INSTALLATION GUIDE

# STUDIO INTEGRITY & STRENGTH INTEGRITY — INSTALLATION GUIDE

**Applies to:** Studio Integrity and Strength Integrity Performance Rolled Rubber

SPORT PRO SURFACING

## JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until all other trades are finished in the area. If other trades must work in the area after the floor is installed, protect the floor with an appropriate cover.
2. The installation area should be weather-tight and held at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after installation.

## SUBFLOORS

Performance rolls may be installed over concrete, Portland-based patching and leveling materials, or wood.

> *Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable. Any Portland-based patching or self-leveling material used must be moisture-resistant and rated for the relative humidity levels on the project.*

1. **Wood subfloors** should be double-construction with a minimum thickness of 1 inch, rigid, and free from movement, with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated air space below.
2. **Underlayments:** the preferred underlayment panel is APA underlayment-grade plywood, minimum 1/4" thick, with a fully sanded face.

   > *Particleboard, chipboard/OSB, Masonite, and lauan are not suitable underlayments.*

3. **Concrete floors** must have a minimum compressive strength of 3,000 psi. New slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days and be fully cured and permanently dry before installation.
4. **Not suitable over radiant heat systems.**

## SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS & PREPARATION

1. Subfloors must be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound — free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing/hardening compounds, alkaline salts, and old adhesive residue, per ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be flat to within 3/16" in 10 ft to prevent irregularities from telegraphing through the finished floor.
3. Mechanically remove old adhesive, paint, or debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying — do not use solvents. Grind high spots level and fill low spots with a Portland-based patching compound.
4. Fill all saw cuts, cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints with a Portland-based patching compound.
5. Do not install directly over an expansion joint — use an expansion joint cover designed for resilient flooring, since a floor covering installed straight over one will likely fail there.
6. Allow all patching materials to dry thoroughly per that product's instructions. Excess moisture in patching material can cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the adhesive.

7. **Moisture testing is required.** Measure relative humidity per ASTM F2170. Moisture content must not exceed the allowable limit of the adhesive selected for the job — confirm the specific adhesive and its RH limit with your installer or adhesive supplier before starting, and stop and correct the situation if on-site RH exceeds that limit.
8. If a moisture mitigation system is needed, it must conform to ASTM F3010 (Two-Component Resin-Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Floor Coverings).
9. For installations requiring adhesion to concrete, test concrete pH per ASTM F3441. If it exceeds the selected adhesive's allowable limit, neutralize before installing.
10. Run adhesive bond tests in several locations: glue down 3′ x 3′ test pieces with the intended adhesive and trowel, let them set 72 hours, then attempt to remove. A proper bond requires real force to remove, and should leave adhesive residue on both the subfloor and the back of the test piece.

> **Hazard notes:** Concrete, patching compounds, and leveling materials can contain crystalline silica; avoid actions that create airborne dust and use appropriate protection. Existing resilient flooring, backing, or old adhesives may contain asbestos — avoid sanding, dry sweeping, or mechanically disturbing old materials without proper testing. Older paint may contain lead. Follow applicable federal, state, and local guidance for all three hazards.

## MATERIAL STORAGE & HANDLING

1. Material should arrive in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Shipping pallets, cradles, and banding are not intended for storage — remove material from them within 7 days of delivery. Store rubber roll material lying down; storing rolls on end will curl the edges and create a permanent memory curl. Any edge with memory curl must be straight-edge cut before installation.
3. Store material indoors only, protected from UV light, on a clean, dry, smooth surface. Store rolls with the end of the roll facing up, and don't position the end of a roll against an adjacent roll or surface — this can create welts on both.
4. Roll material stretches slightly during manufacturing. Unroll all rolls on site and let them relax overnight before final installation — a bare minimum of 2 hours is required. Shaking the material once unrolled can help it relax faster.
5. Inspect all material for visual defects before beginning installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visible defects — verify style, color, and quantity, and report any discrepancy immediately, before installation begins.
6. Acclimate both the material and the adhesive at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.

