

This guide is for experienced installers. Adherence to these procedures should result in a quality installation. Quadrant will not be responsible for poor workmanship, problems created by improper site conditions or installation, improper subfloors, improper applications, adhesives, varnishes and the use of maintenance products not recommended, or detectable defects verifiable prior to installation. Quadrant will be responsible, within the scope of the product specifications and warranties, for defective materials, but that does not include materials installed with defects identified prior to installation. If these instructions do not cover a particular site condition or if you require further information please contact Customer Services.

General Information

Our texBAC Broadloom features a high quality woven synthetic secondary backing. It is designed to be installed either by Direct Stick on permanent adhesive, Double Stick or by using the traditional tensioning method.

Pre-Installation

All broadloom products should be inspected for dye lot, style, colour, size, quality and shipping damage prior to installation. We cannot accept any responsibility for obvious or visible defects once the carpet has been cut, so please do not proceed if any problems are noted. It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to make certain the sub-floor is properly prepared prior to starting the installation.

The product must be conditioned in its packaging in the area in which it is to be laid for a minimum of 48 hours before installation. The ambient temperature within the area during conditioning and installation should not exceed 26°C or fall below 18°C and Relative Humidity should be maintained between 40% and 70%. These conditions must be maintained throughout the installation and for a minimum of 48 hours after installation.

Refer to the individual Product Specification to check whether the product you are installing is suitable for use over underfloor heating systems. If it is the system should be switched off at least 72 hours prior to installation, and remain switched off throughout, and for 72 hours after, the installation. Subsequently the surface temperature should be gradually increased to operating temperature and should never exceed 28°C.

The installer is responsible for ensuring that the installation option selected complies with our recommendations and the instructions of the specifier (see General Information above).

Prior to beginning the installation all other trades should have their work completed and the area should be clear, clean and dust free.

Only remove outer packaging when ready to install the materials.

Inspect the materials in daylight for any visible faults or damage and report any visible faults to Quadrant immediately and do not install the affected materials.

Subfloor Preparation

Subfloors should be prepared in accordance with BS 5325 or corresponding national and European standards.

All traces of previous floorcoverings and adhesives must be completely removed to reveal the original subfloor. Only in limited cases where the existing flooring is solid and non-absorbent (for example ceramic tiles) can our flooring be installed over an existing floorcovering, subject to suitable preparation of the surface.

The subfloor must be level, clean, dry, smooth, crack-free and free from surface contaminants. The surface should be moisture-free. Subfloors that do not meet these criteria will require additional surface preparation to ensure a perfect installation.

Our broadloom products are not suitable for installation directly onto raised access floors without the use of a plywood and/or latex underlayment.

The final appearance of your flooring depends on the quality of the subfloor.

Adhesives

For Direct Stick and Double Stick installation we specifically recommend F Ball & Co and Uzin adhesives, however other manufacturers' adhesives may be used providing they are of a similar specification and quality. Always follow the manufacturers recommended application methods when applying adhesives. Our recommended adhesives for texBAC Broadloom are:

- [F Ball & Co Styccobond F3](#) (permanent adhesive) | [F Ball & Co Styccobond F30](#) (seam sealer)
- [Uzin UZ57](#) | [Uzin KE 2560](#) (permanent adhesive)

For all texBAC Broadloom carpets, without exception, the installer must trim the factory selvages before seaming the carpet. Using the most suitable trimming method for the product will result in better, less prominent seams. Quadrant cannot be held responsible for prominent seams resulting from the use of the incorrect trimming method.

Installation—Direct Stick Method

Determine the laying direction of the carpet based on the building design and installation efficiencies. Ideally seams will run towards the main light source, to minimise their visibility. Calculate the number of cuts required, together with the required lengths and widths. Cut lengths must always be placed with the pile running in the same direction.

In order to avoid colour deviations, ensure that manufacturing batches are not mixed within an area. When laying in large areas, set out the cuts in the order in which they were cut from the roll and in accordance with the sequential roll numbers to avoid the possibility of colour variations.

Ensure pattern repeat lengths and widths have been allowed for (please check with Customer Services if you are unsure of the pattern repeat). Rough cut and dry lay the cuts in the area, allowing for selvedge trimming, pattern repeats and perimeter cutting as necessary.

The factory selvedge of each length of carpet is to be trimmed prior to seaming. The method used will depend on the product. The pile channel method suits most woven or tufted plain carpets, however particularly dense constructions, or patterned carpets, or printed patterned carpets may require the selvages to be trimmed using the back cut method or the overlap and double cut method. Wherever possible the pile channel method should be used and the overlap and double cut method avoided. Please consult Customer Services for specific recommendations.

