

Installation recommendation

This instruction is valid for the following **SPORTEC®** products: **base-20 FR**, **base FR**, **base MS** and **style**.

Note:

For a quick overview of the installation process, as well as the most important instructions and work steps, please click on the image below to get access to the installation video. Additional details and further information can be found in the relevant sections of these installation instructions.



1. Substrate

The substrate must be tested and evaluated before installation in accordance with the national standard (DIN 18365).

Suitable substrates are, for example, asphalt, concrete or screed. The substrate ready for covering must be pressure and tension resistant, even, permanently dry, load-bearing, clean and free of dirt and cracks that could impair the bonding.

The substrate must comply with the limit values for evenness deviations in accordance with DIN 18202 (increased requirements = max. 3 mm difference over a distance of 1 meter). Slight unevenness must be repaired with a suitable leveling compound.

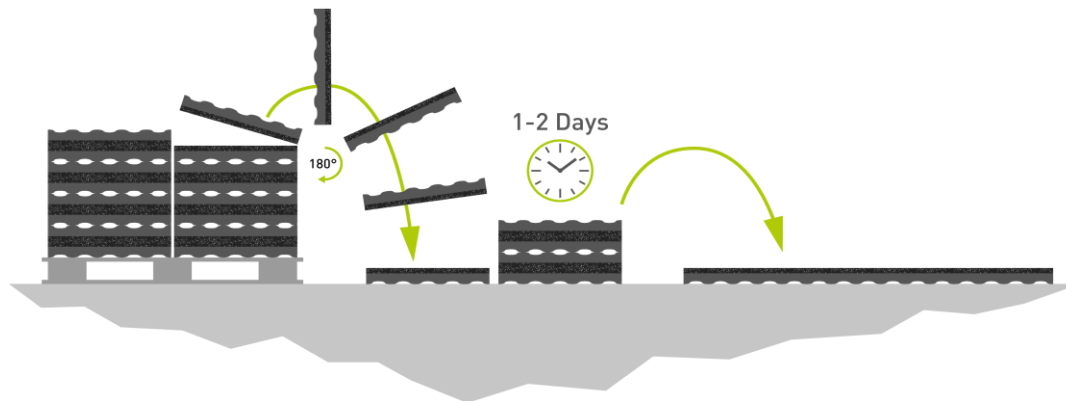
Depending on the substrate, it may be advisable to prime the substrate with a suitable (barrier-) primer.

SPORTEC® tiles should not be installed on loose or dynamic sub-bases. A solid base is required to ensure stability and performance, if additional force reduction is required a compatible engineered underlay may be used such as the **SPORTEC® team cup X**. When using heavy weights, check the suitability of the substrate for the intended loads in advance and prepare the substrate if necessary.

2. Preparation Work

Remove the tiles from the pallet and lay down loose on the ground and store them in the area you want to install for about 1-2 days before installation to ensure correct acclimation.

In order to fully acclimate, the tiles should be stored in stacks of no greater than 6 tiles. Tiles should be stacked finish to finish, and dimpled edge to dimpled edge to protect the surface from scratches.



The ambient temperature for storage and installation of **SPORTEC®** tiles should be between 15 °C and 25 °C. For an accurate and easier installation, a chalk line should be used.



Creating chalk lines and laying the tiles along this line

3. Installation

The method of laying differs for the individual tiles and depends on which tile size is to be laid. The laying steps are therefore divided into chapters **a)** and **b)** below. Part **c)** summarises general instructions that apply to all tile sizes.

In general, for all tile sizes, it is recommended to lay the tiles in a T-bond, means with half-tiles in every second row as described under **a)**, in order to obtain the most stable and homogeneous tiles bond possible.

