



INSTALLATION Instructions for RB Silent-Tread™ Acoustical Underlayment



UPON DELIVERY OF PRODUCT

1. **VERIFY** packing slip matches with product and order.
2. **INSPECT** delivered product thoroughly. Report any discrepancies of original order, product defects, etc. No reimbursement/warranty claim will be given for labor performed on material installed with visual defects. Any defects – size, color, or otherwise – must be reported to the place of purchase prior to installation.
3. **STORE** product and adhesives in clean, dry, environment with temperatures between 70° and 95° F.
4. **READ** product and sub-surface floor preparation, instructions, warranty and other disclaimers carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

Warning:

DO NOT use recycled rubber products in conjunction with any petroleum based products. This includes solvents, adhesives or sealants. All substrates (especially new concrete) must be fully cured for 45 to 60 days prior to installing rubber products.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: This installation guide is intended to provide the necessary information for the proper installation of RB Silent-Tread™. These instructions are believed to be based on accepted industry standards and are provided for informational use only. **RB RUBBER PRODUCTS, INC. DOES NOT WARRANT ANY INSTALLATION PERFORMED PURSUANT TO THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR OTHERWISE AND SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS LIABILITY FOR ANY DIRECT OR INDIRECT PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR OTHER COSTS OR LOSSES RESULTING FROM INSTALLATION.** RB Silent-Tread™ should be installed by qualified and experienced personnel.

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RECOMMENDED TOOLS

Measuring Tape or Ruler
Metal Straight Edge
RB Knife or Non-Retractable
Utility Knife with Extra Blades
Duct-Tape

Adhesive Options

Polyurethane Adhesive
Mineral Spirits and Rag
Rubber Gloves
50 pound (or larger) roller
Notched Trowel

Note: size and type will vary based on adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.



PREPARATION

Product

Acoustical underlayment products must reach room temperature to ensure a secure, tight installation with minimal size fluctuation. Inspect the product prior to installation for measurable defects or variations.

Sub-Surface Preparation

For best installation, any sub-surface should be reasonably flat and free of holes or variances of more than 1/16”.

1. Be certain the subfloor is clean, dry, smooth, level and structurally sound as per ASTM F710-05. Test floor for vapor drive in accordance with surface flooring manufacturer's recommended installation procedures, generally, vapor drive should not exceed the industry standard of <3.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet in 24 hours. If moisture exceeds flooring manufacturer's specifications, follow their installation procedures for moisture control.
2. Mechanical surface profiling is the preferred floor preparation method. It is the only acceptable preparation method where warranties are issued. Acid etching is not recommended. Mechanically profile the floor to medium-grit sandpaper texture. Remove curing and parting compounds and other surface hardeners and floor coatings in accordance with the surface flooring manufacturer's instructions.

A. Concrete

New concrete must be allowed to cure thoroughly prior to installation (45 to 60 days). If sealants are used, ***DO NOT*** use one with a petroleum base. Old concrete must be repaired and have joint sealants and fillers installed as necessary. All cracks or flaws should be filled in or repaired prior to covering with rubber products. Use patching materials as appropriate. The concrete surface must be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, dust, grease, or other foreign matter and allowed to dry completely before beginning installation. RB Silent-Tread XL (with vapor barrier) or other waterproof membranes should be used when installing over new concrete or concrete at or below grade level and whenever the flooring manufacturer recommends a vapor barrier. Waterproof membranes, if any, should be facing up toward the flooring surface.

B. Wood Base

Wood surfaces should be completely cleaned of dirt, dust, grease or other foreign matter and be completely dry prior to installation. Trapped moisture may rot the wood.

Nails or other protrusions should be pounded down or removed, holes repaired, and surface variances repaired within the 1/16” acceptable variance level.

Adhesive Options

If circumstances dictate that an adhesive must be applied to the acoustical underlayment, the use of Chemrex CX-941 or other single component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesives with similar adhesive properties may be used. However, it is the user's responsibility to check the adhesion of the cured adhesive on typical test areas at the project **BEFORE** installation begins.

