



newhey

BEAUTIFUL CARPET

PRODUCT INSTALLATION GUIDE

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1. INTRODUCTION

This guide offers recommendations for the installation of Newhey Carpets Colortect+, Axminster & Tufted products. It details the most suitable methods of installation and how they should be carried out in order to achieve optimum performance when in use. The methods described in this document are provided for guidance only; we cannot accept responsibility for poor workmanship and any problems arising from improper installation.

Each carpet type will carry its own characteristics and each installation should therefore be carefully evaluated prior to commencing. All products supplied by Newhey must be installed by professionally trained and qualified floor covering contractors. Failure to comply with this may result in the cancellation of any product warranty offered to the end user.

To facilitate a successful installation it is important that all manufacturers guidelines are followed when using underlay, adhesive and all other accessories required during the installation.

All Newhey carpets are manufactured in the UK to comply with all relevant performance and flammability requirements for use within commercial environments. For further details on any of the products, processes or specifications we supply please contact our Customer Services Team on +44 (0) 1706 846 375.

This installation guide must be read in accordance with BS5325:2001, Installation of textile floor coverings code of practice.

2. STORAGE AND HANDLING

Storage

Carpet and related materials must be stored in a climate-controlled dry space with conditions close to those the carpet will be subjected to during use. Carpet must be adequately protected from frost, soil, dust, moisture and other contaminants and stored on a flat surface. Stacking heavy objects on top of carpet rolls or stacking more than three rolls must be avoided.

Handling

Carpet must be transported in a manner that prevents damage and distortion. Bending or folding individual carpet rolls is not recommended. When bending or folding is unavoidable for delivery purposes, the carpet should be unrolled or loosened removing any core pole. Once on site unroll and lay flat as soon as possible to allow the carpet to relax. The longer the relaxation time the easier the carpet will be to fit and allow any creases to reduce.



3. PREPARATION

BEFORE STARTING TO LAY CARPET, INSTALLERS MUST CHECK THE SITE CONDITIONS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE SUITABLE FOR THE PLANNED INSTALLATION.

Sub-floor Conditions

The Main Contractor is generally responsible for providing an acceptable floor condition for the specified installation. Installing carpet prematurely before other trades have completed their work may result in problems with the overall appearance, visible damage, soiling, adhesive failure, delamination and dimensional stability. These conditions may not be immediately evident. The consequences of any deviations should be made clear to the client/customer prior to the commencement of the installation.

Temperature and Humidity

It is recommended that the carpet should be installed when the indoor temperature is between 18-35°C (64.4-95°F) with a maximum air relative humidity of 65%. If ambient temperatures are outside these parameters it is recommended the installation does not begin until the Heat/Vent/Air Con system is operational and these conditions are maintained at least 48 hours before, during and 72 hours after completion.

Floor Preparation

Carpet must be installed over properly prepared substrates that are suitable for the specific product and installation method selected. All cracks, holes and flooring irregularities must be adequately repaired to ensure a smooth finished appearance and prevent accelerated wear. Sub-floors must be structurally sound and free of foreign substances, existing adhesives and surface irregularities that might show through the finished installation or cause premature wear. The floor must be free from contaminants that may interfere with adhesion and compromise the carpet or its installation. Patching and levelling compounds must be suitable for the use application.



Relaxing/Conditioning Carpet

To minimise wrinkling and buckling, recovery from residual tensions introduced by rolling or handling, and to facilitate installation, it is highly recommended that carpet be unrolled and allowed to relax in the installation area for a minimum of 24 hours at a temperature between 18 - 27°C (65-80.6°F). Handling tensions should be given particular consideration when the carpet is to be installed by perimeter fixing. Carpet must be adequately protected from soil, dust, moisture and other contaminants. Failure to condition can result in tension variation and the need to re-stretch when the carpet reaches equilibrium with the atmosphere of the room. The allocation of time for the relaxation period should be allowed when planning the installation.

