INSTALLATION GUIDE

ENCORE — INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applies to: Encore Performance Sheet Vinyl

SPORT PRO SURFACING

PREFACE

To get the best performance and longest service life from Encore, this installation guide should be followed carefully to guarantee conformity and ensure sports performance. Any use of the product for purposes other than those set out here should be submitted for prior approval before installation.

> **Before installation, check the quality of the delivered product.** Rolls must be received on site in protective packaging. If the product is found to be defective, do not proceed — installation should be stopped on the day the defect is noticed, or the warranty may not apply.

01

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

The subfloor must be dry, flat, clean, strong, and free of cracks. Moisture content for concrete or cement screed must meet local requirements (for example, France ≤ 4%, Germany < 2%, CCM method — confirm the applicable standard for your project's location).

REQUIREMENT	GLUED	TAPE-DOWN (UNDERLAYMENT- FREE)	OVER UNDERLAYMENT
Surface appearance	Smooth	Smooth	Smooth
Flatness	≤ 6mm (≈ 1/4 in) under a 3m (≈ 10 ft) straightedge / ≤ 2mm (≈ 1/16 in) under a 30cm (≈ 1 ft) straightedge	Same	Same
Altimetry	+/- 1cm (≈ 3/8 in) compared to the average	Same	Same
Moisture — concrete	Local standard compliant	≤ 7%	≤ 7%
Moisture — anhydrite screed	< 0.5%	< 1%	< 0.5%
Saw joint treatment	Yes	Yes, if opening > 4mm (≈ 5/32 in)	Yes
Cracks < 1mm (≈ 1/32 in) treatment	Yes	Yes, if covered with leveling compound	Yes
Leveling compound (if surface isn't smooth/flat)	If concrete is exposed to capillary moisture surges, waterproof the subfloor with an epoxy resin (or equivalent) before leveling	Use a specific moisture-resistant leveling compound for localized repair	Use a specific moisture-resistant leveling compound for localized repair

> **Important:** No expansion joints should be present anywhere in the playing area.

02

GENERAL INSTALLATION CONDITIONS

- Room temperature must be ≥ 15°C (59°F); subfloor temperature must be ≥ 12°C (54°F).
- Relative humidity must be between 35% and 65%.
- Store Encore rolls horizontally on a flat, dry surface, free of any ruggedness. Do not stack rolls.

LAYOUT & ACCLIMATION

1. Install rolls in the play direction. For a glued installation, Encore can be installed in the transversal direction instead.
2. Use the same production batch throughout a single room.
3. Mark out the transversal and longitudinal axes before unrolling.
4. Unroll the rolls along the longitudinal axis, following the rolls' chronological manufacture order, leaving a 1cm (≈ 3/8 in) gap between them for at least 24 hours to let the material relax.
5. Re-cut the selvedge if necessary.
6. Let Encore rest before adjusting the sheets edge-to-edge, targeting a gap of less than 1mm (≈ 1/32 in).
7. **Pattern/print alignment:** For uniform-look products, alternate the sheet orientation from one drop to the next. For wood-look patterns, keep every sheet oriented the same way.

03

TAPE-DOWN INSTALLATION (UNDERLAYMENT- FREE)

> **Not recommended for gymnasiums with large roof windows.** After installation, maintain a room temperature between 10°C and 38°C (50°F–100°F) at all times.

Sheets are fixed to the subfloor (except at the central seam of the gymnasium) using a double-sided adhesive tape rated for sports flooring (152mm / ≈ 6 in width x 25 linear meters / ≈ 82 linear ft per roll is a typical spec — confirm with your tape supplier). If the subfloor is too absorbent, apply a primer to the subfloor on the tape/glue side before installing.

The seam and perimeter areas should be glued with a two-component sports-flooring adhesive, using a thin-toothed spatula (roughly 300– 350g per m2 / ≈ 9–10 oz per yd2), handled as follows:

- **Central seam** (transversal axis): 25cm (≈ 10 in) on each side.
- **External edges** (gymnasium periphery): 100cm2 (≈ 15.5 in2) every meter (≈ every 3 ft).
- **Around all trap door edges**: 20cm (≈ 8 in) width.
- **In front of all doors**: 20cm (≈ 8 in) width.

After gluing, press the surface with a roller to eliminate any bubbles between the subfloor and the flooring.

ADHESIVE QUANTITY GUIDANCE

Adjust the amount of two-component adhesive ordered based on court size and color complexity:

- Unicolored court ≤ 400m2 (≈ 4,300 ft2): minimum 1 kit.
- Unicolored court > 400m2 and ≤ 800m2 (≈ 4,300– 8,600 ft2): minimum 2 kits.
- Unicolored court > 800m2 (≈ 8,600 ft2): minimum 3 kits.
- Court with a different-color surround: minimum 4 kits.
- Two-tone volleyball court: 4 kits.
- Two-tone basketball court: 5 kits.

- Three-color handball court: 6 kits.

If installing a two- or three-color court, glue the seams under the color-change lines with the same two-component adhesive.

> **Note:** If telescopic bleachers will sit on the Encore surface, glue the floor covering in that area instead of using tape-down (see the Glued Installation section). Check appropriate reinforcement solutions in the maintenance guide for this product.

