

## Installation Guidelines: Flotex® Tile

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### General Installation Guidelines

- Flotex® tile flooring may be installed on approved substrates on all grade levels.
- Areas to receive flooring should be clean, fully enclosed and weathertight. The permanent HVAC must be fully operational, controlled and set at a minimum of 68° F (20° C) for a minimum of seven days prior to, during, and seven days after the installation. The material and adhesive should be conditioned in the same environment for at least 48 hours prior to the installation. Areas to receive flooring shall be adequately lighted to allow for proper inspection of the substrate, installation and seaming of the flooring, and for final inspection.
- Store Flotex® tiles in cartons stacked and laying flat.  
**Note: It is possible that during storage the pile will be compressed and may take several days to recover following installation.**
- Always conduct moisture tests on **all** concrete substrates, regardless of age or grade level.
- Determine the moisture vapor emission rate (MVER) of the concrete by testing conducted in accordance with ASTM F 1869. The MVER of the concrete must not exceed 5.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet in 24 hours when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive or 8.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet in 24 hours when using Forbo FRS 885 adhesive. When moisture vapor emissions exceed these requirements, refer to the Moisture Limitor section of Forbo's Installation Guide for additional information.
- Determine the internal relative humidity of the concrete by testing conducted in accordance with ASTM F 2170. The internal relative humidity of the concrete must not exceed 75% when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive or 85% when using Forbo FRS 885 adhesive. When the internal relative humidity exceeds these requirements, refer to the Moisture Limitor section of Forbo's Installation Guide for additional information.
- The concrete surface pH must be tested and must not exceed a pH of 10 when using Forbo FRT 950 adhesive or a pH of 11 when using Forbo FRS 885 adhesive.
- Always conduct adhesive mat bond tests before beginning the installation. Bond testing will aid in identifying both the working characteristics of the adhesive (open time and working time) for the site conditions, and also any potential bonding problems.
- Material should always be visually inspected prior to installation. If there are any questions regarding the quality of material, contact your local Forbo representative or Forbo Technical Services PRIOR to installation.  
**Any costs (including labor) associated with the replacement of material that was installed with visual defects that could have been seen prior to installation are not covered under warranty.**
- Ensure that all recommendations for substrate and jobsite conditions are met prior to beginning the installation. Beginning the installation is an implied acceptance of site conditions by the parties involved and liability for any failure directly related to inadequate site conditions becomes the responsibility of the installer and/or flooring contractor.
- Use Forbo FRT 950 adhesive. Forbo FRT 950 is a releasable adhesive. For permanent applications, Forbo FRS 885 adhesive may be used. For optimum performance in areas that may need additional protection from topical moisture, Forbo 660 adhesive may be used.
- Use a 3/8" nap roller to apply the adhesive.
- Use material from the same batch/dye lot.
- Install Flotex® tiles with the arrows at right angles to one another (quarter turned). Ensure the direction of the arrows run in a consistent pattern throughout the installation.  
**Note: Certain patterns may be installed with arrows all in the same direction.**
- Roll immediately with a 75 pound three-section roller and always check for proper adhesive transfer.
- Mixing Flotex® sheet and Flotex® tile products in the same area is not recommended. This is especially important when installing borders or motifs. The Flotex® tile is thicker than the Flotex® sheet material and may wear or become damaged when mixed with the sheet material.
- Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Dried adhesive residue can be removed with a clean white cloth and mineral spirits.
- Take pride in your work and be Professional at all times.
- For additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services.

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### Layout

1. Forbo tile products are installed using conventional tile installation techniques.
2. It is customary to start from the center of the room. In corridors and small spaces, it may be simpler to work lengthwise from one end, using the center line as a guide.
3. The center line is drawn as follows: a chalk line is snapped from center of wall A-B (=E) to the center of wall C-D (=F). The center of line E-F is found (M). Draw a perpendicular line through M using the 3:4:5 method to establish G-H (Figure A).
4. Starting at center point M, measure out lengthwise and widthwise to the walls to make sure you will have at least a half of a tile at the border. Adjust lines E-F and G-H if necessary.

