



## RE-TIRE RECYCLED RUBBER TILES INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Tiles Storage: minimum 55° F, less than 50% humidity.  
New Concrete: 30 days cure prior to installation of rubber.

Recommended Adhesive: U-984 Universal Urethane Wood + Rubber Adhesive, available through Capri cork; Chemrex CX-941 adhesive is also acceptable.

**Recommended Trowel: 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel for U-984 Universal adhesive.**

**IMPORTANT – BEFORE ANY INSTALLATION IS STARTED BE SURE TO:** Verify the product type, size, thickness, color. Check for any visual defects.

**Skive / Knife marks on product is an inherent characteristic of using recycled rubber and is not considered a defect.**

Any suspect defective material must be brought to the attention of your material provider. **NO CLAIMS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE MATERIAL HAS BEEN INSTALLED.**

Installation of the rubber flooring will be only as good as the substrate it goes over. If substrate is uneven, rubber will not lay flat.

**WET, GREASY, ETC. SUB-STRATES IS THE FIRST MAJOR CAUSE OF BONDING FAILURE.**

**PREPARATION OF SUBSTRATE:** All substrates should be cleaned, dry, smooth, level and structurally sound. Substrate should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, sealers, old adhesives or other materials according to ASTM 710. Before installing any materials make sure that the area is completely dry and level 3/16" in 10 feet; do calcium chloride test and check for pH level. Moisture should not exceed 3 lbs/ 1000 sq ft; pH level should be 7-10.

**Concrete floors:** If floor is uneven, level it with a Portland based patching compound. If floor is new, be sure it is completely dry (several months curing is preferred). Sweep area clean. Slab should adhere to ASTM F1869 for water vapor emissions. Cracks, expansion joints and uneven areas should be filled.

**Wood floors:** Wood substrates must have a minimum 18" of cross ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and the ground. Crawl spaces shall be insulated and protected

by a vapor barrier. If needed, floor may be covered with 3/8" A.P.A. approved underlayment plywood.

An adhesive bond test should be completed in several locations across the floor. Glue down 2' x 2' pieces of material with recommended adhesive and trowel and let set for 48 hours before trying to remove. It should be relatively difficult to pull tile up and there should be adhesive on the floor and the tile.

### **JOB SITE CONDITIONS AND MATERIAL ACCLIMATION:**

All trades must be out of the area before installation begins. After installation is complete if other trades will work in the area, appropriate protective cover should be placed on the floor prior to any work. Area where flooring is to be installed should be temperature controlled between 65° and 75° F for 48 hours prior to, during and after installation. The material must be placed in the area to be installed 24 hours before starting installation.

Establish the room center and snap chalk line across the narrow dimension of the room on each side of the center. A 72" wide course across the room is established by these two lines. One five gallon unit of U-984 Universal adhesive, available through Capri Cork or Chemrex CX-941 adhesive (also an approved adhesive), should cover approximately 400 sq ft.

### **INSTALLATION:**

1. Lay out Re-tire tiles for at least 12 hours before installation. Rubber will expand and contract with temperature and humidity changes. A tile laid in the morning at one temperature might be a different size when a tile is laid in the afternoon at a different temperature. This will allow tiles to properly acclimatize together and equalize. Also the tiles should be "DRY LAID"; THIS MUST BE DONE TO CHECK FOR ANY COLOR VARIATIONS OR BLEMISHES. If there is any type of defect or questionable color difference DO NOT INSTALL.

2. Follow directions on the adhesive container. If the adhesive spreads more than 100 square feet per gallon, there is not sufficient adhesive to PERMANENTLY ADHERE TO THE TILE. Obviously rough finishes will affect coverage.

3. Apply adhesive using a 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel. Use a new trowel for each new pail of adhesive, DO NOT RE-NOTCH THE TROWEL.

**CAUTION:** Open-Time will vary according to air and surface temperature, relative humidity and porosity of substrate. High temperatures and low humidity will cause the adhesive to set up quickly. Low temperatures and low humidity will cause adhesive to cure at a slower rate. It is up to the

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installer to monitor on site conditions and adjust accordingly.  
DO NOT LET ADHESIVE SKIM OVER.

