

## INSTALLATION TIPS FOR COMMERCIAL TILE WITH DIAMOND 10® TECHNOLOGY



### Commercial Tile Reinvented

Save on costly maintenance by reducing initial application of polish by 50% and eliminating or reducing ongoing restorative stripping. Less floor polish means a lower cost of ownership.

### Reduced Cost of Ownership

Save up to 40% on polish maintenance procedures, compared to traditional VCT.

- ✓ Reduce initial application of polish by 50%
- ✓ Eliminate or reduce restorative stripping
- ✓ Maximize gloss level with 50% fewer coats of polish vs. traditional VCT

### Packaging & Recommended Adhesives

Tiles may feature a back coating to ensure a balanced product structure, directly out of the box. The back of each tile will have a glossier appearance compared to traditional VCT as a result.

Before installation, flip tiles. The tiles are packaged face down except for the last tile in the carton.



S-515 Tile Strong™

S-525 BBT Bio-flooring Adhesive

**Follow these steps to ensure a successful installation. Visit [armstrongflooring.com](http://armstrongflooring.com) for complete installation instructions.**

### Before Installation

- ✓ **HVAC** The area to receive the resilient flooring should be maintained at a minimum of 65° F (18° C) and a maximum of 100° F (38° C). Installation conditions that are outside our recommendations or uncontrolled will result in a **noticeable curl or dome.**
- ✓ **Acclimation** Resilient flooring should only be installed in temperature-controlled environments. It is necessary to maintain a constant temperature before, during and after the installation.  
**The product, adhesives, and subfloor must acclimate for 48 hours.**
- ✓ **Subfloor Testing** Before installation of the finished flooring, moisture and alkali testing must be conducted. The surface of the concrete must have a pH of 9 or less.
- ✓ **Bond Test** Bond tests must also be conducted for compatibility with the substrate.  
**Skipping this step may result in subpar adhesion of the product to the subfloor.**
- ✓ **Subfloor Preparation** The surface should be free of dust, solvents, varnish, paint, wax, oil, grease, sealers, curing compounds, residual adhesive, adhesive removers, and other foreign materials.  
**The high gloss surface of the product will make subfloor imperfections more noticeable.**

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### During Installation

- ✓ **Cutting** The superior durability of this product may result in the perception that this product is more difficult to cut. Armstrong Flooring's expert installation team has reviewed the product and recommends standard installation tools.  
**One suggestion is to make sure you use sharp blades and replace trowels as necessary.**
- ✓ **Adhesives** Do **NOT** set this product in wet adhesive. The adhesive must be dry-to-touch to reduce the possibility of the product moving during installation.
- ✓ **Perimeter Tiles** Smaller tiles (usually on the perimeter) may be more susceptible to movement due to the product back coating. Best practice is to have 6" or wider. If you must use smaller filler pieces due to the floor pattern, take care on these pieces to minimize movement prior to the adhesive fully curing.
- ✓ **100 lb. Roller** Roll the installed tiles in both directions immediately after installation. This will set the product into the adhesive creating a substantially better bond between the product and the subfloor.

### Post-Installation & Ongoing Maintenance

- ✓ **Rolling Loads** Utilize protective panels when moving heavy loads prior to 72 hours post-installation.
- ✓ **Initial Maintenance** To promote polish adhesion, mix a solution of sodium hydroxide-containing floor stripper such as Spartan Chemical Corporation's Square One®. Strippers should have a formulated sodium hydroxide (NaOH) concentration of 1% by weight or greater. Dilution rates should not exceed 1:4. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop.  
  
Thoroughly machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M™ blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop.  
  
Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely. Apply at least 3 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
- ✓ **Periodic Maintenance** When needed, after sweeping, dust mopping or vacuuming, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong® S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad 3M™ red or equal for light scrub, 3M™ blue or equal for a deep scrub or equivalent brush.  
  
Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely. Additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time. If there is sufficient base of polish remaining (3 coats), buff, spray buff or burnish to restore gloss.
- ✓ **Floor Protection** Proper selection and care of furniture rests is important in the maintenance and appearance retention of all types of floor coverings. Furniture, appliances, equipment, etc., should be properly leveled so that all rests are fully and firmly on the floor at all times.