

Rubberflex

elite

Installation
Manual

24" x 24" x 1" Elite Tile



Centaur
Floor Systems

BASE PREPARATION

I. RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION METHODS FOR 1" Elite

INTERIOR INSTALLATION		
	24" x 24" x 1"	
Surface	Dowels	Full Glue
Concrete	■	▲
Asphalt	■	▲
Plywood	■	■
Comact Gravel	N/A	N/A
Wood or Tile	■	N/A
Resilient Flooring	■	N/A
Carpet	■	N/A
■ = RECOMMENDED ▲ = ACCEPTABLE N/A = NOT AN APPROVED INSTALLATION METHOD		

II. TOOLS/MATERIALS REQUIRED

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two tape measures - 25' and 50' 2. Chalk line 3. Saber saw (Jig saw) 4. Blades for saber saw
(7-10 teeth per inch, wood type) 5. Utility knife with heavy-duty blades 6. Framing square/metal straightedge 7. Silver or gold color paint pencils 8. Standard size caulk gun 9. 4" slot blade screwdriver 10. Notched trowels -1/16" square notch;
2 minimum plus 1 for each additional
400 sq. ft. 11. Safety glasses | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. 1-1/2" flexible putty knife 13. Coveralls 14. Kneepads 15. Solvent safe rubber gloves, long cuff style 16. Rags 17. Trash bags 18. Push broom or high velocity blower 19. Mineral spirits to clean mixing blades 20. Installation instructions 21. String line 22. Cutting table (shipping pallet) 23. Dustpan 24. 2-3 lb. hand sledge hammer or rubber mallet |
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III. SITE WORK

NOTE: Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8". From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to ensure course lines remain straight. Additionally, color tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site.

A. Site Elevation

1. On grade installation - The finished installed height of the Elite surface will be equal to or slightly higher than the perimeter grade but not more than 1" higher unless approved by the project engineer.
2. Above grade installation - The installation of Elite over existing decks or slabs

is referred to as "above grade installation" and will usually require the use of reducers around the perimeters of the area to transition smoothly back to the floor elevation, unless the site terminates at a wall or other vertical surface.

B. Site Slope/Drainage

1. When preparing a new hard base, a minimum slope equal to 1" per 10' of run shall be applied to the finished surface with slope toward the drain basin, drain trough or down grade side of the site, whichever applies to your project.
2. An acceptable drainage system needs to be put in place to eliminate standing water.

BASE PREPARATION (cont.)

IV. BASE OPTIONS

A. Hard Base Construction

1. Concrete Base

- a. The base will be constructed of cast-in-place, non-structure, Class A concrete that will develop a minimum compressive strength of 3,000 PSI after 28 days cure (minimum thickness = 4"). Care should be taken to provide for the stated slope. The base should be free of depressions that would pond water. A light broom finish is best for maximum adhesion of the Elite tile. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days before installing Elite.

2. Paved Asphalt Base:

- a. Course aggregate mixtures will provide a stable base. The aggregate size best suited for the adhered system is 3/8" to 1/2". Do not use asphalt mixtures that contain a high percentage of fines as they are not stable in hot weather and may become soft enough to allow the tiles to slide in high use areas.

- b. The soil subgrade must be compacted with a minimum of two passes using a 10 ton vibratory roller with no soft or moving areas upon completion. The crushed stone base must also be compacted with a minimum of two passes using a 10 ton vibratory roller. The binder and wear courses of the asphalt must both meet 95% of the theoretical maximum density of the JMF (Job Mix Formula).

Analysis of Asphalt Wear Course

Total Passing Sieve	Percent By Weight
1/2"	100
3/8"	80-100
#4	45-90
#8	30-65
#50	5-25
#200	2-8
Asphalt Cement	6-8

- c. New asphalt surfaces should be allowed to cure for 28 days before the adhered Elite system is laid.

1" INTERIOR INSTALLATION

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. 1" Elite may be installed over most concrete, wood, tile, or carpeted floors. The floor over which 1" Elite is installed must be level, in good condition, and clear of dirt and loose debris.
- B. If 1" Elite is being installed wall-to-wall, the tile may be doweled together, with the walls serving to contain the outer rows of tile. Tiles which are not contained by walls, either at openings in the wall (i.e. doorways) or freestanding, should be contained by adhering the outer tiles and 1" Elite ramps around the outer perimeter. The adhered tile and ramps provide a transition from the 1" thick tile to the original floor level. The perimeter tiles and ramps should be adhered using adhesive with a 1/16" square-notched trowel indoors over substrate.
- C. Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area.
- D. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F for 48 hours before during and after the installation.
- E. Unpack tiles and allow them to sit in the area to be installed. Tiles and adhesive must be acclimated at a uniform room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation.

