



UNIJOY INSTALLATION

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UNIJoy IMPORTANT NOTICES

These Installation Instructions cover most installation procedures. If you run across a situation that isn't addressed in this document or requires more detailed assistance, please contact the Unijoy's customer service department.

All carpet tiles should be carefully inspected for damage or defects prior to installation. Unijoy will not be responsible for any cost associated with replacement or repair as a result of damaged or defective tiles being installed when said damage or defects were identifiable prior to installation. If you encounter any conditions or defects during installation that could jeopardize the installation or affect the installation procedure, you should STOP the installation immediately and contact Unijoy's customer service.

The carpet tiles are warranted in accordance with Unijoy's Standard Product Warranty.

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN THE STANDARD PRODUCT WARRANTY, UNIJoy MAKES NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS OF ITS PRODUCTS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSES, AND HEREBY DISCLAIMS THE SAME.

UNIJOY IMPORTANT NOTICES

Without limiting the foregoing, Unijoy will not be responsible for tears, burns, cuts, pulls or other damage, deterioration, problems or loss caused by abuse, neglect, misuse, improper installation, improper maintenance, flood, use on stairs, or use with athletic equipment, or installations over substrates where hydrostatic pressure or groundwater intrusion exists.

Moisture and pH testing at the installation site are not the responsibility of Unijoy, and issues related to or arising from excessive moisture and/or pH are specifically excluded from the Unijoy's warranty except as expressly set forth herein and in Unijoy's product warranty.

The Unijoy warranty also does not cover any problems or damages arising from or related to the use of adhesives or non-recommended installation techniques or conditions.

WARNING: IN THE EVENT THAT ANY ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS OR OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ARE ENCOUNTERED DURING INSTALLATION, YOU SHOULD STOP THE INSTALLATION IMMEDIATELY AND OBTAIN ASSISTANCE FROM A QUALIFIED REMEDIATION CONSULTANT OR CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO PROCEEDING.

1. INSPECTION BEFORE STARTING

It is the responsibility of the contractor to verify, before the installation, that material supplied conforms to owner's specifications, including correct product, color and quantity. Labels on each carton contain important information including product, color and manufacturing batch (dye lot information).

Take particular notice of installation codes printed on cartons as this indicates the manufacturers' recommended installation method. However the client's preferred installation method should be confirmed and signed off by the installer before commencement of installation.

2. CONDITIONING OF MATERIALS

The installation location must stay within 15 degrees C–30 degrees C with relative humidity between 40%–65% for a period of 48–72 hours before, during and after the installation. The heating and air conditioning system should be operational during this period.

3. FLOOR PREPARATIONS

The subfloor must be rigid, dry, smooth, flat, level, sound, clean and free from harmful materials. When installing hard backing modular carpet products.

The subfloor must be rigid to stop modular carpet from cupping. Old carpet, under felt, loose laid vinyl, cushion backed vinyl and any old adhesive must be removed and floor must be scraped clean.

A clean floor – Floor should be free from all dirt, dust and harmful materials. Before applying adhesive sweep/mop and vacuum the subfloor to remove all dust. Concrete or timber floors must be primed with an approved primer before application of adhesive.

A dry floor – All floors must be dry. New concrete floors must be checked for moisture as per Unijoy recommendations. Moisture content must not exceed levels. If the moisture content is above the recommended maximum readings STOP and DO NOT PROCEED with the installation. Please seek further advice from Unijoy before proceeding.

A low pH floor – The subfloor should have an alkalinity level of between pH7 & pH9 to be suitable for PVC backing carpet installation. Should the pH level be outside this range STOP and DO NOT PROCEED with the installation, and you may seek further advice from Unijoy before proceeding.

New concrete floors – Must be smooth, level and dry.

Old concrete floors – Remove paint, sealer, grease, oil, adhesive and any harmful materials, especially bituminous based substances which are not compatible with PVC backing modular carpet products. All existing adhesives must be removed from the floor. Fill and level all cracks and holes. Bring surface up to specification using an approved levelling compound, in accordance with manufacturer's directions. This levelling compound needs to be compatible with the backing system. Any existing carpet, under felt, loose laid vinyl, cushion back vinyl and all existing adhesives must be removed and the floor scraped clean.