Pile Channel Method: To create a uniform edge each cut should follow the pile channel, irrespective of whether the carpet is a cut pile or a loop pile. The pile channel can be determined in cut pile carpets by running the head of a screw driver or awl along the pile channel, opening up the channel prior to cutting with a specialist cutting tool. The pile channel in straight tufted loop pile carpets is easily followed using a specialist carpet cutting tool, but a Stanley knife with a large hook blade can also be used. Best results are achieved by making sure the selvedge always “falls off” to the right of the knife blade.

Back Cut Method: In certain qualities it may be extremely difficult to define and cut along a pile channel. In this case the carpet can be cut from the back using a suitable cutting rail. It is essential that the cut only penetrates the backings and does not cause any damage to the pile itself as this will impact the quality of the seam—avoid putting pressure on the cutting rail that will cause the pile to flatten and increase the chance of damaging the pile.

Overlap and Double Cut Method: In certain tufted loop pile carpets it is not possible to follow the pile channel (for instance carpets which have been tufted with needle movement like patterned carpets, or printed patterned carpets). With this carpet, overlap the edges and double cut the seam, using a special metal straight edge to cut through both lengths of carpet at once. We do not recommend you use this overlap and double-cut technique for any qualities that can be cut using the pile channel or back cut method described above.

Whenever using the overlap and double cut or back cutting methods, stabilisation of the seam edges after the cut must be carried out in order to prevent the pile from fraying. This is done using a proprietary liquid seam weld. Likewise all head seams and exposed edges must be stabilised with liquid seam sealer.

Lay out the prepared lengths of carpet so that the joints abut or overlap slightly (5mm max), then fold back the adjacent cuts on either side of the seam and apply an adequate quantity of adhesive using a notched spatula (as prescribed by the manufacturer of the adhesive). Depending on the adhesive used, application quantity should be between 350-500g/m².

Once the adhesive has been applied, the rolls must be placed into the adhesive immediately or after a short waiting period (airing time), depending on the climatic conditions and run length. Start by bedding strip 1 into the adhesive and rolling it gently, then bed strip 2, starting at the centre and working outwards, always ensuring the seams are flush butted to create a closed seam along the length of the seam. Slight lumps may occur when closing a joint which can easily be rubbed out to the unbonded areas of the installation.

The carpet fitter may need to adjust the carpet to create a tight seam and ensure accurate pattern matching by stretching the carpet with the help of knee kickers, crab stretchers or power stretchers and seam rollers. If the pattern is offset, staples, nails or a clamping strip may be necessary to align the pattern. Avoid nailing over underfloor heating, otherwise the heating could be damaged.

Fine tuning of the pattern repeat can now be carried out. This means that the rolls can be adjusted to the exact pattern in both directions up to the walls. This alignment of the pattern must be done relatively quickly because the adhesive should not be permitted to set during this time; otherwise it will no longer be possible to stretch the carpet.

Installation—Double Stick Method

There are several double stick systems in commercial use based on rubber underlays, advanced polyurethane polymer underlays or compressed felt underlays. There are slight differences in these systems, but the basic principal is the same whereby the underlay is secured to the sub floor with a tackifier adhesive, and the carpet is bonded to the underlay with a permanent adhesive.

The instructions contained in the previous section with regards to setting out, seam preparation, pattern alignment and seam sealing all apply to the Double Stick Method of installation, the difference being the underlay, once tackified to the subfloor, becomes the new subfloor onto which the carpet is installed.

A tackifier adhesive is applied to the sub-floor using either a notched trowel or a roller. Care should be taken to ensure that the tackifier is applied evenly without leaving pools in low spots. It is important to allow the tackifier to dry completely before laying the underlay.

After the tackifier has dried completely, the underlay is laid direct into the tackifier. Effectively this creates a new subfloor onto which the carpet can be laid. A gap of approximately 6mm should be left around the perimeter of the area to allow for a tuck finish. In some instances tackless gripper can also be used around the perimeter of the room for extra security of fixing.

The carpet is laid out and roughed out to size in the same way as for tensioned fitting. When the position of the carpet has been determined it is folded back so that the permanent adhesive can be applied.

