

Flooring Installation Preparation & Handling.



Floor Preparation

Moisture Testing:

Graphic Image Flooring (GIF) using BILD[™] vinyl products by Better Life Technology (BLT) are intended for use in high-traffic areas, therefore preparation is especially important. In most cases, remove all existing floor coverings before installing these commercial products. You must follow all federal, state, and local regulations regarding the removal of existing flooring.

All concrete under floors must be tested for moisture before starting the installation using either the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test following ASTM F1869 procedures and/or the IN-SITU Relative Humidity Test following ASTM F2170. The maximum permissible Moisture Vapor Emission Rate ("MVER") is determined based on product construction and adhesive type. An MVER of up to 5 lb moisture per 1000 sq.ft. per 24 hr is the maximum acceptable MVER with G-Floor homogenous vinyl. The Relative Humidity Test readings according to ASTM F-2170 should not exceed (RH) 85%. If both tests are performed, the RH test is the qualifying standard.

NOTE: While either of these industry accepted moisture-testing methods may be used, the results are not interchangeable; if both tests are performed, they must both be in the acceptable range to be considered valid.

Floor Cleaning:

Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction marks and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. BLT recommends priming extremely porous floors with Taylor Envirotec 2025 Universal Primer[™] to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to insure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor/underlayment.

Patching & Leveling Compounds:

BLT recommends the use of Latex /Portland cement trowel underlayment or self-leveling cement-like products for repairing or leveling concrete subfloors. Sand & fill approved underlayment panel joints using a latex/Portland cement compound. Don't use gypsum-based floor patch.

Material Handling Procedures

It is imperative to maintain the material, adhesive, and job site at a temperature between 65°F and 85°F for 48 hours before and during the installation. If the material has been stored at colder temperatures, it will need to be unrolled and allowed to relax overnight before proceeding with the installation. BLT recommends contracting a qualified commercial flooring installation service for all commercial installations.

NOTE: It may not be the floor covering installer's responsibility to conduct the tests. It is, however, the floor covering installer's responsibility to make sure these tests have been conducted and that the results are acceptable prior to installing the floor covering. When moisture tests are conducted, it indicates the conditions only at the time of the test.

NOTE: If the flooring contractor elects to install new floor covering over an existing floor covering, the flooring contractor assumes all responsibility as to the suitability and continued performance of the existing floor covering. If removal of existing resilient floor covering is required, follow all recommended Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) work practices as described at www.rfci.com.

Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported prior to installation. GIF will not be responsible for material or labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before, during or noticed at the end of an installation.

Material Handling Tips:

- Resilient homogeneous sheet products must be tightly rolled face out on a sturdy core designed for that purpose.
- If material is flattened or distorted during storage or transportation, do not attempt to install it.
- Marking pens, felt-tipped markers, or waxed crayons must not be used to write on the vinyl backing nor used to mark layout under the floor, as they could bleed through and stain the material.
- Resilient flooring products can be heavy and bulky. Always use correct lifting techniques when handling these products.

*Information provided is for BILD[™] Vinyl and provided by Better Life Technology. Graphic Image Flooring is not responsible for errors and/or omissions.

STEPS BEYOND THE ORDINARY