



Residential Fiberglass Sheet Flooring Guide

- **INSTALLATION**
- **MAINTENANCE**
- **WARRANTY**

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1. Tools and Supplies

Mohawk fiberglass flooring is recommended to be installed with the full spread method.

Note: Do not install Mohawk fiberglass flooring using the perimeter installation method.

Full Spread	Other Tools
Mohawk M640 (VP65) Adhesive Short nap paint roller or Trowel Recommended trowel size: 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" 75-100 lb roller Mohawk M7 Seam Sealer (VP7) Silicone caulk	Undercut Saw Mineral spirits Hammer Nails Pry Bar

2. Material Handling and Storage

- Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.
- Store the Mohawk fiberglass flooring in a dry, temperature controlled interior area between 65° to 85°F. Avoid temperature extremes.
- Acclimate the flooring for 24 hours to the temperature of the room in which it will be installed
- Roll the flooring **face out** on a sturdy core until ready to install.
- Fully support the roll on a flat surface so that all roll set and indentations are avoided.

3. Subfloor Preparation/Approved Subfloors

All subfloors must be dry, clean, smooth, dust-free and structurally sound. Remove any substance that would interfere with the adhesive bond or would show through the flooring such as old adhesive, paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents and all foreign matter.

- All moldings should be removed for best results
- Any loose spots in wood subfloors need to be secured
- For full spread installations, use a Portland-based flooring patching compound

Moisture Limitations – Mohawk recommends that concrete subfloors not exceed **75% Internal Relative Humidity** when tested per ASTM F 2170.

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All subfloors listed below must be properly prepared and meet the basic listed requirements.

Fully Adhered Installations –

- Concrete - on, above, and below grade that complies with all provisions of ASTM F 710
- Wood –
 - Double layer construction
 - Minimum one-inch total thickness
 - Minimum 18 inches of well-ventilated air space beneath the wood substrate
 - All crawl spaces must be insulated with a vapor retarder
 - The top layer of the wood substrate must be completely free of knots or other voids in its surface
 - ¼" underlayment panel systems covering unapproved wood subfloors per the manufacturer's specific installation instructions
 - Caution - Do not install over 'sleeper' floors or plywood floors that have been installed directly over a concrete slab

Unapproved Subfloors

- Single layer wood floors
- OSB, particleboard, or wafer board
- Wood underlayment panels manufactured not in accordance with APA standards
- Existing tile floors that are installed on concrete on-grade or below grade
- Existing multi-layered or cushioned floors
- Asphalt tile/ carpet
- Strip wood or plank flooring/adhesive residue not fully removed from the subfloor
- Wood floors installed directly over concrete
- Concrete floors cleaned using chemical adhesive removers
- Radiant-heated concrete floors with temperatures *exceeding 85°F*

4. Adhesives

Mohawk M640 (VP65) Pressure Sensitive Adhesive is specifically designed for installing Mohawk fiberglass flooring in residential applications on approved wood and concrete subfloors.

Spread adhesive with a trowel or a paint roller (preferred):

- Trowel size – 1/16" wide x 1/32" deep x 1/32" spacing, u-notched trowel blade
- Short nap paint roller (preferred)
- Spread rate – **220-260 sf per gallon (trowel) / 300 sf per gallon (roller)**

5. Installation Procedures

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You can install Mohawk fiberglass flooring with (full spread) Mohawk M640 (VP65) adhesive.

Rules for when to full spread the job -

- Mohawk recommends all installations be full spread installations
- Full spread all installations that require more than one seam or if the seam length is over 20 ft
- Full spread all installations that require the floor to be net fit
- Full spread all installations that will be subjected to heavy rolling traffic (i.e. portable dishwashers, microwave carts, wheel chairs, etc.)

Basic rules for all installations -

- Leave a 1/4" expansion space between flooring and all vertical obstructions (i.e. walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.)
- Undercut door moldings to allow the flooring to slide freely under the molding
- Do not install cabinets on top of loose lay floors
- Do not perimeter adhere Mohawk Fiberglass sheet flooring

First Piece of Flooring:

- Measure the room and precut the first piece of flooring allowing extra material for trimming.
- ***Unroll the flooring and position in the room with the factory/selvage edge toward the seam placement. Once positioned, allow flooring to relax and acclimate to room temperature for 20 - 30 minutes prior to fitting.***
- Long lengths of flooring may have a tendency to bow or twist during layout and installation. Ensure that the material is lying completely flat and the pattern is properly aligned before final fitting and/or cutting of seam.
- Fit the flooring using the freehand method. In areas where installation is complex, make a pattern using scribing felt.
- **Leave a 1/4" expansion space between flooring and all verticals (i.e. walls, cabinets, columns, pipes, etc).** This space will be covered with molding or cove base.
- Around door moldings, cut the flooring slightly longer and slide it under the undercut molding
- **NOTE:** Mohawk recommends the double-cut method for cutting seams. **We do not recommend the straight edge and butt method for seaming.**