Wood Floors – Unless the subfloor is free from grooves, ridges, gaps, holes or similar imperfections, the use of a hard underlay is recommended.

Sealer / Moisture Barrier – If a sealer is used on a concrete floor, it must be compatible with vinyl and can be either a solvent or water based sealer which can be acrylic, epoxy, urethane or chlorinated rubber. Sealers must also be used in accordance with manufacturer's directions. If in doubt, coat sealer on back of the tile and leave overnight. It is not suitable for use if it remains sticky.

4. INSTALLATIONS

4.1 Measurement

Determine the center of the room and starting (or datum) point using standard tile-laying methods (see Figure 1). The resulting quadrants should meet at right angles. Offsetting the center chalk line may be necessary to ensure that the perimeter tiles will be at least half-size or larger. In some cases, due to doorways or partitions, the starting point is not the center of the room.

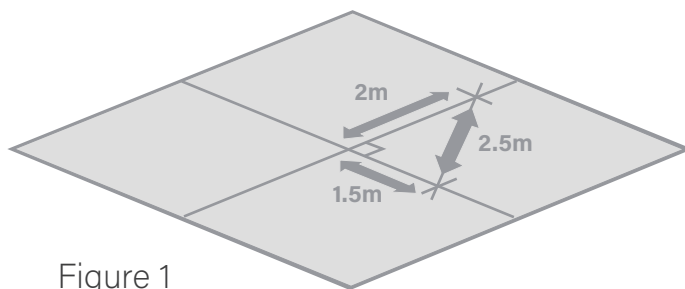


Figure 1

For Planks, particularly when laying traditional herringbone, measurement accuracy is vital to a successful installation.

When deciding on the starting point for herringbone and the pattern direction we recommend consideration of the following key factors:

- The longest dimension of the room.

- The pattern running to the major architectural features e.g. main entrance or reception desk.

4.2 Method of Fixing

4.2.1 Adhesive

If you choose spread adhesive, use only approved Pressure Sensitive Adhesive on all areas other than stairs.

On stairs, use only vinyl compatible permanent adhesive. For stair nosing, use manufacturer's recommended installation method.

4.2.1.1 Full Spread Adhesive Application

Apply adhesive with a 1.27cm nap paint roller. Expect a spread 7.35-9.9 square meters per liter using a 1.27cm nap paint.

For raised floor systems a full spread of adhesive is required.

4.2.1.2 Grid Adhesive Application

Using a 1.27cm nap paint roller, apply adhesive along each base line to anchor the starting rows.

Adhesive must also be applied at all room perimeters (each wall).

The application rate for a grid adhesive method is 33 square meters per liter.

Grid size should not exceed 3 m.

Grid size should be adjusted based on expected traffic flow.

Grids can range from 0.3-3 m.

NOTE: A full spread of adhesive must be applied under every cut tile and any adjoining tile to the cut tile. Full spread is also required in any area that will be exposed to high foot traffic and/or heavy rolling traffic.

4.2.1.3 Adhesive in special situations

FLATWIRE

Never apply adhesive directly over flatwire. The flatwire may be damaged if the tiles need to be removed.

UNEVEN AREAS

Any surface that cannot be leveled may require adhesive or double-sided tape to hold a tile in place.

4.2.2 Plastic Sticker

Unijoy flooring tiles may be secured using Plastic Sticker.

Subfloor preparation requirements for installations using Sticker are the same as those for installations where adhesives would be used.

4.2.2.1 Connecting Tiles with Sticker

To apply Sticker according to Figure 2 paying particular attention to the guide marks on each sticker.

