

Recycled Leather Tile Installation Instructions

EasyContact Option

Thank you for choosing EcoDomo™ Recycled Leather Tiles, a natural product. The tiles, like wood, bamboo, or cork may absorb moisture and need to acclimate to their surrounding environment prior to installation. Please carefully read and follow these instructions. A professional installer experienced with cork, hardwood or vinyl flooring is recommended to install leather flooring

Preparation

- When you receive the Tiles, please remove the plastic. **ALLOW THE TILES TO ACCLIMATE OUT OF THE BOX, FANNED OUT AND ON-SITE, FOR A PERIOD OF 48 HOURS**, at room temperature. Never install tiles below 12C and 32C due to humidity. Keep the doors closed during the acclimation period to maintain the room temperature.
- Remove furniture and appliances (use a piece of hardboard to protect the floor).
- Areas to receive the flooring should be clean, maintain temperature at 68F prior to during and after installation for at least seven days. Flooring should not be installed until after all other trades have been completed. Please allow adequate lighting to insure proper inspection of substrate, as well as installation.

- Test for Moisture prior to installation. A basic method of testing for concrete moisture is shown on the right. Seal with duct tape 2' x 2' pieces of 6mil or similar poly film to the slab in several areas of the layout. Make sure all edges are sealed; allow it to sit 24-48 hours. If any condensation or color change takes place you have moisture issues that need to be addressed. The standard for EcoDomo Recycled Leather Tiles is a maximum of 3 pounds per 1,000 sq. feet over a 24 hour period using the calcium chloride test ASTM 1869-98. Do not install tiles until corrective actions are complete.



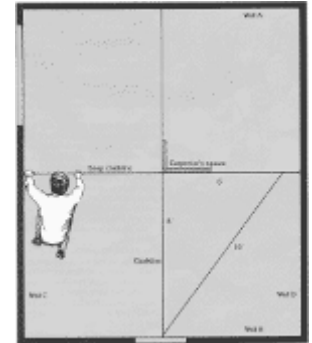


- If you are installing the Recycled Leather over existing ceramic tile, use a self-leveling compound such as Ardex Feather Finish to ensure an even surface. Old grout lines **MUST** be filled. The substrate must be smooth, flat and dry before installation.
- If using underlayment to correct deficiencies in the subfloor and to provide a smooth, sound surface on which to install the recycled leather, be sure to acclimate the panels to site conditions before installation. Underlayment will need to be minimum ¼” or thicker with one fully sanded face. (APA Underlayment Grade plywood or equal) Underlayment must be free of any material that would interfere with providing a secure bond or that would cause discoloration (adhesives, solvents, inks, sealers, etc.). EcoDomo does not recommend installation over particle or chip board, tempered hardboard, fire retardant plywood, or pressure treated plywood.
 - Check that the wood is firmly fastened to the original subfloor.
 - Repair any knotholes, indentations or open joints with Ardex Feather Finish.
 - Use a belt sander or sanding block to smooth out any rough areas.
 - The prepared sub floor must be smooth, clean, dry and dust-free.

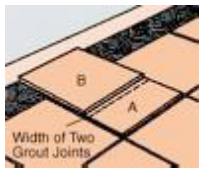
****Note: To cut tiles, you will need a straight edge and a heavy duty utility knife. Make sure your blades are new, sharp, and kept clean. When working with Easy ‘Contact™, we have found it is often easier to use a light hand cream to keep the adhesive from sticking to your fingers. If you are turning a corner, working a cut, or an area of difficulty wait to remove the backing until you are sure of placement of the tile. Please call 301-424-7717 or 301-828-6291 for technical assistance.

Floor Installation

- Find the center point between the two longest parallel walls. Mark guidelines from centers of opposite walls using a chalk line.
 - Without removing backing, lay rows of tiles in both directions from the center, adjusting to give the most balanced cutting at the perimeter of room.
 - Remove the liner from a tile and place it at the center point.
 - Starting where the perpendicular lines cross, firmly press the first tile into place. Make sure edges are flush with the chalk lines. When positioned correctly press down firmly.
 - Lay all full tiles in step fashion, starting in center of room.