Please note: The **SPORTEC® base-20 FR** tiles are produced and delivered without connector pins, therefore when installing these 20mm tiles, please ignore the comments referring to the connector pin direction in the following chapters. The rest of the installation advice can be followed in the same way as described below for 1000 x 1000mm tiles.

a) Installation of tiles in 500/500 mm; 1,000/500 mm; 1,000/1,000 mm

Place the first tile against the wall/edge trim and then start with the installation. If necessary, create a straight edge before to allow the tiles to be laid against a wall or in the room. In case of curves and edges, cut the tiles to the respective shape and lay flush at this point.

To cut the tiles use or a sharp Stanley knife with a straight edge to repeatedly score through the tile gradually. An alternative would be to use an electric table saw (for straight-line full-tile cutting) or an electric jig-saw to cut around curves.



Installation of the tiles along a wall with the connector pins towards the next row

At the beginning of the installation, start along the chalk line, border or edge and lay the tiles next to each other so that no joint is left between the tiles and the connector pins pointing towards where the second row will be installed.

The second row should be started with a half tile; this ensures the joints are staggered from the first ensuring a brick bond formation or "T" joint in the tiles.



Each row should be offset by a half tile;

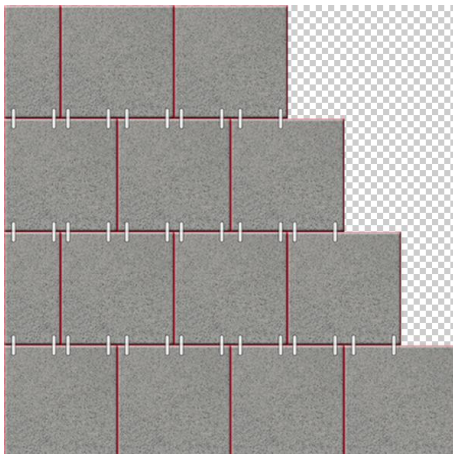


tiles can also be cut around curves

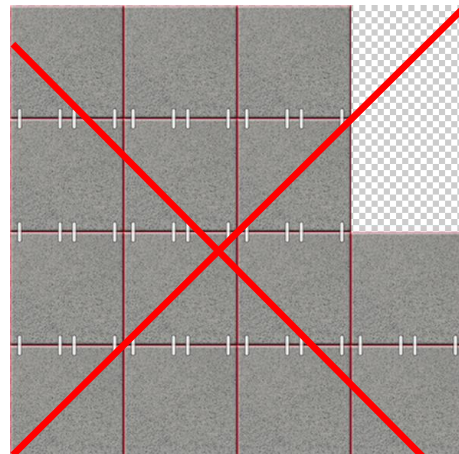
During the installation, ensure that you have no gaps between individual tiles use a rubber mallet where necessary to close the gaps and make sure that the connector pins line up exactly.



Closing the gaps with a hammer



Correct installation in brick bond format with "T" junctions

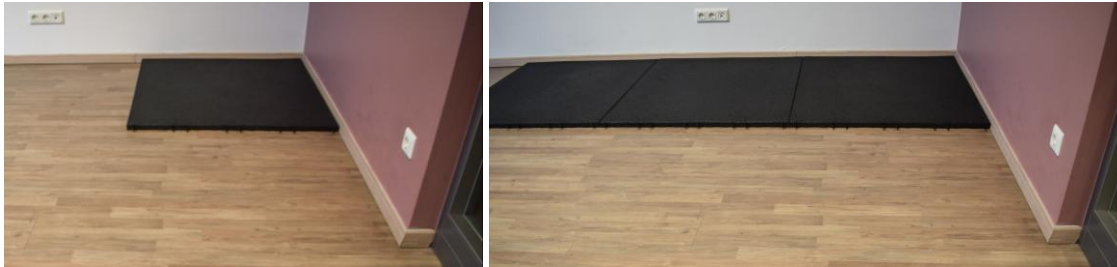


Incorrect installation in grid formation with cross junctions

b) Alternative installation of tiles in 1,000/1,000 mm

Place the first tile against the wall/edge trim and then start with the installation. If necessary, create a straight edge before to allow the tiles to be laid against a wall or in the room. In case of curves and edges, cut the tiles to the respective shape. At the beginning of the installation, start along the chalk line, border or edge and lay the tiles next to each other so that no joint is left between the tiles and the connector pins pointing towards where the second row will be installed, as per the image below.