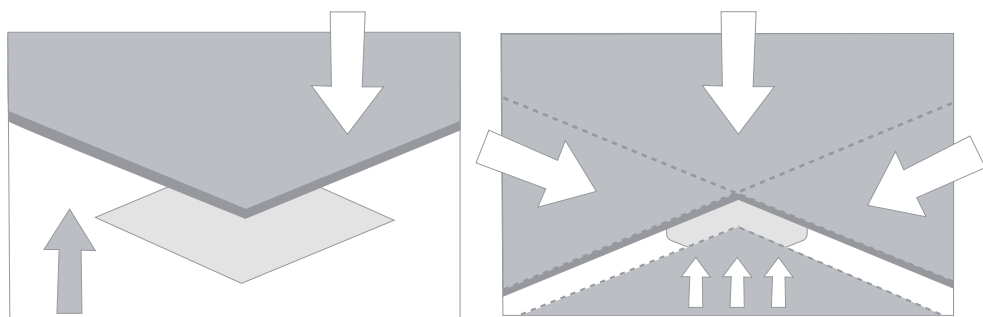


Figure 2

4.2.2.2 Sticker Placement

Insert tiles based upon the approved installation method. Sticker should be placed as in Figure 3.

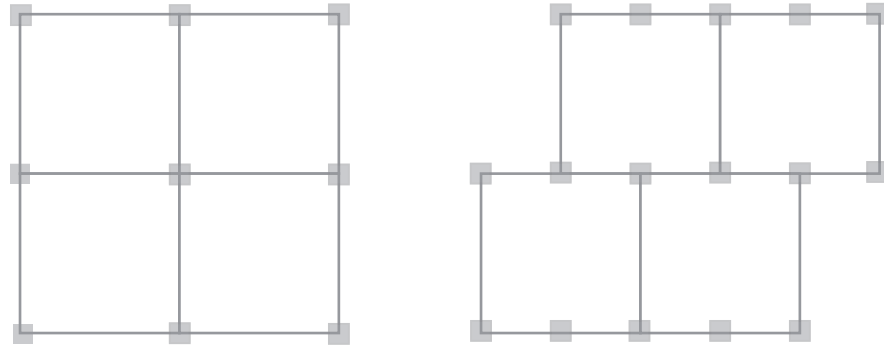


Figure 3

Lay anchor rows, placing a Sticker connector at every joint. Install carpet tile using a step method in all quadrants, placing a Sticker connector at every joint.

Sticker should be applied at all room perimeters. Sticker must also be applied under every cut tile and any tile adjoining to the cut tile.

Notice: Heavy foot traffic may require the use of a higher application rate.

4.2.2.3 Tile Replacement

When replacing a carpet tile either lift the carpet tile and peel it from the connector or cut through the Sticker joining the tiles together. Replace with a new one.

Notice: Plastic Sticker are not recommended for installation of carpet tiles on stairs, ramps, in spaces with heavy rolling loads or over existing carpet surfaces.

4.3 Carpet Tile Installation

4.3.1 Method

From the starting point, install one row of tiles accurately and firmly along each of the chalk lines (see Figure 4).

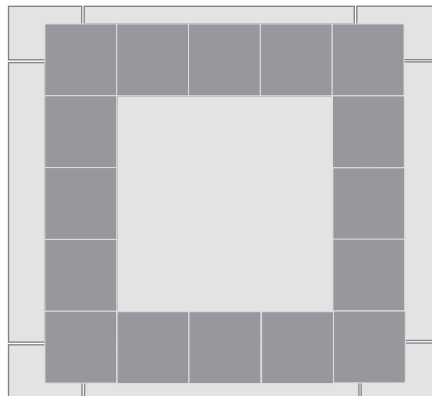


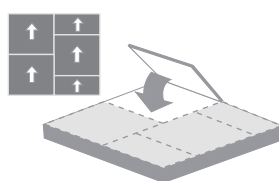
Figure 4

4.3.2 Pile Direction

The back of all Unijoy products carries arrows denoting pile direction that are important during installation. Product-specific installation recommendations can be found on the shade cards, specifications and in the product catalogue on the website. There are various methods of tile installation:

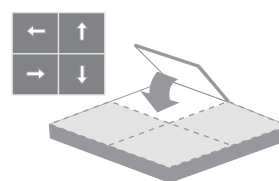
Non-Directional, Monolithic, Quarter-turn, Brick and Ashlar (See Figure 5).

Notice: Products designed for non-directional installation will have arrows on the back of the carpet tiles; these can be ignored during a non-directional installation.



