

## ■ installation

### section V – vinyl composition tile, premium visual tile and slip retardant tile

vinyl composition tile: essentials / designer essentials

premium visual tile: inspirations / brushwork / colorpoint / solidpoint

slip retardant tile: safewalks

#### general instructions

Follow all General Instruction Guidelines as described on page 109. Always store Mannington Commercial products in a protected, dry interior area. Do not double-stack pallets. Keep the jobsite, adhesives, and tile at a minimum temperature of 65°F and a maximum of 95°F for at least 48 hours before installation. Maintain this minimum temperature during the installation and for 48 hours after the installation to assure proper bond of the adhesives.

If you intend to cover a concrete slab with the resilient floor covering, always test the concrete slab for the presence of moisture. The required quantitative test is the calcium chloride test ASTM-1869. Alternate test is ASTM F-2170 with a relative humidity level of 75% maximum. The maximum acceptable moisture vapor emission specification is not to exceed 5 lbs per 1000 sq ft per 24 hours for all Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile products when installed with Mannington M-Guard V-11 Vinyl Composition Tile adhesive. **This only applies to Mannington Commercial Vinyl Composition Tile/Premium Visual Tile/Slip Retardant Tile installations using M-Guard V-11 adhesive.** If any other adhesive is specified or selected, follow the adhesive manufacturer's warranty and recommendations regarding acceptable maximum moisture emission levels. Furthermore, this increase is only applicable to Mannington Commercial Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile and commercial felt-backed resilient sheet products and not any other Mannington resilient sheet product. The maximum acceptable moisture vapor emission level for all Mannington homogeneous resilient sheet products is 3 lbs per 1000 sq ft per 24 hours.

**NOTE: Moisture testing can only indicate conditions at the time of the test and cannot predict any future changes in moisture levels. Neither Mannington nor the flooring contractor can be responsible if moisture levels change in the future.**

Install Mannington Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile only after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of other trade apparatus that may damage the finished tile installation. The lighting on the jobsite must be sufficient to permit inspection and preparation of the underfloor, layout, installation, cleanup, and final inspection of the tile. Always check the cartons to assure the pattern number is correct and that there is a sufficient quantity of tile for the installation. Make certain the lot numbers are the same on all cartons. To minimize any minor shade variation on large installations, mix and install tiles from several different cartons. If the shade variation is extreme, do not install the tile.

**NOTE: Please be aware that installing Vinyl Composition Tile/Premium Visual Tile/Slip Retardant Tile over existing flooring may reduce its excellent indentation resistance.**

#### existing resilient floor coverings

To achieve maximum product performance, Mannington Commercial Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile should not be installed over existing resilient floor coverings. In the rare cases where removal of the existing resilient floor covering is not an option, the existing flooring must be covered with Mannington MVP-2023 or other appropriate porous underlayment.

**NOTE: Consult Mannington's Professional Installation Guide or the Recommended Work Practices brochure from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute for specific instructions on removal of old resilient floor covering.**

**WARNING: Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, asphaltic "cutback" adhesives, or other adhesives. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. The Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) document "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" should be consulted for a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures. For more information, visit the Resilient Floor Covering Institute at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com).**

#### tile layout

You may position Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile either square or diagonal to the room. In both cases, layout is critical. All border tile should be relatively even in width and, if possible, at least one-half of a tile wide. Additionally, if you lay the tile on the diagonal border tile color and/or graining against the wall should be consistent within the area. Refer to Mannington Professional Installation Guide for specific square and diagonal layouts.

#### adhesive recommendations and application

Mannington M-Guard V-11 is a premium thin-spread adhesive developed specifically for Mannington Commercial Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile. M-Guard V-11 is non-flammable and provides a strong moisture-resistant and strong alkali-resistant bond. You may use M-Guard V-11 on all approved wood underlayments, existing resilient floor coverings, and all grade levels of concrete. You may also apply M-Guard V-11 directly over cutback adhesive residual stains after all of the old adhesive has been removed.

Use of adhesives contrary to this recommendation is strictly the responsibility of the flooring contractor and/or the adhesive manufacturer.

**CAUTION: Solvent-based adhesives are flammable. Refer to instructions on adhesive labels for precautions.**

### application

- Make sure the subfloor is clean of dirt, paint, oils, wax, etc. The subfloor must be smooth and level before starting the installation.
- Maintain the adhesive, tile, and jobsite at a minimum temperature of 65°F and a maximum temperature of 95°F for 48 hours before, during, and after installation.
- After you complete the tile layout, apply adhesive to one-half of the work area. Exercise caution to maintain the working lines. If necessary, restrike the working lines over the adhesive after it dries clear.
- Apply M-Guard V-11 with a trowel notched 1/16" wide, 1/32" deep, and 1/32" apart. V-11 can also be applied using a roller or a brush.
- Apply adhesive evenly, with no bare spots or heavy puddles. Avoid overlapping edges of adhesive.
- Before installing tile, allow V-11 adhesive to develop tack and dry. This normally takes 45 to 50 minutes. Humidity and/or subfloor porosity, however, always dictate the proper open time.
- Set tiles firmly against adjoining tiles and press into adhesive. Do not slide tiles into place.
- You can remove fresh adhesive smears with a cloth dampened with water. Dried adhesive may be cleaned using mineral spirits and a clean cloth.

### tile installation

After the M-Guard V-11 adhesive dries, begin laying tile at the intersection of the working lines. Place the first tile squarely against the working lines. Since the positioning of this tile determines the accuracy of the entire installation, it is critical to lay the starter tile exactly on the lines.

Once you have set the first tile firmly in place, begin laying tiles outward along both guide lines. Place tiles firmly against adjoining tiles and press into adhesive. Do not slide into place. Keep tiles on the guide. Essentials, Designer Essentials and Inspirations can be installed either quarter-turned or in one direction. SolidPoint, ColorPoint, Brushwork and Safewalks are recommended to be installed in one direction.

After you have positioned several tiles along the working lines, begin stair-stepping tiles into the field area. This will keep tiles square to each other throughout the installation. Lay tiles up to where border tiles must be cut to fit. Apply adhesive to the second half of the work area, let it dry clear, then continue laying tile.

### cutting and fitting border tiles

You may cut border tile to fit using several techniques. The most common technique for square layouts is to place a full tile directly over the last full field tile. Using another full tile placed firmly against the wall and over the border tile, score the border tile. Be certain the graining of the border tile is properly aligned. Cut the border tile along the scored line and position factory edges of tiles together with the cut edge against the wall.

Use a template cut from stiff cardboard or hardboard to cut border tile in diagonal layouts. For Mannington Commercial 12" Vinyl Composition Tile, Premium Visual Tile and Slip Retardant Tile, cut the template to the diagonal dimension of the tile, approximately 17" square. Use accurate measurements to measure and cut the template. Use the template in place of the tile and proceed as outlined above.

You may direct scribe or pattern scribe the border tile for irregular walls, pipes, etc. For intricate cuts, we recommend you heat the tile from the back and cut with a sharp utility knife along the scribed marks.

### finishing and maintenance

Do not wash or scrub the floor for at least 4 or 5 days after installation to allow the floor tiles to bond to the underlayment/subfloor. Keep heavy furniture and equipment off the floor for at least 48 hours to allow the adhesive to set. Sweep or vacuum thoroughly, and remove any residual adhesive with a clean white cloth dampened with mineral spirits. Apply a minimum of two coats of a high-quality cross-linked acrylic floor polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin.

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