Under floor Heating

The maximum surface temperature of sub-floor must not exceed 27°C (80.6°F) as stated in British Standards. An ideal surface temperature for the installation would be that which will be the same as during the normal usage by the customer. If the carpet is to be glued by direct or double stick the surface temperature should be around 15°C (59 °F). Most adhesive manufacturers give guidance on surface temperature (always check). This temperature should be maintained for at least twenty four hours prior and forty eight hours after the installation to allow the adhesive to reach full cure strength. Always advise the end user to avoid sudden / large changes in temperature. An ideal increase should be around 2°C to 3°C allowing the carpet to reach equilibrium to the new temperature before increasing further.



Underlay Selection

The selection of underlay will depend on location and usage; however, we would recommend it must be of at least heavy contract grade. It is recommended that the thickness should be a maximum of 10mm (3/8"). For stretch fit installation thickness above this will reduce the effectiveness of the spikes in the gripper. Remember some 'super' grades are for luxury use and not contract locations. All underlay must be secured to the sub-floor and the joins taped to prevent movement. Felt underlay is not conducive to tapping so ensure it is fixed with a suitable adhesive such as latex. It is recommended that the joins are laid at right angles to the run of the carpet.

Underlay Installation

Underlay seams must be butted together without compression or gaps. All joins or accidental cuts should be single sided taped to prevent movement and dust migration from the sub-floor. The underlay should ideally be fitted at right angles to the run of the carpet or offset by 150mm (6") to carpet joins.

3. PREPARATION continued

Patterned Carpet

Carpet is a textile fabric subject to inevitable processing variations, these may include: bow, skew/bias, repeat variations and trueness of edges. Assessment of these four conditions should be performed on an uninstalled width of carpet prior to installation.

Pattern Adjustment

Pattern adjustment during installation can be necessary and should be anticipated. Where Colortec+ designs are made with none critical side match, allow a minimum of 25cms per length for visual alignment. Should there be any doubt to the pattern repeat or visual alignment; the carpet must not be cut. Refer to our Technical Team on +44 (0) 1706 846 375.

Pattern Alignment

Match the pattern at the midpoint of the seam(s) length. Working from the midpoint bring, the pattern into register using appropriate tools that should include: power stretcher, knee kicker, seam re-stretcher and temporary fixings. When installing using the double stick method gripper can be used to aid alignment of the pattern. To achieve alignment of patterns (where required) a firm uniform thickness of underlay should be used. Aligning patterns relies on the ability of the carpet to be moved when placed into the adhesive.

Edge Trimming (for Colortec+ and Graphics Tufted only)

Colortec+ is delivered with approximately 25mm (1") of excess backing material along the sides of the carpet which must to be removed prior to installation. This can be achieved in more than one way but by using a Roberts cutter No 10-146 the task becomes easier and more accurate. This is an off the shelf tool that can be used for other tasks. The cutter has two blades which are independently used depending on which direction the tool is pushed. By using the blade nearest the fibres will give the best result. Do not lower both blades and only set the depth of the blade so as not to cut into the underlay. Tip: Place a piece of plywood or vinyl under the carpet to prevent cutting into the underlay. By holding the cutter at 90° tight up against the edge tufts will accurately cut the excess backing off leaving a good edge to create a gapless join. Do not cut the edges until you are ready to produce the join. This will prevent accidental damage to the edge. You can cut off the excess backing material using scissors or a knife but these tools are not as accurate as a trimmer. There are other trimmers available with only one blade in but these do not cut as close as the Roberts tool. If you intend to use one of these you may have to hold the tool at a slight angle to achieve a close cut. One word of caution, if this type of tool is held at an angle you may leave a weak edge to the carpet that could cause a breakdown with usage.



Planning Seams/Joins

Seams should be kept to a minimum and must be positioned so that, where possible:

- Seams and cross joins are placed away from areas subject to heavy and twisting wear, doorways, lift entrances, stair noses and areas of narrow access.
- Seams run the length of the area.
- Main traffic flow is along rather than across the seam.
- Natural light does not strike across the seam.
- Are not perpendicular to doorway openings.

