

### **Site Conditions:**

The installation of flooring should be scheduled after the work of all other trades has been completed. Areas to receive resilient flooring shall be clean, adequately lighted, fully enclosed, weather tight, and climate controlled by permanent HVAC system for at least 10 days prior to installation and thereafter to provide a constant temperature. Proper acclimation of the room, substrate, flooring materials and adhesives at a constant and maintainable temperature is critical to the success of the installation process. Temperature variation before during and for the first 48 hours after installation can impact adhesive cure time, affect the size of the flooring material and increase the potential for indentation and or adhesive displacement. The substrate, flooring materials and adhesive are required to be acclimated within the areas of intended installation at a constant temperature between 65°F to 85°F for 48hrs prior to installation. The selected temperature should be maintained in areas to receive flooring with the building's permanent HVAC system. Salamanders and other temporary heating or cooling devices should not be used. The constant temperature held during acclimation and installation should be maintained for 48 hours following installation, thereafter the interior space should maintain room temperatures in the range of 55 to 85° F.

**NOTE:** Flooring materials and adhesives should be on site with the areas of intended installation a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation allowing materials to acclimate.

### **Suitable Substrates:**

**Concrete Substrate:** Concrete substrate shall conform to requirements of ASTM F-710-05-Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring).

Concrete subfloors shall be steel troweled finished smooth, flat and level. Concrete shall be wet cured for a minimum of 30 days to 3,500 psi. Flatness of concrete shall be  $\pm 1/8$  in a 10'-0" radius. Minor cracks, chips, and spalls shall be patched with cement based patching material, i.e. Ardex or Mapei. Level high spots by grinding or sanding. Any required leveling shall be done with cement-based underlayment, minimum 3,500 psi, i.e., Ardex or Mapei. Patching and underlayment material shall be applied in strict accordance with manufacturer's specifications and installation instructions. MVER of substrate should not exceed 10lbs MVER/1000sf/24 hours per ASTM F1869.

**Wood Substrate:** Minimum 3/8" thick sanded APA graded plywood, properly installed, is a suitable underlayment.

**Heavy Rolling Loads:** In most cases adhesive is not necessary when installing Lockdown Interlocking flooring. However, if heavy rolling loads are present in the area of use and these rolling loads force the interlocking tabs apart, the use of TAJ-1095 adhesive releasable bond method under the areas that receive the loads may be necessary. Follow instructions for use found on label of TAJ-1095 adhesive.

**Layout:** Establish chalk guidelines, which are at right angles to each other from which the tile/planks are to be laid. Measure the area to find the best starting point for maximum size perimeter cuts. If installed over raised access panels, layout tiles to cover the seam of the access floor panel first.

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**Installation:** Before beginning Installation check actual boxes of all tiles/planks to be sure that correct color, pattern, and quality has been shipped for your specific installation. Do not mix dye lots in the same area.

- Observe wearing surface and back of all tiles to be sure there is no damage or defects. Do not install or glue tile with visible defects. Tiles that may have minor defects at edges can be used for trimming and fitting at walls.
- Lay tiles starting at the center of the room working toward the walls.
- Take care to align the interlocking tabs of one tile to those of the adjacent tile paying attention to the directional arrows on the back of the tiles. Once the tabs are aligned, tap with a non marking rubber mallet so the the tabs slide together. Misalignment of the tabs could result in damage to the tabs if the tiles are forced as the joints have a very tight fit.
- The perimeter tile or planks must be cut up to the wall from the field tile or plank. The perimeter tile or planks should be accurately scribed against the wall and any projections coming out from the walls leaving a gap of 1/8" for possible expansion. Cut product from the face side with a sharp knife. Do not pressure fit tiles.
- All corners of tile should be aligned as the tab position on the tiles will not allow for a staggered installation.
- If the tile or planks cannot be installed with a uniform appearance, stop the installation and contact TAJ.
- Fit tile or planks carefully and neatly to all pipes, columns and other obstructions without voids, especially where there will be no base installed.

**Post Installation Protection:**

- The floor is designed to properly support a static load of 1000 psi. Furniture, equipment, and rolling loads should not exceed these limits. If they do, legs of such equipment and furniture should be properly supported to prevent damage to tile or planks. Protect floor surface with wood or sheets of plywood whenever heavy equipment or furniture must be moved to avoid surface damage.
- Metal swivel smooth bottom glides are recommended under chairs and table legs to prevent scratching.