

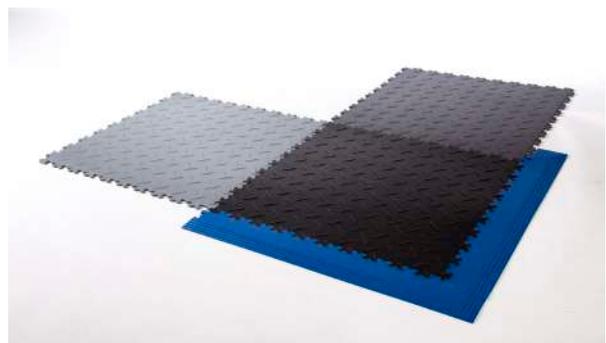
## **STANDARD INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

## BEFORE INSTALLATION

### What do I need to consider before installation? To Glue or Not to Glue?

All Flexi-Tile interlocking tiles can be loose laid without adhesive, however you may consider this in specific situations...

- **Areas that experience heavy loads/trucks –**  
In areas of industrial activity where heavy loads, pallets trucks and machines with a tight turning circles operate, it's important to have an immovable floor surface that can withstand extreme pressures on a daily basis. For flooring in these areas, we suggest that you consult our sales team for advice on which tile best suits your specific needs.
- **Direct Sunlight –** We advise the use of adhesive in areas that are affected by direct sunlight, such as shop fronts, atriums or any south facing areas. In direct sunlight Flexi-Tiles may expand causing warping or dislocation of the interlocking system.
- **Areas of high temperatures/Underfloor heating –**  
In the immediate area where there is a source of heat (eg – directly in front of a furnace or oven), it is advisable to apply adhesive to Flexi-Tiles.



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### Tools you will need:

- **Rubber Mallet** to interlock tiles
- **Chalk** to mark cutting areas and align tiles
- **Cutting Board** to ensure safety
- **Tape Measure** to make sure dimensions are correct

### Flexi-Tiles can be cut using various methods

- Jigsaw or Bandsaw (Advisable for HD tiles)
- Stanley Knife (Advisable for standard tiles)
- Heavy-Duty Guillotine

Flexi-Tiles can be laid on damaged or cracked subfloor surfaces...  
For best results it is advised to install on a level and clean floor

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## Simply follow these simple steps to achieve a durable, clean and adaptable flooring finish in your chosen area...

- **Clean:** sweep the existing floor to ensure that the surface is clean and free of dust and dirt.
  - **Surface check:** Flexi-Tile interlocking flooring can be laid on uneven surfaces (A gradient of up to 7mm per 2m of concrete subfloor and 5 mm per 2m for wood subfloor). We recommend using a self-levelling repair compound in areas where there's variations in subfloor surface. If not addressed, floor tiles may 'dislocate' at the connection interlocks (The smoother the subfloor is the more even and resilient your Flexi-Tile floor will be).
  - **Temperature:** We advise that Flexi-Tiles are laid in areas that have an ambient temperature between 16°C-24°C (**Let the tiles acclimatise for at least 24-48 hours before laying**). If the temperature is towards the lower end of the stipulated scale, we advise splitting the pallet, letting the tiles acclimatise quicker in the lower temperatures.
  - **Humidity:** Relative humidity in the room should not be more than 60% (ideal 30% to 60%)  
**Subfloor humidity - for loose-lay installation:** up to 7% (CCM method) / For glued installation: < 2% (CCM method)
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- 1** Measure the length & width of the room and divide the dimensions in two - then locate & mark the centre of the room where the edge of your first tile\* will be. (This will be the **starting point** for the installation)



- 2** You can at this point check the number of tiles required to reach the walls in each direction (Remember you can cut the tiles to fit around the edges of the room)



- 3** Draw a chalk-line through the start point parallel to the longest dimension. This is to act as a guide for keeping tiles parallel to the walls.

To ensure the line is parallel to the walls, measure out from the wall near each end of the room, mark the points on the floor and draw the chalk-line between the points.



- 4** Starting from the middle of the room, begin to lay the tiles evenly outwards in a cross shape, making sure you adhere to the existing chalk lines.



- 5** Using the rubber mallet, tap the tiles together starting from the corners of the tile and working out.

(It's very important to leave approximately 5mm expansion gap between the tiles and any walls/fixed points for expansion. Sometimes for larger areas a bigger gap may be required)



## Finishing off

The 5mm gap between the tiles and fixed points can be sealed with an acrylic putty or silicone sealant from a glue gun. Please wipe off excess sealant immediately with a damp cloth.

