

Installation guidance

Altro safety flooring

Key points to consider when installing Altro safety flooring

- Ensure that the correct product is selected for the area type
- Ensure that the correct adhesive is selected for the area type
- Always hot weld the flooring joints ensuring that the correct tools are used for grooving, hot welding and trimming
- Always leave the floor suitably protected from other trades using a suitable non-staining floor protecting covering

Storage

Altro safety flooring should be laid in accordance with the Australian Standard AS1884-2012. The material should be stored for approximately 24 hours at a room temperature of not below 15°C. When laying, the area should be at a steady temperature of between 15°C and 28°C for at least 48 hours prior to, during and for at least 24 hours after completion.

The material should be checked for any possible faults prior to laying and should be cut into lengths and laid loose for conditioning before adhering to the subfloor for a minimum of 2 hours.

The material should then be "back rolled" or "dressed" before scribing in order to take out any tension in the product. Ensure that the material used in any one area is from the same manufacturing batch and that sheets are laid in the same direction.

Pattern ranges of Altro safety flooring will require the pattern to be matched from sheet to sheet (for further information contact Altro).

Claims against warranty for colour, batch or obvious material defects will only be considered if the flooring has not yet been permanently bonded.

Subfloor

The subfloor must conform with the requirements of Australian Standard AS1884-2012.

Adhesive

For the correct choice of AltroFix™ adhesive, refer to the Altro adhesives data sheets. Excess adhesive should be removed with a cloth with a neutral detergent in the case of acrylic adhesive or with alcohol for two component adhesives. Removal of excess adhesive should be done as work progresses and whilst the adhesive is still wet.

Laying

Altro safety flooring can be straight laid or used in conjunction with feather edge skirtings. The materials can also be self-coved. In areas that are subject to moisture spillage, the complete installation must be sealed ie. the use of conventional clamping or welding type drain gulleys and access covers, sealing of pipes, toilet pans, door frames etc. and the use of appropriate sealing methods between the junction of the Altro flooring and the wall covering or other floor surfaces. Refer to the Altro detail diagram sheet of the appropriate finishes.

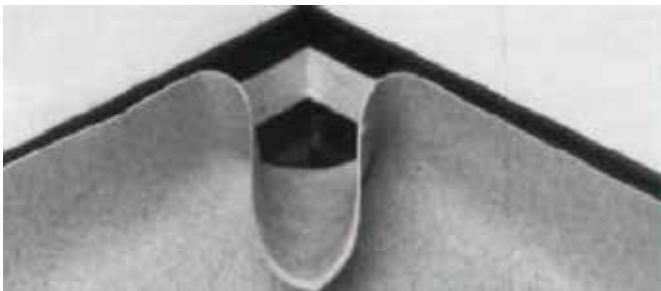
Once the material has been conditioned, the selvage edge should be removed. The joints can either be cut in before or after applying the adhesive. This will depend upon the preference of the flooring installer, however, it should be borne in mind that in large installations if the joints and / or the perimeter has been cut in, any movement of the sheet whilst placing it into the adhesive will create a problem.

Turn the material back and apply the adhesive to the subfloor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

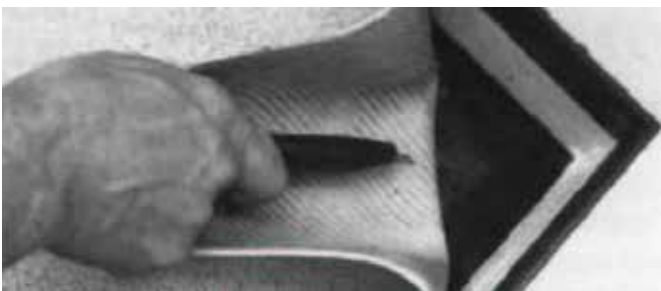
After the specified open time, which can depend upon the subfloor, check the applied adhesive for contamination and for signs of off gassing. When the adhesive is ready to receive the floor covering, ensure the back of the material is clean and free of debris. Place the floor covering back into the adhesive pushing out any air bubbles. Remove any excess adhesive immediately and depending upon the adhesive used (refer to Altro Adhesives) roll the whole area with a floor roller both width ways and length ways.

Weights such as sand bags must be placed over areas such as seams or around drains where pressure is required to keep the back of the Altro floor covering in firm contact with the adhesive until the adhesive has set. All seams shall be fitted nett; and not pressure fitted or gaped. All joints within the sheet should be cut in, grooved and hot welded.

