



# ELECTROTILE® SOLID VINYL TILE

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

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For proper installation of all American Biltrite flooring, you will need the following documentation:

- [Floor Preparation](#)
- [Adhesive Quick Check Chart](#)
- **Adhesive Technical Data Sheet**

Follow the [Floor Preparation](#) document for specific instructions concerning site conditions, subfloor preparation and moisture testing.

### REMOVAL OF OLD FLOORING

**Warning:** Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast, mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, felt lining, paint, asphaltic cutback adhesives or other adhesives. These products may contain asbestos fibres or crystalline silica. Regulations may require that material be tested to determine asbestos content. Consult the Resilient Floor Covering Institute's (RFCI's) recommendations for removal of existing resilient floor coverings. Avoid creating dust as inhalation increases the risk of cancer and respiratory diseases. Smokers exposed to asbestos fibres are at greater risk of serious bodily harm. Unless certain that the product is asbestos-free, assume that it contains asbestos.

### PRODUCT LIMITATIONS

1. For interior use only.
2. Electrotile must not be installed outdoor or in areas with no temperature control.
3. Electrotile must not be installed in a closed area that is directly exposed to sunlight and where temperature will rise excessively, that is, above 38°C (100°F).
4. Use only at temperatures between 55°F and 100°F (13°C and 38°C) as per ASTM F1482 and a relative humidity between 40 and 60%.

### ADHESIVE SYSTEMS

1. The use of the proper adhesive is critical for a successful end result. American Biltrite will only guarantee its flooring products with recommended adhesives as defined in the [Adhesive Quick Check Chart](#).
2. Whenever working with two-part adhesives, the use of a kneeboard is required to prevent adhesive displacement or working off the flooring.
3. Clean spills on surface and/or joints as well as tools promptly using soapy water, rubbing alcohol, denatured alcohol, or methyl hydrate.

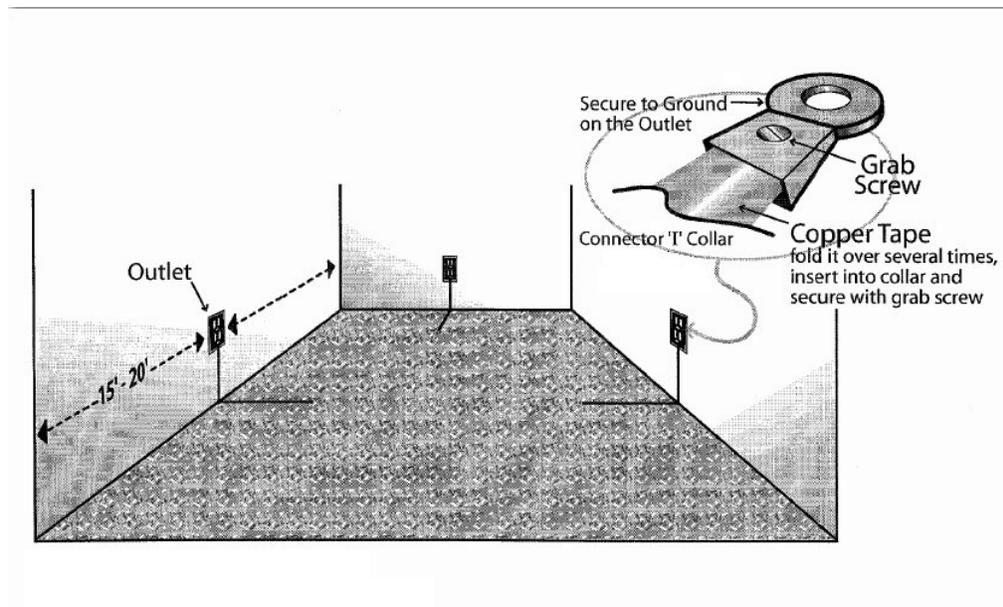
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4. Do not reuse container. Dispose of container and adhesive in accordance with federal, provincial/state, and local waste disposal regulations.
5. If there is any doubt about which adhesive to use, contact American Biltrite or its distributors for additional information.

#### GROUNDING THE FLOOR

1. The copper tape is fragile, and care must be taken during its installation.
2. Grounding copper tape must be installed on the subfloor prior to spreading the adhesive.
3. The copper tape adhesive must make good contact with the subfloor to ensure it does not move.
4. Take care not to break the copper tape when applying the grounding strips to the floor. If the copper tape is broken, there is no need to replace it entirely but simply join the broken tape with a piece of copper tape.
5. Using lengths of copper tape 9.5 mm (3/8") x 1.8 m (6 ft.) long x 0.003" thick, apply the first 1 m (3 ft.) to the floor out from the wall into the floor area. Take the remainder of the tape and attach it to the wall ready for installation to the permanent grounding service or bus bar.
6. This procedure should be repeated ideally every 4.9 m (16 ft.) around the room's perimeter.
7. All extremities of the copper tape on the walls should be temporarily protected with masking tape until installation is completed.
8. The copper tape shall be free of stress at the intersection of floor and walls.
9. Care must be taken not to damage copper tape while walking in the room or when spreading the adhesive.
10. See diagram below for more details and [click here for detailed pictures](#).



