

Installation Instructions: TAJ Modular Acoustic Flooring

Recommended Adhesives: TAJ-1095 Permanent and Releasable
TAJ Eco Bond LVT Spray Adhesive

Job 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. Flooring installed with TAJ-1095 adhesive shall not be exposed to heavy traffic or heavy rolling loads for 24 hours following completion. No maintenance procedures should take place until the adhesive has cured for a minimum of 72 hours. Eco Bond adhesive allows immediate foot traffic. If emergency conditions require the movement of equipment or furniture, the flooring should be protected with heavy planks or a minimum of ½" thick plywood to prevent damage.

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.

Concrete Substrates Requirements: Concrete substrate shall conform to requirements of ASTM F-710 (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. Do not apply any type of coatings, surface sealers, hardeners, or curing membranes to the surface of the concrete. These materials will prevent proper bond of the floor covering adhesive. 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.

- **TAJ Eco Bond LVT Spray Adhesive:** Maximum 8.0 lbs. of moisture per 1,000 sf / 24 hours per ASTM F1869 Calcium Chloride Tests or a max RH of 90% per ASTM F2170 In Situ Relative Humidity Test. pH of concrete shall be <11.
- **TAJ-1095 Adhesive:** Maximum 10.0 lbs. of moisture per 1,000 sf / 24 hours per ASTM F1869 Calcium Chloride Tests or a max RH of 95% per ASTM F2170 In Situ Relative Humidity Test. pH of 5-12 is acceptable.
- **TAJ-1095 Adhesive (Releasable Installations):** Maximum 10 lbs. of moisture per 1,000 sf / 24 hours per ASTM F1869 Calcium Chloride Tests or a max RH of 95% per ASTM F2170 In Situ Relative Humidity Test. pH of 5-12 is acceptable.

If the concrete is contaminated with any type of sealer, hardener, curing membrane, paint, oil, grease, adhesives, and any other type of penetrating material it should be removed thoroughly by bead blasting. Sanding is not adequate, and chemicals should not be used to accomplish removal. After concrete preparation has been completed, sweep and vacuum surface thoroughly to remove all miscellaneous dirt and contaminants.

Approved substrates: Suitable substrates include properly prepared concrete, portland based underlayments, properly prepared lightweight concrete (primed with universal primer), minimum 3/8" APA graded smooth sanded plywood, terrazzo (properly prepared with all waxes and surface finishes removed), concrete radiant heated subfloors that do not exceed 85 F.

Particleboard, chipboard, flake board, hard board and gypsum based underlayments ARE NOT suitable substrates for installation of vinyl flooring. Contact TAJ Flooring for recommendations regarding all other types of substrates.

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Hospital Beds: If TAJ Modular is to be used in patient rooms the area under the beds must be installed using the recommend Eco Bond Adhesive System (no substitutions). This adhesive will tolerate point loads within 4 hours of installations.

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.

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 face and back of all tiles or planks to be sure there is no damage or defects. Do not install or glue tile with visible defects. Tiles or planks that may have minor defects on one side or at edges can be used for trimming and fitting at walls and columns.
- Lay tiles or planks starting at the center of the room working towards the walls. Lay out following the directional arrows on back of tiles turning each tile 90 degrees to the adjacent tile to gain uniformity of color and pattern.
- 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. Cut product from the face side with a sharp knife. Do not pressure fit tiles. Keep foot traffic off laid area while installing to prevent shifting.
- Install material with TAJ Modular spray adhesive system following the instructions on the container label or TAJ trowel applied adhesives using the appropriate trowel notch design called out on the adhesive container label. Releasable bond with TAJ-1095 is achieved using 3/8" short nap roller for adhesive application.
- When installing over radiant heated subfloors, turn the heat off for 24 hours before during and after installation. Failure to turn the floor heat off may result in a shortened working time of the adhesive. After 24 hours following installation, turn the system back on raising it incrementally not to exceed a change of more than 5 degrees per hour to a maximum of 85 degrees F. All previously mentioned material acclimation requirement must be followed.
- Please note and follow complete instructions found on adhesive containers.
- All corners of tile shall be butted, not staggered. Planks are to be staggered for uniform and natural look. Square tiles will have an arrow on the back of the tile or a line. The square tiles should be installed with the arrow or lines at 90-degree angles to each other to accomplish uniformity of color and pattern. Layout tile or planks loosely a minimum of 15 to 20 tiles or planks, to verify uniformity of color and pattern.
- If the tile or planks cannot be installed with a uniform appearance, stop the installation. Contact TAJ for assistance.
- Fit tile or planks carefully and neatly to all pipes, columns, and other obstructions without voids, especially where there will be no base installed.
- Within one hour after installation, roll the tile or planks thoroughly in both directions with a 100-pound roller, to properly seat the tile or planks into adhesive. Check tiles two to three hours later and roll again.
- Fit tile or planks properly at walls. Do not over-fit tile or planks as that will cause them to buckle.
- During installation, remove any spilled adhesive or adhesive that may be squeezed through joints with a clean white rag dampened with soapy water. If adhesive has set prior to removal with a damp rag, it can be removed with mineral spirits solvent.
- Foot traffic is allowed after installation is completed, but heavy traffic should be not allowed for 24 hours if using TAJ-1095 Adhesive.
- Floor surface should not be cleaned until 72 hours after installation is completed when using the TAJ-1095 adhesive – or 4 hours if using Eco Bond adhesive system.

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Modified Loose-Lay Installations: TAJ Modular Acoustic Flooring with Non-Slip backing is designed in such a way that allows for a modified loose lay installation option. Fit and install as described above apart from adhesive. The Modular Acoustic Flooring around the perimeter of the space must be secured using the TAJ-1095 or Eco Bond adhesive. The flooring material found in the field within the perimeter can be placed without adhesive. Take particular care with foot traffic when laying product to avoid shifting until the perimeter is secure. It is recommended that the tiles be installed with adhesive as directed in doorways. Areas larger than 400sf and areas that are subject to rolling loads should have bands of adhesive spread every 15'. Intersections of hallways should be secured with full spread adhesive across the entire substrate of the intersection. The modified loose lay installation option is not warranted to remain movement free. All applications are different and thus the amount of adhesive required to keep the Modular Acoustic Flooring movement free will also be different in each application.

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.
- Metal swivel smooth bottom glides are recommended under chairs with sharp or unprotected edges to prevent scratching.