

# Amtico Dovetile

## Installation Guidelines

DOV-IN-20210309-02-EN

### Intended Use

Suitable for internal use, in temperature regulated commercial areas such as retail and convenience stores.

In most cases Amtico Dovetile can be completely loose laid. Exceptions apply for larger areas or those subject to heavy rolling loads.

Amtico Dovetile is recommended for use over all solid and smooth subfloors. It can also be fitted directly over existing resilient floorcoverings, terrazzo and ceramic floors, making it ideal for refurbishment projects.

### Suitable Subfloors

Careful preparation is essential for excellent floor appearance and performance. The subfloor must be hard, smooth, dry, free from undulations and level, with no sudden height changes as these may show through the product and cause premature wear. 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). However if an adhesive free installation method is being used then subfloor moisture levels do not need to be considered (see Installation Methods).

- Sand & Cement – typically a smoothing compound will need to be applied to level the surface to make it ready to receive tiles.
- Anhydrite Screed – may provide a good enough base to fit directly onto, alternatively a levelling compound may be needed. If bonding tiles to anhydrite ensure any surface laitance has been removed.
- Existing Resilient – if in a good and sound condition can be fitted directly over. Any loose or damaged flooring should be lifted and made good.
- Terrazzo – if in a good condition can be fitted directly over.
- Ceramic – if in good condition ceramics can be fitted directly over, grout lines should be infilled with a cementitious compound.
- Many other flat, hard floors can also be fitted directly over, such as raised access panels, resin, fibre glass and laminates.

### Pre-installation

Check the quantities, colour and batch numbers before beginning the installation.

Ensure that the heating/air conditioning is fitted and operating, alternatively, temporary heating or cooling may be used to maintain a constant temperature.

Tiles and any required adhesives should be allowed to stabilise to a constant temperature between 18°C-27°C for a period of at least 24 hours before installation. Pallets of material can be split down to speed up this process.

Tiles measure 934.7 x 934.7 mm including the locking mechanisms, the effective size when fitted is 914.4 x 914.4 mm.

Dovetile is not a boxed product, it will arrive on a pallet with all round cardboard protection and shrink wrapped. Take care when removing the protection so as not to damage the product within.

Transport with care. Do not stand or drop the tiles on their edges or corners to avoid damage. Store flat at all times and keep away from direct sunlight, heaters or air vents for proper conditioning.

### Installation Methods

The product can be completely loose laid, or bonded dependent upon area size and type of use.

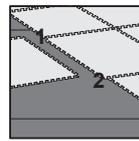
For areas of up to 500m<sup>2</sup> no adhesive is necessary, apart from in areas of heavy rolling loads where localised areas can be bonded as required.

For areas larger than 500m<sup>2</sup> or those with a length of 25m or more, a one tile wide strip of adhesive should be used at up to 25m intervals. This can be a trowel applied acrylic or pressure sensitive, or a wide self adhesive tape system.

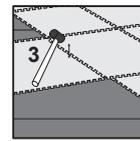
In all cases an expansion gap of 5 mm should be allowed at the perimeter of the room, and at fixed items.

In the event of an underfloor heating system being present, this should be regulated to a maximum surface temperature of 27°C and the installation should be fully bonded using a high temperature adhesive.

When connecting tiles, we recommend the teeth at both ends are located by hand, this aligns the tiles correctly and then the length of the joint should be securely connected using a plastic or rubber mallet (Anti-rebound / deadblow mallets are recommended).



1. Locate teeth on left hand side
2. Locate teeth on right hand side



3. Tap middle into place

Find your central starting line, taking care to balance the floor on all sides of the space, the cut tiles should ideally be equal to or greater than a third of a tile. Work methodically and fit the tiles in straight lines, always follow the grain direction of the tile (or the grain direction of the backing if surface grain direction is not visible).

If adhesive is being used, always roll the tiles with a heavy roller to ensure a good contact whilst the adhesive is receptive.

### Perimeters and Thresholds

Allow a 5 mm expansion gap space at the perimeter. This is normally behind fixtures and fittings in a retail environment, but can also be concealed by skirting boards or with a bead of silicone.

At the edge and at changes of floor coverings the use of a PVC or aluminium ramp profile is recommended, its detail and durability to be selected to suit the level of the surrounding finishes and the type of use it will receive. Always select a threshold detail where the back edge will cover the cut edge of the tile.

### Further Information

Contact Aftercare & Technical Services on 02476 861409 or e-mail [technical.support@amtico.com](mailto:technical.support@amtico.com)