## Doorways

In doorways, an edging tile can be used if tiles are to meet a different floor covering. If the tiles are to continue through a doorway, no edging is required but the tiles in the doorway should be adhered with glue.

## Post completion of work

For best results leave the installation area in good condition by removing all debris by cleaning and vacuuming any residual dust. The completion of the work should be done straight after completion of installation.

## Cleaning and maintenance

Flexi-Tile floors can be cleaned and maintained easily using a damp mop, preferably using a pH balanced floor cleaning product. (Flexi-Tile floors can easily withstand cleaning using an industrial rotary mop). For best results give the floor a light clean on frequent occasions.

## Flexi-Tile Eclipse HD/Mini Installation

**Both Flexi-Tile Eclipse HD and Mini ranges have a unique hidden join, which is different from the other tiles in our range. Previous application instructions apply, however when fitting the Eclipse tiles you have to insure...**

- 1) The interlocks are lined up correctly (The hidden join cannot be seen, therefore care needs to be taken before the mallet is used)
- 2) Use your thumb press the interlocks lightly together until you hear a click
- 3) Once this has been done you can continue to secure the interlocks with the rubber mallet making the joins tighter and completing the process



### **Eclipse HD adhesive application –**

**If you require the floor to have a virtually waterproof interlock, adhesive must be applied to the interlock connection. To do so, we advise using PVC cold welding paste.**

- 1) Apply a thin layer of the welding paste into the seam of the interlock connection on (picture 1)
- 2) Apply a spot of PVC cold welding paste on each point of the “Butterfly Interlocks” in (picture 2)
- 3) Immediately position the tile into place , making sure that the PVC cold welding paste hasn’t dried. Find the interlocks by clicking together the two tiles, before using the rubber mallet to secure.

Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



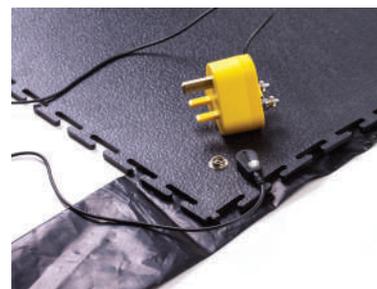
## ESD Installation

- 1) Follow standard installation steps, followed by laying the grounding strip.
- 2) Grounding strips should be laid in a grid-like format, with 1m distance between each line of tape. The grounding strips have to touch each individual tile to ensure the floor is fully conductive.
- 3) Continue with the rest of the standard steps until the last corner tiles.
- 4) Fit your special grounding tiles (ESD grounding set) in the corner of the room.
- 5) 1 x grounding tile (ESD grounding set) should be fitted every 80-100m<sup>2</sup> or to each individual room / space (whichever is lower). Connect the plug to the wall and the lead to the connector on the tile to ensure full conductivity of the floor.

A Port should be recommended by an electrician.

**Helpful Hint:** Use double-sided tape to each end of the grounding strips to stick to the floor and stop them from moving. Once you have made the grid you can begin to lay the tiles.

Starting from the center of the room you put the first four tiles in a square, which ensures that the interlocking connections are laid on the ground strip to the center (ie, all four tiles are in contact with the ground strip). From the centre working outwards, ensuring that the interlocking connections remain in contact with the conductive ground strip.



### If in doubt, contact the supplier / technical department

Water/Liquid/Tightness: The interlocking connections of Flexi-Tile have a tight fit, but cannot be described as waterproof, however moisture ingress should be able to evaporate through the joints in the normal case.

Excessive splashes / spillages should be removed immediately. If you do not want liquid to seep under the tiles, the Flexi-Tile floor must be fully adhered to the subfloor below. This applies to all Flexi-Tile products, also for the Flexi-Tile Eclipse.

**IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE:** the person doing floor installation must report any defect to the distributor immediately, before beginning the installation or after a maximum of 15-20sqm floor tiles laid. Before, during and after the installation, all the above stated conditions should be met.

