

# **ProXL**INSTALLATION GUIDE

# Introduction:

**SportFloor® ProXL** is manufactured in a dual layer format. The top layer consists of a colored virgin blend rubber with marbled accent colors added, calendared and vulcanized to a bottom layer blend of SBR recycled rubber. The slip-resistant, matte or gloss top wear layer is very durable and provides a non-porous, safe, resilient floor finish.

- Available in a standard square tile which is glued down, or installed in an interlocked format.
- Designed to be used in gyms, hotels, arenas, schools, ski resorts, military bases, fitness centers, community centers or residential buildings.
- Manufactured of high quality materials and carefully inspected before shipment, however, a quality installation
  is the responsibility of the installer. The installer needs to verify the accuracy of the order, and materials need
  to be inspected for damage, defects and satisfactory color match (there may be a slight color variation from
  the sample provided) prior to installation.

An authorized SportFloor® distributor must be immediately notified of any damages, color differences or product irregularities prior to installation and final adhesive application.

ProXL is designed for interior installations only and is not recommended for environments where the product will be exposed to oils or petroleum based materials.

# **Handling & Storage of Materials:**

Receive tiles in a careful manner to avoid any damage. Adhesives or surface preparation product containers shall be unbroken and labels intact until time of use. Prevent damage or contamination to materials by water, moisture, freezing, excessive heat, foreign matter or other causes.

**ProXL** should be stored on site with adhesives, etc., for at least 48 hours prior to installation (extreme hot or cold conditions may require additional time).

Tiles should be removed from pallets and any loading/shipping constraint pressures be removed in order to acclimatize to room conditions.

Work from all other trades must be complete, especially overhead trades, before installation can begin.

Caution is required on site, as under no circumstances should the tiles be left bent, folded, stepped on or crushed, as this may destroy the material.

Rubber tiles are susceptible to dimensional changes due to temperature and climate conditions. It is vital that site conditions remain constant within the acceptable working range.

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight as UV rays can alter appearance of colored rubber.

### **Installation Materials:**

- SportFloor® ProXL
- Adhesive only use **SportFloor ProXL 2-part Urethane Adhesive** solvent free.
- Tools:
- Sharp utility knife and spare blades
  - Carpenter square and straight edge
  - Measuring tape
  - Chalk line (for layout)
  - Markers (to indicate cut lines)
  - Rubber gloves
  - Safety glasses
  - 1.5mm x 1.5mm (1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16") square notch trowel
  - 45 kg (75 lbs) minimum sectional roller
  - 50mm (2") masking tape (to secure seams)
  - Concrete blocks (for weighting seams)
  - Kraft paper (to protect flooring from blocks)

#### **Sub-Floor Preparation**:

The installation of any resilient rubber flooring is only as good as the sub-floor it is laid upon. This is especially true when the flooring is glued down. Rough and uneven sub-floors can diminish the appearance, cause uneven top surfaces, and shorten the life span of such flooring. We therefore recommend proper preparation of such sub-floors as follows:

# **Existing Flooring**

Do not install ProXL over existing flooring.

# **Wood Floors**

- New wood sub-floors should be CDX exterior plywood installed smooth side up.
- All nails, staples or screw fasteners must be caulked and surface sealed with epoxy sealant.
- Plywood should be acclimatized for a 48-hour period prior to installation of flooring tile.
- All wood sub-floors must be clean and dry of all dust, dirt, and previous floor finishes.
- Patch cracks, holes, and rough or uneven areas with an appropriate cement based leveling compound (such as Mapei Planipatch, etc.) to manufacturer's standards.

#### **Concrete Floors**

- Ensure sub-floor is smooth and level to a tolerance of 3.2mm (1/8") in 1.8m (6 ft).
- Ensure concrete floors have cured for minimum 6 weeks.

It is vital that a moisture test be completed prior to floor installation. Moisture is the single most significant factor that causes bonding failure to the sub-floor. Moisture tests must be performed on all concrete floors regardless of age and grade level.

- a. Test shall be in accordance with ASTM F-1869 Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Sub-floor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride.
- b. One test should be conducted for every 1000 sq ft of flooring and the results not exceed 2.27 kg per 92.9m<sup>2</sup> (5 lbs per 1000 sq ft) in 24 hours.
- c. If test results exceed limitations or hydrostatic pressure exists, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected or an approved vapor barrier underlayment is installed.

- d. All test results must be kept on file and be accessible upon request.
  - If lightweight concrete has been used in construction DO NOT use the F1869 test.
  - Use ASTM F2170, the Relative-Humidity Test, as an alternate in these cases.
  - If poured-gypsum underlayment has been used, check with the underlayment manufacturer on how to test for dryness. Never use calcium chloride testing with gypsum underlayment.
  - Ensure existing concrete floors are clean, dry and smooth.
  - Remove any wax, paint, varnish, adhesive or any other material that would prevent proper bonding of adhesive.
  - Repair any low spots with a cementitious based latex patch mix.
  - Fill and smooth any rough or porous concrete sub-base prior to installing flooring.
  - If concrete sealers (not recommended) have been applied, two-part solvent-free floor adhesive must be used.

# **Concrete Floors with Radiant Heating System**



Floor surface temperature must not exceed 24°C (75°F) during normal operation.

#### **Cutting ProXL:**

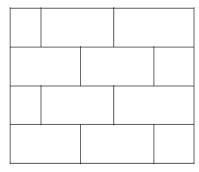
**Use Caution. ProXL** can be cut with a utility knife using a straight edge or square as a guide. Round holes can be cut using a hole saw or fine tooth jigsaw.

