



**AmericanBiltrite**  
Flooring

## **MARATHON<sup>®</sup>, ABPURE<sup>®</sup> AND ABDEFENDER<sup>®</sup>** **RUBBER STAIR TREADS** **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 fibers 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 fibers 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. ABPURE, ABDefender and Marathon must not be installed outdoor or in areas with no temperature control.
3. ABPURE, ABDefender and Marathon 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 promptly on surface and/or joints as well as tools using soapy water, rubbing alcohol, denatured alcohol, or methyl hydrate. Mineral spirits are to be avoided.
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.



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## **MARATHON® , ABPURE® AND ABDEFENDER® RUBBER STAIR TREADS**

### **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

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#### **INSTALLATION**

##### **In general:**

1. Dry fit all treads. Do not force treads in place.
2. Avoid traffic on stairs as per Technical Data Sheet of the adhesive used. When using Zip-Step®\™ adhesive tape system, allow at least 2 hours for nosing compound to cure before allowing traffic.
3. It is required that all treads have a bead of nosing compound applied along the inside of the tread nosing angle section. Ensure that nosing compound fills the void between the tread and the nosing step.

A stair tread that is laid as shown in the picture below will break at the nosing due to repetitive flexing:



Make sure that the internal part of the nosing is filled properly with nosing compound to prevent any flex as seen in the picture below:





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### **INSTALLATION WITH ZIP-STEP<sup>®</sup>™ TAPE SYSTEM**

#### **Regular Stair Treads Installation:**

1. Scribe both side of treads to fit step.
2. Carefully clean step substrate and the back of rubber tread for any dust or particles.
3. Apply the tape strips; 24 cm (9.5") strip on the back of the tread and 2.5 cm (1") on the vertical portion of the nose. Apply them approximately 6 mm (¼") back from the internal angle of the tread nose. This will allow the nosing compound to be in direct contact with the rubber and not the tape.
4. Thoroughly roll the tape to ensure proper bonding to the back of the stair tread. Trim off excess tape along the edges of the stair tread.
5. Gun a bead of nosing compound into the nose of the stair tread to completely fill the void between the tread and the nosing step.
6. Carefully remove the 2.5 cm (1") release paper from the nose of the tread. On the top portion of the step, remove the first 7.5 cm (3") of the release paper.
7. After the release paper is removed, start at the front edge of the step, and press the tread down firmly and uniformly onto the step surface from front to back. Press nosing into stair so the nosing compound molds to the shape of the tread nose and stair. **Warning: once removed, the release paper might be slippery. Keep your working area clean and free of release paper.**
8. After thoroughly adhering the nosing portion of the stair tread to the step edge, carefully lift the back edge of the tread and remove the remaining of the release paper. Adhere the step section of the tread.
9. When the tread is in its final position, roll the entire tread and nosing surfaces with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion to the substrate surfaces.

#### **Stair Treads with Riser Installation**

##### **Preparation**

1. Install a cove filler strip at the intersection of tread and riser to fill the void. If intersection is already curved, do not apply.
2. Scribe both side of treads to fit step.
3. Carefully clean step substrate and the back of rubber tread for any dust or particles.
4. Apply the 24 cm (9.5") tape strip to the back of the step section of stair tread leaving a space of 6 mm (¼") from nosing. Then, apply the 2,5 cm (1") tape to the lower front part of nosing. This will allow the nosing compound to be in contact directly with the rubber and not the tape. Also, cover the back of the riser section of the stair tread by applying another 24 cm (9.5") tape section next to the first on the step section.
5. Thoroughly roll the tape with a hand roller to ensure proper bonding to the back of the stair tread. Trim off excess tape along the edges of the stair tread.



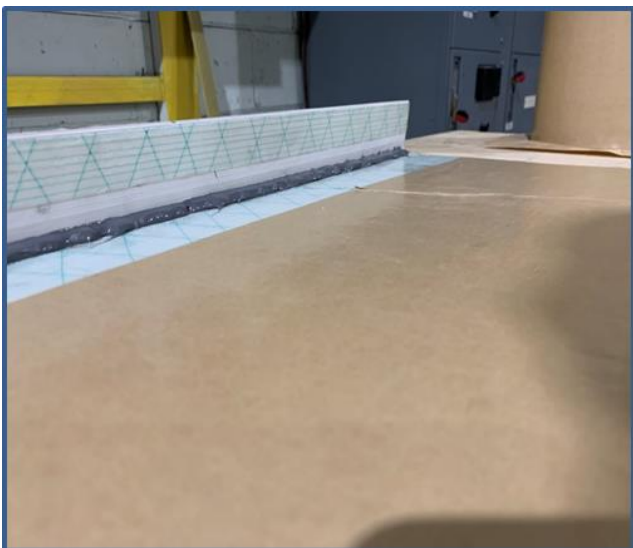
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6. Gun a bead of nosing compound into the nose of the stair tread to completely fill the void between the tread and the nosing step.