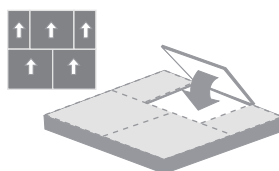
Ashlar Installation

Arrows should all point in the same direction with the tile bond displaced by half a tile in the direction of the arrow.



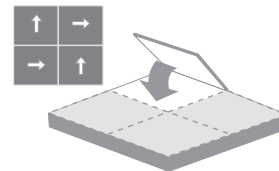
Non Directional Installation

Tiles installed without regard to direction and orientation.



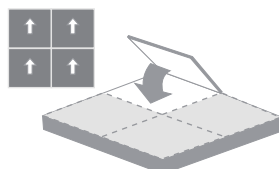
Brick Installation

Arrows should all point in the same direction with the tile bond displaced by half a tile at odds with the direction of the arrow.



Quarter-Turn Installation

Tiles turned 90 degrees to one another with no displacement - also known as Chequerboard.



Monolithic Installation

Arrows should all point in the same direction with no displacement.

Figure 5

4.3.3 Alignment

As tiles are butted against each other, frequently check the joints with your fingers to ensure they are properly aligned.

4.3.4 Tightness

Particular care should be taken at all stages of installation to ensure that the tiles are tightly butted together, with the backing of adjacent tiles touching. The face pile should be brushed back, placed on the floor and pulled in to touch the adjoining tiles, avoiding any pile being caught in the joint (see Figure 6).

Loose joints will result in movement and poor floor performance. Avoid too much pressure on adjoining tiles as this will cause them to 'peak' or 'buckle'.

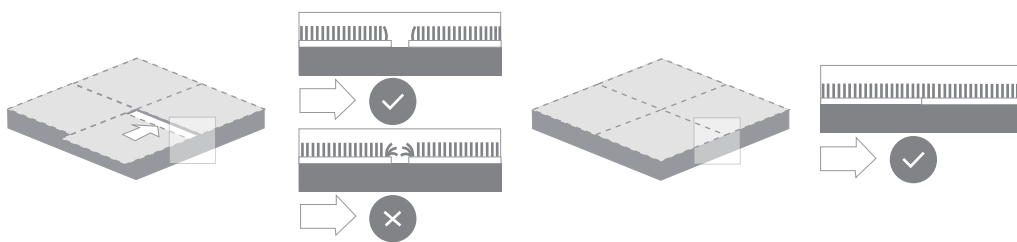


Figure 6

4.3.5 Complete Each Grid

As indicated in Figure 7

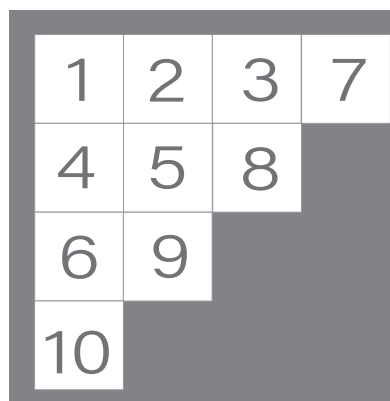


Figure 7

4.3.6 Cutting

With the tile face side down, accurately measure and mark the tile on the backing (see Figure 8). Using a carpet knife and straight edge, cut through the backing.

Fit the perimeter cut with its manufactured edge adjoining the last complete tile, then cut the edge to the perimeter.

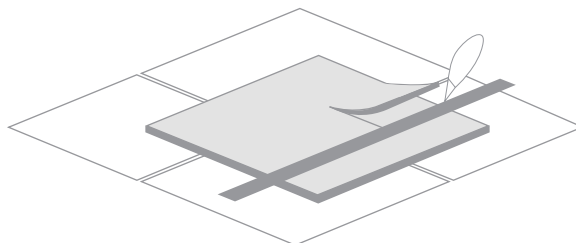


Figure 8

4.4 Planks Installation

Planks can be installed either ashlar or herringbone. Check product specific installation recommendations. For ashlar the same measuring (planning) and installation practices apply as for standard sized carpet tiles.

