

Amtico Access

Installation Guidelines

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Intended Use

- Amtico Access is particularly suitable for use in temporary installations or where tiles may need to be removed to allow access to floor panels.
- In most cases Amtico Access should be installed with Amtico Tackifier, exceptions apply – see notes below.
- Amtico Access is recommended for use over properly prepared concrete, suspended wood, raised access floors, metal and other suitable substrates.
- The product should not be installed in unheated rooms or exterior locations.

Pre-installation

Check the quantities, colour and batch numbers before beginning the installation. Boxes of Amtico Access tiles should be removed from pallets and separated from one another as part of the acclimation process. Ensure that the heating/air conditioning is fitted and operating, alternatively, temporary heating or cooling may be used to maintain a constant temperature within the specified range. Tiles, adhesive/ Tackifier and subfloor must be allowed to stabilise to a constant temperature between 18°C-27°C (64-81°F) for a period of at least 24 hours before, during and after installation. If tiles and adhesive/ Tackifier have been stored outside of this temperature range, then it is recommended that acclimation between 18°C-27°C (64-81°F) is increased to 48 hours. Amtico Access tiles must be stored flat and kept away from direct sunlight, heaters or air vents for proper conditioning.

General Subfloor Preparation

Careful preparation is essential for excellent floor appearance and good tile adhesion. The subfloor must be hard, smooth, dry, free from undulations and level. Bring high spots level and fill low spots using an appropriate smoothing compound. In the UK, the floor should only be installed if the subfloor is sufficiently dry as per BS8203 showing a hygrometer reading less than 75% relative humidity (RH). The use of a primer may be required on porous sub-floors.

• Concrete Subfloor

Existing concrete floors must be cleaned of grease, wax and any other foreign or loose matter. Solvents or other chemicals must not be used to remove existing adhesive residues. Any surface irregularities or imperfections must be corrected prior to installation.

• Ceramic/Terrazzo/Stone Floors

Inspection should be carried out to ensure that all flooring is securely bonded. Any loose flooring must be removed, filled and levelled. Also fill and level grout lines with an appropriate smoothing compound.

• Existing Resilient Floors

Amtico Access tiles can be installed over existing resilient flooring, provided the surface is cleaned of all contamination, including dressing. Inspection should be carried out to ensure that the existing flooring is securely fixed. Any loose flooring must be secured.

• Wood Floors

Wooden subfloors must be stable and solidly fixed; fill all joints and smooth any rough areas. It is recommended that they are then overlaid with minimum 6mm exterior grade plywood.

• Raised Access Floors

Ensure raised access panels are firm, level, smooth, clean, dry and free from defects. Manufacture of raised access panels should be in accordance with EN12825 (or equivalent) and installation requirements must meet the following standards:-

- Lipping of panels must not exceed 0.75mm
- Height differences between adjacent panels must not exceed 0.75mm
- Gaps between panels should not exceed 1mm
- Overall floor to be level within +/- 1.5mm over a 5m length

Unstable, uneven or poor quality panels should be suitably repaired prior to installation or overlaid with 6mm plywood to avoid irregularities mirroring through the tiles.

Tile joints should be set out to avoid them falling on or close to the edge of a panel, this helps to ensure any height difference between panels is overcome.

Installation

If installing with Amtico Tackifier adhesive it should be applied using an appropriate roller to give a coverage of 50 – 100 grams per square metre. The Tackifier must be allowed to dry to a clear tacky film, which could take 30 minutes or longer depending on site conditions, before placing the tiles.

Tessellation (quarter-turn) or Bonded Stone (brick) installation methods are required for all square format tiles.

When placing perimeter tiles into position it is recommended that they are cut neatly to size so that tiles can be installed without having to apply pressure or force them into place. Some customers may prefer to bond Amtico Access tiles permanently. This is the recommended option for some installations - see notes below for more information. Whatever method is chosen, on completion of the installation, roll the floor in two directions at right angles to each other using a 45kg roller with overlapping passes to ensure good contact between tiles, adhesive and substrate.

Notes

- In areas subject to potentially large changes in temperature, for example floors exposed to direct sunlight, or areas with underfloor heating, it is recommended that Amtico HT Adhesive or Universal2-Part Adhesive is used to install tiles according to subfloor type. Permanent adhesion methods should also be used for areas with heavy rolling loads.
- The surface temperature of the tile should not exceed 27°C as temperatures above this can cause discoloration.
- In locations where there are large external windows, it is recommended that the heating effect of sunlight is minimised by the use of external canopies or by fitting thermal reflection film to windows.

Amtico Adhesives

- Amtico Tackifier: Semi-permanent installations on all subfloor types.
- Amtico PS, SF: Permanent installations in general areas (not suitable when bonding direct to metal subfloors).
- Amtico HT, HT Extra, Universal 2 Part: Permanent installations with temperature variations, underfloor heating or high rolling loads (HT not suitable when bonding direct to metal subfloors).

Further information

Contact AfterCare & Technical Services on 02476 861409 or e-mail technical.support@amtico.com