NOTE: Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8". From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to assure that course lines remain straight. Additionally, color tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site.

II. SITE LAYOUT

- A. Sweep area clear of all dust and loose debris.
- B. Determine a starting point for the first course of tile to best suit the site area. For irregular site configurations, the best starting point is often in the center. This will ensure a symmetrical finish for tiles that require trimming along the perimeter.

Other installations are best started in the corner or along one edge that represents the length or width dimension of the site.

- C. Mark two points on the base surface at an equal distance from the edge of the installation. These points should be located near the opposite ends of the site in the length-wise direction.
- D. Snap a chalk line through the established points.
- E. Measure the length of the site along the chalk line. Mark a point at half the distance of the site.
- F. Using the 3-4-5 right triangle method, snap a chalk line to form a 90° angle to the previously established length-wise chalk line. These perpendicular reference lines will serve as a guide for laying the first course of tile.
- G. Dowel placement - Insert a dowel pin in each of the three dowel holes on two adjacent sides of the tile. Tap the dowel into the molded hole until the length of the dowel is showing beyond the edge of the tile or use a dowel setting tool available from the manufacturer. Install dowels in enough tiles in this manner to lay one course line.

III. LAYING TILE FOR STARTER COURSE

- A. Place the first doweled tile at the intersection of the chalk lines with one doweled side facing inward along the course line.
- B. Join the next tile in the starter course to the original tile by pushing it against the original tile, engaging the dowel holes in the second tile with the dowels in the original tile.
- C. The assembly of tiles using dowels is a two-man job, with one man working always on top of the last tile laid to secure it while the other worker is applying force to the tile being laid.
- D. Continue to assemble tiles in this manner until the row has been completed across the entire course.
(Laying Tile for Starter Course cont'd on pg. 5)

1" INTERIOR INSTALLATION (cont.)

- E. A small 2-3 lb. hand sledge hammer may be used to aid assembly by striking the tile close to the doweling point while pressure is applied to the tile in the direction of the doweling by the second workman. A sledge and 2 x 4 may be used to tightly dowel several tiles. These techniques will allow the tile edges to be butted tight together.

IV. LAYING THE SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT TILE COURSES

- A. Place dowels in the tile to be used for the second course as done previously. Join the first tile in the second course to the first tile in the first course.
- B. The second tile in the second course is now ready for placement. This tile will be doweled on two sides. First, dowel the tile to the original tile in the second course, placing the dowels from the first course of tiles above the tile being doweled.
- C. Now dowel the second side of the tile by lifting the tiles to be joined together and inserting one dowel at a time with the appropriate dowel hole.
- D. Continue to assemble tiles in this manner until the row has been completed across the entire course. Complete the third and subsequent courses in a similar manner .

V. FITTING THE OUTER COURSE TILE

- A. In most wall-to-wall installations, the tile in the outer course will have to be cut to fit. Tile may be cut using a heavy-duty utility or carpet knife and a straight edge. A saber saw utilizing a 7-10 TPI wood cutting blade also works well. A saw with a 3-3.5 amp rated motor having a 1" stroke with variable orbital settings will produce the best results. A cutting table used to support the work is required during cutting. A standard shipping pallet works well for this purpose for infield use.
- B. The outer course should then be installed as described in item C above, utilizing the remaining dowel holes. The cut edge should face the wall.

VI. ADHERING THE OUTER COURSE AND RAMPS

- A. If required, ramps can be cut in the same manner as tile. If ramps are used at a corner, each ramp should be miter cut at a 45° angle.
- B. After ramps have been properly cut, ramps and outer tile, which are not contained by walls, should be adhered to the existing floor using adhesive with a 1/16" square notched trowel indoors over substrate. Set tiles and ramps in the adhesive bed. Tiles being set in the adhesive bed should be doweled to the next inner course of tiles, but need not be doweled to each other. Ramps need not be doweled.
- C. For areas where adhering a ramp is not an option you may edge adhere the side heel of the reducer to the side of the tile and/or drill dowel holes in the side heel of the reducer to match the existing dowel holes in the tile.
 - 1. When drilling dowel holes, the holes should be 1/4" in diameter and 1.75" deep.
 - 2. Adhesive should be allowed to cure for 24 hours before walking on the tile.
- D. Your 1" Elite installation is now ready for use and will provide years of reliable, low maintenance performance.