- Do not use any adhesive that contains a petroleum product.
- In cool weather, store containers at temperatures of 70° to 95° F for at least 24 hours before using.
- Polyurethane adhesives are applied at temperatures above 40°F.
- Protect open containers from heat and direct sunshine.
- Wear gloves during application; if adhesive gets on skin, immediately wipe it off with a dry cloth.
- Do not apply on frozen surfaces or standing water.
- Avoid contact with water or alcohol before use and before complete cure.

Always follow adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions for proper preparation of the sub-floor, recommended coverage, size and type of notched trowel, open time, standard set times and cleanup.

Follow surface flooring manufacturer's recommendations for moisture control and instructions for applying adhesives to attach flooring to the underlayment.



INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Floating Floor

1. Check for subfloor moisture content. Always consult the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions, particularly with regard to moisture protection practices. In most instances RB Silent-Tread XL (with vapor barrier) will meet the flooring manufacturer's requirements.
2. Be certain the subfloor is clean, dry, smooth, level and structurally sound. Ensure that any nail heads are flush, smooth out any other sharp subfloor protrusions and fill any holes, gaps or indentations.
3. Starting in a corner, unroll RB Silent-Tread over the subfloor. RB Silent-Tread should be laid out perpendicular to the finished surface flooring to reduce seams.
4. Fit the perimeter edge at least 1/4" from the wall by cutting to size. Roll out the next underlayment row in the same manner while butting each roll seam together tightly. Do not allow peaking or overlapping of seams.
5. Make certain there are no attachments or penetrations through RB Silent-Tread. If any, seal all tears or penetrations using duct tape or other utility grade, polycoated cloth backed tape with an aggressive adhesive.
6. With RB Silent-Tread XL (with vapor barrier), tape all underlayment seams, tears, or penetrations using duct tape or other utility grade, poly-coated cloth backed tape with an aggressive adhesive.
7. Install the surface flooring according to the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions.

Mechanically Fastened Engineered and Solid Wood

1. Follow steps 1 through 5 required in **Floating Floor** above.
2. Use an overlayment above RB Silent-Tread made of two layers (staggered) of 3/8" exterior grade plywood (glued and screwed together for stability).
3. Install the surface flooring according to the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions.

DISCLAIMER:

These instructions have been prepared to assist purchasers of RB Silent-Tread™ in the recommended installation procedure. The installation guidelines represent a typical installation work procedure and the information contained herein is believed to be reliable. However, every site is different and RB Rubber Products, Inc. does not claim to have covered all possible installation circumstances in these instructions. Please contact a qualified and experienced flooring professional to assist with any particular installation procedure.

Glue-Down Floor

1. Consult the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions. Be certain the subfloor is clean, dry, smooth, level and structurally sound. Ensure that any nail heads are flush, smooth out any other sharp subfloor protrusions and fill any holes, gaps or indentations.
2. Starting in a corner, unroll RB Silent-Tread over the subfloor. RB Silent-Tread should be laid out perpendicular to the finished surface flooring to reduce seams.
3. Fit the perimeter edge at least 1/8" from the wall by cutting to size. Roll out the next underlayment row in the same manner while butting each roll seam together tightly. Do not allow peaking or overlapping of seams.
4. Remove fitted sections making sure to note their location in the installation.
5. Starting in the farthest corner of the room, apply adhesive using a notched trowel, according to the adhesive manufacturer's application instructions. Make sure there is full coverage of the adhesive over the subfloor. Spread the adhesive at right angles to the seams in order to prevent oozing. Do not use any adhesive that contains a petroleum product.
6. Follow immediately with RB Silent-Tread underlayment making sure the adhesive is still open, and apply even and full pressure to assure a full bond between the adhesive and RB Silent-Tread. Use a 50+ pound roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer rolling the width and then the length.
7. Make certain there are no attachments or penetrations through RB Silent-Tread. If any, seal all tears or penetrations using duct tape or other utility grade, polycoated cloth backed tape with an aggressive adhesive.
8. Allow to dry per adhesive manufacturer's instructions and install the surface flooring according to the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions.

