

The needs of flooring in healthcare settings require unique solutions. With broadloom carpet, the vast majority of products come in rolls that are 12-feet in width. There are few variations; some manufacturers provide goods in 12' 6" and 6' widths as well, but the 12-foot roll is decidedly the industry standard. However, there is one large area in which the standard 12' or even 6' roll comes up short: corridors. Standard hospital corridors are between 8- and 8 ½-feet in width; commercial office building corridors are slightly less. Mannington Commercial is the only manufacturer to offer 9' roll options in both broadloom carpet and commercial heterogeneous resilient sheet goods.

Multiple Width Options = Value to the Customer

- Seamless corridor installations using 9' products
- Reduces installation costs & product waste
- Eliminates side seams that can capture dirt & soiling
- Eliminates borders in long corridors
- Reduces "railing" seams in corridors by half
- Fewer seams in large, open areas
- Reduces seams under patient beds
- Significantly lowers the costs associated with heat welding seams, which can be in excess of \$3-7/linear foot

The tables below provide an illustration of how the use of a 9-foot roll in a corridor can provide significant cost savings to the end user:

CORRIDOR DIMENSIONS	
Corridor width (in feet)	8.5
Corridor length (in feet)	300
Total square feet	2,550
Total square yards required	283
Material cost per square yard	\$30.00

Roll Width (in feet)	9.0	12.0	6.0
Roll length (in feet)	300	300	600
Total square yards required to order	300	400	400
Material waste (in square yards)	17	117	117
Material waste (in %)	5.6%	29.2%	29.2%
Wasted material cost	\$500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Savings realized using a 9-foot roll in just one corridor	\$3,000.00		

A 12' roll that is run down the length of the hallway will create a large amount of wasted material that must be trimmed from the sides of the roll. This also equates to a large amount of wasted money spent on that flooring material that will go straight to the recycle bin or dumpster. The only exception to this wasted material and money is if the installer "railroads" the material, i.e., turning the flooring so there are seams every 12' feet down the length of the corridor. A well-installed seam will be virtually undetectable, but *never* invisible. In addition, seams are always the weakest point of a flooring installation.

Many flooring manufacturers are making both carpet and sheet goods in 6-foot wide rolls as well. Carpet that is 6-feet in width will not create the same amount of waste of either material or dollars, but it too will create a seam down the entire length of the corridor. The following is taken from the Carpet & Rug Institute's website (<http://www.carpet-rug.org/commercial-customers/selecting-the-right-carpet/size-options.cfm>):

This narrow carpet roll (6-foot width) is often a benefit in high-rise buildings where transporting a 12-foot roll is difficult or expensive. The narrow width may also provide a cost savings where many hallways or other narrow spaces exist. However, careful planning is needed to avoid more seams.

The reason most manufacturers do not take advantage of providing a 9' roll is almost purely cost-driven. The machinery for manufacturing both carpet and sheet vinyl is standardized for 12-foot goods. The machinery, labor, and necessary manufacturing down-time during the change-over make the production of variably sized goods unattainable for most flooring manufacturers.

One of Mannington's main goals as a company has always been providing *all* of our customers' needs. To that end, we have focused our attention on offering everything needed to complete any floor covering job, including every hard and soft surface flooring option imaginable (broadloom carpet and heterogeneous resilient sheet goods in 6-, 9-, and 12-foot widths, carpet tiles, VCT, PVT, LVT, resilient sheet goods, porcelain, rubber flooring, and hardwood), as well as all the necessary accessories, including base, stair treads, transitions, and all adhesives. We also realized that flooring options in a 9-foot width would save our customers money in any installation that had even one hallway, so we developed 9-foot options in both our highest performing broadloom carpet, Integra HP.

Integra HP

Integra HP™ is Mannington Commercial's high performance integrated broadloom backing. It is available in 9' & 12' (widths for corridors), resists delamination, edge ravel, moisture penetration, pilling and fuzzing, withstands aggressive wet cleanings, and can be chemically welded for an aseptic barrier. Integra HP has a lifetime wear warranty and a lifetime non-prorated backing warranty. Other performance attributes include:

- Impermeable moisture barrier that eliminates wick-back staining
- Superior tuft bind wet or dry
- Superior dimensional stability
- Passes British Spill and Moisture Impact tests
- Flexible in hot and cold environments
- Can be chemically welded to itself or sheet vinyl for an aseptic barrier
- Withstands aggressive wet cleanings
- 12' and 9' widths (for corridors)