Fitting Partial Tiles



- To fit partial tiles, lay the tile to be cut exactly over the last full tile; place another full tile against the wall and mark the cutting line where the tiles overlap.
- Cut tile on line. Before removing the backing paper of self-adhering tile, check that the cut tile fits.
- Remove the liner and press the tile firmly into position. Do not force it into place.



Finishing Up

- When finished installing, roll the floor twice with a (min.) 75 pound roller to make sure tiles are firmly in place down. The adhesive is pressure sensitive; rolling the floor is essential to ensure proper adhesion.
- Replace baseboard molding.
- Apply three layers of a carnauba-based wax on the floor such as TreWax or Butcher's Wax. Buff in between each layer using a floor machine with the white pad attachment. Another option is TreWax NonSlip Floor Finish. Follow instructions on the back of the bottle, the plus to this finish is the addition of a non-slip as well as quick buff for finish recover.
 - Carefully move furniture and appliances back into the room using hardboard panels to protect new floor.
- Let the tiles set in place for a period of 24 hours before using the room.

Care Instructions

DO NOT CLEAN THE FLOOR USING ANY SOLVENTS. The Recycled Leather Tiles must be cleaned using a neutral product. If using a vacuum a beater bar is not recommended. A soft mop is best for day to day removal of dust and dirt. If something should spill on the floor, it should be cleaned in a timely fashion.

- Use floor protectors on chair and table legs to distribute furniture weight and protect against indentation damage.
- Use natural-fiber mats at outside doorways to reduce tracked-in dirt, stains and moisture.
- Do not use mats with rubber backing which can cause permanent discoloration and damage to the recycled leather.

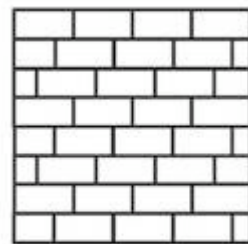
WALL INSTALLATION

Because you have elected to use the Easy Contact™ System, you are able to install directly to drywall. Please prime the walls before

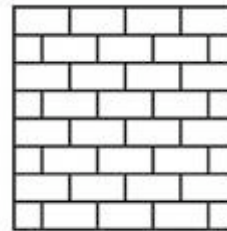
installation. We recommend you tint the paint in the color of the chosen tile to alleviate and gaps showing if errors are made.



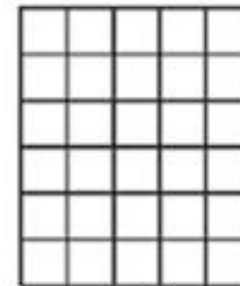
- Walls must be free of solvents, inks, grease or other adhesives that may prevent adherence of tiles to the wall.
- Draw your horizontal and then a couple of vertical lines that you'll need to line up the start of your tiles.
- Laying your tiles in an offset brick pattern is easier to install as very often the walls are not perfectly horizontal. Laying your tiles in a straight grid pattern (like a checkerboard) will highlight any discrepancy in your wall – regardless of the skill level of the installer.



Third Offset



Half Offset



Grid

- Align one corner of the tile against your two chalk lines and then carefully push down the rest of that tile. Press firmly when positioned correctly.
- Carefully align the edge of the next tile to the first one and continue to stick the tiles to the wall.
- Carefully place each tile tightly against the next one because once the tile sticks, it is very difficult to remove without tearing the drywall or the plywood. When the tile is in place, press the tile with the palm of your hand all across the tile to ensure that all parts of the tile have made contact with the wall adhesive.
- Use a rubber mallet, a J-Roller, or a hammer with a batten board to make sure all parts of the tile are secured to the wall. The adhesive is *pressure sensitive*; applying pressure on the wall is essential to ensure proper adhesion.

There is no need to apply a wax sealer or other protective finish on wall tiles.