4. Laying Re-tire tiles – one unit of adhesive should be spread and the tiles installed, cut to vertical surfaces, and rolled before more adhesive is used. Use a 75 lb roller (a roller heavier than 75 lbs may cause tiles to stretch). The object is to establish the first course of installed tiles across the room, making sure this course is properly set and even before continuing.

The RE-Tire tiles are manufactured for your project in one shade/pattern/lot number very close to the same color. However minor variations are inherent in all flooring products, so properly mixing tiles will blend variation to produce a handsome pattern. Uneven distribution of color granules may appear in the tile. This can be rectified by turning the tile over or installing in a less visible area.

5. Install one row of tiles, closely following one of the chalk lines. Start the first full tile about 1” short of a full tile from the wall.

TIP: When the first course is completely installed, cut to walls, and rolled, start the second 72” course on one side of the starting course and continue the installation. The third starting course installed should be on the opposite side of the starting course. By alternating sides from the starting course, maximum time is allowed for the adhesive to harden before installer traffic is forced onto the tiles.

6. Install the second row of tiles starting midway between the joint of the first two tiles to establish a “BRICK WALL” pattern. Installing by this method eliminates pressure on the tile corners and results in a better match at the seams.

TIP: During the installation of the second, third and subsequent courses it will be necessary to work on the newly installed tiles. As mentioned before, tiles can easily be kicked out of place. It will most likely be necessary to tape tiles together more often than not in order to keep them in place during the job.

7. Install as many full tiles as the adhesive spread will allow.

TIP: Always be alert for tiles that may have been moved out of place; firm them gently into place with your toes and tape them.

8. Avoid traffic on the newly installed tiles. Adhesive is slippery when first spread and the tiles will shift position even if only slightly disturbed.

9. All tiles for the first 72” course will be installed and rolled while the workers are standing/walking/kneeling on the bare concrete on either side of the course.

10. Tiles should be laid in place naturally so as to insure good contact with close, even joints. DO NOT EXERT

PRESSURE on the tiles.

11. Sometimes due to necessary traffic on the newly installed tiles and /or substrate imperfections, tiles may not meet perfectly. This tile can be held together with blue tape until the adhesive hardens. DO NOT USE DUCT TAPE. 3M “long mask” #2090 is preferred; however testing a tape on a tile is the best way to determine its desirability.

12. Roll the floor as soon as possible after laying; roll the tiles with a 75 lb sectional roller to insure proper transfer of adhesive to the back of the tile.

13. Roll the tiles the length of the course and across the course. Be sure to roll the floor while the adhesive is still soft. FAILURE TO ROLL THE TILES WHILE ADHESIVE IS STILL SOFT IS THE SECOND MAJOR CAUSE OF BONDING FAILURE.

Use hand roller in areas where larger roller can not reach, as well as on all seams after the floor has been rolled. If there is some gapping in the seams blue tape can be used to pull the seam together. Do not use any other tape as it may leave a residue. If there are edges that are not staying down they can be sandbagged overnight. Once the floor has set the tape may be removed.

If adhesive has come up between the seam, immediately clean with a damp rag and mineral spirits. Cured adhesive on the flooring product is very difficult to clean up. Any adhesive that gets on the top of the tiles can be removed while still soft with a soaked rag of denatured alcohol.

Any adhesive outside the installed field of tiles should be removed before leaving the job at the end of the day. The next day it will be very hard and need to be chipped away before starting work.

ALLOW NO FOOT TRAFFIC or ROLLING LOADS FOR AT LEAST 24 HOURS. Indentations in adhesive which occur prior to the adhesive curing (72 hours) will be permanent.

**INITIAL CLEANING:** Do not wash the floor for at least 5 days after installation. Protect floor until cleaning can be done. The initial cleaning of the new floor is very important. This cleaning is done to remove any dirt and grit from job site conditions prior to applying a sealer or finish. Failure to clean properly will cause finish bonding issues as well as the entrapment of dirt in the floor.

Re-Tire needs to have *U2001* acrylic emulsion finish (available from Capri) applied. Instructions about application of the finish as well as complete cleaning instructions are available in document RT406 and RT412, which are available at [capricork.com](http://capricork.com) or by calling 800.492.2613.