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Installation

I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS
1. 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 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
Ecore Athletic Monster Rolls, may be installed over concrete, approved 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 considered 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 Monster Rolls. It 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.
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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Note: Ecore cannot be responsible for any resulting shading issues in color series 504 through 511.

NOTE: Ecore Athletic Performance Monster Rolls are 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.

All Performance Monster wear layer rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. See diagram 1. Laying rolls in the opposite direction will cause color variations between the rolls. (Base layer can be installed in either direction)

NOTE: BASE LAYER will be laid perpendicular to the direction of the finished flooring material.

5. Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should unroll all rolls and allow to relax overnight. A bare minimum of two hours is required. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.

6. Custom roll lengths eliminate the possibility of the rolls being manufactured and numbered in the customer’s desired installation sequence, and Ecore cannot be responsible for any resulting shading issue.

V. INSTALLATION – PERFORMANCE MONSTER ROLL BASE LAYER

1. 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. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.

2. Remove the base layer roll from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the rubber 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 a few inches.

3. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6”. End seams will be trimmed after acclimation period using a square to ensure they fit tightly without gaps.

4. After allowing proper acclimation and rough cuts are made, you may begin the installation.

5. Align the first edge to the chalk line. Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.

6. Position the second roll with no more than a 1/8” overlap over the first roll at the seam. After adhesive is applied to substrates 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. (Diagram 2)
7. It may be necessary to trim the edge of the second lineal drop if the rolls do not extend the length or width of the room. Rolls laid end to end with a variance in roll width greater than ¼" could result in peaked seams.

8. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

VI. BASE LAYER – ADHESIVE APPLICATION

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 a 1/16˝ 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 75–100 lb. 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 a second time within the first 60 minutes.

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 prevent the adhesive from oozing up through the seam. Roll the flooring.

7. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.
VII. INSTALLATION – PERFORMANCE MONSTER ROLL WEAR LAYER

1. 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. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.

2. Remove the Performance Monster Roll from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the rubber 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 a few inches.

3. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6”. End seams will be trimmed after acclimation period using a square to ensure they fit tightly without gaps.

4. After allowing proper acclimation and rough cuts are made, you may begin the installation.

5. Align the first edge to the chalk line. **Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.**

6. Position the second roll 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.

7. It may be necessary to trim the edge of the second lineal drop if the rolls do not extend the length or width of the room. Rolls laid end to end with a variance in roll width greater than ¼” could result in peaked seams.

8. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

VIII. PERFORMANCE MONSTER ROLL WEAR LAYER – ADHESIVE APPLICATION

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 75–100 lb. 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 a second time within the first 60 minutes.

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 prevent the adhesive from oozing up through the seam. Roll the flooring.

7. 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.

8. 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. 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 Athletic will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.

10. 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. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 48-72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive.
Maintenance

Ecore recommends our environmentally friendly Ecore E-Cleaner and Ecore E-Strip for Performance rolls.

FLOOR PROTECTION
The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete, such as covering the entire floor with paper or other 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 either the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

The recommendations contained in this manual are listed because of their extensive testing and field experience with the Ecore Athletic product. These instructions are given only as guidance to our customers and for use with our recommended tools and adhesives. Ecore Athletic 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. It may be necessary to lay out and hand select tiles for color consistency. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation. Ensure that all job site and subfloor conditions are met.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps</th>
<th>Cleaning Product</th>
<th>Mixture</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Cleaning</td>
<td>E-Cleaner</td>
<td>10 oz./gal. water</td>
<td>Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Cleaning</td>
<td>E-Cleaner</td>
<td>2-4 oz./gal. water</td>
<td>Microfiber Mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy Soil &amp; Restorative Cleaning</td>
<td>E-Cleaner, E-Strip</td>
<td>10 oz./gal. water, 16 oz./gal. water</td>
<td>Brown 7100 or Black 72000 pad as req’d. (Do not use High Productivity Pad)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VIII. CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Initial Cleaning
   a. Remove all surface soil and debris by sweeping, mopping or vacuuming.
   
   b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner (10 oz./gal. of water), using buffer or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush or red pad. Avoid flooding the floor.
   
   c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to thoroughly dry (6-8 hrs).

2. Daily/Regular Cleaning
   a. Remove all surface soil and debris by sweeping, mopping, or vacuuming
   
   b. Scrub with E-Cleaner & microfiber mop, buffer or auto scrubber using red pad or soft nylon brush.

3. Heavy Soil and Restorative Cleaning
   a. Remove all surface soil and debris by sweeping, mopping or vacuuming.
   
   b. Aggressively scrub the floor with cleaner or stripper and brown or black pad, auto scrubber or rotary scrubber.
   
   c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to thoroughly dry (6-8 hours).
   
   d. Repeat as required.
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 ten 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.

This 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, 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 motting.
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 Ecore specifications, recommendations, or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage or discoloration to flooring products from rubber mats, rubber-backed mats or vehicle tires.
12. Installation of Ecore 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, or density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. Ecore shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages that 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 most recent warranty information please visit: www.ecoreathletic.com.