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The proper installation method is equally as important as choosing the right carpet specification for the interior. Choosing the right installer, who is trained and experienced in installation methods, adhesives, subfloor preparation, and seaming, is fundamental to the overall look and performance of the carpet.

For larger projects, Brintons can offer a full installation service including adhesives, pad, technical supervision, and on-site advice in conjunction with a global network of approved installation partners. The following items outlined in this document act as Brintons' official installation guidelines for all third-party installers.

To avoid the most common and preventable installation problems, these guidelines are to be thoroughly reviewed before the installation process begins. It is imperative that the installer, prior to beginning installation, reference all seaming layouts, weaving diagrams, and flooded floor plans as defined on page three.

Thorough subfloor preparation is crucial to the performance of all Brintons products. All subfloors should be firm, dry, and level prior to installation. Any unevenness in the subfloor can cause random shading due to traffic patterns changing the direction of the carpet pile.

With all installation methods, carpet should be dry laid prior to applying any adhesives to ensure correct pattern match.

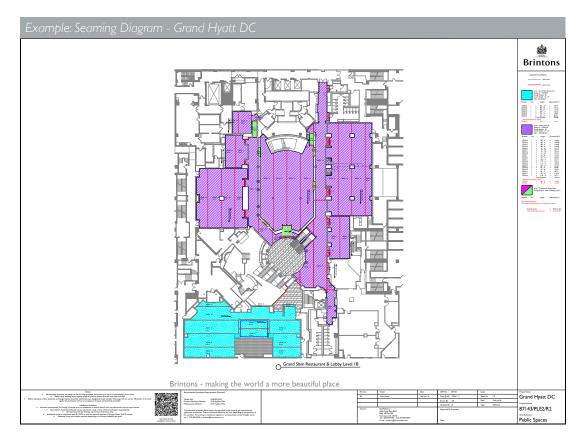
Due to current research, avoid using any plastic products for covering Axminster carpets after installation. Alternative coverings could be plywood or heavy-duty craft paper.

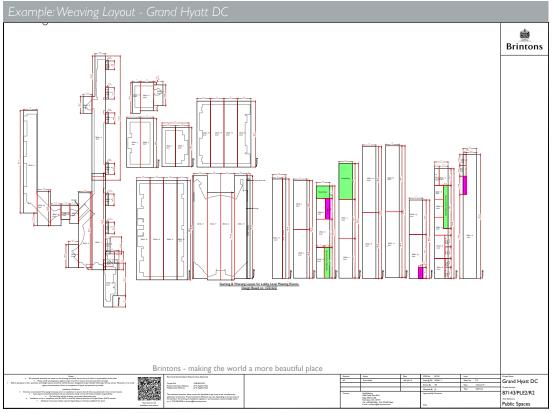
Brintons cannot be held responsible for any shortfall in carpet quantities due to layout and/or construction changes made on site which differ from the approved seaming diagrams provided.

For additional questions, please contact Dwight Carter at the following: Dwight Carter | Installation and Technical Services Manager P: 770 598 5278 E: dcarter@brintonsusa.com

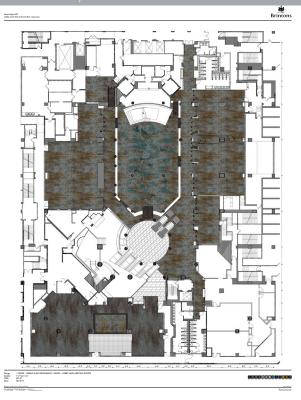


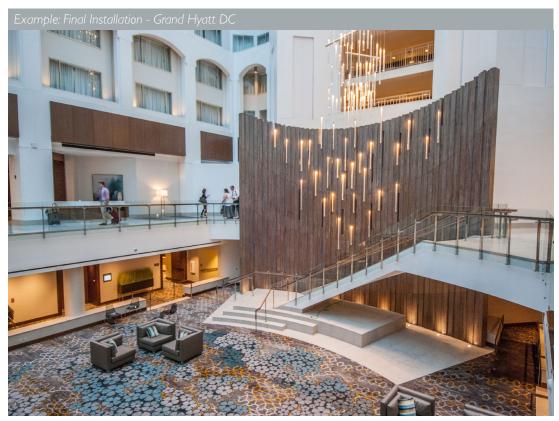






Example: Flooded Floor Plan - Grand Hyatt DC





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02 Storage

It may be necessary for the property to store the carpet prior to the installation dates. Brintons recommends storage time be kept to a maximum of four weeks.