04

GLUED INSTALLATION

After installation, maintain a room temperature between 10°C and 45°C (50°F–113°F) at all times.

1. Roll the sheets halfway back on the first half of the gymnasium, starting from the longitudinal axis, to avoid shifting the sheets from their original position.
2. Apply an acrylic adhesive to the uncovered half of the subfloor, starting with the center strips and working outward.
3. Only glue as much surface as you can cover within the adhesive's open time — no more than two or three sheets at once.
4. For a normally absorbent subfloor, adhesive consumption is roughly 250–300g per m2 (≈ 7.4–8.85 oz per yd2) using a thin-toothed spatula.
5. Lay the Encore rolls onto the subfloor, respecting the adhesive's specified setting time. Start with the first roll along the longitudinal axis.
6. Press the glued surface with a cork block to eliminate air bubbles, then use a 50kg (≈ 110 lb) heavy roller to fully transfer the adhesive.
7. Repeat for the second half of the sheets and the second half of the gymnasium.
8. **Keep all heavy loads off the floor for the full adhesive drying time (72 hours).**

Follow your chosen adhesive manufacturer's technical data sheet for open time, coverage rate, and cure schedule.

05

INSTALLATION OVER AN UNDERLAYMENT LAYER

After installation, maintain a room temperature between 10°C and 45°C (50°F–113°F) at all times.

UNDERLAYMENT INSTALLATION

1. Unroll the underlayment in the same direction as the Encore sheets, with studs facing the subfloor, aligning strips edge to edge.
2. Offset the underlayment edges by 50cm (≈ 20 in) from where the Encore edges will land.
3. If a roll needs to be cut and joined with another, tape the short ends together on the backside using single-sided tape.
4. Leave a 5mm (≈ 3/16 in) ventilation gap around the full periphery of the gymnasium for both the underlayment and the Encore surface.
5. Glue the underlayment down with a two-component adhesive and thin-toothed spatula (roughly 300–350g per m2 / ≈ 9–10 oz per yd2):
   - External edges (periphery): 100cm2 (≈ 15.5 in2) every meter (≈ every 3 ft).
   - Around trap door edges: 20cm (≈ 8 in) width.
   - In front of all doors: 20cm (≈ 8 in) width.

ENCORE INSTALLATION OVER THE UNDERLAYMENT

1. Mark out the transversal and longitudinal axes on the underlayment.
2. Position the underlayment selvedges 50cm (≈ 20 in) from where the Encore selvedges will sit.

3. Unroll Encore along the longitudinal axis, following chronological manufacture order, leaving a 1cm (≈ 3/8 in) gap between rolls for at least 24 hours (re-cut the selvedge if necessary).
4. Let Encore rest before adjusting the sheets edge-to-edge, targeting a gap under 1mm (≈ 1/32 in).
5. Roll the sheets halfway back on the first half of the gymnasium, starting from the longitudinal axis.
6. Apply an acrylic adhesive at roughly 200g/m2 (≈ 5.9 oz per yd2) using a standard notched spatula. Wait for the adhesive film to fully dry before laying Encore, to prevent trapped-air bubbles.
7. Lay Encore starting with the first roll along the longitudinal axis, pressing out air toward the edges with a cork block, then a 50kg (≈ 110 lb) roller.
8. Repeat for subsequent rolls and the second half of the gym.

> **Important:** In sports halls where temperatures can reach 35°C (95°F), use a two-component reactive adhesive rated for high-heat conditions to bond Encore to the underlayment, applied at roughly 300g/m2 (≈ 8.85 oz per yd2) with a standard notched spatula.

Follow your chosen adhesive manufacturer's technical data sheet for coverage rate and cure schedule.

06

SEAM WELDING

> **Timing:** 24 hours after gluing, or immediately if using tape-down.

GROOVING

Use an electric tool with a "U"-shaped blade. For a 5mm-diameter (≈ 3/16 in) welding rod, the groove width should be 4.3mm (≈ 11/64 in) and the maximum depth 2mm (≈ 1/16 in).

WELDING

An automatic welding machine is strongly recommended for more regular, professional-quality welds. As a starting point, set the temperature to 450°C (≈ 842°F) and the speed to roughly 2 meters per minute (≈ 6.5 ft per minute) — test on a scrap piece first to confirm the temperature and speed produce a strong, clean weld before welding the actual floor.

TRIMMING

Trim the weld bead in two passes: 1. **First trim**, using a hook-style trimming knife and wedge, before the weld has cooled. 2. **Second trim**, using the trimming knife again, after the weld has cooled.

A small bump remaining after the first trim indicates good fusion of the welding rod.

07

PAINTING GAME LINES

> **Permanent marking:** A two-component polyurethane paint is used to draw game lines. Use a protective tape during painting to keep lines crisp.

1. Clean the floor thoroughly before painting.
2. Apply paint with a roller or paint brush.
3. Apply two coats for quality marking — never apply a damp coat on top of another damp coat (the first coat should be dry to the touch before recoating). Two coats are also what gives a game line full opacity.
4. Avoid over-applying paint, which can cause micro-cracking on the surface.

Use a two-component polyurethane sports-line paint system, and follow that paint manufacturer's installation recommendations for cure time and recoat windows.