

Modular Carpet Installation

Prime Flors

Primeflors.com

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UniBak PLUS modular carpet installations

GENERAL

Prime Flors' Unibak Plus modular thermoplastic polymer (PVC) carpet backing system provides outstanding features and benefits for commercial carpet including corporate, educational, healthcare and institutional applications.

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR UNIBAK PLUS MODULAR CARPET

MAKE SURE YOU INSPECT CARPET MODULES PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. NO CLAIMS WILL BE HONORED IF MODULES ARE INSTALLED WITH VISIBLE DEFECTS. READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

SITE AND MODULAR MATERIAL CONDITIONING

The building must be enclosed and the HVAC in continuous operation. Modules must be conditioned to room temperature for 48 hours prior to installation. The ambient air relative humidity must be between 10% - 65% with a floor and room temperature between 65 – 95 degrees Fahrenheit. These conditions must be maintained for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation and at least 48 hours after completion of the installation.

SURFACE PREPARATION

Dust, dirt, debris, and noncompatible adhesive must be removed before the installation begins. Surfaces must be smooth and level with all holes and cracks filled with Portland cement-based patch reinforced with polymers or primed with TriSeal Sealer.

OLD ADHESIVES

Must be mechanically scraped down to a bare residue flat with the concrete substrate or covered with a skim coat of Portland cement-based patch reinforced with polymers. Any old adhesive residue must also be covered with TriSeal Sealer. Note: Failure to remove or seal old latex or cut back adhesive may cause installation failure, plasticizer migration, shifting, buckling or edge curling; these conditions will not be covered under warranty.

CONCRETE MOISTURE TESTING AND PH TESTING

Substrate surfaces must be tested for moisture emission. It is the responsibility of the owner or owner's representative to perform moisture testing prior to starting the installation. ASTM-F2170-2 relative humidity probe moisture testing or ASTM-F1869 calcium chloride testing can be performed on the concrete to determine the surface moisture emission rate. Acceptable relative humidity probe testing results are up to 80% RH. An acceptable result for calcium chloride moisture testing is up to 5 lbs per 1,000 SF per 24 hours. Alkalinity tests should also be performed per ASTM-F710. The maximum acceptable pH is 9.0. Prime Flors prefers relative humidity probe moisture testing over calcium chloride testing, as the results are more accurate and reliable. For test results that determine RH test readings of 80% - 85%, moisture emission rates of 5 lbs – 8 lbs, or pH readings of 9.0 – 11.00, XL Brands DriSeal Concrete Moisture Sealer is required. NOTE: When both XL Brands TriSeal Sealer and DriSeal Concrete Moisture Sealer are required, TriSeal is applied prior to DriSeal.

SUBFLOORS

New Concrete – New concrete must be fully cured and free of moisture. New concrete requires a curing period of approximately 90 days.

Old Concrete – Old concrete must be checked for moisture. Dry, dusty, porous floors must be primed; primers will not correct a moisture problem.

Wood – Wood floors must be smooth and level. If the floor is uneven, an approved underlayment will be required. Old finishes must be tested for compatibility with adhesives or removed and porous wood primed with TriSeal Sealer.

Terrazzo / Marble – Level all grout lines with Portland cement-based patch reinforced with polymers. Glossy surfaces must be sanded for adhesive bond. Waxes and similar finishes must be removed.

Hard Surfaces – Tiles must be well secured to the floor or removed. Broken, damaged, or loose tiles must be replaced. Waxes and similar finishes must be removed from VCT before applying adhesive. Existing sheet vinyl is not a suitable substrate for modular installation and must be removed.

OLD CARPET

Remove old carpet and check adhesives for compatibility. If unsure, remove or cover adhesive with a Portland based patching compound or encapsulated with XL Brands TriSeal Sealer.