> *This product is manufactured from recycled materials, so slight variance in shade and color-chip dispersion is normal — some colors may also show additional randomness in chip size and grouping. It's the installer's responsibility to inspect all material to confirm correct style, thickness, and color; report any moderate-to-severe discrepancy immediately, before installation begins.*

7. **All rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction.** Installing rolls in mixed directions will cause visible color variation between them.

> *Ordering multiple custom roll lengths eliminates the possibility of rolls being manufactured and numbered in your desired installation sequence — this can affect shading continuity across the floor.*

8. Rolls are labeled with batch and roll numbers. Do not mix batch numbers together, and install rolls in consecutive roll-number order.

## ROLL INSTALLATION — DRY LAY & PREPARATION

1. Assume the walls you're butting against are not straight or square. Use a chalk line to mark a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow.
2. Remove the shrink-wrap and unroll each roll onto the floor in a way that uses your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls to the required length, including enough extra to run up the wall.
3. Let the material relax for a minimum of 2 hours, preferably overnight.
4. Place the edge of the first roll along the chalk line.
5. Snap a chalk line where the seam will be located. Straight-cut the seam edge of the first piece if needed. Align the first edge to the chalk line — it's important that the seam is perfectly straight. If the first roll doesn't span the full length or width of the room, straight-edge the seam edge of the next lineal drop as well. Stagger and overlap any end seams by roughly 3–6".
6. **Thicker rolls can be difficult to cut cleanly.** Trace-cut these carefully, and cut at a slight bevel so the bottom layer ends up slightly shorter than the finished top layer. Cutting the bevel in the wrong direction will leave visible gaps on the top surface.
7. Position the second row with no more than a 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam. Once adhesive is applied, the material will be worked back to eliminate the overlap — this leaves a tight seam without gaps. Take care not to over-compress the seam, which can cause bond failure or a peaked seam edge.
8. Repeat for each consecutive roll needed to complete the area, or for whichever rolls will be installed that day.

## ROLL INSTALLATION — ADHERING THE ROLLS

1. After completing the dry-lay steps above, begin applying adhesive.
2. Fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll).
3. Apply adhesive to the substrate using a 1/16" square-notch trowel. Approximate coverage over concrete or wood is 95 sq ft per gallon.
4. Don't spread more adhesive than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. Open time is roughly 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity — temperature and humidity affect this (higher temps/humidity shorten open time, lower temps/humidity extend it), so monitor site conditions and adjust accordingly.
5. Lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Don't let the material "flop" into place — this can trap air and cause bubbles.
6. Immediately roll the floor with a 100 lb three-section flooring roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer, overlapping each pass by 50%. Roll the width first, then the length, and roll a second time within 60 minutes.
7. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread adhesive at right angles to the seam to achieve full coverage across it, then roll the flooring.
8. If one side of a seam sits slightly higher than the other, use a small J-type hand roller to apply pressure on the high side and level it out.
9. Continue this process for each consecutive drop, working at a pace where you're always folding material back into wet adhesive.

> *Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles — they will telegraph through the finished material.*

10. Don't let adhesive cure on your hands or the flooring — cured adhesive is very difficult to remove, so gloves are strongly recommended. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag lightly dampened with mineral spirits or denatured alcohol, then follow with a rag dampened with water to remove any residue from the mineral spirits/alcohol itself.

> *Use mineral spirits/denatured alcohol sparingly — saturating the rubber can darken the flooring and push adhesive too deeply into the material's pores.*

11. If a seam is gaping, it can be held together temporarily with blue painter's tape. Tape must be removed once the adhesive has developed a firm set (roughly 2–3 hours) — leaving tape on longer, or using an aggressive tape, can leave adhesive residue behind.
12. In some cases, it may help to weight or brick down seams until the adhesive sets. Keep foot traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours, and keep it free of rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours — premature traffic can cause permanent indentation or bond failure in uncured adhesive.

> *Wherever a roll edge is exposed — such as at a change in flooring height — protect that edge to prevent premature wear.*