



# Woven Interlock Carpet Installation

Exclusive to Mohawk Commercial.

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IMPORTANT: WOVEN INTERLOCK CARPETS CANNOT BE STRETCHED OVER A PAD. THEY MUST BE GLUED DIRECTLY TO THE FLOOR OR INSTALLED USING A DOUBLE-BOND SYSTEM.

#### **Carpet Installation Checkoff List**

1. Newly poured concrete floors generally will take 90 to 120 days to cure. If moisture exceeds five pounds as determined by a calcium chloride test kit (Refer to CRI 104) consult manufacturer.
2. The alkalinity or pH in a concrete slab should be between 5 and 9 for a direct glue-down installation.
3. The temperature of a concrete slab must be stabilized above 65° F both 24 hours before and 24 hours after installation.
4. The following environmental conditions inside the building are critical for proper installation: The temperature must be between 65° F and 95° F, and the humidity between 10% and 65%, for at least 72 hours before and 72 hours after installation. In addition, the adhesive and seam sealer should be stored under these conditions for at least 24 hours before installation.
5. Old cut-back adhesive must be properly sealed or removed prior to any direct glue-down installation. See note below.
6. Carpet should be rolled out and allowed to relax for at least 24 hours prior to installation. Carpet should never be folded or creased, as this can result in permanent wrinkles.
7. Never install carpet over carpet.
8. Never cut carpet over carpet, as this can result in overpenetration of the blade and cutting loops on the lower carpet.
9. Furniture placement and heavy traffic should be avoided for at least 24 hours after a direct glue-down installation. Furniture and heavy equipment concentrated pressure, and movement over unprotected carpet can cause adhesive breakdown. This can result in buckling and/or wrinkling. It is strongly recommended that plywood or masonite boards be placed over the carpet during the move-in phase to spread the concentrated weight of furniture and heavy equipment.

*Please Note:* Asbestos-containing floor tiles, any adhesive possibly containing asbestos, or other asbestos-containing floor coverings require special preparation, handling, and removal procedures. Consult the appropriate local or state authorities or the Resilient Floor Covering Institute before disturbing any suspected asbestos-containing material.

#### **Required Tools And Materials**

The following items may be purchased from a local carpet workroom supplier.

1. NuBroadlok™ Adhesive
2. NuBroadlok Edge Sealer
3. NuBroadlok Seam Sealer
4. Cushion back cutter
5. Crab stretcher and power stretcher
6. 1/8" x 1/16" x 1/8" V-notched trowel
7. 50 to 75 lb. roller
8. Knee kicker

#### **Pile Direction**

All full-width Woven Interlock carpets have an arrow on the back (running approximately 2 feet from the selvage along one side of the carpet) or a selvage marker to indicate pile direction. When seaming, the pieces of carpet should be joined so the arrow or selvage marker is on the same side of each breadth. All cut carpet used as fill pieces should be marked to indicate pile direction before the arrow or selvage marker is removed.

**Carpet Cutting And Seam Preparation**

1. If the installation requires more than one width, select the best location for starting a seam.
  - A. The main traffic should run along rather than across the seam.
  - B. When possible light should not strike across the seam.
  - C. The seams should be placed away from areas subject to pivoting traffic.
  - D. Avoid seams perpendicular to doorway openings.
2. After conditioning carpet, cut two lengths, allowing 2 to 3 inches to run up the walls for future trimming. It is also important that the pile-lay run in the same direction.
3. If the carpet has a pattern, cutting should be done to properly align the pattern and produce a matched seam.
4. Trim the selvages of Woven Interlock grades, using a cushion back cutter with a sharp blade. For best results, split the white chain in the back of the carpet. The top cutter may need to be held straight or tilted slightly to the left or right. Cutting the chain off will result in frayed yarn.
5. **IMPORTANT:** Apply a bead of NuBroadlok Edge Sealer to all cut edges of Woven Interlock grades, being careful not to disturb yarns at the cut seam edge. Immediately press latex into the base of the pile with thumb, sealing the edge. **DO NOT RUB EDGES OF WOVEN INTERLOCK GRADES.**
6. Cutting for a cross seam can be best achieved by breaking open the face and cutting between the rows with a cushion back cutter. Cut ends must be properly sealed immediately after cutting. See Step #5.

