

## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR TRETTFORD INTERLIFE TILES

*\* These instructions reflect best industry practices for tile installation. We do not assume liability if your Tretford tiles are damaged as a result of non-compliance with these instructions. These instructions must be followed to retain Manufacturer's Warranties.*

### GENERAL INFORMATION

For best results over time, we recommend professional installation of Tretford carpet tiles. The recognized standards set out in the German Construction Contract Procedures (VOB) and the corresponding DIN specifications (DIN 18365) for flooring installation apply. It is up to your installer or you as the installer to meet your obligation to fully inspect and prepare the subfloor as well as the materials.

Interlife tiles have a fleece backing that allows loose lay installation. However, the tiles can be glued down to the subfloor with standard commercial fluid tackifiers that are approved for use with fleece/ felt backings. If Interlife tiles are being installed in a commercial setting with castor chairs, glue down installation is required.

*Please store tile boxes horizontally to prevent unnecessary material stress.*

In this Guide:

- Preparation steps for subfloor & material acclimatization
- Recommended adhesives for contract settings or residential
- Tile layout and installation procedures
- Adhesive application, clean-up and storage

### PREPARATION

Prior to installing, check production numbers on tile boxes—the number should be the same. Ensure that quantity and color information on each box is correct.

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

The subfloor should be completely dry, sound and level. If there are stress cracks in the subfloor, they should be filled, sanded, vacuumed and primed. If the subfloor is not level, you can use a thin chipboard (floating installation) to compensate. Please refer to the surface preparation requirements for your chosen adhesive tackifier.

## **SURFACE PREPARATION**

1. All subfloors must be structurally sound, solid, well-fastened, dry, clean and free of dust, oil, grease, tar, paint, wax, curing agents, loosely bonded toppings, loose particles and any other substance or condition that may reduce or prevent adhesion.
2. Painted surfaces must be sanded and scarified completely to expose the substrate, using appropriate safety precautions.
3. Various Underlayments:
  - Concrete subfloors must be dry.
  - All wooden floors must be well ventilated from below.
  - Cement terrazzo must be sound, solid, flawless, stripped clean and free of any contaminants or conditions that may prevent or reduce adhesion. Roughen surface by sanding or scarifying using appropriate safety precautions

## **ACCLIMATIZATION**

- Before beginning the installation, make sure that the adhesive, the material and the subfloor or substrate are acclimatized to the recommended room temperature. At least 24 hours in advance, the material must be removed from any packaging and laid out at room temperature (65-72°F, relative humidity 40-60%) to permit acclimatization.

## **SEQUENTIAL BATCHING**

Important: In accordance with Tretford standards, rolls or tiles must be laid in sequential order. If rolls or tiles are not installed sequentially, color variation may occur.

## **CONTRACT SITUATIONS**

In contract situations, we recommend tiles are secured using the LOW VOC pressure sensitive Modu-Tak Adhesive, located in such a way as to form a stress pattern. When installing tiles we recommend a pressure sensitive adhesive.

## **RESIDENTIAL SITUATIONS**

In residential situations, tiles may be loose laid. For large surfaces of approximately 30 m<sup>2</sup> or 300 SF, or in spaces with castor chairs, glue down installation is recommended.

## **SPECIFIED ADHESIVE**

We recommend Modu-Tak Adhesive (more information below). Other tackifier adhesives include F-Ball's F41, Ardex AF-825, Uzin U 1000 or Bostik Laybond carpet tackifier.

## **MODU-TAK PS ADHESIVE**

Modu-Tak is a pressure sensitive type adhesive that exhibits high levels of resistance to concrete substrates that exhibit high levels of alkalinity-up to pH 12.