Forming an internal corner



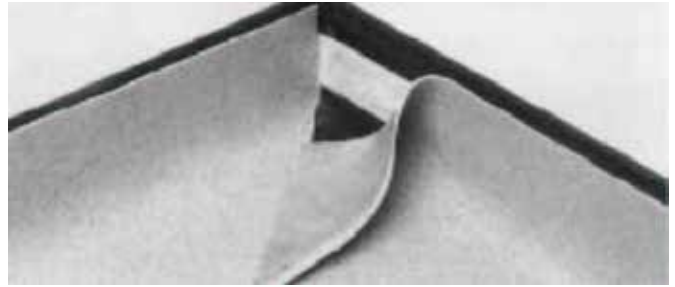
1. Once the main flooring is laid and adhered, push the flooring into the internal angle as far as possible



2. Make a cut from the base out to the top of the flooring in line with the mitre.



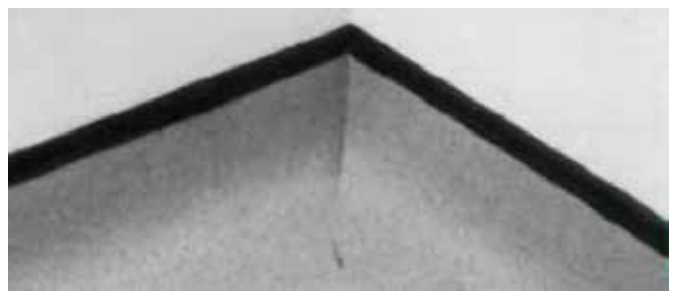
3. Fold in one side of the mitre and carefully cut off the surplus material.



4. This completes the first part of the mitre.



5. Fold in the second side and carefully cut in to

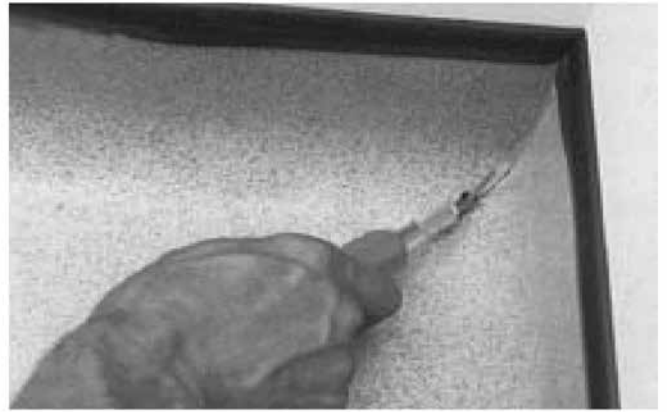


6. Adhere and hot-weld the joint.

Welding an internal mitre

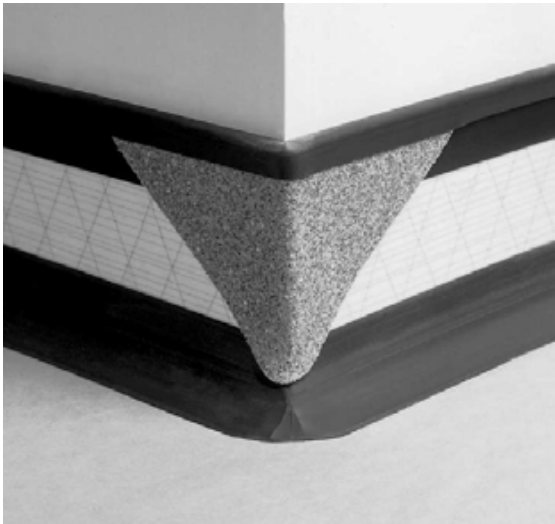


1. Groove the lower section of the joint, but not the upper

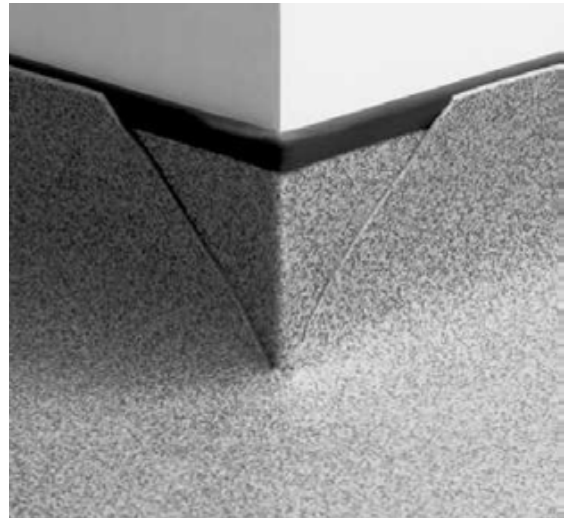


2. Trim the weldrod with the round router blade

Forming an external corner



1. Butterfly corner. Fit the fill piece up under the lip of the cap strip and press into place. Adhere with contact adhesive or contact tape.



2. Once the butterfly corner fill is in place, the adhesive may be spread and the field material laid into position. The relief cuts must be made so the field material overlaps both edges and the bottom point of the butterfly corner fill.