In short term, defined as four weeks maximum, it is acceptable to leave the polyethylene wrapping in place to protect the carpet from insects and soiling. However, this practice may exacerbate any tendency for pressure marks to appear.

Brintons recommends removing the polyethylene wrapping immediately after receipt of the carpet for all Axminster carpet that will be stored longer than four weeks before installation. The same practice applies to attic stock.

For hand tufted rugs, Brintons recommends the rugs are unwrapped immediately.

In either case, ideal storage conditions are as follows:

- Carpet should be rolled onto a firm central core and stored in a
 flat and dry environment protected from sunlight and soiling. Please
 refrain from using fork lift trucks to move carpet rolls. Specialized
 carpet equpiment should be used at all times and it is recommended
 to rotate the rolls as frequently as possible.
- For broadloom Axminster carpet and rugs, rolls should be stored no more than two high. If applicable, single roll storage is preferred to avoid any possible pressure marks.
- For storing Axminster carpet tiles, unopened boxes should be stacked a maximum of five boxes high.
- For hand tufted rugs, unwrapped rolls should be covered with a breathable material to protect from possible soiling.
- Storage should be in a climate controlled environment.
- The ideal storage temperature is between fifty and seventy-five degrees Fahrenheit.
- Areas of high relative humidity should be avoided. Areas of storage should not exceed seventy-five percent relative humidity (RH).
- After storage, when carpet is required to be transported to site, the rolls should be adequately wrapped to prevent soiling and any possible damage. Carpet rolls should be transported to site for a minimum of twenty-four hours to acclimate.
- Pressure marks are more likely to occur with increased storage times, but are not permanent characteristics of the carpet. After installation, these marks should diminish with use of Brintons recommended cleaning and maintenance schedule.

Failure to store Brintons carpet per the above procedures will nullify any warranty.

03 Double Stick Method

This refers to a method where a recommended double stick pad is fully adhered to the subfloor using a releasable adhesive. All breadths of carpet are to be dry laid per approved seaming diagrams provided to the installer.

The installer should work to a central datum line – keeping the patterns matched and aligned at all times in both length and width.

Once the installer is confident that the carpet is ready to be installed on a permanent basis, the carpet is then fully bonded to the pad using a recommended premium multi-purpose carpet adhesive for woven carpets. The installer should glide the carpet flat into the adhesive. This ensures there are no air pockets between the carpet and subfloor and the carpet has sufficiently transferred into the adhesive.

The use of heavy rollers is not recommended as these can distort the previously aligned pattern.

For double stick installations hot melt tape is optional. Use caution in areas of high natural light as it could potentially increase visibility of the seam. The installer should use a commercial quality tape, like Orcon Super 3 DS, that does not exceed four inches in width. Brintons recommend all traffic be kept off these areas for at least a period of twenty-four and forty-eight hours, and any heavy traffic be kept off the carpet for seventy-two hours to allow the adhesive to set.

The carpet should not be covered with any kind of plastic covering or any covering that has an adhesive coating.

04 Direct Stick Method

This is a method where the carpet is simply adhered direct to the subfloor with a recommended premium multi-purpose carpet adhesive for woven carpets. The carpet should be dry laid per the approved seaming diagrams provided to the installer. Once the installer is confident that the carpet is ready to be installed on a permanent basis, the carpet is fully bonded to the subfloor.

The installer should work to a central datum line – keeping the patterns matched and aligned at all times in both length and width.

The installer should glide the carpet flat into the adhesive. This ensures there are no air pockets between the carpet and subfloor and the carpet has sufficiently transferred into the adhesive.

The use of heavy rollers is not recommended as these can distort the previously aligned pattern.





05 Stretched Method

This method involves installing tack strip around the perimeter of the room. The tack strip should be placed two-thirds the thickness of the carpet away from the perimeter skirting. The pad should then be installed in the main area and secured to the subfloor, either with latex or staples, and cut flush to the tack strip. The carpet is then dry laid per the approved seaming diagrams supplied to the installer. If more than one breadth is involved, the carpet is seamed together using any reputable seaming method. Seaming tape and equipment need to be commercial quality and no more than four inches in width.

Once the carpet is seamed together, the carpet is anchored on one wall and stretched until the carpet is taught in all directions and has the required tension to ensure no bubbling will appear after the carpet has been exposed to foot traffic. The installer should be working to a central datum line — keeping all patterns matched and aligned in both length and width at all times. In commercial applications, architectural tack strip or a double row of standard tack strip, and the use of a power stretcher is required.

