# Site Conditions, Storage & Handling

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# introduction

This handbook covers information on proper carpet storage and handling procedures, as well as floor preparation for carpet installations.

Prior to any carpet installation, Prime Flors recommends that all trades be out of the area to be carpeted and their work must be completed. Trades may include electricians, acoustical ceiling installers, plumbers, masons, wall covering installers, etc. Further, the building must be enclosed with the HVAC in continuous operation.

Prime Flors requires that the carpet to be installed be inspected prior to installation for proper style, color and potential defects. No claims will be honored if the carpet is installed with visible defects. Report any problems or questions to 905-604-7692 Customer Relations.

*CAUTION: When seaming dissimilar gauge backing systems, the primary backings to be seamed together must exactly align (join) at the seam. Always ensure through dry fitting that pile surfaces are equal.*

## CARPET STORAGE CONDITIONS

The carpet and adhesive must be stored in a secure, dry area having a maximum temperature and relative humidity not to exceed 95ºF and 65% RH, respectively. The carpet must be stored on a flat, smooth surface and should not be stacked over three (3) rolls in height. Extended storage may produce roll crush. Roll crush is not a manufacturing defect; it is the result of transportation, extended or improper storage. Additionally, pallets of carpet modules can not be stacked

## HANDLING

Use only carpet lift trucks equipped with carpet booms for roll goods. Under no circumstances should forklifts be used to move roll goods.

*Caution: Bending or folding carpet may result in:*

· Delamination

· Creases, wrinkles and buckles

· Pattern distortion

If the carpet must be temporarily folded for delivery purposes, ensure that the carpet is loosely rolled prior to folding. Immediately unfold and unroll the carpet upon delivery to the installation site. Do not horseshoe or fold any carpet for storage.

## INSTALLATION SITE CONDITIONS

The success of a carpet installation depends greatly on the temperature and relative humidity (RH) of the carpet, floor and adhesives. For this reason, it is extremely important to strictly control the environmental conditions of the installation site. The temperature and relative humidity (RH) must be continually maintained at 65° to 95°F and 10% to 65% RH for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. These conditions should be constantly maintained during, and for at least 48 hours after installation. Ideally, building temperature and RH should be maintained within the stated ranges on a continual basis for the life of the carpet.

To maintain the temperature and relative humidity, permanent heating and air conditioning systems (HVAC) must be operable. Once the installation area has a stabilized temperature and RH, loose lay the carpet within the installation area and allow it to precondition for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation.

If the humidity is above 65%, then the adhesive will not dry properly for a direct glue-down installation; and, if the floor is colder than 65ºF, the adhesive will dry without becoming tacky. Additionally, cold carpet cannot be sufficiently power stretched for a stretch-in installation. If a carpet has been installed by the stretch in method and the heat or air is turned off, moisture can return to the carpet causing the carpet to swell, buckle or shrink. However, if the heat or air is turned back on, the moisture will be removed from the carpet and the carpet may also cause instabilities. Building owners, where the central heat and air are often turned off for extended periods of time, should be advised of these possibilities.

## SHOP DRAWINGS

Ensure that the shop drawings approved by the architect or owner cover all necessary aspects of the carpet installation, layout seam placement, treatment of expansion joints, trench header ducts, type of wall base and edge moldings.

## CARPET OVER CARPET

Carpet must not be stretch-in installed over carpet. Carpet over carpet installations can be accomplished only with the Lok-Lift® system by Optimum Technologies 1 800 562 5574

## PROTECTING THE CARPET EDGE

The carpet edge must be protected at the transition of carpet to other floor covering materials. Seam sealer is required at carpet termination to stone or other floors where transition strips cannot be utilized. The total thickness of the carpet cannot exceed the thickness of the flooring that it is transitioning. Warranty implications apply.