 549-5018 (www.proknee.com) and also Bullet Tools Magnum Shear (800) 406-8998 (www.bullettools.com) work best for this type of trimming.

Rigid Hook or straight blades also work well.

Assistance:

For technical assistance, please call the Beaulieu Technical Services Group at 800-451-1250. Chair pads are recommended under office chairs with roller casters to preserve appearance retention, avoid premature and accelerated wear. For Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions or Installation Instructions Please visit our website at www.beaulieucommercial.com.