Our installation guidelines follow the Carpet and Rug Institute's (CRI) best practices for the installation of Axminster woven carpet.

For more information please visit <u>www.carpet-rug.org</u>.

06 Seaming Method

For conventional stretched installations, machine seaming, hot melt tape seaming or hand-sewing are the preferred methods. Hand-sewing is a highly skilled process and is dependent on the skill and experience of the installer.

- Do not use silicone treated hot melt tape with any double stick installation.
- All seams that have cut edges require the seams to be sealed with a latex seam sealer.
- For seam sealing, the installer must use recommended sealant as outlined on page sixteen.
- A premium commercial strength hot melt tape, not exceeding four inches in width, should be used in all circumstances.
- There should not be gaps or trapped tufts between the two edges.

07 Selvedge Trimming

It is unnecessary to trim factory woven edges of Brintons' metric carpet however, with twelve foot wide carpet, trimming of the edges may be required if there is a build up of latex present. Do not cut any face yarn as this will create a pattern match issue. All trimmed edges must be sealed with latex to prevent tuft loss.

08 Pattern Matching

Brintons utilizes predominantly one-hundred percent synthetic backing yarns which will not substantially shrink or stretch when wet. All rolls are carefully produced to enable excellent pattern matching.

- The entire area is to be dry laid prior to the installation. This will enable the installer to foresee any adjustments that may be required.
- The pattern is to be squared and aligned in length and width before beginning. By ensuring the first breadth is square, given the correct approach and equipment are used, the installation can then end square.
- The use of string lines or lasers is recommended to ensure pattern alignment.

It may be necessary to power stretch and stay nail certain areas for proper alignment.

09 Power Stretching

It is recommended the installer use a power stretcher to install any Axminster carpet fitting the following criteria:

- carpet over fifteen feet in length
- more than one breadth of carpet to be installed
- carpet is to be stretched over pad

Architectural tack strip, or a double row of single tack strip, should be installed around the perimeter. This will help aid power stretching and ensure the carpet is kept at its required tension.





10 Proper Pad & Adhesive

A firm commercial pad, such as Tred-MOR 2580 or 2568, should be used for double stick installations.

For double stick installations, use only pads designed specifically for double stick use. Glue the pad to the floor with premium pressure sensitive or releasable adhesives. This adhesive should be applied per the manufacturer's recommendations.

- For double stick installations when adhering the carpet to the pad, use only recommended* premium multi-purpose carpet adhesives for woven carpet.
- For direct stick installations when adhering the carpet to the subfloor, use only recommended* premium multi-purpose carpet adhesives for woven carpets.

(*See all recommended installation accessories on pages 18-19)

All pad should be firmly secured to the subfloor to ensure the carpet remains stable above the installed pad.

All pad should be installed completely flat with no bubbles or wrinkles. Imperfections in the underlay are likely to show through to the surface of the carpet.

Carpet and underlay must be fully adhered throughout the installation. Partial adhesion to either carpet or underlay will result in bubbling.

11 Environment

During winter or colder months, the carpet must be stored for at least seventy-two hours in an area that is of the same or similar temperature as to the area it is to be installed in.

The installer should have the areas to be carpeted available for their use and free from other trades and activities. When possible, unroll all carpet and allow it to acclimate before installing. Twenty-four hours is the ideal time for acclimation.

For a successful installation, it is imperative the floor is flat, firm, dry, and clear of all debris.

Installers should be aware of adhesive manufacturer's instructions and recommendations as to how long the area must be kept free from foot traffic after the installation has been carried out in order for the adhesive to cure.

12 Adhesive Open Times

The carpet installer is responsible for determining the actual adhesives required to be able to complete an installation in a satisfactory manner. The installer is to also be aware that adhesives have different open times. This affects the time the installer will have to adjust the carpet. Before the adhesive cures, the installer is to ensure patterns are aligned, breadths are in match with no gaps between the edges, and the carpet is wrinkle-free.

13 Trowel Size

When applying adhesives, installers should be aware of the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations and ensure the correct size notched trowels are used per product type.

14 Basic Do Nots

- Do not use star wheeled rollers on plain or solid carpets. These will cause indentations in the carpet's pile which will not be able to be removed.
- Avoid using any plastic products for covering the carpet after installation. Alternate coverings could be plywood or heavy-duty craft paper.
- When transferring the carpet into the adhesive, avoid using carpet rollers over thirty pounds in weight. Heavy rollers may distort pattern alignment.



