

HOW TO INSTALL STAIR TREADS

The purchase of rubber or vinyl stair treads warrants proper installation and maintenance procedures in order to assure complete satisfaction. For unusual and special conditions, contact the factory for recommendations.

WHERE TO INSTALL: Install stair treads on any smooth, dry interior step provided the shape of the step conforms to the underneath contour of the stair tread; particularly at the section where the flat part of the tread joins the nosing. A tight fit between stair treads and steps is essential.

WHERE NOT TO INSTALL: If the shape of the steps does not conform to the shape of the stair treads and cannot be altered to conform, we do not recommend installation of treads unless special instructions are carefully followed. We do not recommend installing rubber treads on exterior steps.

ROOM TEMPERATURE: Store treads and installation materials in warm room, no cooler than 70 Degrees Fahrenheit for 24 hours before installation. This temperature should be maintained during the installation and for at least one week after installation.

REPAIRING WORN & UNEVEN EDGES: Repair worn, uneven or misaligned edge of steps. If an open space exists underneath the nosing of the tread when it is applied tight against the step, fill the space with Epoxy Nose Caulk. It is essential that there be no space between the step and the stair tread when the installation is completed.

PREPARATION FOR INSTALLATION: Surfaces of steps

must be level, clean, dry, and free from oil, grease, rust, paint varnish and old coverings, adhesives, and any other foreign substances. Wood steps should be thoroughly nailed down.

Worn or dished-out steps, cracks, holes, depressions, or any other irregularities on the steps should be repaired by filling or sealing and smoothing with an underlayment compound.

FITTING AND CUTTING: Treads are usually supplied over size, with untrimmed ends, to allow extra material to compensate for variations in step dimensions.

Treads should be individually trimmed to fit each step, both in depth and from side to side. The rear edge should be cut with a slight underbevel for a better fit. The stair treads can be marked with an awl and cut using a steel straight edge and a linoleum knife.

It is important to use the correct adhesive. For vinyl treads contact adhesive must be used. For rubber treads install with contact or suitable rubber flooring adhesive, depending on service conditions. Cove base adhesives are not recommended.

INSTALLATION OF RUBBER STAIR TREAD: After the steps have been prepared and the stair treads cut and fitted as described, begin installation by spreading adhesive on the stair step completely covering the surface and the nosing.

When using contact adhesive, the adhesive should then be spread on the bottom of the stair tread and completely underneath the nosing. Always follow instructions on label of adhesive container.

We suggest coating two steps and two treads at one time, and then install the treads, as described below. An alternative suggestion is to apply adhesive to every other step on a flight of stairs, install those treads; go back and do the remainder.

The most important factor in proper stair tread installation is to see that no air space exists underneath the nosing part of the tread. The tread must not flex or move as traffic walks across the steps. Epoxy Nose Caulk should be used as described on the label.

INSTALL STAIR TREADS: Set the stair tread into its proper position on the step, beginning at the nosing and pushing back firmly and as tightly as possible, holding up the back surface of the tread. After the nosing is completely in place, begin at the front and move back on the surface of the tread towards the riser, the tread should be pushed down firmly onto the step.

After installation is completed, roll newly installed stair treads with a hand roller, making certain that the stair tread nosing is fitted tightly against the stair tread nosing. If any difficulty is experienced in holding the nosing to an understair, use a few hardened steel headless brads to secure it while adhesive is drying.

Rubber or vinyl risers should not be installed so as to extend up underneath the nose of the stair tread. The top of the riser should butt against the bottom of the tread nose.

FINAL PRECAUTIONS: Any adhesive or caulking compound on the surface of the stair treads should be wiped off before it dries, using a cloth dampened in denatured alcohol. If adhesive has dried, remove carefully with #00 steel wool and denatured alcohol. Rub lightly to avoid dulling and scratching stair treads.

It is important that traffic be kept off newly installed stair treads, until the adhesive has set up sufficiently to prevent movement and

assure a firm bond.

Where construction work by other trades requires traffic over newly-installed stair treads, protect treads with heavy building paper or planking as needed.

Do not wash or apply any surface treatments for about one week after installation to allow sufficient time for the stair treads to become tightly bonded to steps.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS GRIT STRIP INSERTED TREADS

IMPORTANT – READ BEFORE INSTALLING: Abrasive strip stair treads require special care in handling and installing. Lay treads flat – do not stand on end. Do not flex or bend treads; pre-cut treads, side to side and front to back, before spreading any adhesive; cut the abrasive strips 1/16” shorter than the overall length of the stair tread; make sure stair treads will slide into and off of the step before applying adhesive; do not force treads in at ends – cut loosely; do not fit in too tight; roll treads and strips down after treads are cemented in place.

MAINTENANCE TIPS

The following simple steps for correct care are recommended:

- Daily sweeping with soft hair push broom, also before and between washings, will cut down the number of washings and remove dirt and foreign matter.

- During bad weather any accumulated rain or slush should be wiped promptly from stairs to prevent slipping. Wipe up spillage before it has a chance to harden.
 - When cleaning is necessary, wipe with cloth or damp mop, using clean room-temperature water. Do not flood stairs.
 - In stubborn cases, damp mop with room-temperature water and solution of liquid detergent suitable for rubber floor or a solution of ammonia and water. Immediately rinse stairs with clean room-temperature water, changing rinsing water frequently.
 - Make sure stairs are thoroughly rinsed, as any residue will cause a dirt sticking film.
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- Dry buffing of surface is recommended, but if desired, a non-skid wax recommended for use on rubber flooring may be applied; wax will mask surface scratches or scrapes.