Seaming

Colortect+ is more suited to being joined using a heat seam tape or conductive tape (Silva Seam). Latex and jute tape are generally not strong enough to withstand foot traffic but may be used in small alcoves where it would be impossible to reach or use a heat seam iron. When using a heat seam iron the thermostat must not exceed a setting of 3. Because the thermostat on irons can become worn, always carry out a test run on a spare piece of carpet to ensure the iron is not too hot. Overheating of the adhesive on the tape will in most cases result in a failure as the adhesive will become brittle and break down after a few days. You must also understand that not all heat seam tapes are conducive to certain types of backing. We have not experienced any problems with our standard synthetic backing but you must always check as tapes can vary. Even though the tuft bind is good it is good practice to use seaming adhesive to reduce peaking and fibre loss in heaving wear areas. Heat Tape is not generally required when installing using a double stick method but you must use a good quality seam sealer to prevent movement when the carpet is wet cleaned.

Sealing Edges

Prior to seaming, both trimmed edges of the carpet to be seamed/ joined together must be sealed with a suitable seam sealer. The sealer must be applied in a manner that encapsulates both the primary and secondary backings, where applicable. This will prevent fibre loss and reduce peaking along the join.



4. DOUBLE STICK INSTALLATION SYSTEM

For optimum performance we strongly recommend this method of installation for all commercial public areas in excess of 26m². In areas such as hotel corridors and public spaces where heavy foot fall and/or wheeled traffic is expected a double stick installation system must be used, where possible. If sub-floors do not allow for the double stick system to be used then it is imperative the correct and necessary amount of tension be applied to the product for stretch fit method (see Stretch-Fit Installation), especially if Colortec+ or Tufted products are specified.

The selection of the type of underlay is critical to the overall performance of the carpet. The underlay should be of a firm uniform thickness. The adhesive coverage between the underlay and the sub-floor is dependent on usage. Applying a release adhesive with a medium roller will not have the same strength as applying the same adhesive with a notched trowel. Always allow the release adhesive to dry to a clear tacky state. Placing the underlay into a wet adhesive will result in a permanent adhesion. Once the adhesive has dried lay the underlay into position securing to the sub-floor using a glider or similar instrument (heavy rollers tend to move and stretch the underlay). For added strength to the installation lay the underlay at right angles to the length of the carpet. Next, position all lengths of the carpet prior to applying the adhesive; also refer to Pattern Adjustment and Alignment. TIP: For large areas placing a plastic sheet on top of the underlay can help with positioning and can be removed prior to applying the adhesive. Once positioned roll / fold back the carpet and apply adhesive to the underlay using a notch size of at least 2mm x 6mm. The adhesive must be applied evenly and tight up against the walls to prevent bubbling against the walls. After allowing sufficient open time of the adhesive (refer to manufacturer's instructions) place the carpet onto the adhesive smoothing out any air bubbles or creases with a glider or similar tool, heavy rollers should not be used as these will stretch the carpet that may move back leaving gaps after final cutting. Always glide the width before the length to reduce stretching the carpet. Make sure you press the edges firmly onto the adhesive during the open time of the adhesive. Once the adhesive has grabbed the carpet sufficiently cut the edges allowing around 5mm to tuck into the gap between the underlay and the wall or if gripper is used to give a tucked finish.



Direct-Stick

Direct-Stick is installed as above, but without underlay. This method generally reduces the carpets overall performance and is usually carried out to reduce installation costs. Accurate cutting is required as there is no space to tuck finish the edges. Any exposed edges will require a profile to be fitted to prevent edge damage and fibre loss. We strongly recommend the end user consider the potential effects on the performance of the carpet if a direct stick method of installation is selected. As stated above this method generally reduces the carpets overall performance levels in comparison to using a suitable contract quality underlay.

Adhesive Curing

It is highly recommended that traffic over the new adhered installation be restricted or eliminated for a minimum of 24-48 hours to allow the adhesive to reach its full cure strength. Premature trafficking can cause installation failure. Do not expose carpet to water for at least thirty days. Premature wet cleaning can also cause adhesive failure.



