PermaLink
Adhesive Tape System

INSTALLATION

(EcoFlex™ ICT Carpet Tile Only)
Carpet Tile Installation Methods

Before you begin the installation, consult the carpet specification to determine which installation format(s) are approved. Shown below are some common installation formats.

**Monolithic**

![Monolithic Diagram]

**Quarter Turn**

![Quarter Turn Diagram]

**Ashlar Formats**

In the Ashlar installation formats, each row of carpet tiles is shifted 8 inches, either in a brick format or vertically (see diagrams to the left). This is a three-step process, i.e. each successive row of tiles must be offset one-third the length of the tile. It is **not acceptable** to shift the tiles only one-half the length of the tiles (two-step process). This installation method maintains the random appearance of the carpet tiles, eliminating line-on-line or dark-on-dark effects that can create a skewed look in the finished installation.

**Please Note:** Carpet tile products installed in the Ashlar format will not have the same finished appearance as the same product in a broadloom (12’ width).

**Multi-Directional Format (Follow No Order)**

Tiles are to be placed without concern for the arrow direction (random). Mixing tiles from various boxes during installation will further blend color and design elements. This process is essential for achieving optimal aesthetics.
Installation of Carpet Tile over Existing Carpet

Condition of Existing Floor

- Mohawk Group PermaLink Adhesive Tape System may be installed over any existing direct-glue carpet installation, whether loop pile, cut pile, or cut & loop, as well as carpet with attached cushion. PermaLink may also be installed over vinyl-back carpet tiles that have been installed utilizing a full-spread application of adhesive.

- Mohawk Group does not recommend using PermaLink over carpet installed over separate cushion, either double-stick or stretch-in (tackless).

- The room temperature should remain a minimum of 65° F and a maximum of 85° F for 24 hours before installation.

- Store the carpet and PermaLink at 65° F to 85° F on site 24 to 48 hours before installation. Keep the carpet in the same room under constant temperature and humidity.

- Do not install over carpet that has had subfloor moisture problems or signs of alkalinity (calcium chloride reading in excess of 5 pounds or over 80% RH). These types of carpet are usually loose and pulling up from the subfloor. The plastic sheeting of the adhesive tape has the potential to accumulate moisture just like a vinyl floor. PermaLink is not recommended for use in buildings prone to flooding.

- **Do not install over loose soil. Remove grease or oil prior to installation.** Normal stains need not be cleaned (e.g., tea, coffee), but use a good commercial vacuum prior to installation.
  - **Note:** The existing carpet surface must be well adhered. If the existing floor covering is damaged or worn, in local areas cut open and glue loose sections or holes, or glue in a piece of covering of the same thickness.

Remedy the Following Problems Before Proceeding

- **Loose seams:** Secure the area using multi-purpose adhesive under the seam before installation of the tape.

- **Ripples in the carpet:** Occasional ripples (under 1-foot in length) must be trimmed of excess carpet. Ripples over 1-foot in length must be cut open, trimmed of excess carpet, and re-glued using a multipurpose adhesive.

- **Delaminated areas:** Cut open any areas that have delaminated, remove excess carpet, then re-glue the section with multi-purpose adhesive.

- **Height transitions:** Pull back the piece of carpet that has the lower pile height about two feet. Use either a cement-based patch or a floor leveler system to bring the lower carpet up enough that when the two pieces of carpet meet, the pile heights are the same.

- **Metal or glass doors:** For doors that do not provide enough clearance for the installation of the tape and new carpet, cut the existing carpet back 4 feet from the door. Use a floor leveler system or a cement based floor patch to level the transition between the existing carpet and the subfloor. Use Mohawk Group EnPress Adhesive on the bare subfloor.
  - **Note:** Imperfections in the existing floor will telegraph. Correct any ripples or other height differences before installation of the tape.
Recommended Equipment

- PermaLink Adhesive Tape
- Razor Knives
- Chalk line
- 75-pound roller

Installation of Tape

1. Install the adhesive tape over the total surface sheet by sheet, keeping a ½-inch separation between sheets with no overlap, until the surface is completely covered. Roll out well.

2. The paper side of the tape must go up. This is a water-based acrylic adhesive for use with the vinyl backing of the carpet tiles.

Carpet Tape Installation


2. Each pallet will be identified by a Pallet Sequence Number. Every effort should be made to minimize sequence separation of pallet numbers in a given area.

3. Measure the area to find the best starting point that will utilize a maximum size perimeter tile. After selecting the starting point, snap chalk lines that bisect this point at right angles. To achieve a perfect angle, this is critical, form a triangle by measuring 6’ up from the center point. Then measure 8’ out from the center point. Then, find a 10’ angle between these two points. (See Figure 1.)

4. To make the chalk line mark, remove the protective paper from the tape in this area and make the chalk line mark directly on the tape. In the case of a light surface, make the mark directly on the old surface before rolling out the tape. The mark is then left visible through the tape.

5. Use the chalk lines as a guide for lining up the edges of the modules. Using the pyramiding technique, install one quadrant at a time, following the numerical sequence as shown in Figure 2 below.

6. For installing the tiles, only pull as much paper off the tape as is immediately required for laying the tiles.

7. The corners of the modules should be flat to assure proper fit. Install the modules snugly. Be careful not to over-tighten the installation.

8. If experiencing problems placing the tiles, rub a damp rag over the back of the tile prior to setting in place on the tape. This will allow for shifting of the tile to aid in proper alignment.

9. Use a steel wheel seam roller or similar roller to blend and enhance the seams.

10. Roll the completed installation with a 75-pound roller.

11. The loop pile modules will have some yarn blossoming at the edges.

   - This is inherent to this type of construction. The face yarn may require occasional trimming.

   **Note:** In some cases, due to doorways or partitions, the “starting point” is not the center of the room.
Additional Information

- For trench headers, apply a narrow strip of tape along each side of all trench headers. This will prevent movement in the installation while gaining access to the headers.

  ![Figure 1](image)
  ![Figure 2](image)

- Modules are easily removed from the floor. When reinstalling modules, replace them in their original position and pile direction.

- For installations over flat cable, spread the tape over the metal shields covering flat wire cable in accordance with the cable manufacturers’ recommendations.

Chair Pads

Chair pads are recommended for use under chairs with roller casters. Casters must be the flat round type with 5/8” to 1” width minimum. If chair pads are not used, the appearance of the carpet tile will decline. Maintenance and/or shifting of the modular tiles will be required more frequently when pads are not used.

This information, offered as a customer service, is based on Mohawk Group’s engineering tests and field experience. It is intended for installers with professional experience to be used at their discretion and risk. The Mohawk Group does not guarantee results and assumes no liability in connection with these installation instructions.