

# Installation Instructions for Tecsom Carpet Tiles



## 1. Subfloors

The subfloors must be flat, level, dry, sound, clean and free from debris, and must have an effective damp-proof membrane. European Norms for subfloor preparation should be followed. Where the subfloor has been levelled or patched, the applications and curing times stated by the manufacturers must be followed. Where chipboard, plywood or hardboard are used, they must be primed and suitable for flooring grade installations.

Raised access flooring should be clean and dust-free, and the panels must be adjusted to be uniformly level. Failure to do this may result in some carpet tiles being raised proud of those adjacent, causing an unsightly appearance and potential edge damage to some tiles.

## 2. Acclimatisation

Carpet tiles should be installed in conditions as close as possible to those which will prevail when the building is operational. All the tiles should be unpacked, restacked squarely and allowed to acclimatise at room temperature for 24/48 hours. The room temperature should be a minimum of 12°C, with the subfloor temperature at least 15°C. The relative humidity of the room air should be max. 65%.

## 3. Precautions

To achieve uniformity and a true broadloom effect, installation should be carried out in clear open areas free of all other trades, dust, detritus and any other tools and equipment. During installation, there should be no walking or through traffic in the installation area and certainly no traffic over the partly completed installation. Shading can occur in all piled textiles.

Because of storage/transport, certain velour products are very susceptible to pile pressure. This causes variation in the shading of the velour and creates a visual colour vibration. It is a condition where some pile may lie, permanently or temporarily, in a different direction from other areas and thus reflect light slightly differently, which is apparent as light or dark patches.

1. First of all, ensure that the same batch is used over the whole surface of one level.
2. Allow the product to “breathe” in such a way that it gradually returns to its original condition.
3. Vacuum clean and allow traffic to do the rest. The product will begin to resemble carpet again relatively quickly.

Please note that this is not a manufacturing defect. It is an inherent part of the product’s structure.

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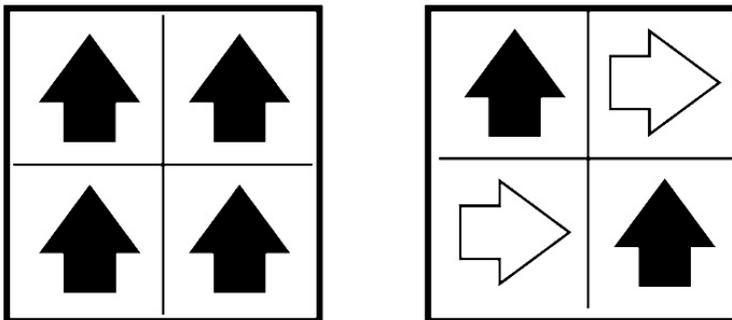


## 4. Installation

Use the same batch number for each continuous area.

Unless the client has specifically recommended that they are laid chequerboard - in which case they should be laid at an angle of 90° to each other - please note that all Tecsom carpet tiles- except Tecsom 2500 NORDIC tiles that must be laid chequerboard- are manufactured as being suitable for laying in broadloom fashion unless otherwise stated.

Tecsom tiles are laid in the same direction and must be installed tightly together to obtain a broadloom effect. Arrows on the reverse of all Tecsom carpet tiles show the pile direction of the product. Ensure that these arrows are all laid in the same direction.



*Chequerboard installation compulsory for T2500 Nordic.*

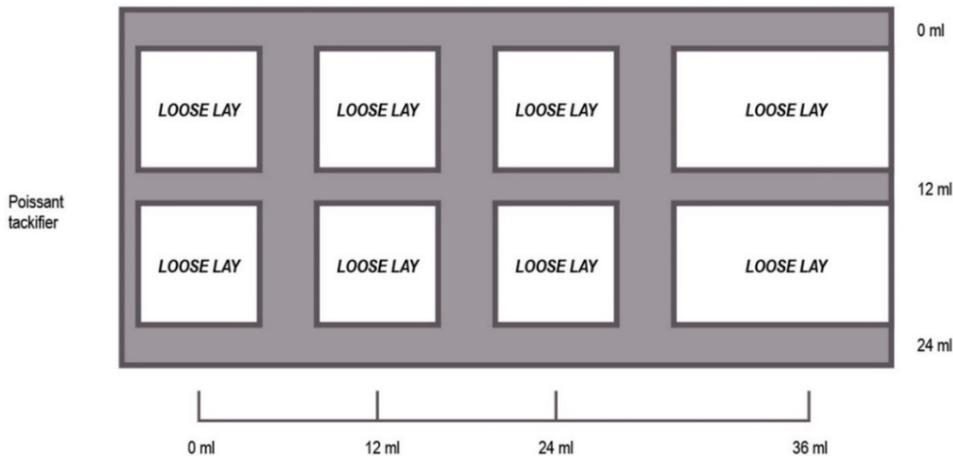
Tecsom tiles can be loose laid. Due to the Backing System, the unique backing reinforced with fibreglass, Tecsom carpet tiles require no adhesion to maintain shape and stability.