The second row of tiles is then started with a whole tile, identical to the first, and then tiles are placed next to each other to form a cross-bond (chessboard).



Installation of the tiles along a wall with the connector pins towards the next row



Start the second row of the tiles in the same way and continue; place the tiles next to each other



Press tiles together;

installation of tiles in a chessboard formation

c) general installation information

In the case of rubber tiles, due to the elasticity tolerances it can occasionally happen that the dimensions of a tile differ to surrounding ones and does not fit flush with them. If this is case, and if extra pressure to squeeze all the surrounding tiles together does not help, the tile should be put aside and another one should be used instead until the best possible finish is found. The concerned tile can then be used elsewhere where a better fit is possible or as a finishing tile where cutting is required.

During the installation, ensure that you have no gaps between individual tiles use a rubber mallet where necessary to close the gaps and make sure that the connector pins line up exactly.

Video:



Safety Surfaces
Installation Recommendations no. VA04 - R - 04

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The entire surface must be enclosed and held on all sides, ensuring that the tiles can't move. If there are open edges to the space, you should use either the **SPORTEC® edge- & corner ramps** which allow for a ramp down to adjoining floor finishes, or a step should be installed using metal or timber battens with safety nosing as required.



Using edge and corner profiles;



Perimeter step made by using a metal bar

4. Coating

It is not recommended to apply a coating on **SPORTEC®** tiles in general.

5. Important details

The tiles may only be installed on leveled, dry and clean substrate. The area can be used directly after installation.

When possible, the installation should be done in one day so that all tiles are installed under the same ambient conditions.

When calculating the needed amount of material, calculate with **3%** for **cut-off**.

SPORTEC® tiles with a thickness of **up to 30mm** can be cut into the required shape with a jigsaw, a hand-held circular saw, a band saw or a sharp cutting knife.

SPORTEC® tiles with a thickness of **more than 30mm** should no longer be cut with a cutting knife, as the material is way too thick to cut safely and easily into the desired shape.

We recommend using a hand-held circular saw (at least 1400 watts, 5500 rpm, and 67 mm cutting depth) with coarse teeth to ensure precise and clean cuts. Alternatively a band saw or jigsaw (suitable blades = Bosch T345XF/T313AW in combination with a high stroke rate) can be used here, but please make sure that the tiles are securely fixed in place, as otherwise vibrations in the material can be transmitted to the blade during the cutting movement, which can lead to inaccurate cuts or bending of the blade.

It is possible to quickly and easily uninstall and store the tiles and then install again when a temporary solution is needed. However, attention should be taken to protect the interconnecting pins when storing and re-installing. Tiles should always be installed as above in a brick bond fashion.

For the use of the tiles in the heavy weight areas, it must be checked in advance whether the substrate is suitable for the intended loads which can be used in this application. If there are any uncertainties, a building expert should be consulted if necessary and the substrate should be prepared accordingly.

Required tools for the installation:



Gloves



Measuring tape



Knife



Chalk line



Jigsaw


 Hand-held
circular saw


Band saw

In case of claims caused of falsely delivered goods, defect goods, insufficient quantities or other possible faults stop the installation immediately and make a claim directly.

A claim of delivered material is only possible with untreated and uninstalled material and with confirmation of the order number and production batch reference number. This number is printed on a sticker on underside of each tile.



Batch-No. label on the underside of a tile

DISCLAIMER:

These recommendations for applications and installation are based on our extensive experience and on current technological practice. Our liability and responsibility in the event of damages shall be limited to the extent defined in our General Terms and Conditions of Business, regardless of the above recommendations or of any statements made or advice given by our sales representatives or applications engineering staff.