

# INSTALLATION PROCEDURES FOR MANNINGTON'S INFINITY™ SIX FOOT BACKING

## OVERVIEW

MANNINGTON has developed and tested installation procedures for all products that we manufacture. Our procedures are documented throughout this bulletin and other literature that is available upon request. These installation techniques have been developed in conjunction with CRI #104, only expanding on techniques and procedures, which may be vague. We are confident the procedures documented will provide excellent results; therefore, they should be thoroughly followed by the installation contractor.

## INSPECTION

- MANNINGTON requires that the carpet be inspected prior to installation for proper style, color and potential defects.
- MANNINGTON'S claims policy views installation of the carpet as acceptance of the merchandise and limits the types of claims that can be honored on installed carpet.
- Layout all carpet and allow to acclimate prior to adhering to the floor.
- Rolls should be installed by roll numbers in consecutive order.
- The carpet is to acclimate to at least 65° Fahrenheit for 24 hours prior to installation with relative humidity of 12-65%. These conditions must be maintained throughout the installation and for 72 hours after the installation has been completed.
- MANNINGTON carpets are to be installed by professional installers who have the training, skills and tools to properly install technically advanced commercial carpets.

## FLOOR PREPARATION

- MANNINGTON cannot be responsible for claims regarding sub-floor conditions.
- Floors must be cured, dry and clear of any foreign debris. Cracks should be filled with a latex based, Portland cement patching compound.
- A calcium chloride test should be performed on the concrete to detect the presence of moisture. Acceptable results require that moisture content does not exceed 3 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours. One calcium chloride test should be performed for every 300 yards of carpet. Calcium Chloride Test must be performed in accordance with ASTM-F-1869-98 testing procedures.
- Mannington will also accept the Relative Humidity ASTM-F-2170 test method. Acceptable moisture levels are 75% maximum relative humidity.
- Alkalinity tests must also be performed. pH should register between 5 and 9. If pH exceeds 9, contact Technical Services at 800-21-2262 Ext. 3.
- Please note that calcium chloride and alkalinity tests state only the condition of the floor at the time of the test. Test results are not indicative, nor do they predict, how environmental conditions may impact moisture or alkalinity in the future.
- All tests should be documented, and results saved.
- Old adhesives must be compatible, removed or covered with an appropriate cementitious skim coat.
- Cutback adhesive must be removed or covered with an appropriate cementitious skim coat

For porous subfloors (concrete or wood) that has a high pH and/or needs a primer use **Mannington's Universal Primer**.

**Mannington's Universal Primer** is an acrylic latex solution made to neutralize excess alkali and is also recommend as a primer to prevent over absorption of adhesive to ensure a better bond. Gypsum topped, or patched areas must receive a full application of Mannington's Universal Floor Primer as well as any subfloor that is porous, gritty, chalky, or dusty. Porous subfloors with chemical Ph above 9 may require a second application.

## **SEAL THE FLOOR**

- Dusty floors will cause adhesive to release from substrate voiding warranties. MANNINGTON cannot be responsible for failure due to this condition.
- If vacuuming or mopping does not correct a dusty or porous condition, seal the floor with a latex primer (latex milk). The sealer can be applied with a paint roller, flat trowel or sprayed. The sealer must be completely dry before beginning installation.
- INFINITY SIX FOOT can be installed over many existing floors if they are securely bonded to the substrate. Contact MANNINGTON Technical Services if you have questions concerning pre-existing floors.

## **ADHESIVES**

Mannington's INFINITY pressure sensitive adhesive **must** be used when installing INFINITY SIX FOOT Backing.

## **ADHESIVE SPREAD**

- Measure areas to be carpeted, make cuts and dry fit cuts into place. Overlap the carpet 3 inches at seams and 1 inch at walls.
- After dry fitting carpet, carefully fold back seams one-half of their width, exposing sub-floor.
- Fully spread Mannington's INFINITY pressure sensitive adhesive using a "U" notch trowel 1/16 x 1/32 x 1/32 (1/16" notch width, 1/32" notch depth, 1/32" tooth tip width) or an equivalent that will achieve the proper coverage. The spread rate should be approximately 25 yards of carpet per gallon of adhesive, depending on subfloor conditions.
- Once applied, allow adhesive to dry completely (will not transfer when touched). If carpet is placed into adhesive when wet, a permanent bond will form.
- Lay first breadth of the carpet into the adhesive and work out air pockets, lay second breadth into adhesive overlapping first breadth, work out air pockets toward seam.

## **SEAM TRIMMING**

Seams are to be cut with National Equipment's #575 commercial, "glass," seam cutter after the gluing procedure to avoid shifting at seams.

- The cutter is specifically designed to row cut the top breadth of carpet, while simultaneously trace cutting the lower breadth.
- Simply run a screwdriver or awl down the length of the top breadth of carpet to open a row, adjust the blade to the proper gauge, align the cutter and cut the seam.
- The #575 seam cutter will produce net fitting seams without gaps or fullness.
- To obtain a #575 cutter, call 800-245-0267 for a distributor nearest you.

Apply MT-800 seam sealer, work seam together working out all air pockets. If needed, roll with lightweight roller (35 pounds maximum).

## **SEAM SEALER**

Mannington's seam sealer MT-800 must be used on all INFINITY SIX FOOT Backing seams. The instructions are as follows:

1. Fill applicator bottle with seam sealer.
2. Adjust nozzle to control flow. A bead of sealer approximately 1/8" thick, equal to the thickness of the backing, should be laid along the edge of the seam. \*Caution should be taken not to over seal seams, causing the sealer to ooze up through the seam.
3. Coverage for MT-800 is approximately 500 lineal feet per pint.
4. Under slight compression, fit and smooth out complete joint. This complete operation must be performed in 10 minutes before the sealer dries out.
5. Dampen a clean white, absorbent cotton cloth with MANNINGTON'S seam cleaner MT-900 and gently rub the seam to remove sealer that may have surfaced to the carpet pile. Do not pour seam cleaner directly on the carpet. This step acts as final inspection to ensure that the seam is proper and tight.
6. If sealer thickens add small amount of cleaner and stir until "honey" consistency returns.

## **TRANSITIONS**

All carpet products must be properly protected when transitioning to other floor covering or exposed stopping points.

The use of a transition molding or protective strip covering the carpet edge at 1/2" is required. If a transition cannot be utilized the carpet nap must be level or slightly below the adjacent floor. The carpet edge must be fully seam sealed to protect from raveling or damage.

## **PROTECT INSTALLATION**

Use Masonite or plywood during furniture move-in. If additional protection is required to prevent damage by other finish trades use bonded craft paper, which will allow adhesives to cure without risk to the new installation. Avoid using plastic sheeting to protect any installation. Coverings with pre-applied adhesive can leave sticky residue, cause rapid soiling, and should not be used to protect the installation.

## **TIPS**

- Long drops will require extra manpower to avoid shifting the carpet when folding back.
- When trimming walls, note that INFINITY SIX FOOT Backings does not accept fullness. It is recommended that walls are trimmed net fit or slightly under net with the use of a wall trimmer.
- INFINITY SIX FOOT can be used for stairs by cutting for step and riser. Use permanent adhesives suitable for vinyl-backed carpets.
- Carpet may be walked on immediately. Use plywood runner to protect carpet when moving heavy furniture.
- Chair pads are recommended under chairs for appearance retention.

The procedures listed above are our best recommendation for installing INFINITY SIX FOOT Backing. This document and other literature are available upon request. If you have further questions or require additional information, please contact our Technical Services Department at 800-241-2262 Ext. 3. 2018