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15 Hand Tufted Rugs

After receiving the hand tufted rug, please check that the rug has been manufactured correctly and is the correct design and shape for the area concerned.

Remove the rug from its plastic wrapping immediately to avoid any mold/mildew growth, and store in a clean and conditioned space. Cover the rug with a breathable material to avoid any soiling.

Environment

During winter or colder months, the carpet must be stored for at least seventy-two hours in an area that is of the same or similar temperature as to the area it is to be installed in.

The installer should have the areas to be carpeted available for their use and free from other trades and activities. When possible, unroll all carpet and allow it to acclimate before installing. Twenty-four hours is the ideal time for acclimation.

For a successful installation, it is imperative the floor is flat, firm, dry, and clear of all debris.

Installers should be aware of adhesive manufacturer's instructions and recommendations as to how long the area must be kept free from foot traffic after the installation has been carried out in order for the adhesive to cure.

Pad

TredMor 2580 or TredMor 2568 are Brintons recommended carpet pad types. To purchase pad, please contact your local Brintons representative or Brintons Technical Service Manager, Dwight Carter on 678.594.9345.

If carpet pad is to be used, please keep in mind any height difference that may occur with pad and the rug as well as the height of the surface it is being installed into. This could be a potential trip hazard.

All pad should be firmly secured to the sub floor to ensure the carpet remains stable above the installed pad.

All pad should be installed completely flat with no bubbles or wrinkles. Imperfections in the underlay are likely to show through on the surface of the carpet.

Rug grabber is also available for areas where the pad is unable to be adhered to the floor. Rug grabber stabilizes the rug better on slippery surfaces, acts as extra support for loose laid rugs, and provides extra underfoot comfort.

15 Hand Tufted Rugs (cont.)

Preparation

The rug should be placed into the area and aligned to any critical element that may exist in the installation before cutting or applying any adhesive.

Installation

Once the exact position of the rug is determined, the installer should very carefully fold it back half-way to ensure the rug does not move. The installer should then apply adhesive to the floor or pad and fold the rug back into the adhesive. The same process should then be carried out on the other half of the rug.

The whole area of the rug should be adhered. Partial adhesion or solely perimeter adhesion will lead to bubbling of other areas within the rug.

Apply a light roller or glider to the rug – ensuring the carpet is flat, free of any air bubbles, and completely transferred into the adhesive.

Working with a very sharp blade, which is essential for cutting a hand tufted rug into the surrounding finish, trim the carpet net to the finish. Make sure the blades are changed frequently to ensure a neat cut and to avoid dragging any tufts out.

While the adhesive is still tacky, quickly and carefully pull the perimeter back and apply either a commercial edge sealant or a latex adhesive to the base of where the tufts meet the backing.

Seam sealant should be applied to all cut edges to prevent loss of tufts.

While the carpet is pulled back, the installer should also apply a bead of seam sealant or latex adhesive to the edge adjacent to the rug. Apply the rug back onto the glue and neatly tuck the edges to the profile making sure there is no adhesive residue on the visible face yarns.

If the carpet is fully fitted into an area, then the rug will need to be cut and trimmed flush to the base.

Due to current research, avoid using any plastic products for covering Axminster carpets after installation. Alternative coverings could be plywood or heavy-duty craft paper.





16 Loose Lay Axminster Rugs

After receiving the loose lay rug, please check the rug has been manufactured correctly and is the correct design and shape for the area concerned.

Cushion/Padding

To achieve the best performance, Brintons recommends a highdensity double stick cushion no more than one quarter inch thick. Tred-Mor 2580 and Tred-Mor 2568 pad are recommended.

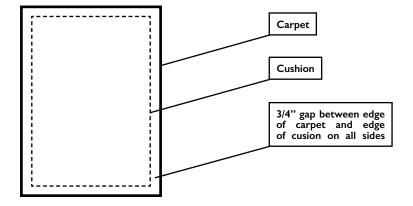
Cushion/Padding

Carpet pad should be installed in the longest lengths possible, taking into consideration any seam placements. Offset carpet pad seams from the carpet seams by a minimum of three inches. The pad is to be cut so that three-quarters of an inch of the back of the Axminster rug is exposed on all edges (see below diagram).