5. STRETCH FIT INSTALLATION

Gripper

There are various qualities of gripper available but a width of 25mm (1") is recommended as this will give more stability than narrower gripper. When installing carpets in excess of 5 metres in length and width either use architectural gripper with three rows of pins or two rows of gripper to give added strength to enable good tension to be achieved. When power stretching, long pin gripper can be used to give a better hold, however check that the pins will not penetrate the fibres which could cause injury.

- Gripper must be secured by either mechanical fixings such as serrated (ring shank) nails, screws with additional fixings by divergent staples or adhesive such as mastic or similar type. When fixing with adhesive the gripper must be cut into lengths of a maximum of 150mm (6"). Grippers should be fixed so that they should not lift during the life of the carpet.
- The gripper must be positioned leaving a consistent gap of 2/3 the thickness of the carpet with a maximum of 8mm (1/3") against all fixed objects such as skirting boards, door profiles, stairs etc. Nothing should obstruct the void formed.
- Do not fix gripper across open aspects such as doorways as this could create premature wear from foot traffic.
- Do not use mechanical fixings where under floor heating is installed.

5. STRETCH FIT INSTALLATION continued

When installing using the carpet gripper method, the textile floor covering should always be fitted under tension. When heavy contract carpets are used, particularly in large areas, architectural gripper or long pinned gripper should be used. This must be securely fixed to the sub-floor around all fixed objects such as walls, door jams and stairs etc. A suitable underlay must be used, one that provides sufficient support. All joins must be secured to the sub-floor and taped to prevent movement during installation and usage. Ensure the carpet is acclimatised to the usage (room) conditions prior to stretching to avoid possible re-stretches. The carpet must be installed under tension both in the width and length. Failure to do this can result in premature stretching of the carpet. Care must be taken when stretching and cutting around pillars and protruding walls as this can reduce the effectiveness of the stretch/tension. All types of carpet should be stretched from the middle creating even tension across the whole of the installation. By just cutting and tucking the carpet along one wall and then stretching across the opposite wall will in most cases leave insufficient tension along the first wall.

Power Stretching

British Standards (BS 5325:2001) state areas over 5 meters in length or width should be power stretched. If stretch fitting is unavoidable in very large areas a double headed power stretcher may be required to maintain tension throughout the laying process. One check that you can make is to grasp the fibres between your thumb and finger and lift. If there is sufficient tension the carpet should pull away from your grasp before any significant height is achieved. Another check is to shuffle your feet along and across the carpet. If a ripple is seen in front of your feet there is not enough tension.

It is essential that stretching is in both directions and the carpet should not lift when it is fixed and in use under tension. Failure to apply the above mentioned recommendations may result in dimensional changes, development of rucking or 'bubbling' and pattern distortion.



6. RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING RECOMMENDED UNDERLAYS AND ADHESIVES PLEASE CONTACT OUR TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT ON +44 (0) 1706 846 375.

EACH INSTALLATION MAY VARY AND THEREFORE TECHNICAL ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS WILL BE PROVIDED ON A PROJECT BY PROJECT BASIS WHERE NECESSARY. WE DO HOWEVER ALWAYS RECOMMEND THE USE OF CONTRACT QUALITY UNDERLAYS AND ASSOCIATED ADHESIVES.

ALWAYS REFER TO MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN WORKING WITH UNDERLAYS AND ADHESIVES.



7. COMPLETION

The whole working area must be cleared of tools and waste, and be left clean & tidy. The carpet should be carefully inspected to ensure that it is totally flat and free from blemishes. Any loose fibres should be removed, if required sharp napping scissors should be used.

It is recommended the areas surrounding the installation should be checked to ensure no accidental damage has been caused during the works.

We would also strongly recommend that new carpet be protected against any damage which may be caused by other trades.

For a comprehensive cleaning and maintenance guide please contact the Customer Services Team on +44 (0) 1706 846 375.

This Installation Guide should be read in conjunction with current British Standard for the Installation of Textile Floorcoverings (BS 5325:2001), other manufacturer's product guidelines and our current Terms and Conditions of Sale, copies of which are available upon request.



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