## **DIRECTIONS AND SURFACE PREPARATION**

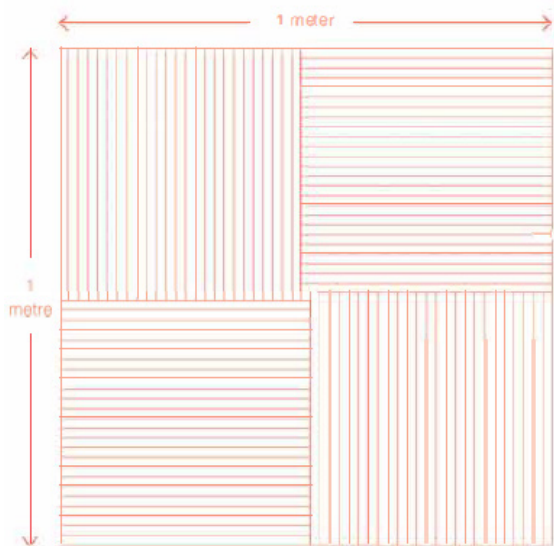
Floors must be clean, dry, sound and smooth in accordance with the installation instructions outlined here

and free from paint, dirt, dust and any other deleterious materials. When adhering to highly absorbent concrete sub floors, the use of a suitable Floor Primer is strongly recommended. Modu-Tak Adhesive can be applied to concrete substrates with moisture contents up to 85% relative humidity and falling when tested with In-Situ probe method. For concrete substrates with Hydrostatic Pressure, we recommend a suitable 2 part epoxy membrane. If the subfloor was recently poured or is damp, a moisture barrier or DPM (damp proof membrane) needs to be applied before installing.

## PROCEDURE

For best possible installation results, the tiles should be laid in a checker-board pattern.

Laying should commence as near as possible to the center of the room, with a square of 4 tiles. All tiles should be tessellated, i.e. laid at right angles to each other. Tiles should appear to be offset against tiles laid in the same direction (see diagram). The outside of the square must, however, be straight and measure 1 meter on all 4 sides.

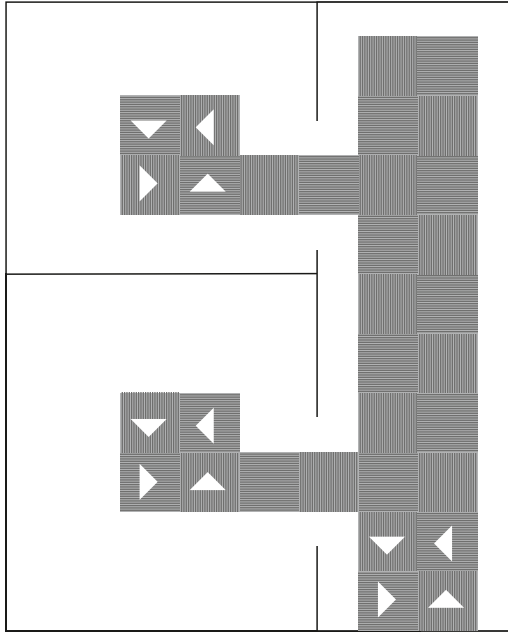


NOTE: Laying the 4 tiles in 1 m x 1 m squares helps to avoid any problems or confusion caused by the optical illusion evident at the intersection of the 4 tiles. This diagram is not to scale and is for illustrative purposes only.

## ROOM LAYOUT AND INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

1. Install whole tile in the room entrance area.
2. Set angles through room center.
3. Put down branch-offs in the separate rooms. Last tile goes in relative to room center.
4. Ensure exact placement of center tile.
5. Place next tile with rib structure offset by 90°.
6. At room perimeters, fit the carpet tiles flush (though without surface tension) with wall, using the carpet's smooth edge and a yardstick.
7. Proceed this way in all rooms.

Here is the diagram that accompanies the above procedure:



**Note About Cutting Tile:** Tretford's unique construction allows the carpet to be cut in any direction without fraying.

