

## **TEXAS GRANITE® 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. Texas Granite must not be installed outdoor or in areas with no temperature control.
3. Texas Granite 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.
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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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.

**FLASH COVING (OPTIONAL)**

1. Before starting, make sure that the substrate and wall are properly prepared for the installation of floor covering on a wall.
2. Install the cove cap on the wall at the required height from the floor. Depending on the cove cap system, this can be installed before or after with adhesive, self-adhesive or nails/staples.
3. A cove filler strips must be installed at the intersection of wall and floor. We recommend a radius of 4,5 cm (1 ¾ inch). To install, utilize a 3,5 cm (1 ⅜-inch) of dry contact adhesive tape to adhere. Once the cove filler strips are adhered, use a larger section of tape, and apply it from the bottom of the cove filler strips to the desired height. Consult [Adhesive Quick Check Chart](#) to select the proper dry contact adhesive tape.
4. When flash coving the vinyl tiles, consider the time required to heat the individual tiles, do not apply more adhesive to the substrate than the open time allowed by the adhesive. The flash cove portion of the installation should be carried out separately as much as possible once the main section is complete.
5. Determine the portion of tile that will be matching against the cove filler strips and heat the back section of that tile. Remove the release paper from the tape and adhere the tile starting from the floor portion and going up to the wall portion. Once the tile is in his final position roll the flooring part of tiles with a 45 kg (100 lb) sectional roller and wall section with a hand roller to enhance adhesive transfer.

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6. Use a template system to cut the inside and outside corners of the wall section.

#### **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 Texas Granite 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.
10. Light traffic is allowed immediately after the installation– see Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.

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

1. Following installation and cleanup of the tiles, 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.

