

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: WOOL HANDLOOMED CARPET

NOTE: *Please read carefully.* Handloomed carpets are hand-crafted and thus seaming these weaves can be problematic. We suggest that handloomed weaves are best as used as an area rug. Stretch installation and cutting and seaming are not recommended for artisan weaves. If used in a wall-to-wall installation, we highly recommend that you consult with an experienced, certified, local flooring installer prior to confirming any project. Order a swatch sample prior to installation and provide this sample to the installer working on the specific space so that they can evaluate feasibility ("woven-construction", usage and installation area). The installer must follow "woven-construction" carpet guidelines for proper use of tools/equipment as well as stretching technique associated with woven carpet construction.

IMPORTANT BEFORE CUTTING: The carpet should be visually inspected for any defect or flaw. The carpet should be checked against the shipping papers, labels, and store sample to ensure it is the correct pattern, color, and size. Any noted defect of discrepancy should be immediately reported to the Curran or sisalcarpet.com customer service department.

- Whether tackless or gluedown, the installation should conform to all **CRI 104 or CRI 105 guidelines**.
- Carpet should be allowed to acclimate to room conditions at least 24 hours before installation. Ideally, the temperature should be between 65 - 95°F (18 - 35 °C). Extreme variances in temperature can cause difficulties during installation.
- It is the owner or general contractor's responsibility to check concrete subfloors for excessive levels of alkaline and for moisture. According to CRI guidelines the recommended pH is between 5 and 9. Readings greater than 9 will result in adhesive failure. Moisture levels can be checked by a calcium chloride testing kit. Readings between 3-5 pounds are in the acceptable range.
- Recommended pad or cushion is a 40 oz. synthetic felt pad or a flat rubber pad with minimum density of 18 pounds.
- The cushion should be attached to the floor, making sure that all cushion seams fall perpendicular to carpet seams.
- Use architectural tackless or double rows of 1" tackless. Strips should be placed ¼" from the walls.
- All cut edges (seams, transitions, openings) should be sealed with a premium latex seam sealer to avoid unraveling and fraying. Seam sealer is required on both stretch-in and glue-down installations.
- We recommend premium 6" seaming tape to attain a good bond at seam areas and to avoid seam peaking.
- Seams should be row cut from the face. After determination is made on where the seams are to be trimmed, use an awl or flat screwdriver to open a row. Use a cushion back cutter to trim seam edges. All seams should be sealed.

- Conventional seaming irons should be set no higher than 2.5 to avoid burned or distorted seams. A non-heat conductive weight should be used to smooth the seam. Star tractors are not recommended.
- Direct gluedown and double glue installations require premium adhesives. Follow the adhesive supplier's recommendation on trowel size and pad requirements for double glued installs. In both procedures, the adhesive must be given proper open time and allowed set up. It should be stringy or tacky before laying in the carpet. **The carpet should never be laid in wet.**
- Seams on patterned carpet should be matched in the center of the seam first and then stretched to match from the center outward to both sides. Trimming of pile may be necessary to balance seams. This is not a defect, as this is a handmade product. **No seams are invisible;** consumer expectation should be realistic.
- Please do not use excessive amount of pressure when stretching the carpet in to place. Use knee kicker for positioning the carpet only, being careful with the amount of pressure since it is a handmade product. Stretch evenly across the length and width with a power stretcher or power head, again using caution.
- At the transition between carpet and other floor coverings, carpet edges must be protected and covered with appropriate molding. In transition areas, the edge of the hard surface must be a minimum of 1/16" higher than the carpeted flooring. Seam sealer must be applied to the edge of the carpet at the transition area.