3. Using an Altro hook blade or concave blade trim the field material to fit net to the perimeter of the butterfly corner fill. Ensure the field material is held firmly down against the cove former while making the final cut.



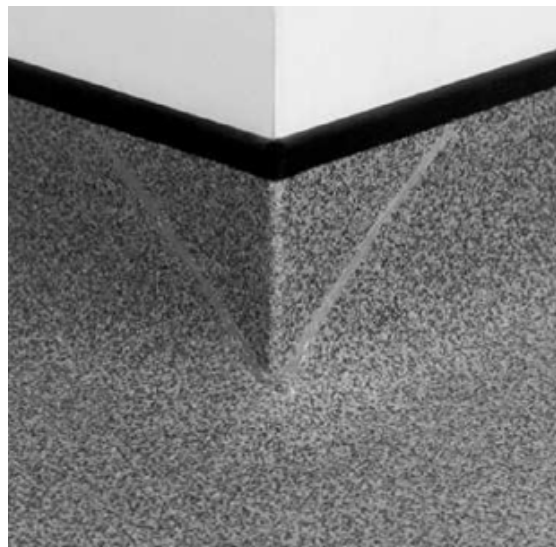
4. Grooving



5. Hot welding



6. Trimming



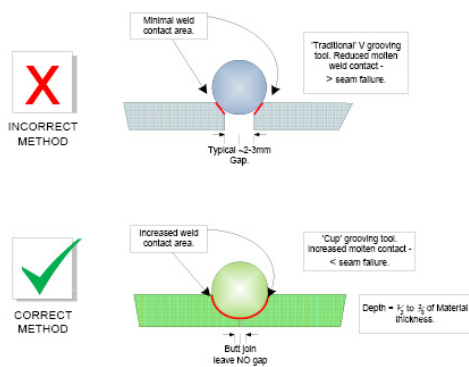
7. Heat weld to complete the section.

Grooving

A 3mm groove must be cut evenly along each floor joint (except internal/external mitres) using a hand or automatic rotary grooving tool. Use of the special Altro automatic grooving blades is recommended as standard blades are quickly destroyed when used on safety flooring. The depth of the groove shall be to a minimum of 1/2 to maximum of 2/3 of the thickness of the Altro Flooring.

Forming a hot welded joint

After cutting in and adhering the sheet vinyl flooring, all joints must be hot welded with Altro Weldrod™, using a hot air welding gun fitted with a 5mm high speed welding nozzle. Internal and external mitres should be hot welded. After a long period of use, the filter of the welding gun may become clogged with debris. This must be kept clear to reach the optimum weld temperature. Where possible, allow 12 hours between laying and welding, to ensure the adhesive is properly set. However, when installing Altro Adhesive-free™ products, welding can be carried out immediately after installation as no wet adhesive is used with this system.



Protection and maintenance

Altro safety flooring must be covered and protected from all other trades with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

For maintenance of Altro safety flooring refer to Altro's cleaning and maintenance recommendations.

Welding

The internal and external mitres on the coved sections should be welded first. Turn the speed nozzle at the end of the welding gun to the up position, for easier starting. Once the mitres are finished, turn the nozzle to the down position to hot weld the grooved floor joints.

Insert the weld rod into the speed nozzle until it pokes out the tip and immediately insert the weld rod into the groove. Hold the weld gun at the proper angle so the tip is parallel with the material. Draw the gun backwards with gentle downward pressure on the tip fusing the weld rod into the groove. Watch the weld-ing process at the junction of the welding rod and the material. A good weld will result when the weld rod and the material form a very slight peak either side of the weld rod. This peak will be trimmed off later. If moving too fast, slight pecking will not occur. If too slow, the peak of the material will burn. Be careful not to burn the material, as it is difficult to repair. Please contact Altro for specific welding advice for products incorpo-rating Altro Easyclean Maxis™ Technology and Altro Easyclean Maxis PUR™ Technology.

Finishing

Once the weld has cooled and set, trim the weld with the most appropriate tool such as a spatula fitted with a spatula guide or sledge. Then, using the spatula only, trim the weld flush with the surface of the flooring material. For external mitres use the square router blade and for internal mitres the round router blade. For Altro T20™ safety flooring the Altro T20 chisel has been specifically designed for removal of surplus weldrod.

For details on equipment and tools, refer to Altro's Recommended Equipment and Tools data sheet.

Laying Altro Static Dissipative safety flooring

Altro Walkway™ 20SD should be installed following the same procedure as standard sheet. But the recommended conductive adhesives must be used (refer to the Altro adhesives guide).

The use of copper strips, etc, will depend upon the requirements and standards that the client needs to achieve (for further information contact Altro Technical Services).

For further information or technical advice

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