Using a 2.4mm notched trowel, the permanent adhesive applied to the top of the underlay and the carpet is then laid into the wet adhesive. The unadhered carpet is now folded back and the procedure repeated. A glider is then used to ensure that the adhesive is transferred to the back of the carpet. In a multi-width installation the seams should be at right angles to the seams in the underlay. All seams must be sealed with a seam sealer. It is essential that manufacturers instructions for adhesives and tackifiers are followed.

Installation—Tensioned Method

Determine the laying direction of the carpet based on the building design and installation efficiencies. Ideally seams will run towards the main light source, to minimise their visibility. Calculate the number of cuts required, together with the required lengths and widths. Cut lengths must always be placed with the pile running in the same direction.

In order to avoid colour deviations, ensure that manufacturing batches are not mixed within an area. When laying in large areas, set out the cuts in the order in which they were cut from the roll and in accordance with the sequential roll numbers to avoid the possibility of colour variations.

Ensure pattern repeat lengths and widths have been allowed for (please check with Customer Services if you are unsure of the pattern repeat). Rough cut and dry lay the cuts in the area, allowing for selvedge trimming, pattern repeats and perimeter cutting as necessary.

Gripper rods should be fixed to the perimeters in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations. Ensure the gripper rods selected are suitable for the carpet being installed. Allow approximately 6mm between the gripper rod and the wall.

Underlay should be loose-laid in strips butted up to each other and abutting the gripper rods. The edges and seams should be glued or tacked to the subfloor to prevent warping or slipping of the underlay when the carpet is tensioned.

The factory selvedge of each individual length of carpet is to be trimmed prior to seaming. This is normally made in two working stages. The top length is prepared first followed by the bottom length.

To create a uniform edge each cut should follow the pile channel, irrespective of whether the carpet is a cut pile or a loop pile. The pile channel can be determined in cut pile carpets by running the head of a screw driver along the pile channel, opening up the channel prior to cutting with a specialist cutting tool. The pile channel in straight tufted loop pile carpets is easily followed using a specialist carpet cutting tool, but a Stanley knife with a large hook blade can also be used. Best results are achieved by making sure the selvedge always “falls off” to the right of the knife blade.

In certain very dense qualities it may be extremely difficult to define and cut along a pile channel. In this case the carpet can be cut from the back using a suitable cutting rail. It is essential that the cut only penetrates the backings and does not cause any damage to the pile itself as this will impact the quality of the seam—avoid putting pressure on the cutting rail that will cause the pile to flatten and increase the chance of damaging the pile.

In certain tufted loop pile carpets it is not possible to follow the pile channel (for instance carpets which have been tufted with needle movement). With this carpet, overlap the edges and double cut the seam, using a special metal straight edge to cut through both lengths of carpet at once. We do not recommend you use this overlap and double-cut technique for any qualities that can be cut using the pile channel method or back cut method described above.

Whenever using the overlap and double-cut or back cutting methods, stabilisation of the seam edges after the cut must be carried out in order to prevent the pile from fraying. This is done using a proprietary liquid seam weld. Whichever seam cutting method is adopted all head seams and exposed edges must be stabilised with liquid seam sealer.

Lay out the prepared lengths of carpet so that the joints abut or overlap slightly (5mm max), fold back the adjacent edges and place a suitable hot melt seaming tape under the seam. The seaming iron should be run in the direction of the pile lay and the seam closed behind it in a clean, flush and tight manner. A 7.5kg seam weight should be used to bed the carpet into the seaming tape adhesive. While the seam is cooling avoid putting any stress on the joint.

A slight mirroring of the seam sealing tape may remain visible through the carpet, especially on low pile height carpets. This is due to the slight distortion of the light plane on the carpet surface, and is not a defect.

Tensioning should be carried out with a knee kicker or levered carpet stretcher depending on the size and nature of the area.

Post-Installation

Once installed it is advised not to use the floor until the adhesive has fully cured. As a guide foot traffic and furniture movement should be avoided for 6 hours after completion. Do not drag heavy objects across your floor and always place some kind of protection between an object and the floor when performing movements.

Before using your flooring we recommend you vacuum the entire area thoroughly using a dual motor upright vacuum cleaner with brush and beater bar to remove all dust and dirt.

Protect you flooring immediately after installation to avoid unnecessary damage by other trades.

The Health and Safety Executive advises the thermal environment of a workplace where the activity is light and mainly sedentary, should conform to the following criteria, tending towards the lower limits: an operative temperature of 20°C to 24°C during winter and 23°C to 26°C during summer. Levels of relative humidity in the range of 40 to 70% are recommended. At higher temperatures, the relative humidity should be at the lower end of this range.