However, in large and heavy trafficked areas and underneath castor chairs, Tecsom recommends some form of adhesion to prevent the tiles moving on the subfloor.

Several options are available to stop the tiles skating or shifting. Tackifier can be applied all over the subfloor, but it is also possible to secure some strategic tiles. For example, one row every 12 m can be fixed (with adhesive or tackifier).



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All adhesives or tackifiers must be PVC-compatible. The recommendations of the manufacturers of these products must be followed, particularly with regard to curing times. If tackifier is used in a grid fashion, it should be applied with a roller. Recommended Adhesive: Strongbond 65 – look floors, Polymer 999 PS – Gilt Edge Industries Ltd.

### 5. Setting out

Diagram 1 illustrates the setting out of axes horizontally (A-B) and vertically (C-D). First, find the best setting out points to utilise a maximum size tile at the perimeter walls. The lines intersecting at right angles should be snapped with chalk lines. Once these measurements and angles have been checked, the tackifier should be applied to the subfloor.

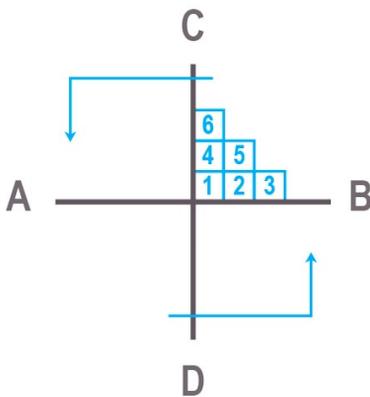


Diagram 1



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### 6. Re-creating a Broadloom effect

Lay the tiles to complete quarter 1 and follow the sequence of numbers as detailed in diagram 1.

Always bear in mind:

- The aesthetics of the installation (distribution of the joints)
- Use whole or half-tile at thresholds, lift floors or high-traffic areas

Always start installing the tiles in the middle of the room. Never start next to a wall or door. Begin installing the tiles in a pyramid shape, starting where your lines cross to obtain a symmetrical installation. Butt the tiles firmly together, ensuring that no pile material becomes trapped between the edges of the tiles and that there is no gapping.

**NEVER** block from the surface. **ENSURE** that the back of each tile is blocked by the back of the next **WITH NO SPACE BETWEEN THEM** (illustration 2).

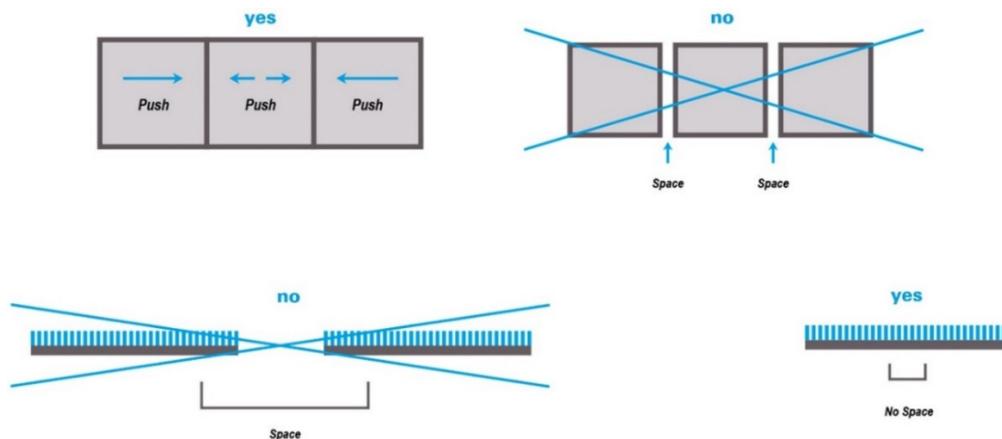


Illustration 2

**Note:** Tecsom carpet tiles are cut to strict tolerances. If the carpet tiles go out of bond, re-trace along the line to find where gapping has occurred. Take up that row and re-lay it correctly in bond.

For any further request concerning installation, maintenance or warranty, don't hesitate to contact our technical department.