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1. First locate the center of the room and pattern square using the 3-4-5 squaring method.
2. Balance the layout to the size of the tiles to be installed so a minimum of 1/3 of a tile forms border perimeter.
3. Transcribe the pattern square and draw a chalk line at the starting point of the installation.
4. Apply adhesive to the subfloor and allow for proper open time. Open and working times are dependent on the ambient temperature, humidity, air movement as well as subfloor temperature. It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor to adjust installation in accordance with the open and working time of the adhesive to jobsite conditions.
5. If directional arrows are present on the back, lay tiles with arrows pointing in the same direction.
6. Tiles should be lightly butted together when they are laid into the adhesive. Do not force them together and avoid sliding them as this will result in adhesive displacement into the seam.
7. During installation always make sure proper adhesive transfer is achieved.
8. Roll flooring in both directions with a 45 kg (100 lb.) three-section roller to enhance adhesive transfer; use a small hand roller in difficult-to-reach areas.
9. Immediately clean any adhesive spills on tile surface or in seams.
10. Prior to traffic, allow proper adhesive curing time based on the Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.

#### **HEAT WELDING (OPTIONAL)**

1. Prior to heat welding, ensure that the adhesive cure time has been respected. Set the depth of the mechanical groover to 1/2 of the tile's thickness. Test this on a piece of scrap material. If a hand grooving tool is being used, ensure that the depth is kept consistent and the blade sharp.
2. Groove all seams with a mechanical groover. Make sure both sides of the grooves are symmetrical. Hand groove areas that are hard to reach, such as close to the walls. A grooving tool with a guide is recommended.
3. Clean all grooves and the general area of dust and debris.
4. Preheat a variable heat-welding gun to the correct temperature. We recommend that you practice welding on a scrap piece that has been grooved.
5. Cut a length of welding rod sufficient to weld the required length plus 30 cm (12") extra.
6. Weld the seam next to the wall. Apply slight pressure to the gun to help force the melted rod into the groove. Adjust the application speed as required.
7. Apply a mixture of one-part liquid soap to ten parts water to the welding rod and 25 mm (1") either side of the seam to help lubricate the trim plate while trimming.
8. First trimming, with trim plate, needs to be completed while the welding rod is still warm to remove the excess welding rod. For the second or finishing trim, the welding rod must be completely cool to prevent a concave appearance.
9. Clean the area with a brush or vacuum.

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10. Light traffic is allowed immediately after the installation— see Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.

#### ELECTRICAL TESTING PROCEDURE

1. Tests and/or approval by an American Biltrite representative are required in order for the warranty to be valid.
2. The electrical resistance of Electrotile flooring must be measured in accordance with the latest versions of ANSI/ESD STM7.1 or ASTM F150 test method.
3. NOTE: Testing can only be performed on a clean floor
4. **Surface-to-surface testing.** The surface resistance must be measured using two 2.27 kg ± 28 g (5 lbs ± 1 oz.) electrodes placed 91.5 cm (36") apart connected to a megohmmeter with 10 or 100 volts open circuit voltage. Both electrodes must be at least 91.5 cm (36") from any grounded object or wall.
5. For **Static Dissipative Tile (SDT)**, apply 100 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds.  
For **Conductive Tile (CVT)**, apply 10 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds. If the reading is higher than  $1 \times 10^6$  Ohms (1 MOhms), change the voltage to 100 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds.
6. Do 3 measurements at different locations within a 1,000 sq. ft. (92.9 sq. m) area; then, one per thousand square foot. For 1,000 sq. ft. and less take 5 measurements.
7. **Surface-to-ground testing.** The ground resistance must also be measured between an electrode placed 91.5 cm (36") from the wall and the permanent grounding service or bus bar.
8. For **Static Dissipative Tile (SDT)**, apply 100 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds.  
For **Conductive Tile (CVT)**, apply 10 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds. If the reading is higher than  $1 \times 10^6$  Ohms (1 MOhms), change the voltage to 100 volts and record the reading after 15 seconds.
9. Do 3 ground-resistance measurements at different locations within a 1,000 sq. ft. (92.9 sq. m) area; then, one per thousand square foot. For 1,000 sq. ft. and less take 5 measurements.
10. After each reading, make sure to clean the surface of the electrode with a clean rag and a solution of Isopropyl alcohol 70% then, let the electrode surface cleaned dry out (few seconds) and follow to the next reading.
11. **Conductive tile (CVT):** the average surface resistance and ground resistance must be between  $25 \times 10^3$  Ohms and  $1 \times 10^6$  Ohms (0.025 MOhms and 1 MOhms).
12. **Static dissipative tile (SDT):** an average reading of between  $1 \times 10^6$  Ohms and  $1 \times 10^9$  Ohms (1 MOhms and 1,000 MOhms).

**Note:** 1 MOhms = 1 MegOhms = 1 MΩ = 1,000 kΩ

#### FLOOR PROTECTION AND INITIAL MAINTENANCE

1. Following installation and cleanup of the tiles, protect it by laying sheets of non-staining brown

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Kraft paper over the flooring and then a layer of plywood sheets (rolls of heavy non-staining cardboard material could also be used for protection). Leave in position until the work of all other trades has been completed.

2. Prior to maintenance, allow proper adhesive curing time based on Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.
3. Do not, at any time during the initial maintenance or thereafter, flood the floor with water or maintenance solutions.
4. Refer to product-specific [Maintenance Instructions](#) for details.

Please note that technical web site documents prevail.