AMERICAN Essentials

Installation Procedures: Recycled Rubber

I. Job Site Conditions:	 Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic work well. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65 Degrees F for 48 hours before, during and after installation.
II. Sub Floors: Wood NOTE: Particleboard, chipboard, masonite or luan are not suitable Concrete	 Should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid, free from movement with a minimum of 18 inches of well ventilated air space below. The preferred underlayment is APA grade plywood, minimum thickness of ¼", with a fully sanded surface. Shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days and meet the calcium chloride moisture emission test conducted in accordance to ASTM F1869 prior to installing. This means fully cured and not permanently dried.
III. Subfloor Preparation: NOTE: This product is suitable for installation over radiant heat.	 Subfloors should be dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, sealers, curing & hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue and other extraneous materials according to ASTM F710. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities telegraphing through the flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" in 10 ft. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint or other debris by scraping, sanding or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound. All saw cuts cracks, indentations and other non-moving joints in concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound. Expansion joints are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the slab. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the adhesive. Maximum moisture vapor emission of the concrete must not exceed 5 ½ lbs./1,000 sq. ft. in a 24 hour period as measured by the calcium chloride moisture emission test conducted in accordance to ASTM F1869. If the emissions exceed limitations, installation should cease until corrected. It is essential that PH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the PH is greater than 9, if must be neutralized prior to beginning to install. In commercial installations it is a good idea to conduct bond tests by gluing down 3' x 3' pieces of flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. Sufficient force should be requir

IV. Material Storage/Handling	 Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges resulting memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than 6 months. Material should only be stored on a clean, dry smooth surface. Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported before installing. Rolls should be removed from their packaging, unrolled and dry laid to acclimate for a 24 hours before starting installation. All rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction. Laying rolls in the opposite direction will create color variations. Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should allow all cuts to relax for a minimum of 2 hours before installing. Shaking material once it's unrolled can help it to relax.
V. INSTALLATION	 Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow. Remove the flooring from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay out material in a manner that uses your cuts efficiently. Dry lay the floor and check your seams for acceptability including enough to run up the walls. In the event you have a seam with a gap or the ends do not line up from roll to roll, straight edge the material on one side of the seam back cutting slightly. Refit the seam to assure satisfaction. (repeat on other side if not satisfied) Allow cuts to relax in position for a minimum of 2 hours (24 hrs preferred) Place the edge of the first roll along the chalk line. Position the second roll with no more than a 1/16" overlap over the first roll at the seam. Work the material back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate any gaps. Using a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel (6,8,9mm) or a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" u notch trowel (4mm), fold over the first drop along the wall (half the width of the roll) and spread the adhesive using the proper sized square notch trowel. Lay the flooring into wet adhesive being careful not to "flop" into place; as this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath ring. Immediately roll the floor with a 75-100 lb. Roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass rolling the width first and the length second. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread adhesive at right angles to the seam to prevent the adhesive from oozing up through the seam. Roll flooring as in #8. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Use masking or blue painters tape to temporarily hold together any gapping seams. Remove tape after the adhesive