Second Piece of Flooring:

- **Position the second piece of flooring with the factory/selvage edge toward the seam placement.**
- Cut the length of the second piece of flooring allowing extra material for pattern match
- Overlap the factory edges at the seam to obtain exact pattern match.
- It is not uncommon to experience some minor run-out of the pattern when placing the seam match on long pieces of flooring.
- Handle each length of flooring in the exactly the same manner. *For example:* If the first length of flooring was back rolled when positioning the floor, each additional length installed afterwards must also be back rolled when positioning.
- In order to obtain the proper overlap of the selvage edges, make a cutout match window on the outside edge of the grout line along the factory edges.



Cutout windows at the seam to align pattern

- Make a cutout every few feet depending on how long the seam is. These cutouts will allow you to properly align the pattern match at the seam overlap.
- After the pattern match has been achieved, place masking tape at the seam overlap to prevent flooring from moving and shifting. Fit the second piece of flooring around the perimeter of the room.
- Remember to leave a 1/4" space between flooring and all vertical objects.
- Lay a straight edge along the center of seam overlap or grout line. If grout line is 1/8 inch or less, place straight edge along outside edge of grout line.
- Using the straight edge, cut through both sheets of flooring with a sharp, sturdy utility knife.
- Hold the knife straight up and down at a 90° angle to produce a vertical cut. Do not tilt the knife blade.



Scrap piece placed under the seam - double cut with a straight edge

- Place a scrap piece of flooring under the seam overlap to protect the knife point and the substrate beneath the seam.
- When installing over an existing floor, **do not cut into the existing floor.**
- Lift the top edge of the flooring and carefully remove both selvage pieces
- Mark the subfloor along the seam edge with a pencil. Do not contaminate the seam edge with pencil lead. **Do not use a ball point pen.**
- Fold back each sheet of flooring at the seam area to expose the seam line.
- Apply the floating seam tape to the subfloor, so that it is centered over the pencil line.
- Remove the release liner from the seam tape.
- Position the first half of the seam centered on the tape and roll the flooring seam edge thoroughly into the tape.
- Beginning in the center of the length of the seam, check the pattern match and put the seam together.
- Work from the center of the seam both ways, keeping the flooring on match.
- Clean the seam again with a clean white cloth dampened with water and then completely dry the seam area.
- Roll the seam with a steel hand roller immediately after cleaning.
- Apply a small bead of the Mohawk M7P Seam Sealer along the edge of the flooring.
- Keep traffic off the seam for a minimum of 12 hours.
- **NOTE:** You have 2 factory edges that will require trimming. Mohawk vinyl seam is double cut (that will take care of the trimming of the seam). If the installation requires a "T" seam, it is necessary to match the cross seam just like carpet (double cutting the seam of course).

Full Spread Installation

- Place the flooring sheet in the area to be installed and align the patterns with the wall and door openings.
- Trim excess material along walls, leaving 1 ½" up the walls
- Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow the material to lay flat.
- After pattern alignment, cut with a sharp knife or trimmer leaving an 1/8" gap.
- Fold back half of the material and spread Mohawk M640 (VP65) adhesive.
- Allow sufficient open time for the adhesive to dry to the touch.
- Carefully place the material into the dried adhesive. The material will not slide on the dried adhesive bed.
- Immediately roll the material in both directions with a 3-section, 100 lb roller.
- Follow the previously described seaming method to seal the seams, except this time the floating tape will not be necessary.

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6. Maintaining your new Mohawk Floor

General maintenance

Your new Mohawk fiberglass flooring is an easy care product designed to give you many years of use. Mohawk fiberglass flooring with urethane finishes **normally do not require floor polish** to maintain their like-new appearance. Mohawk fiberglass flooring with PVC finishes may over time require polish to protect the surface from staining agents & renew the shine.

New floor maintenance – 24 hours after installation

- Maintain room temperature at least 65°F for 48 hours to ensure adhesive bonding.
- Keep all traffic off the new floor, if possible, to allow the adhesive to set
- Avoid all contact with the seam area for the first 12 hours.
- Avoid scrubbing or heavy washing the floor for 3 days.
- Use plywood or other boards when moving heavy objects across the new floor.
- Remove adhesive residue with a clean white cloth dampened with mineral spirits.

