

# Carpets Inter<sup>®</sup>

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## Installation Guideline

Forza Classic, Resilient Flooring

**Note:**

Failure to read this Installation Guideline and the recommendations contained within this document may result in issues arising that may null and void the product warranty.



September 2020

(Supersedes all previous Guidelines)

# Forza Classic, Resilient Flooring

## Installation Guideline

### Pre-Installation:

- Your new flooring must acclimate for 48 hours prior to installation in the unopened packaging at the normal room temperature (approx. 65-75 degrees and 30-50% humidity levels before during and after installation).
- Prior to installation of floor, sweep and/or vacuum to remove all dust and debris. Subfloor must be clean, structurally sound, firm and visibly dry.
- A leveling compound should be used to fill any cracks and to fill low areas and imperfections (all screws/nails should be flush with subfloor).
- Floor must be flat to within a 0.5 cm. in 305 cm. radius tolerance.
- Acceptable subfloors include: concrete slab, ceramic tile, sheet vinyl, CDX grade plywood, OSB (2 cm.), underlayment grade particle board, and existing hardwood or laminate floors.
- Carefully measure the room to determine squareness and to determine the width of the last row of planks. If the last row will be less than 5 cm., the installation will be easier and more esthetically pleasing if you reduce the width of the planks of the first row.
- A minimum 1 cm. expansion space is required around the perimeter of the room and all vertical objects.
- Make sure to work from several boxes so that planks are mixed sufficiently. This will ensure that you do not end up with too many identical, light, or dark planks next to each other.
- Determine which direction the planks should be installed. The floor should preferably be installed parallel to how light enters the room.
- If installing over radiant heat it is strongly recommended that a radiant heat technician is consulted.

### Tools for Installing:

- Saw/Utility Knife
- Straight Edge/Steel Square
- Pencil
- Tape measure
- Spacers
- Tapping Block
- Rubber Hammer
- Pull Bar

### Installation:

- Install planks from the left side of the starting wall and work to the right. The tongue side of the plank always faces the starting wall.
- Place spacers between short and long sides of the plank and the wall. Always position one spacer between the wall and where planks join.
- End joints of the planks in the first row are assembled by inserting tongue side into the groove side of the previous plank at a low 20 to 30-degree angle. Gradually lower the plank down flat, applying pressure inward and downward until end joint closes. Ensuring the planks are perfectly aligned. Install remaining full planks in the first row.
- Always stagger end joints from row to row a minimum of 20 cm. and be sure to maintain a random appearance.
- Use professional vinyl flooring cutter or utility knife and straight edge to make cuts.

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\* There are 2 methods to install the 2<sup>nd</sup> and remaining rows.

## Method 1

- Start at wall on left side with a plank which is a minimum of 20 cm. shorter than 1<sup>st</sup> plank on the 1<sup>st</sup> row. Hold the plank being installed at approximately a 25-degree angle, insert into the groove and let drop flat onto the subfloor.
- Always use a tapping block to secure a tight fit.
- Install the 2<sup>nd</sup> plank in the same manner not touching the short end of the previous plank.
- Use the tapping block to secure the short side of the 2<sup>nd</sup> plank to the short side of the 1<sup>st</sup> plank.
- Continue installing the 2<sup>nd</sup> row and subsequent rows in this manner.

**(You will need a pull bar when installing the last plank in each row)**

## Method 2

- Start at wall on left side with a plank which is a minimum of 20 cm. shorter than 1<sup>st</sup> plank on the 1<sup>st</sup> row. Hold the plank being installed at approximately a 25-degree angle, insert into the groove and let drop flat onto the subfloor.
- Always use a tapping block to secure a tight fit.
- Install the 2<sup>nd</sup> plank by connecting it to the short end of the first plank in a manner similar to installing the 1<sup>st</sup> row except it should be offset approximately 2.5 cm. so that the plank will not be touching the 1<sup>st</sup> row.
- Now lift the 2<sup>nd</sup> row about 25 degrees and slide the 2<sup>nd</sup> plank of that row into the groove of the 1<sup>st</sup> row and let drop flat onto the subfloor.
- Complete the installation in this manner using the tapping block regularly to ensure a tight fit.

## Molding & Trim

- After all planks have been installed, install transition moldings.
- When installing quarter round or base board molding, do not fasten moldings through the flooring fasten into the wall.

\*\*\*For further instruction there are several quality YouTube videos providing Unilin Installation Instructions\*\*\*

<http://www.unilintechnologies.com/en/Flooring/Technologies/Basic-Locking/>



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