The pad should be laid on the floor. Use duct tape on the seams of the pad to avoid adhesive seeping through to the subfloor. Position the carpet in alignment with the pad and pull back the carpet half way. Apply adhesive to the pad. Roll carpet into the adhesive and glide flat so there are creases or air pockets present. The other half of the carpet is then adhered and rolled the same. At this stage, make sure there has been sufficient transfer of the adhesive and align patterns, if necessary. Please note, adhesive may seep out around the edges of the pad while gliding it flat.

Brintons recommends all traffic be kept off the rug for a minimum of twenty-four hours. Heavy traffic should be kept off the area for forty-eight to seventy-two hours to allow to the adhesive to set. Do not cover the carpet with any kind of plastic or any covering that has an adhesive coating. The installer must assess the installation for possible trip hazards and take the appropriate measures to ensure the edges lay flat.

Loose Lay Axminster Rug Installation — Diagram A



17 Carpet Tiles

General Information

Installation of the carpet tiles should be carried out in accordance with the British Standard Code for Installation of Textile Floor Coverings: BS 5325 1983 (or subsequent revisions). For carpet tile identification – the color, design details, and number of tiles are printed on the outside of each carton. The carpet tiles should be taken out of their boxes and left to condition for at least twenty-four hours prior to installation.

Sub-floor Condition

Carpet tiles should not be laid directly over floors containing mastic asphalt or any other surface containing bituminous or migratory substances. A damp proof membrane must be laid where tiles are placed directly onto earth and other subfloors. While latex smoothing compound can be applied to surfaces where there is some residual adhesve from a floor covering, it is essential that the existing subfloor is well prepared to obtain a good key.

All floor surfaces must be dry, level, dust-free, and clear of debris prior to beginning installation. Arrangements should be made ahead of time to ensure that areas are clear of all other trades. Any uneveness in the floor will show in the finished installation and may result in premature wear. Subfloors should be prepared in accordance with BS 8203, to Surface Regularity Standard SR. I (3mm to 3 meters).

Access Floors

The application method of release adhesives to access flooring is of paramount importance and should be carried out in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Care should be taken to prevent excess adhesive from seeping between the access floor joints as this could stick them together making subsequent access difficult.

The release adhesive should be applied as a thin even film and be given sufficient time to dry before the carpet tiles are installed otherwise a permanent bond will occur. An uneven film of tackifier can reduce the effectiveness of the suction grips commonly used to remove the access panels and any moisture trapped under the carpet tile can have adverse effects, including the possible corrosion of the top surface of the access floor panel.

The installation contractor should therefore check compatibility of the adhesive being used with the access floor panel manufacturer and ensure the correct adhesive is used in accordance with the relevant manufacturer's instructions. Tiles should be offset so as not coincide with the joints in the floor panels.





17 Carpet Tiles (cont.)

Concrete

New and old concrete floors must be structurally sound, smooth, and level. New concrete must be fully cured before installing carpet tiles. This usually required ninety days to allow full moisture evaporation. The moisture content of any sand/cement and concrete screed must not exceed a relative humidity of seventy-five percent when tested by a hydrometer according to the method specified in CP 203 or BS 5325 1983 (or subsequent revisions).

Wood

Loose boards must be secured. Missing or damaged board must be replaced or repaired. All surfaces must be level, therefore uneven boards may require sanding. Old floors with greater degrees of unevenness may require particle boarding (hard boards, etc) prior to commencing installation. Small cracks can be filled using a recommended self-leveling compound*.

(*See all recommended installation accessories on page 18)

Existing Floor Coverings

It is imperative that the subfloor is clean, dry, and sound — particularly when bonding to existing smooth floor coverings such as vinyl, thermoplastics, and linoleum. It is essential to remove all traces of polish and any cleaning agent.

Site Planning and Installation

Tools:

- Tape measure (steel)
- Chalk line
- Light roller (under thirty pounds)
- General installation tool kit
- Straight edge
- Suitable adhesive spreader

Measuring

Find the center of the area to be laid. In some cases the start point may not be the center of the area. Early consideration should be given to the perimeter tiles, doorways, and partitions. Wherever possible, the perimeter tiles should be at least half size or larger. Major consideration should be given to doorways and main traffic flow. The good appearance of the finished installation will be decided at this point.

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17 Carpet Tiles (cont.)

Pile Direction

Reference must be made to the arrows on the back of the tiles. These must be laid in the same direction to give a monolithic effect (see diagram 1).