Easy care maintenance

- Wipe up spills as soon as they occur. Once a spill dries, use a neutral pH cleaner.
- Sweep the floor thoroughly with a soft broom to remove all dirt and grit
- Damp mop the floor using a clean mop or cloth. Frequently rinse in clean water.
- Do not use a beater bar vacuum cleaner on the floor. It can visibly damage the floor surface.
- When necessary, mop the floor with a solution of clean water and mild detergent or domestic floor cleaning emulsion.*
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

*Do not use:

- Wire or nylon scouring pads
- Furniture polish
- Spirit based polish
- Powder or liquid abrasive cleaners
- Bleach or strong detergents

Protecting your floor from Physical Damage

Avoid the following:

- Indentation marks from high pressure points, for example, cookers, washing machines, and other appliances; these can be placed on hardboard sheets, castor cups, or an off-cut of the flooring.
- Stiletto heels will damage the flooring.
- Tear or scuff damage can result from dragging heavy appliances across the floor. This can be avoided by placing a sheet of hardboard or an off-cut of carpet beneath such units before repositioning them.
- Sharp objects can puncture the surface of the floor.
- Hot or burning objects may scorch or blister the surface of the floor.
- Prevent ground-in dirt & grit by placing a **non-staining** doormat at all external doorways.

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Protecting your floor from Stain Damage

Avoid the following:

- Rubber backings on doormats may result in yellow discoloration of the floor directly beneath the mat. Choose a natural fiber mat or a mat with a non-staining backing.
- Rubber feet on furniture may cause staining. **Remove them altogether** or place coasters or felt pads between them and the floor.
- Spirit-based products such as shoe polish, solvents, hair dye, and permanent marker pens may stain. Wipe up spots and marks as quickly as possible. Also applies to turmeric, mustard, and strongly colored food items.
- Corrosive substances such as acid and alkaline solutions can damage the surface of the floor. Clean up any spills quickly and carefully avoid direct contact with the substance. (Wear protective clothing, gloves, etc.)
- Bitumen/tar from freshly resurfaced or melted roads and pathways will stain; inexpensive black driveway sealers, some inexpensive rubber shoe (and slipper) soles also can cause stain.

7. The Mohawk Limited Residential Warranty

What is covered?

The Mohawk Limited Residential Warranty means that during the stated warranty period your Mohawk fiberglass flooring:

- Will not rip, tear or gouge from normal use
- Will not wear through to lose the design from normal residential use
- Will not permanently indent when the correct floor protectors are used
- Will not contain any manufacturing defects
- Will not discolor from moisture or underlayment panels (see job preparation)

Mohawk will assist in the repair or replacement of the defective material. New material will be of the same grade, design and color, if available. If unavailable, or discontinued, Mohawk has the right to select and supply a similar material.

Mohawk will reimburse reasonable labor costs based on a detailed statement if professional installation was paid for when the original floor was installed. For years 1 and 2, a full reimbursement will be paid. For years 3-5, 50% of reasonable labor costs will be paid; after year 5, there will be no reimbursement for installation.

About Your Mohawk Flooring Warranty:

Proof of Purchase date (consumer receipt) is necessary to verify all warranty claims.

Correct installation practices are critical to appearance and performance.

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Your floor must be installed following all standard installation practices. Installation problems (i.e. improper subfloor, poor subfloor preparation, improper adhesives and seam sealers, other than those specifically recommended by are the responsibility of the flooring retailer/installer and are not covered by this warranty. This warranty does not cover labor cost on non-professionally installed floors or on floors installed with obvious visible defects. Be sure to discuss installation matters with your installer.

Following correct care and maintenance procedures for your new floor is crucial.

The following conditions are not included in the warranty coverage:

- Loss of gloss or build-up/dulling due to improper or lack of maintenance. Dulling over time can be restored using floor polishes.
- Damage resulting from failure to follow care instructions (i.e. scuffs, scratches, cuts)
- Staining (i.e. tracked-in dyes from carpet, fertilizers)
- Severe accidents (i.e. burns, flooding, fires)
- Abuse (i.e. dragging heavy objects across the floor without proper protection)
- Fading or discoloration from heat or sunlight.
- Damage caused by vacuum beater bar, caster wheels, and cutting from sharp objects.
- Damage caused by pets/animals.
- Any damage caused to floors that were not graded as "Regular goods."
- Any damage caused by the floor being installed in a non-residential or commercial environment.
- Construction and installation-related damage is not covered by this warranty.

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