### **Installation**

1. Slightly cut the release paper, 5-8 mm (2-3") into the step section from the nosing. Carefully remove the 2.5 cm (1") release paper from the nose of the tread and 5-8 mm (2-3") from the back section of the step. Removing this small section of release paper will allow a better positioning of the tread.





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2. Overlap the top portion of the riser with the tread nosing. Start at the front edge of the stair tread and press the tread down firmly and uniformly onto the step surface from front to back. Press tread nosing so the nosing compound filler molds to the shape of the step nose radius.
3. Remove the remaining release paper of the step section of the tread and adhere completely step section from front to back.

**Warning: once removed, the release paper might be slippery. Keep working area clean and free of release paper.**

4. Remove release paper of the riser section and adhere from the bottom upward of the next nosing. Cut the riser to the below part of step radius, under no circumstances is the riser to be allowed to interfere in the radius section of nosing.
5. When the tread is in its final position, roll the entire nosing surface (front and top) with a metal hand roller to ensure proper adhesion. For the step surface and riser, roll the entire surface with a 3-section hand roller.

### **INSTALLATION WITH WET APPLIED ADHESIVE**

#### **Regular Stair Treads Installation**

1. Scribe both side of treads to fit step.
2. **Apply the 2,5 cm (1") tape to the lower front part of nosing. This will allow the nosing compound to be in contact directly with the rubber and not the tape.**
3. Carefully clean step substrate and the back of the tread for any dust or particles and then apply the adhesive to the step Follow the open time of the adhesive as described in Technical Data Sheet.
4. Leave 6 mm (1/4") from the internal angle of the tread nose without adhesives or tape, where the nosing compound will be in contact with the step.
5. Gun a bead of nosing compound into the nose of the stair tread to completely fill the void between the tread and the nosing step.
6. Install and press tread firmly into place. Press nosing into stair so the nosing compound molds to the shape of the tread nose and stair.
7. Any excess adhesive on the surface of the treads or surrounding area should be removed immediately as described in adhesive systems section.
8. When the tread is in its final position, roll the entire tread and nosing surfaces with a hand roller to ensure proper adhesion to the substrate surfaces.

#### **Stair Treads with Riser Installation:**

**Note: The installation of Stair Tread with Riser with wet applied adhesive requires dry contact adhesive tape for the nosing and riser section.**



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### **Preparation**

1. Install a cove filler strip at the intersection of tread and riser to fill the void. If intersection is already curved, do not apply.
2. Scribe both side of treads to fit step.
3. Carefully clean the back of rubber tread for any dust or particles.
4. Apply the 2,5 cm (1") tape to the lower front part of nosing. This will allow the nosing compound to be in contact directly with the rubber and not the tape. Also, cover the back of the riser section of the stair tread by applying another 24 cm (9.5") tape section on the riser section.
5. Thoroughly roll the tape with a hand roller to ensure proper bonding to the back of the stair tread. Trim off excess tape along the edges of the stair tread.
6. Carefully clean step substrate and then apply the adhesive on the step. Follow the open time of the adhesive as described in Technical Data Sheet.
7. Leave 6 mm (1/4") space without adhesive, on the horizontal part of the nosing, where the nosing compound will be in contact with the step.
8. Gun a bead of nosing compound into the nose of the stair tread to completely fill the void between the tread and the nosing step.

### **Installation**

1. Carefully remove the 2.5 cm (1") release paper from the nose of the tread.
2. Overlap the top portion of the riser with the tread nosing. Start at the front edge of the stair tread and press the tread down firmly and uniformly onto the step surface from front to back. Press tread nosing so the nosing compound filler molds to the shape of the step nose radius.
3. Remove release paper of the riser section and adhere from the bottom upward of the next nosing. Cut the riser to the below part of step radius, under no circumstances is the riser to be allowed to interfere in the radius section of nosing.

**Warning: once removed, the release paper might be slippery. Keep working area clean and free of release paper.**

4. When the tread is in its final position, roll the entire nosing surface (front and top) with a metal hand roller to ensure proper adhesion. For the step surface and riser, roll the entire surface with a 3-section hand roller.
5. Any excess adhesive on the surface of the treads or surrounding area should be removed immediately as described in adhesive systems section.

### **Visually Impaired Treads**

1. For Visually Impaired Treads, do not flex or bend treads with detectable warning strips.





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### **FLOOR PROTECTION AND INITIAL MAINTENANCE**

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

