

# Residential Felt-Backed Installation System

Product	Adhesive	Comment
Natural Fusion Highland Park Rhythms Urban Settings Starstep Candide II Memories Destinations Station Square	Full-Spread or Perimeter Bond (Armafelt Options): S-235, S-254 or S-224	Seams — double cut; prepare seams with S-585 Seam Cleaner* and apply S-570 Seam Coating using S-595 Seam Coating Kit for high-gloss patterns and S-564 Low-Gloss Seam Coating Kit for semi-gloss and low-gloss patterns. *Do not use S-585 seam cleaner on Natural Fusion.
Initiator Enhancements Apartment One Canyon Creek	Full-Spread: S-235, S-254 or S-224	Seams — double cut; prepare seams with S-585 Seam Cleaner and apply S-570 Seam Coating using S-595 Seam Coating Kit for high-gloss patterns and S-564 Low-Gloss Seam Coating Kit for semi-gloss and low-gloss patterns.
COMMISSION Plus	Full-Spread: S-235 or S-254	Seams — double cut; prepare seams with S-585 Seam Cleaner and apply S-570 Seam Coating using S-564 Low-Gloss Seam Coating Kit

## Suitable Substrates:

All substrates listed below must be properly prepared and meet the requirements discussed in Section IV, Subfloors and Underlayments. There may be certain exceptions and special conditions for these substrates to be suitable for the Residential Felt-Backed Installation System.

- Concrete
- Approved Suspended Wood
- Polymeric Poured (seamless) Floors
- Existing Resilient Floors
- Ceramic Tile, Terrazzo, Marble
- Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum, Lead, Copper, Brass, Bronze

## Job Conditions/Preparation:

- Substrates must be dry, clean, smooth and free from paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents and other foreign matter.
- In renovation or remodel work, remove any existing adhesive residue\* so that 80% of the overall area of the original substrate is exposed.
- Allow all flooring materials and adhesives to condition to the room temperature a minimum of 48 hours before starting the installation.
- The area to receive resilient flooring should be maintained at a minimum of 65°F (18°C) and a maximum of 100°F (38°C) for 48 hours before, during and for 48 hours after completion.

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\* Some previously manufactured asphaltic "cutback" adhesives contained asbestos (see warning statement on page xi). For removal instructions, refer to the Resilient Floor Covering Institute's publication Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings.

- During the service life of the floor the temperature should never fall below 55°F (13°C). The performance of the flooring material and adhesives can be adversely affected below this minimum temperature.
- Conduct calcium chloride tests. Bond tests must also be conducted for compatibility with the substrate. Please refer to Section IV, Subfloors and Underlayments.
- Radiant-heated substrates must not exceed a maximum surface temperature of 85°F (29°C).
- Concrete floors should be tested for alkalinity. The allowable readings for the installation of Armstrong flooring are 5 to 9 on the pH scale.

**Fitting:**

Keep all materials rolled face out until ready to begin the installation. Cut seams net. Pieces that are cut and fit in the morning should be adhered that morning. Pieces that are cut and fit in the afternoon should be adhered that afternoon.

When installing over an existing resilient floor, lay out the installation so the new seams are a minimum of 6" away from the original seams. When going over tile floors, seams should fall in the center of the tile.

Recommended fitting procedures include straight scribing, pattern scribing and freehand knifing.

**Adhesive Open Times and Trowel Notchings**

<b>Adhesive</b>	<b>Porous</b>	<b>Nonporous</b>
S-235 S-254 S-224	<b>Open Time:</b> 0–20 minutes over wood or concrete <b>Regular Notch:</b> 1/16" deep, 1/16" wide, 3/32" apart	<b>Open Time:</b> 10–20 minutes over existing resilient flooring or other nonporous substrates <b>Fine Notch:</b> 1/32" deep, 1/16" wide, 5/64" apart

**Note: Allowing the proper open time will help to minimize knee marks, roller marks and trapped air blisters.** The amount of open time will vary according to job conditions, temperature, humidity, air flow and type of substrate.

**Procedure:**

See Section VI, Adhesives, Trowel Notchings and Seam Treatments. See Adhesive Open Times and Trowel Notchings Chart above.

The sequence of when to cut seams and when to spread the adhesive will vary depending on the recommended seam-cutting method. See chart at the beginning of this section and Section VIII., Seams. Generally, the seams of roto vinyl floors are double cut before the adhesive is applied under the seam area. Keep in mind the seam must be cut and rolled in place with a hand roller before the adhesive sets up.

Use S-235, S-254 or S-224 Adhesive as specified for the particular product being installed. Apply the adhesive using the proper trowel notching. Allow the recommended open time before placing the material into the adhesive. Starting at the center and working toward the edges, roll in two directions using a 100-lb. roller. Clean excess adhesive from the surface of the flooring using a clean white cloth dampened with detergent and water.

**Seams:** Seams must be hand rolled and then rolled again with a 100-lb. roller. Give special attention to cleaning adhesive residue from seam areas as they must be clean and dry in order to proceed with seam treatments. When using S-570 Seam Coating, protect the seam from dust, debris and foot traffic. For seam coating, see Section VIII.

Seams of residential rotovinyls should be double-cut.

**Flash Coving:** See Section IX.

**Perimeter Bond (Armafelt Options) Additional Procedures:**

- Temperature recommendations are extremely important to the perimeter bond method.
- Store rolls and individual cut pieces rolled face out and wrapped tightly around a cardboard tube. To ensure that the material lays flat and installs wrinkle free, care must be exercised to prevent the roll from bending or sagging.
- Keep rolls on a continuous flat surface while transporting. Avoid uneven stacking.
- Prevent distortions from occurring during installation by not folding or creasing the material. When laying the material into the adhesive after being lapped back, you may notice some fullness in the middle of the sheet. Roll or push any fullness out to the edges.
- Pre-cut the pieces accurately. It is much easier to cut pieces close to size in an area where you can lay them out flat. Generally, allow 1 1/2" for each end wall. (With two or more pieces, make sure you have cut them long enough for pattern matching purposes.)
- Use special care when handling material wider than 6'.
- After the material is in the room, make safety cuts so it will lay flat on the floor. This will make final fitting easier and prevent the material from tearing.
- All fitting should be complete before spreading adhesive.
- Cut material slightly loose and away from walls wherever molding or wall base will be used to cover the edge of the vinyl.
- Install material with a net fit against walls when not using molding or against other stationary objects. Tight or compression fitting can cause buckles in unadhered areas.
- Apply the adhesive to the subfloor one-half of the sheet at a time. Lap or tube back one-half of the sheet to expose the subfloor. Do not roll the product face in while spreading adhesive.
- Apply a band of adhesive 10" to 12" wide around the perimeter of the room and around any fixtures, floor vents, etc. Also apply a band of adhesive 10" to 12" wide centered under any seams.
- All bonded areas should be thoroughly rolled with a hand roller.

- Staples may be used to fasten the material at the perimeter of the room over wood underlayments where a molding will be installed to cover them. Use a staple gun and space staples 3" or less around the perimeter of the room. Use the largest staple (length) size that can be seated (minimum of 3/8" and a maximum of 1/2"). The crown (width) of the staple should be 1/2"
- The following room areas should be installed by the Full-Spread method: bathrooms, small areas/rooms such as closets and pantries, and rooms with intricate fitting where some fullness or slight buckles are difficult to avoid.
- If the flooring will not lay flat due to roll distortions, tight fitting, sharp creases or breaks in the backing during fitting, it should be installed by the full-spread method.