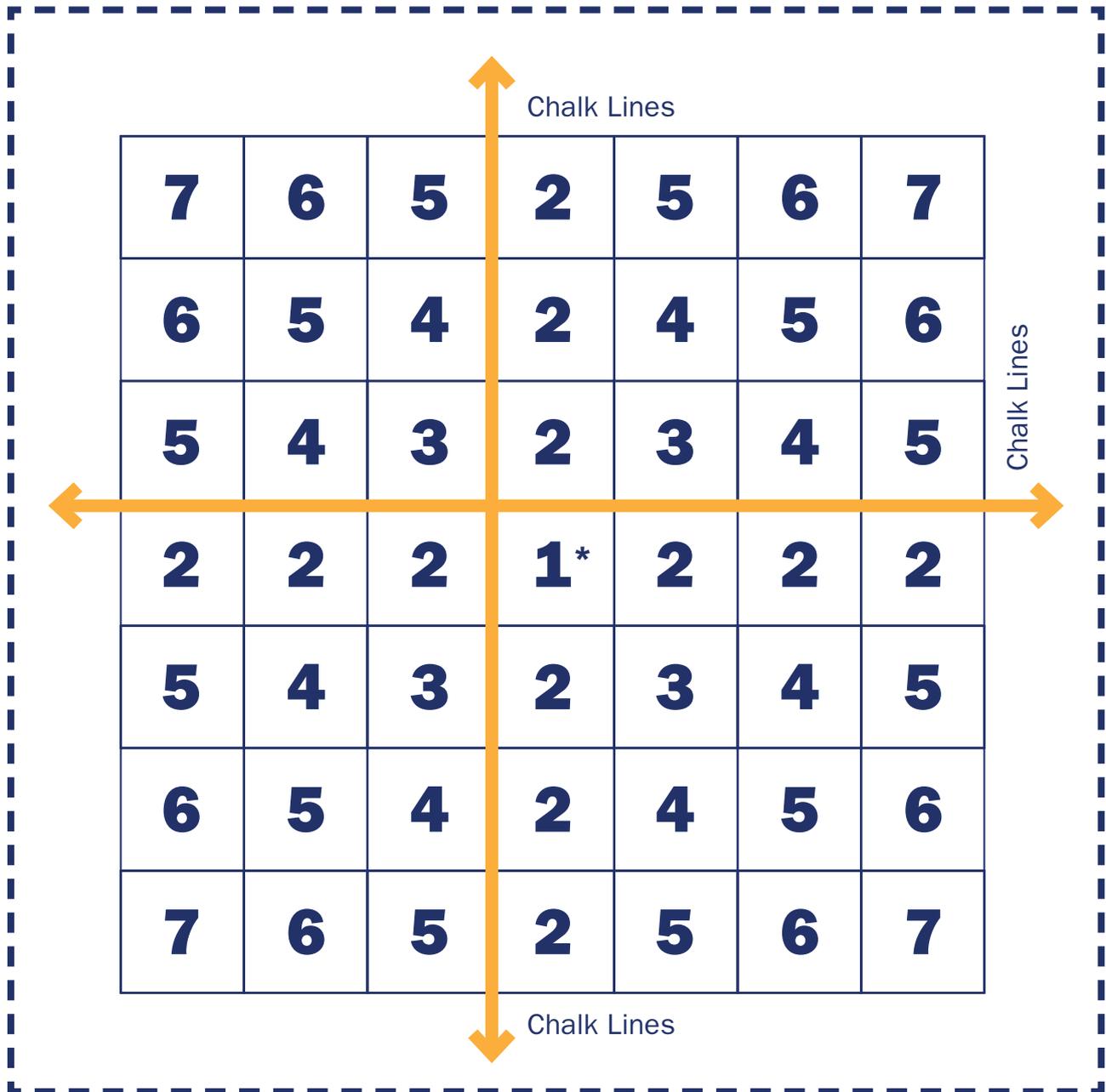
### Considerations before installation

#### 'ECO' batch - colour variations

As a result of using recycled material, we cannot guarantee 100% consistency in regards to colouration of the Flexi-Tile 'ECO' range. If you want to add or replace existing 'ECO' Flexi-Tiles, we cannot guarantee the tiles will come from the same production batch.