# **Installing ProXL:**

Before work commences, examine the areas to be covered and report any flaws or adverse conditions to the general contractor and/or architect. Do not proceed with installation of *ProXL* until substrates and conditions comply with the requirements indicated in manufacturer's instructions.

Room temperatures for installation must be maintained at a minimum  $15^{\circ}$ C ( $60^{\circ}$ F) to a maximum  $24^{\circ}$ C ( $75^{\circ}$ F) and a relative humidity  $65^{\circ}$ 6 or less for at least 48 hours before installation. These conditions must be maintained 24 hours per day for the duration of the installation and for a minimum of 72 hours after installation is complete.

• Lay flooring in a running bond (staggered) pattern installation with color accent marbling oriented in the same direction.



- Layout in such a way as to blend any color variance and to produce a minimum number of seams.
- Border widths minimum 1/3 width of full material.

Dry lay the entire floor including all cut trim prior to applying any adhesives, then view the floor under normal, occupied lighting conditions.

- Adjoin factory edge to factory edge of *ProXL*. Where possible, place cut edge of tiles along walls or vertical surfaces.
- The floor area should be squared by locating the mid-point of the room and chalking a start line down the center of the room. Chalk another similar start line 90 degrees and square to the first one. Begin tile installation from the point where the two chalk lines intersect.

It is the installer's responsibility to inspect the dry laid installation and notify the appropriate authority of any imperfections or irregularities prior to final adhesive installation.

- Begin spreading adhesive from the intersection of the chalk lines, and continue down the line in one direction, spreading enough adhesive to install one starting row of tiles.
- Apply adhesive uniformly using recommended trowel and application rate. Ensure a minimum 85% transfer from the floor to backing of flooring.
- Do not spread more adhesive than can be covered by flooring before initial set takes place.
- Ensure joints are tight. All joints should be secured to prevent gaps, by applying masking tape across joints onto adjoining tiles until adhesive has cured. (300 mm [12 in] long at typical 400 mm [16 in] centers.)

Note: Never use duct tape or high grab masking tape. Duct tape adhesive chemically reacts with the flooring surface and leaves a permanent residue.

- Continue to spread adhesive and install tiles in each direction from the first row of tiles.
- Lay tiles into fresh adhesive in small sections and roll with at least a 45 kg. Sectional roller a minimum of 3 times in multiple directions within 15 minutes of lying to ensure proper adhesive transfer.
- Suitable weight must be applied over every seam after taping and rolling is complete. Grey concrete utility bricks (2" x 4" x 8") are the only suitable weights. Place bricks, 2 layers deep, over all seams in continuous rows for a minimal period of 24 hours.

Note: Lack of weight on seams can result in peaking. Never use wood, boxes, sand bags, cinder blocks or any other substitute materials.

Any excess adhesive appearing on the top surface of *ProXL* should be immediately wiped clean with a soft rag soaked in denatured alcohol.

Note: Excess adhesive which is allowed to harden on the top surface is nearly impossible to remove without marring the *ProXL* finish.

- Cut tiles neatly around fixed objects, and to fit irregular and fill-in spaces using a sharp utility knife.
   Make repeated passes when cutting to ensure straight cuts.
- Flooring installed around any irregular or sloped surface (i.e., around drains), should be weighted with bricks to ensure proper bonding of flooring to adhesive. It is also necessary to brick the perimeter and all edges (i.e., doors, walls, columns, sleeves, etc.).
- Continue flooring through areas to receive movable type partitions without interrupting floor pattern.
- Terminate flooring at centerline of door openings where adjacent floor finish or color is dissimilar.
- Install edge strips at unprotected or exposed edges where flooring terminates.
- Promptly clean adhesive from top surface of tiles using a soft cloth soaked in denatured alcohol.
- Use caution to not damage floor.
- Prevent traffic on flooring for minimum 24 hours after installation.

# Cleaning and Maintenance:

See the SportFloor® Maintenance Guideline for complete cleaning details.

# **Initial Cleaning after Installation**

- For glued down tiles, wait 24 to 48 hours after installation before proceeding with floor maintenance.
- For interlocking tiles, when no adhesives are used, initial cleaning can be performed immediately after installation.
- ProXL is by design resilient flooring and therefore caution should be taken in moving materials over finished flooring, i.e., furniture, equipment, etc.

#### Floor Cleaning and Floor Finish

An applied finish may alter the surface characteristic of the floor and is therefore not recommended.

# **Regular Maintenance**

• **ProXL** may be cleaned at any time using a damp mop with a PH neutral cleaner diluted with water, and follow immediately to extract any moisture.

See the SportFloor® Maintenance Guideline for complete cleaning details.

#### **Precautions**

• **ProXL** must not be cleaned with any petroleum based cleaners. If any petroleum product is spilled on the matting, it should be removed immediately to avoid damage to the matting and voiding of warranty.

# Disclaimer:

- This manual has been prepared to assist owners of *ProXL* Recreational Flooring in the recommended installation procedure. It is a guideline which may be used to produce an effective finished installation and should be reviewed in the context of the installation site(s).
- Allied Products, LLC does not warrant any installation work not directly performed by Allied Products, LLC, and specifically disclaims liability for any direct or indirect personal injury, property damage or other costs or losses resulting from installations or applications by third parties. Please see the Allied Products, LLC Limited Warranty for the particulars of warranty coverage relating to Allied Products, LLC products.
- ProXL is not to be used for any purpose other than resilient recreational flooring.
- **ProXL** must only be used in accordance with the manufacturer's published specifications.

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