4.4.1 Planks Ashlar

Arrows should all point in the same direction with the plank bond displaced in the length direction. Ashlar installation can be done either half drop or variable drop with variable drop preferred (see Figure 9).

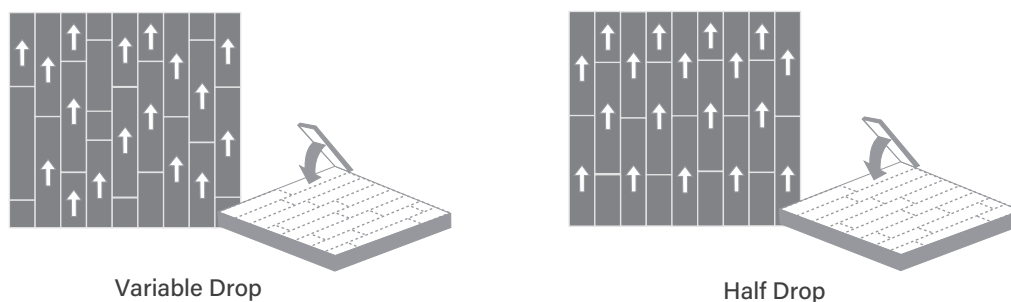


Figure 9

4.4.2 Planks Herringbone

A herringbone pattern can be created in two ways, which requires different levels of planning. Herringbone is created by laying the Planks in an L pattern. The starting point can be at a 90-degree angle (type A) or a 45-degree angle (type B) (see Figure 10).

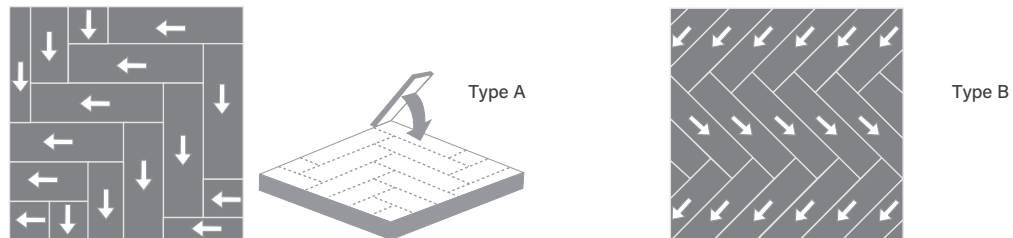


Figure 10

For type A the Planks can be laid into the right angle created by the chalk lines as described in section 4.1. When building out from these anchor Planks in an L pattern frequently use the set square to ensure precise alignment and squareness (see Figure 11).

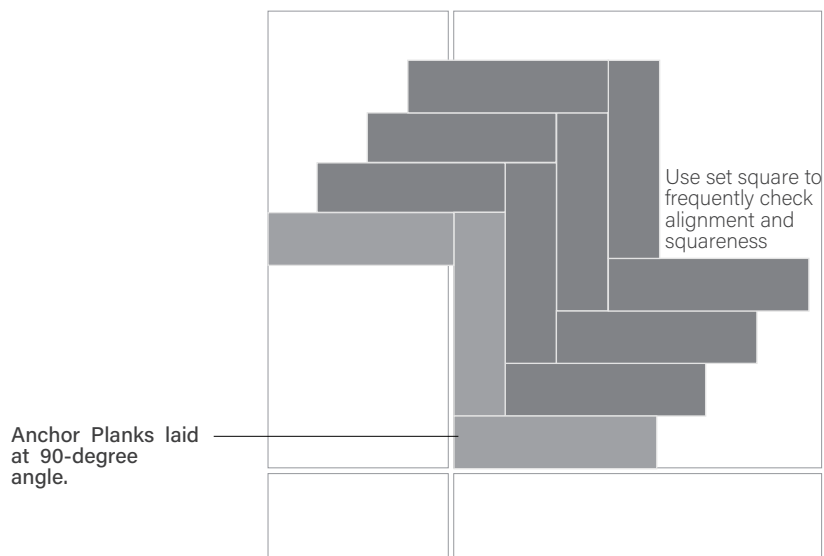


Figure 11

Type B is more complex and requires additional, diagonal working lines. Establish the center focal point for the desired pattern and snap the center and base chalk lines as described in section 4.1. Use the set square to check the chalk lines are perpendicular.