## APPLICATION

Modu-Tak Adhesive should be applied with one of the following methods:

1. A "V1" 1.6mm x 1.6mm x 1.6mm notched trowel to the subfloor for textured and/or fiber backed carpet tiles.
2. A long nap roller when installing smooth backed carpet tiles like PVC or Bitumen.
3. Allow Modu-Tak Adhesive film to clear. Once clear, the adhesive is in a dry tack mode and floor covering may be placed in position. Tack up time will be dependent upon room temperature, humidity, airflow and the substrate absorbency. Always ensure that no contaminants come in contact with adhesive film prior to installing carpet tiles.

## APPLICATION RATE

1. Long Nap Roller Coverage: approx. 8-11 SY or 7 - 10 m<sup>2</sup> per liter.
2. V1 Notched Trowel Coverage: approx. 6 SY or 5 m<sup>2</sup> per liter.
3. Complete the installation according to the instructions outlined here (German Construction Contract Procedures (VOB) and the corresponding DIN specifications (DIN 18365)), and the floor covering manufacturer's installation instructions, including rolling of the floor coverings on completion.

## STORAGE AND CLEAN UP

Modu-Tak Adhesive should be stored between 50°F and 85°F (10°C and 30°C) in well ventilated areas. Shelf life is 12 months in sealed container.

Modu-Tak Adhesive should be cleaned off any surface and tools immediately with a well dampened cloth. Do not allow to dry. Dried adhesive on tools may be softened using a suitable solvent cleaner. Solvents cleaners are not suitable for use on floorcoverings or finished surfaces.

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

## DESCRIPTION

Tretford Tile is made from carded fibers formed into a continuous corrugation and bonded to a recycled polyester fleece backing.

Technical specifications for Tretford Interlife Tile are available under the Specifications tab on the web page.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATON	tretford INTERLIFE		
	SHEET	TILES	FLOORBOARDS
Construction	Loop (ondule)	Loop (ondule)	Loop (ondule)
Pile Material	70% Goat Hair 30% Polyamid 6	70% Goat Hair 30% Polyamid 6	70% Goat Hair 30% Polyamid 6
Backing	Jute	Non-woven	Non-woven
Pile Insert Weight	c. 1200 g/m <sup>2</sup>	c. 1200 g/m <sup>2</sup>	c. 1200 g/m <sup>2</sup>
Pile Height	c. 5 mm	c. 5 mm	c. 5 mm
Total Thickness	c. 7,2 mm	c. 8,0 mm	c. 8,0 mm
Dimensions	c. 200 cm	c. 50 x 50 cm	c. 25 x 100 cm
Total Weight	c. 3,1 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	c. 3,7 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	c. 3,7 kg/m <sup>2</sup>
Comfort class	LC2	LC2	LC2
Stress Range	23 / 33 (strong)	23 / 33 (strong)	23 / 33 (strong)
Colour Fastness to Light	5	5	5
Colour Fastness to Water	4-5	4-5	4-5
Flammability	Cfl-s1 (B1)	Cfl-s1 (B1)	Cfl-s1 (B1)
Thermal Resistance	c. 0,10 m <sup>2</sup> K/W	c. 0,11 m <sup>2</sup> K/W	c. 0,11 m <sup>2</sup> K/W
Impact Noise Reduction	c. 22 dB	c. 24 dB	c. 24 dB
Anti-Static Rating	- 1,3 kV	- 1,3 kV	- 1,3 kV
Vertical Resistance	c. 10 <sup>9</sup> Ω	c. 10 <sup>9</sup> Ω	c. 10 <sup>9</sup> Ω
Cut Resistance	yes	yes	yes
Suitable for Office Chairs	yes	yes	yes
Suitable for Stairs	yes *	no	no
Suitable for WW-Floorheating	yes	yes	yes
Suitable for house dust allergic persons	yes	yes	yes
Country of Manufacture	Germany	Germany	Germany

\* in connection with tretford stair-profiles



Colour variations to samples are possible. 12/2018, subject to modification.