

NATURE'S REFLECTIONS

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Jobsite Conditions

Areas to receive flooring must be well lighted, clean, fully enclosed, and weather tight. The permanent HVAC system set at a minimum temperature of 65 degrees F for 48 hours prior to, during and after the installation. A minimum temperature of 55 degrees F should be maintained thereafter.

2. Material Handling and Storage

The material should be delivered to the jobsite in its original unopened packages. Check to make sure that all material is the same batch number. All flooring and adhesives should be allowed to acclimate to room conditions a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation. Inspect all material for any visual defects prior to installation.

3. Sub-Floors

It is essential that all sub-floors be rigid, finished smooth, flat, permanently dry, clean and free of all foreign materials such as dust, paint, grease, oils, solvents, curing, hardening and release compounds and old adhesives. The responsibility for determining the suitability of the sub-floor rest solely with the flooring installer. The finished appearance and performance of the floor covering will be determined by the condition of the sub-floor.

4. Concrete Sub-Floors

Imperfections such as chips, spalls and cracks should be repaired using only Portland based patching and leveling compound. All patching compounds should be allowed to fully cure before installing flooring. Do not install over old gypsum based products. Concrete shall be free of all paint, old adhesives, curing, hardening and release compounds. Use a mechanical method to remove surface contaminants. Concrete should have a minimum compressive strength of 3500 psi. Expansion joints are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. Flooring products should not be installed over expansion joints. It is recommended to use joint covers designed to be used with resilient flooring.

5. Wood Sub-Floors

Wood sub-floors should be double construction with a minimum overall thickness of 1". The floor must be rigid, free from movement and have at least 18" of well-ventilated air space below. Particle board, chip board, tempered hardboard and gypsum-based products are not suitable for flooring installation.

6. Moisture Test

It is essential that moisture tests be conducted on all concrete floors regardless of age or grade level. The test must be a calcium chloride moisture emission test and must be conducted in accordance with ASTM-F1869. The moisture emission results must not exceed 3.0 lbs. Per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours. If the test results exceed 3.0 lbs., the installation should not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

7. PH Test

pH test shall be taken on all concrete sub-floors regardless of age or grade level. If the pH reading is greater than 9, the concrete must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.

8. Adhesive

Products like Parabond 5082 or Mapei 350 are excellent products for this application. Spread adhesive using the adhesive manufacturers recommended trowel. When installing over a porous substrate the flooring can be laid into wet or tacky dry adhesive. For a wet lay installation spread the adhesive, wait approximately 10 minutes to allow the adhesive to flash off. When installing over a non-porous substrate the adhesive **must** be allowed to tacky dry before installing flooring. Once the flooring is installed roll the whole installation with a 100 lb. three-section roller to assure adhesive has made proper contact with flooring. Remove any excess adhesive immediately with soapy water. Do not flood the flooring. Dried adhesive can be removed with a nonflammable cleaner. Take care to remove adhesive from the surface of the tile before it dries. In all cases follow adhesive manufacturers installation requirements.