FULL SPREAD ADHESIVE SYSTEM

Prime Flors requires a full spread adhesive system for installation of UniBak Plus Modular (carpet tile). Fully spread TileTac Premium Modular Pressure Sensitive Adhesive using a $\frac{1}{32} \times \frac{1}{16} \times \frac{1}{16}$ "U" or "V" notch trowel or spread using a $\frac{3}{8}$ " foam paint roller. Keep the roller saturated and wet with adhesive throughout the installation in order to maintain a constant spread rate. Allow to completely dry so adhesive does not transfer when touched. The spread rate for TileTac Premium Modular Adhesive is approximately 140 sq. yds. per four gallon bucket. UniBak Plus Modular Spray Adhesive is available in a 14 lbs cylinder (coverage is approx. 165 sq yds). Note: Inadequate amounts of adhesive can cause modules to shift and move and will not be covered under warranty. Warranty coverage requires the use of TileTac Premium Modular Adhesive. Prime Flors will not be responsible for the adhesive bond where other adhesives have been used.

TILE PLACEMENT

Arrows are embossed or printed on the module backing to show pile direction. To ensure proper alignment, check spacing every ten modules. Measure ten modules; proper spacing should be within $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Continue to check spacing every ten modules throughout the entire installation.

PALLET AND BUNDLE SEQUENCING

It is very important to install Prime Flors modules in the order they were manufactured; this is easily accomplished by selecting pallets in sequential order and following the numbers located on each bundle. Typically, an installation will begin with the lowest bundle numbers and progress through the highest numbers until the project is complete. Installing modules by bundle sequence will assure the most even uniform look possible.

FLATWIRE CABLE / TRENCH HEADERS

Cable should be centered under modules and no adhesive used unless approved by the manufacturer. Trench headers require a control grid of adhesive on either side of header panels to prevent movement. It is highly recommended that these areas be installed ashlar.

STAIRS

Use single or double undercut stair nosing and cut tiles to fit nosing, both step and riser. Use full spread adhesive under modules.

FINISHED INSTALLATION

Roll entire job with 75-100 lb. roller after completion of installation.

CHAIR PADS

Chair pads are highly recommended for use under chairs with roller casters. If chair pads are not used, the appearance of the modules will decrease and maintenance and/or shifting of the modules may be required more frequently.

LOOP PILE CONSTRUCTION

Carpet modules with loop pile constructions may experience yarn blossoming at the edges, which is consistent with this type of construction. Clipping or shearing the yarn edges can remedy this condition.

REPLACEMENT TILES

On occasion, it may be necessary to replace damaged or heavily soiled modules. Modules can be replaced with new Prime Flors modules from on-site inventory or from another area of the installation. A difference of appearance may be noticed when modules are replaced; this difference usually diminishes in a short time.

The procedures listed above are our best recommendations for installing UniBak Plus Modular Carpets. If you have further questions or require additional information please contact us at 905-604-7692.

Module Installation Pattern

CUTTING / TRIMMING

Carpet modules will require cutting at perimeters, floor electrical outlets and door openings. Whenever modules are cut or trimmed, adhesive must be used. Loop pile modules may require some trimming or clipping of tufts. This is typical of this type construction and is not a manufacturing problem. Small pieces of carpet tile should also have glue applied to the backing to help hold them in place.

OPTIONAL MODULAR INSTALLATION METHODS

Carpet modules may be installed by the following techniques that will produce different effects in modular carpet. Prime Flors provides their suggested recommendations, but the final decision is the customer's.

Prime Flors modular carpets have an arrow on the back of each module denoting pile direction. This allows the modules to be installed in any number of patterns (See Figure 1). Example: Quarter Turned, Monolithic, Ashlar Stair Step and Ashlar Bricked.

