

CITY SQUARES

■ CARPET TILE ■

For best results review the product and product specific guidelines prior to indoor installation. NorthStar Flooring will not be responsible for improper installation and installation of visual manufacturing defected tiles. Failure to follow guidelines may result in limiting warranty coverage.

CONDITION YOUR SITE AND TEST

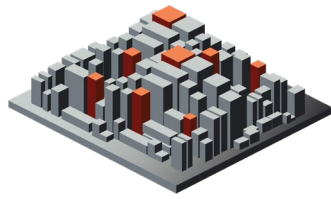
- **HVAC System:** Must be operational, maintaining the following conditions 24 hours prior to, during, and after installation.
- **Temperature:** The installation site, carpet and adhesive must be between 50°F(10°C) and 95°F(35°C). Adhesives will not function properly when exposed to temperatures outside this range. Do not begin the installation if the subfloor temperature is below 50°F(10°C).
- **Humidity:** The installation site's ambient relative humidity must not fall below 40%.
- **Moisture Testing:** Conduct subfloor moisture testing in accordance with the ASTM F-2170 (in-situ Relative Humidity) and/or ASTM F-1869 (Anhydrous Calcium Chloride).
- **pH / Alkalinity:** Conduct ASTM F-3441 pH/Alkalinity testing.

SUBFLOOR TESTING GUIDELINES

Moisture testing is recommended prior to starting the installation. If excessive moisture is present, the general contractor or building owner must be advised of the readings, and a decision made regarding how to address the moisture or continue the installation.

SURFACE PREPARATION

- Substrate must be structurally sound, clean, level, and dry.
- Substrate must be free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint, curing agents, concrete sealers, adhesives, loosely bonded toppings, loose particles, and/or any other substance or condition that may prevent or reduce adhesion.
- Fill depressions or cracks with a cementitious patching/leveling compound that meet or exceed maximum moisture level and pH requirements. Use of gypsum-based patching and/or leveling compounds which contain Portland or high alumina cement must meet or exceed the compressive strength of 3,000 psi are acceptable.
- For chemically abated substrates, ensure the proper cleaning methods have been taken to remove any residual abatement chemicals.
- Green sweeping compounds can be used but must be swept and removed immediately.
- For dusting, powdering, porous concrete, lightweight concrete, prime with a latex primer.
- For patches or levelers, prime with a latex primer.
- If installed over existing resilient flooring (one layer only), all tiles must be secure to the subfloor. Strip any wax from the surface.



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- Wood Subfloors must be Wood Association Approved and primed with a latex primer.

Note: Do not sand or scrape Vinyl Asbestos tile (VAT) without proper attention to abatement procedures or precautions in accordance with all state and local codes. NorthStar Flooring makes no claims as to the acceptability of this procedure as a mitigation method in lieu of asbestos removal; and accepts no responsibility if any loose asbestos containing flooring are affected upon removal of a NorthStar Flooring product. Caution: Do not allow cutback asphaltic adhesive or any other non-approved adhesive to come in contact with new adhesives. An installation failure could result.

PREPARE EXISTING ADHESIVE

- Remove existing adhesives to prevent adhesive incompatibility/reactions and bonding issues.
- Cutback Adhesive: Wet scrape the adhesive, reduce to a well bonded residue and encapsulate with a product such as MRP.
- Do not use adhesive removers, they will adversely affect the new adhesive and product installed.

LAY OUT YOUR SITE

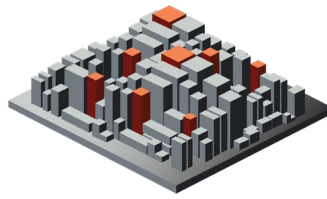
- Start the carpet tile installation as near to the center of the room as possible and position it to use the largest perimeter cut tile.
- Snap a chalk line parallel to one major wall bisecting the starting point. It may be necessary to offset the center chalk line to assure that the perimeter tile will be a least half the size.
- Snap a second chalk line from the starting point at a 90° to the first line. Use a 3-4-5 or 6-8-10 triangle or larger on the room size to verify squareness.

APPLY ADHESIVE

- Use a full spread adhesive application.
- SAR5000 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive is recommended.
- Use a 3/8" nap paint roller or a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-notch trowel. When using a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-notch trowel to install City Squares, this application method will increase the overall bond strength and reduce the ease of removing and replacing tiles.
- Allow the adhesive to dry completely before installing the carpet tile. Installing into wet adhesive will result in a permanent bond.

INSTALLATION

Install each full carton and complete an entire pallet before starting another pallet to minimize product variation. All City Squares carpet tiles have directional arrows on the back of the carpet tile to help facilitate the installation method.



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- Begin the installation at the intersection of the two chalk lines. Continue until you complete one quadrant.
- Proceed to adjoining quadrants until all four quadrants have been completed. Large areas may require additional chalk lines bisecting the original four quadrants.
- Install the carpet tile using the pyramid technique. This will provide alignment checks during the installation. If the edges do not align and misalignment is noted, stop the installation, and determine where the misalignment started and correct.
- Slide carpet tile into positions to prevent yarn from being trapped at the seams. Trapped yarn can adversely affect the appearance of the installation.
- Tiles must fit snugly, but not be compressed. Press the entire surface of the tile to ensure adhesion.
- After installation, roll the entire installation with a 75 lbs. or greater roller to assure proper adhesion to the substrate.