Ceramic Tile

1. Follow steps 1 through 8 required in **Glue-Down Floor** above.
2. Use an overlayment above RB Silent-Tread made of gypsum board, gypsum concrete or two layers of 3/8" exterior grade plywood (staggered and glued and screwed together for stability).
3. Install the surface flooring according to the flooring manufacturer's written installation instructions.

PRODUCT WARRANTY

- 1.0 RB Rubber Products, Inc.'s Silent-Tread acoustical underlayment is guaranteed to be free of manufacturing defects in material and workmanship for 20 years from the original date of purchase, by the original purchaser ("Warranty Period"). This warranty is not transferable. If there are defects in material and workmanship during the Warranty Period, RB Rubber Products, Inc. will replace or repair the product, as described herein, at no cost to the owner/end-user. Should defects in material or workmanship be found, it is the owner's responsibility to contact RB Rubber Products, Inc. through the point of purchase or directly, as described below. This warranty does not cover dissatisfaction or problems or other damage to the materials due to or as a result of:
- a) improper installation, improper maintenance, or usage not approved by RB Rubber Products, Inc.;
 - b) use of harsh and acidic chemicals and abrasive chemicals;
 - c) water spotting, petroleum adhesives or floor sealants or abuse;
 - d) wear or product degradation expected from the use or environment of installation;
 - e) chewing, clawing or other animal destruction;
 - f) exposure to chlorine, solvents, acids, or other harmful chemicals; or
 - g) acts of negligence, misuse, or willful or accidental external influences including, but not limited to, vandalism, riot, or acts of war or terrorism.
- *** Proof of Purchase is Required *****
- 1.1 The warranty is limited to the repair or replacement of products of RB Rubber Products, Inc. which are shown to be defective during the Warranty Period. The owner/end-user agrees not to advance any claim for any other measure of damage or loss. RB Rubber Products, Inc. shall not be liable for installation, disassembly, removal, disposal, return shipping, or other similar costs.
- 1.2 RB Rubber Products, Inc. shall not be liable for any damage, loss or claim whatsoever unless:
- a) The manufacturer is notified in writing within fifteen (15) days of any occurrence which might give rise to a claim;
 - b) The owner/end-user has obtained written authorization from RB Rubber Products, Inc. prior to making any repairs or alterations on or through the surface which may affect the integrity of the materials;
 - c) RB Rubber Products, Inc. is first permitted to inspect the allegedly defective product or cause of the alleged loss, damage or claim; and
 - d) The material is installed according to the written instructions provided by RB Rubber Products, Inc. and used only as intended by RB Rubber Products, Inc.
- 1.3 If, after inspection, RB Rubber Products, Inc. determines that there has been a material defect in the product within the Warranty Period described in Paragraph 1.0, the liability of RB Rubber Products, Inc. and the remedy of the owner/end-user shall be limited, at the sole option of RB Rubber Products, Inc. to either: (a) delivery of repair or replacement material for the impacted area, or (b) credit to be applied towards the purchase of new material. The value of either remedy shall be pro-rated upon the remaining months of unexpired warranty as determined by the manufacturer. The maximum pro-rated value of either remedy shall in no case exceed the original purchase price.

Limitation of Warranty:

1. THERE IS NO WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, NOR ANY OTHER WARRANTIES WHICH EXTEND BEYOND THE DESCRIPTION ON THE FACE HEREOF.
2. RB RUBBER PRODUCTS, INC. SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR OTHER DAMAGES.
3. THE REMEDIES STATED HEREIN ARE THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES FOR ANY CLAIM OR DAMAGES.
4. NO AGENT OR REPRESENTATIVE OF RB RUBBER PRODUCTS, INC. HAS ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED AUTHORITY TO MAKE ANY REPRESENTATION, PROMISE OR GUARANTEE NOT STATED HEREIN.

Disclaimer:

- **Recycled rubber, as with any recycled product, can vary. Tolerances in thickness and width have been made as stringent as is possible, but some variance is to be expected. Rubber's nature is to expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity.**
- **RB Silent-Tread™ Acoustical Underlayment is not to be used in any manner or for any purpose not expressly identified by RB Rubber Products, Inc.**