



## INSTALLATION

### DS 90 COMFORT

#### Double Stick Installation Instructions

##### First things first

Before installation make sure that all the underlay received is as per your order and that there has been no damage in transit, obviously, let us know straight away if there are any issues.

Not all carpets are suitable for double stick installation so please check with the carpet manufacturer to ensure that they are happy with this method of installation.

It is important to allow the underlay to acclimatise to room temperature for as long as practical, room temperature should be at least 18°C and the relative humidity should not exceed 65%.

In general, the working practices should be as described in the following Code of Practice:

#### *BS 5325: 2001 Code of practice for installation of textile floor covering*

The following instructions are intended to act as additional notes to this code of practice and to cover or emphasise those details relating to the installation of DS90 Comfort.

Please also refer to the specific instructions of the carpet manufacturer.

#### Sub Floor Conditions and Floor Preparation

In general sub floor conditions should comply with the requirements of the Code of Practice quoted above.

A lot of effort goes into these standards and codes of practice with the aim of getting the best installation, so our advice is to take a look at them.

Basically, it says that all sub floors should be clean, dry, level and structurally sound and free from any cracks and contamination. All cracks and holes should be adequately repaired to ensure a smooth finished appearance, patching and levelling compounds must be suitable for the end use application and must be

compatible with any adhesives that may be used. Very absorbent or dusty subfloors should be primed with a primer compatible with the adhesive to be used. Wooden floors showing warping, shrinkage or unevenness must be made good before continuing. Wax or varnish should be removed as these treatments can affect the adhesive bond.

Concrete floors laid direct to ground should incorporate a continuous damp proof membrane. Installation should only take place on subfloors where the relative humidity has fallen below 75% when tested in accordance with BS 5325: 2001.

Asphalt floors must be isolated by applying a compatible 3mm thick surface underlayment, this avoids any chance of migration of the asphalt to the carpet.

#### Temperature/humidity and conditioning

The ideal indoor temperature for installation is between 18-35°C, with a maximum air relative humidity of 65%. The subfloor temperature should not fall below 10°C and it is important that the carpet and underlay are stored on site at the same temperature as the areas to be installed.

#### Underfloor heating

Underfloor heating should be switched off for a minimum of 48 hours prior and 48 hours after installation to allow the adhesive to achieve its full bond strength. The sub floor surface temperature should ideally be around 15°C but no lower than 10°C. Always tell the end user to avoid sudden or large changes in temperature, ideally temperatures should be increased in stages of 2 to 3°C this allows the carpet to reach equilibrium to the new temperature before increasing further. In use underfloor heating should not exceed 27°C.

#### Installation

Lay out the underlay on the subfloor in the longest continuous lengths possible, taking into account carpet



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seam placement, it should be laid with the scrim upwards and the rubber crumb to the subfloor.

Cut the underlay so that it is approximately 50mm over the length required around the perimeter of the room. The seams must be butted together without compression or gaps. Ideally the underlay should be fitted at right angles to the run of the carpet.

Once the underlay has been fully positioned trim to size leaving a gap around the perimeter if a tuck finish is required – the size of the gap will depend on the quality and thickness of the carpet – the carpet can be tucked into this gap between the underlay and the wall.

Then roll half of the underlay back to expose the sub floor for adhesive application. The tackifier/release adhesive coverage between the underlay and the sub floor will be dependent on local conditions, however applying the tackifier/release adhesive with a medium roller will not deliver the same bond strength as applying the same adhesive with a notched trowel, and the application rate should be as per the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer.

Always allow the tackifier/release adhesive to dry to a clear tacky state, placing the underlay into wet adhesive will result in a permanent bond. Once the adhesive has dried, lay the underlay into position securing to the subfloor using a glider or similar tool (heavy rollers can move and stretch the underlay). Repeat this procedure for the other half.

Next position the lengths of carpet prior to applying the permanent bond adhesive (it can be useful to place a plastic sheet over the underlay as this will help in positioning the carpet without dragging the underlay excessively).

Once positioned roll or fold back the carpet and apply the permanent bond adhesive to the underlay using a notched trowel as advised in the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer. Ensure that there is total transfer of adhesive into the carpet backing and that the adhesive is applied evenly and tight up to the walls to prevent any bubbling. After the required open time, place the carpet into the adhesive,

smoothing out any air bubbles or creases with a glider or similar tool (again heavy rollers can move and stretch the carpet which can then move back leaving gaps after final cutting). Always glide the width of the carpet before the length to reduce the chance of stretching it and glide from the centre of the room to the perimeter.

If any seaming is required, the cut edges should be sealed with a proprietary seam sealant before they are laid into the wet adhesive. Make sure that you press the edges firmly into the adhesive during its open time.

Once the adhesive has grabbed the carpet sufficiently, trim in the edges to the perimeter. If there are any concerns about carpet shrinkage due to the carpet construction, atmospheric or the cleaning methods to be used subsequently, the use of gripper should be considered to provide extra resistance against movement away from the perimeter.

Always install the carpet in accordance with the carpet manufacturer's instructions.

*These instructions are not exhaustive, if in any doubt please contact Footfall Flooring Ltd.*



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