The center line follows the direction of the pattern and to ensure the pattern remains central it may be necessary to measure and draw a working line parallel to the center line. For planks measure 18 cm and snap a chalk line parallel to the center line. This is the line to begin laying to.

Dissect the right angles where the working line and baseline meets and chalk diagonal, 45-degree lines. Use the set square to ensure these lines are square and then lay the first plank along the diagonal line, starting at the intersection of the working line and baseline.

Place the next plank to create the L shaped pattern and using the set square ensure precise alignment. These two anchor Planks determine the squareness of the entire installation. Continue with this pattern frequently using the set square to ensure precise alignment (see Figure 12).

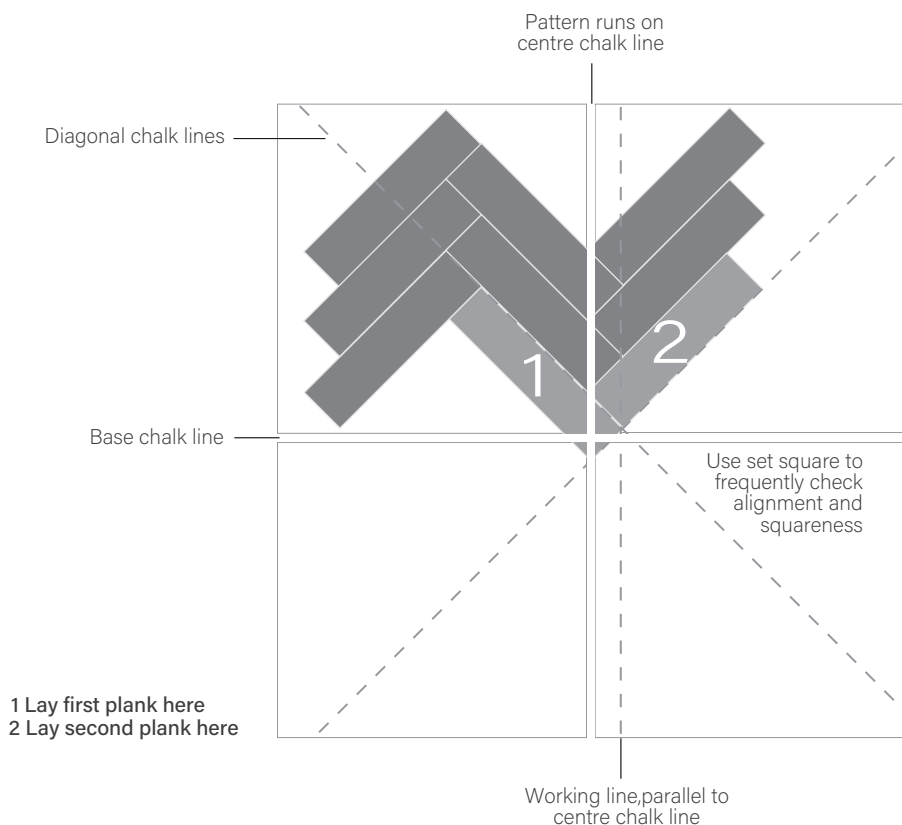


Figure 12

4.5 Cushion Back

Cushion Back is designed with recycled PET felt to improve both acoustics and under-foot comfort. It is an integrated backing and is available on many modular carpet ranges.

When installing products on Cushion Back, the same recommendations apply as for carpet tiles on standard backing.

The method of fixing should be Pressure Sensitive Adhesive only and not Plastic Sticker. If in doubt please contact the Unijoy technical service department.

When using Pressure Sensitive Adhesive an overall application is required.

5. COMPLETION

Until the area is completed, with all perimeter tiles in position, walking upon and/or movement of furniture on the installation should be avoided.

Heavy furniture or wheeled traffic can dislodge the carpet tiles under certain conditions. To avoid this during the movement and placement of heavy items, sheets of plywood or hardboard should be laid over the carpet.



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