Flat wire cables should be installed on top of the adhesive and centered underneath the carpet tile for better seam quality.

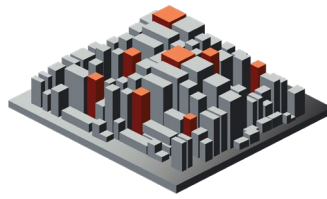
Edge Trimming

- Measure and cut tile from the back using a straight edge. Ensure directional arrows are properly aligned with the installation.
- Or allow tile to cove up the wall and cut the carpet tile with a carpet knife, wall trimmer or a similar tool.
- Do not compress.

POST INSTALLATION CARE AND PROTECTION

- Place plywood over the carpet when heavy objects are moved.
- Use protective chair mats under chairs and castors. This will prevent excessive wear to the face of the carpet and possible transfer of the pressure sensitive adhesive to the back of the carpet.
- Non-staining building material paper can be placed on the carpet tile to protect it if additional building construction activity is taking place.
- Do not use plastic sheeting. This will trap moisture.

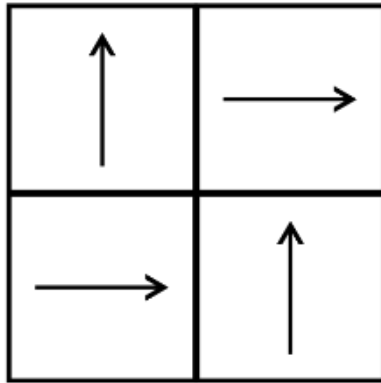
For best results, temperatures should remain above 50°F(10°C), and ambient humidity should not fall below 40%.



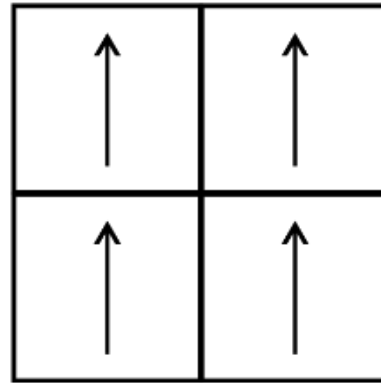
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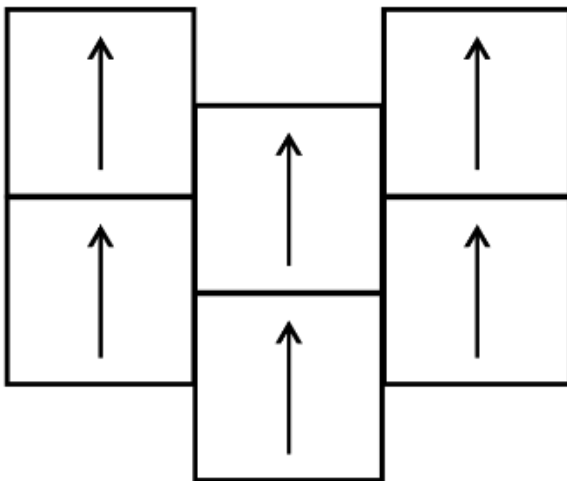
24 X 24 TILE INSTALLATION METHODS



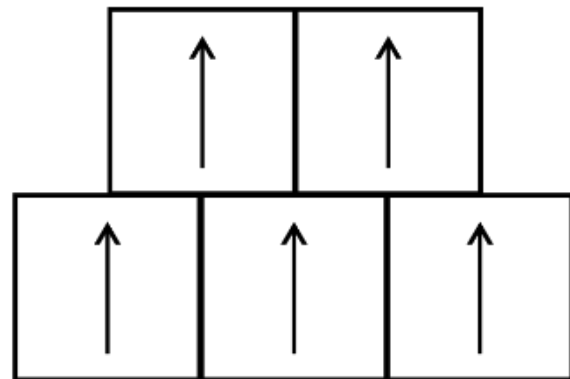
QUARTER TURN



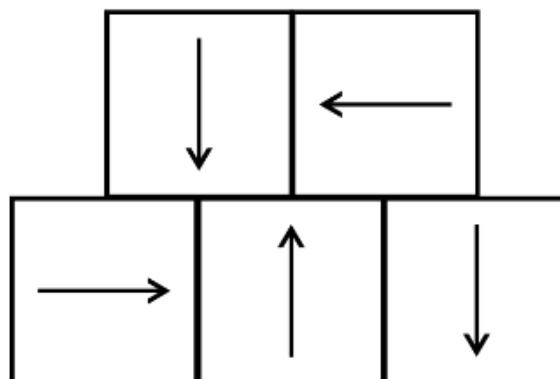
MONOLITHIC



ASHLAR



BRICK



RANDOM