# Laying Guide

Room Edges



Room Edges

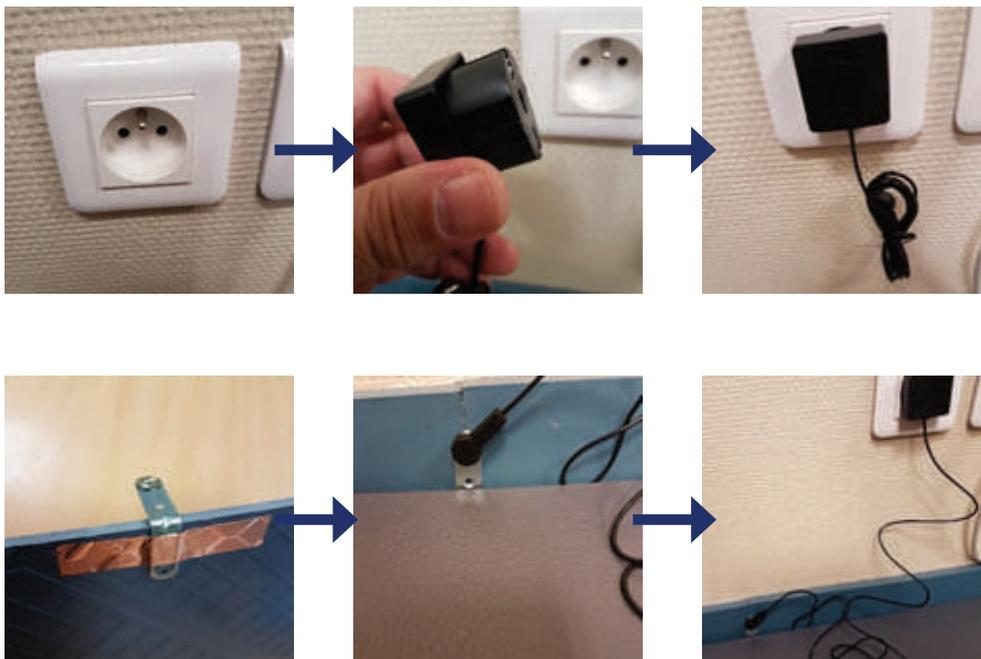
1. Make sure your chalk lines are completely straight
2. Add tiles to all sides of 'Tile 1', creating a cross shape using tiles numbered '2'  
(The numbers denote the order in which you add the tiles)
3. Align the tiles with the chalk markings, making sure they are all in line. This will ensure there are no issues later in the installation
4. Build out the tiles in the order stated in the 'Laying Guide' diagram
5. When laying, cut tiles to fit the edges of the room, leaving a gap between 10-5 mm for expansion

## HOW TO USE THE FLEXI-TILE ESD KIT

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1. Find a suitable plug socket to insert the grounding ESD plug
2. Place plug in socket (if in the UK, an additional plug adapter will be supplied)
3. Place grounding bracket using the conductive tape to the bottom of the tile closest to the socket
4. Install with the bracket touching the underside of the tile, connected to the floor
5. Turn on plug – you now have a electro static dissipative area



## Flexi-Tile Installation Recommendations

**All our tiles are designed to be laid freely. However, restrictions are necessary in some cases.**

### **Eclipse Mini (5mm Hidden Joint)**

- Pedestrian traffic only - no heavy mobile loads

### **Diamond Flexi-Tile (4mm) and Flexi-Tile Standard (4.5mm)**

- Pallet trucks not carrying more than 350kg
- If heavier loads are transported, installation of Flexi-Tile HD 7mm tiles will be required

### **Flexi-Tile HD (7mm) and Eclipse HD (7mm) tiles**

- 4 wheel rubber forklift trucks up to 1000kg
- Pallet trucks not carrying more than 800kg
- 3 wheel rubber forklift trucks up to 800kg
- Electric pallet trucks not carrying more than 700kg

### **Adhesive is required in areas where there is:**

- The use of a forklift or pallet truck exceeding the maximum recommended load weight for free installation without adhesive
- The use of a nylon or metal wheel forklift
- Use of a crane or forklift
- Extreme temperature changes
- Direct contact with the sun's rays
- External heat sources such as heaters or catalysts

### **Liquid spillage**

Our Flexi-Tile slabs are made of PVC, hence their resistance to most liquids and chemicals. However, any spill or splash should be cleaned without waiting.

The interlocking system of our Flexi-Tile is quite tight but cannot be considered 100% waterproof. Our tiles have been designed to be breathable, so that the floor can evaporate moisture and liquid seepage through the joints for normal use. Excessive spills or splashes should be cleaned up immediately. Volatile liquids such as gasoline evaporate and may seriously damage the tiles.

If you wish to prevent any liquid from stagnating under the tiles, Flexi-Tile adhesive must be used and completely bonded to the floor. We recommend the F Ball F74 Stycobond adhesive. This can be used throughout the Flexi-Tile product range.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Flexi-Tile team who can advise you.

**FLEXI | TILE**<sup>TM</sup>

The Interlocking Floor Tile

**flexi-tile.com**

**Flexi-Tile is manufactured by Unicorn Flooring**

Riverbank, The Green, Lisburn, BT27 5SR, Northern Ireland, UK

**Phone:** 028 9262 5898 **Fax:** +44 (0)2892 625 898

**E-Mail:** [info@flexi-tile.com](mailto:info@flexi-tile.com)