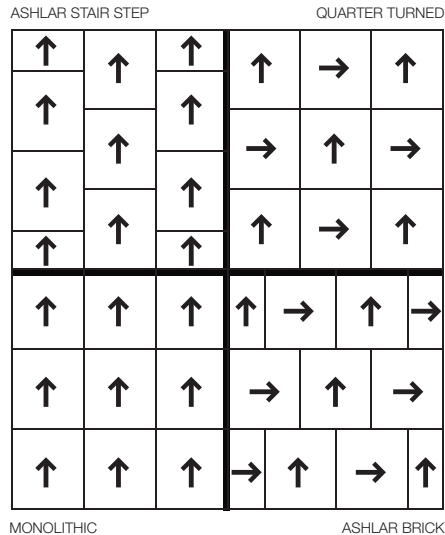


FIGURE 1

STEP AREAS (STAIRS)

Auditoriums - Altars - Teaching Wells - Stairs

All stair nosings to receive carpet should have a minimum radius of $\frac{3}{4}$ ". This minimum curvature is necessary for all installation systems to prevent sharp stair edges from cutting the carpet and/or cushion and to provide full contact of the carpet back in adhesive installations.

TRIMMING OUT

Perimeter modules may be cut in the conventional way of letting them cove up the wall areas then cutting them down with a tool similar to Robert's Cushion Back Wall Trimmer; or they may be cut by measurement, cutting from the back using a carpenter's right angle square and a tool similar to National #578 or the Crain #301 Cushion Back Cutter.

ADHESIVE CLEAN UP

Use a moist cloth when wet; if dry, use a solvent based product applied to a towel for adhesive, pain, oil and grease,

COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION

To avoid dislodging modules, do not walk on or move furniture onto carpet until the area is completely anchored. Roll entire area with a 75-100 lb. roller. It is also required that sheets of plywood or hardboard be laid over the carpet surface when transporting heavy furniture on carts or dollies. As a final step, vacuum the entire area with an upright vacuum or a pile lift.

Note: These installation recommendations are made for the experienced installer. Adherence to these procedures will result in a quality job. Any questions concerning these recommendations or any special situation encountered should be directed to Installation and Maintenance Department.

FLATWIRE CABLE/TRENCH HEADERS

Cable should be centered under modules and no adhesive used unless approved by the manufacturer. Trench headers require adhesive on both sides of the header panels.

SHOP DRAWINGS

(See Figure 2). Show placement of all central anchor lines. Central module anchor lines are 90° perpendicular intersecting lines adjusted as near the center of the module area as possible so as to produce perimeter cut modules 9" or larger in size. Use the 6-8-10 method as a check to ensure 90° anchor lines. The central anchor lines extend to each wall line and establish and maintain a true and squared installation.

Show placement of all edge moldings.

Show modular direction for all monolithic areas. Basket weave pattern modules will be installed in two directions only.

Example–North & East.

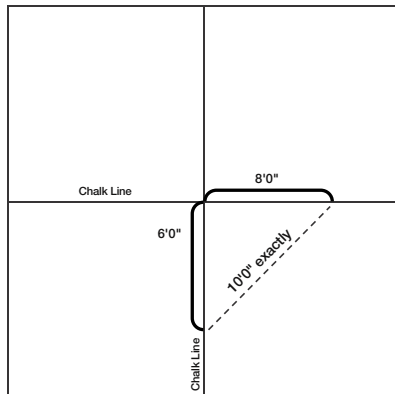


FIGURE 2

TOOLS

Steel measuring tape, right angle square, chalk line, adhesive trowel, knife.

INSTALLING MODULES

After adhesive has dried, begin the installation at the intersection of the central module anchor lines. Complete the installation one quarter area at a time laying the modules firmly and accurately along the anchor lines. Remaining modules in the quadrant should be installed using the stair step method. (See Figure 3).

TIGHTNESS CHECK

A tight installation without compression is mandatory for good performance of the module installation. As a periodic check throughout the installation, the cumulative space gained should be monitored.

Check spacing every 10 modules. 18" modules for a total of 180" inches; 24" modules a total of 240" inches; proper spacing should be within ¼ inch.