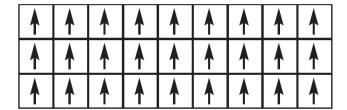


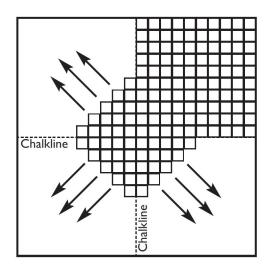
Diagram.1: monolithic

Installation/Quadrant Method

Draw a chalk line across the room in both directions through the center. This will divide the room into four sections. Apply the adhesive to the total floor area, in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. When the adhesive has dried in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, normally when the color has changed, commence the installation.

Start installing each section from the center working outward in a pyramid fashion. Additional tiles within the quadrant should be installed using a step technique. In this technique, the tiled area grows steadily away from the center of the room.

Growth should not take place along the vertical or horizontal chalk line, but rather along the imaginary diagonal line between them (see diagram below).







17 Carpet Tiles (cont.)

Adhesives/Tackifiers

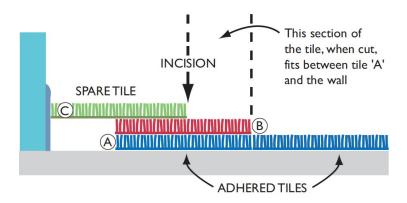
Tackifiers are adhesives which are designed to provide a permanently tacky film which prevents carpet tiles from moving under normal conditions but enables tiles to be lifted and replaced when necessary. The tackifier is designed for an all over application to the sub-floor.

Joints

It is important that the tiles in the complete installation be snugly jointed together. Laid tiles must constantly be checked to ensure they are being placed together with the correct firmness. A check should be made that laid tiles are neither too loose so as to cause gaps, nor too tight so as to buckle. To check for snugness, measure the distance across ten tiles. When laying tiles, brush the pile back from the edge of the tile and slip the tile into place. This will prevent the pile becoming trapped in the joint. When using the quadrant technique, the corner of a tile is inserted first making the correct positioning of the tile easier.

Cutting Perimeter Tiles

- I. When the last whole tile (A) closest to the wall has been adhered to the floor, place the tile to be cut (B) face up on top of the last whole tile (check pile direction is correct), aligning it as closely as possible to the tile underneath.
- 2. Place a spare tile (C) face up against the perimeter wall bridging the gap between the last whole tile (A) and the wall.
- 3. With a knife, make a small incision in each side of the tile to be cut (B) at the back of the spare tile (C) which is held flush to the perimeter wall.
- 4. Remove both tile (C) and (B). Place the tile to be cut (B) face down, and place a straight edge across the back of the tile level with the incision. The tile can now be cut from the back, and will fit perfectly between the last tile and the perimeter wall.



18 Brintons Recommended Installation Accessories

Through research and years of experience, Brintons feels confidence in recommending the following accessories to ensure a successful installation.

We ask that the installer makes sure of the compatibility of the product's use with Brintons' carpets by contacting the relevant manufacturer.

Adhesives

It is essential that an adhesive with plenty of open time be used when installing Axminster carpet to allow for any adjustments and aligning of patterns.

Recommended Adhesives

Mapei Ultrabond ECO 185 (Suitable for carpet to pad)

- CRI Green Label Plus certified
- Should contribute toward LEED points
- Application to carpet pad should be 1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" U notched trowel
- Expected coverage of approximately thirty-five square yards for 1 x 4 gallon pail

Mapei Ultrabond ECO 810 (Suitable for pad to subfloor)

- CRI Green Label Plus certified
- Should contribute toward LEED points
- Application to subfloor using a 1/4" short napped roller or flat trowel
- Expected coverage is dependent on the porosity of the substrate, although we would suggest allowing approximately 1 x 4 gallon pail to cover seventy square yards

Carpet Pad

Carpet pad is vitally important. The best choice is a pad that will combine underfoot comfort and keep the carpet stable to avoid any unnecessary installation problems.

Recommended Carpet Pad

TredMor 2580

Suitable for double stick installation in all commercial areas; public spaces, ballrooms, and corridors

TredMor 2568

• Suitable for double stick installation in lighter traffic commercial areas and corridors

Daltonian 40 oz Fiber Pad

- Not suitable for double stick installation
- Suitable for guestrooms where carpet will be stretched in

18 Brintons Recommended Installation Accessories (cont.)

Recommended Seaming Tape

Orcon Super 3 DS

• Suitable for double stick installation

Brintons also recommends the Kool Glide system and relevant seam tapes applicable to the installation method.

Recommended Leveling Compound

MAPEI Self-Leveler Plus

• Suitable for minor subfloor repairs



making the world a more beautiful place

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