**Pattern Matching**

It must be understood that carpet is a textile and cannot be made to exact specifications. It is important to study the pattern carefully to determine the type of match and the size of the pattern repeat, both lengthwise and widthwise. All patterned carpet is subject to certain manufacturing tolerances, therefore a perfect pattern match cannot be guaranteed. However, a match should be achievable by stretching the short side out to meet the long side. Tolerances for patterned carpet are:

Bow: 1-1/2 inches across the 12-foot width

Skew (bias): 1-1/2 inches across the 12-foot width

Pattern elongation: 1-1/2 inches in 12 feet along the length

If you are having trouble matching a pattern, STOP at once and call the hotline number, 800 833-6954.

*Please Note:* Pattern installation instructions and diagrams are shipped in each roll of carpet.

**Applying Approved Adhesive**

NuBroadlok is the only adhesive approved for use in direct glue-down installations. The use of NuBroadlok Adhesive is vital to ensure optimum results. Applying an improper adhesive can result in an installation failure for which Mohawk cannot be held responsible. To make certain that the proper amount of adhesive is transferred to the back of the carpet, a 1/8" x 1/16" x 1/8" V-notched trowel must be used. This will result in a spread rate of 10 to 12 yards per gallon.

Proper open time is critical for the adhesive to develop the proper tack. Open time will usually range from 10 to 30 minutes but should be evaluated in a small area before proceeding with the installation. Allow the adhesive to remain open long enough to develop tack. However not too tacky that the pattern can not slip to make a proper match.

**General Installation Procedures**

1. After preparing the seams and sealing the woven edges with latex adhesive, place the trimmed edge of the first cut along the chalk line and stay-nail along the center of carpet, parallel to the seam. During this procedure, work out any wrinkles. Stay-nail at 18-inch intervals for the entire length.
2. Properly align the edge of the second cut with the first, overlapping the edge of the first cut by approximately 1/8 inch. Smooth out and stay-nail the second cut in this position as described in Step #1.
3. Fold both cuts back toward the stay nails, being careful not to pull out any stay nails or tear carpet.
4. Spread NuBroadlok Adhesive using a 1/8" x 1/16" x 1/8" V-notched trowel. Check trowel and renotch to maintain recommended notch size.
5. Allow the proper open time after the adhesive has been spread, taking care not to lay the carpet into the adhesive too soon. This will prevent the adhesive from seeping through to the face of the carpet. Then run a 1/8-inch bead of NuBroadlok Seam Sealer along the edge of the seam to prevent raveling and separation at seams.  

IMPORTANT: If seam sealer gets on the face of the carpet, clean up with soap and water while wet. If a solvent-based sealer is used, a solvent base or an adhesive remover should be used to clean seams. DO NOT USE PETROLEUM-BASED CLEANING PRODUCTS.
6. Unfold the second cut, carefully laying into the adhesive with as little pressure and walking as possible. DO NOT STEP ON THE SEAM. Using a knee kicker, gently force the 1/8-inch overlap of the second cut from the first edge, allowing it to slide back to tightly abut the edge of the first cut. After fitting the seam, work any wrinkles out toward the stay nails.
7. Roll carpet with a 50 to 75 lb. roller to remove air and ensure transfer of the adhesive to the floor.
8. Remove the stay nails from both cuts, and fold back the balance of the first cut. Spread the adhesive, place the carpet on the floor, and roll.
9. Fold uncemented part of second cut toward the first seam. Spread adhesive to within 3 feet of the second seam. This 3 feet will be worked with the next cut.
10. Repeat the above procedures for the remainder of the installation.

IMPORTANT: Restrict traffic on carpet for at least 24 hours to allow the adhesive to cure.

**Double-Bond Procedures**

Additional double-bond instructions are available upon request.

*This information, offered as a customer service, is based on The Mohawk Group's engineering tests and field experience. It is intended for installers with professional experience, to be used at their discretion and risk. The Mohawk Group does not guarantee results and assumes no liability in connection with these installation instructions.*

**Please Note:**

The use of Mohawk branded adhesives are required to ensure optimum results and are the only approved adhesives that Mohawk Industries will warrant. Failure to use Mohawk branded adhesives can result in warranties being null and void.