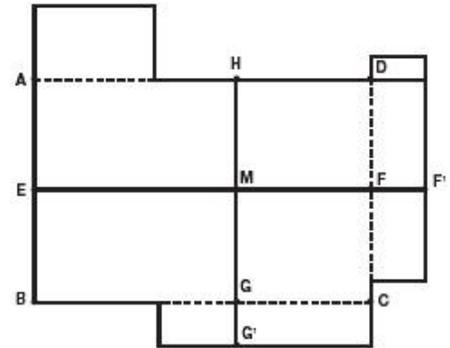


Figure A

### Applying Adhesive

1. After establishing the starting lines, apply Forbo FRT 950 adhesive with a 3/8" nap roller.
2. Allow the adhesive to turn clear and dry to the touch before installing the Flotex® tiles. After turning clear, the flooring **MUST** be placed into the adhesive within four hours.

### Installing Flotex® Tile

1. Beginning at the starting point and carefully following the starting lines, install the Flotex® tiles in a pyramid fashion in one quadrant of the area at a time.
2. Install Flotex® tiles with the arrows at right angles to one another (quarter turned). Ensure the direction of the arrows run in a consistent pattern throughout the installation (Figure B).

**Note: Certain patterns may be installed with arrows all in the same direction.**

3. Cut the perimeter tiles to size using a utility knife.
4. Roll the completed installation with a 75 pound three-section roller to ensure adhesive transfer to the Flotex® tile backing.

**Note: Forbo FRT 950 is a releasable adhesive. For permanent applications, Forbo FRS 885 adhesive may be used. For optimum performance in areas that may need additional protection from topical moisture, Forbo 660 adhesive may be used. For additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services.**

5. Remove fresh adhesive residue immediately with a clean white damp cloth. Dried adhesive residue can be removed with a clean white cloth and mineral spirits.

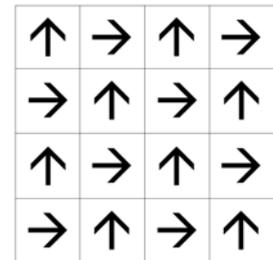


Figure B

### Decorative Inlays

1. Measure out the locations for the decorative inlays. Mark off the inlay locations with chalk lines.
2. Spread the adhesive and allow it to turn clear and dry to the touch before installing the Flotex® tiles. After turning clear, the flooring **MUST** be placed into the adhesive within four hours.
3. Lay the field material up to the chalk lines.
4. Cut the inlay piece to fit, then place the inlay into position.
5. Using a spatula, press the inlay firmly into place.
6. Roll the completed inlays with a 75 pound three-section roller.

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### **Decorative Borders**

1. Snap chalk lines around the area where the field material will stop, making sure to allow for trimming the border material.
2. Spread the adhesive and allow it to turn clear and dry to the touch before installing the Flotex® tiles. After turning clear, the flooring **MUST** be placed into the adhesive within four hours.
3. Lay the field material so that it extends slightly over the chalk lines.
4. Adhere all field areas up to the chalk lines.
5. Using a straightedge as a guide, cut the field material along the chalk lines.
6. Place the border material into position.
7. Using a spatula, press the border firmly into place.
8. Trim the border material at the perimeter and roll the completed installation with a 75 pound three-section roller.

### **Stairs**

1. Flotex® tiles CANNOT be wrapped on stairs.
2. A standard stair nosing must be used with separate pieces of Flotex® for each tread and riser.
3. Adhere the Flotex® on the treads and risers using a high quality commercial grade contact cement following the application guidelines of the adhesive manufacturer.

Forbo's Installation Guide contains additional information on substrate evaluation and preparation, and is available for download at [www.forboflooringna.com](http://www.forboflooringna.com). For a hard copy, or for additional information, contact Forbo Technical Services at +800 842 7839.