



## **Specification Data -- RESILIENT ATHLETIC FLOORING 09 65 66**

### **INSTALLATION Instructions EcoFitness Interlocking Tile**

**INTRODUCTORY NOTE:** This installation guide is intended to provide the necessary information for the proper installation of EcoFitness Interlocking Tile. These instructions are believed to be based on accepted industry standards and are provided for informational use only. **BURKE FLOORING 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.** Burke Flooring Products should be installed by qualified and experienced personnel.

- 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 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. (21° -35°C).
- 4      **READ** these installation 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.

#### **PREPARATION**

EcoFitness Interlocking Tile must reach ambient room temperature to ensure a secure, tight installation with minimal size fluctuation. Each piece should be allowed to set for a full 24 hours prior to beginning installation. This allows the product to size-stabilize at the typical room temperature. Inspect the product prior to installation for measurable defects or variations.

**Sub-Floor**

For best installation, any sub-floor should be reasonably flat and free of holes or variances of more than 1/8" (3.17mm) per 10 lineal feet.

1 All sub-floors should be structurally sound and fully cured for 45 to 60 days. If using adhesive, test floor for vapor drive in accordance with anhydrous calcium chloride test. Vapor drive should not exceed the industry standard of <3.0 lbs. per 1,000 square feet (1.36kg/100sq m) in 24 hours.

2 Repair concrete and install joint sealants and fillers as necessary.

**A. Concrete**

New concrete must be allowed to cure thoroughly prior to installation (45 to 60 days). 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 cementitious based patching materials with a minimum of 3,500 psi as appropriate.

Surface must be thoroughly cleaned of dirt, dust, grease, or other foreign matter.

**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 1/8" (3.17mm) per 10 lineal foot acceptable variance level.

**C. Over Rock Base**

Begin preparing the surface 2-3" (50-76mm) below the level of the finished floor. Fill prepared area with 3/4" (19mm) minus crushed gravel, decomposed granite or limestone product. Tamp fill down to 2-3" (50-76mm) thickness, so that it is near level with the area of installation, minus the thickness of the rubber surfacing.

**CLEANING**

Indoors: Sweep, sponge mop or vacuum rubber flooring for everyday maintenance.

Outdoors: Use of a water hose, leaf blower or broom is usually sufficient. Use the Neutral pH Cleaner & Degreaser with a sponge mop and water for more extensive cleaning.

**DO NOT USE Petroleum Based Products to Clean Rubber Flooring.**

## INSTALLATION

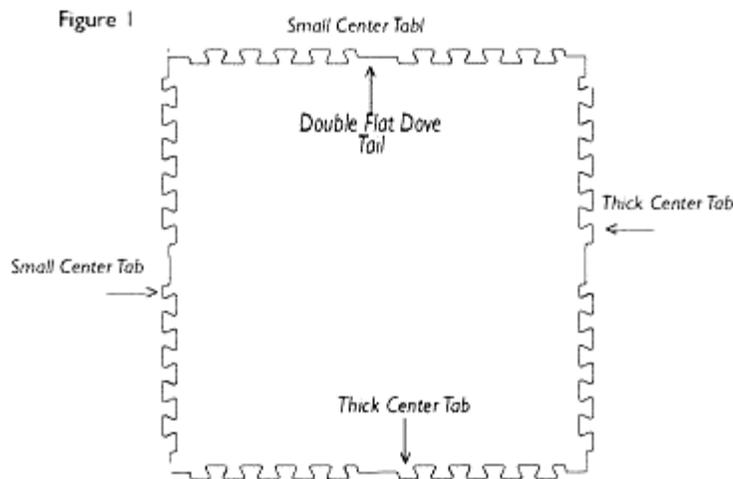
EcoFitness Interlocking Tile does not require any specialty tools. However, it is very important to understand that the tiles are designed to fit together only in certain way. They cannot be assembled randomly.

### Step One - Identify the Top Surface of the Tile from the Bottom

First note that there is a top surface to the tile and a bottom surface. This is because the fingers of the interlocking design will tend to lift on one side and lay flat on the other. The gaps between the interlocking dovetails are greater and much more visible on the bottom of the interlocked tile. However, the gaps are very tight when viewed from the top surface of the tile.

Hold the tile in front of you. In the center of each of the tile's four sides you will see a "double flat dovetail." On two sides of the tile, the tabs extending from the "double flat dovetail" are thin. The tabs on the other sides are thick. The orientation of these four tabs is important (see figure I).

To identify the top of the tile from the bottom, flip the tile from front to back. Make sure that the "double flat dove tail" on the top of the tab is extended on the left. Then rotate the tile until the two small center tabs are at twelve o'clock and nine o'clock (see figure I). Repeat this process with each tile so that the orientation of these center tabs is the same for all tiles.



### Step Two - Decide Tile Layout

EcoFitness Interlocking Tile may be laid in straight rows and columns. Another option is to lay the tile in an "Ashlar" or brick pattern by offsetting either the rows or the columns by 50%. In other words, the tile can be laid "point to point" or in the offset "Ashlar" method. There is some locking benefit to the offset "Ashlar" brick pattern.

### **Step Three - Snap Center Lines**

Begin by measuring the length and width of the room. Divide the distances as measured in inches by the width of the tile (28.5" or 22.5" measured from the inside tab on one side to the outside tab on the opposite side). This will result in the number of full tiles plus a partial tile. Snap a center line for the width of the room such that the partial tile on either side of the room is no less than 6" wide. Repeat this for the length of the room.

### **Step Four - Lay Tiles**

Place the first tile at the center of the room where the two lines you snapped in Step Three intersect. Place the tile such that the inside of the dovetail is aligned to both the width and length line. Refer to Step One for proper tile orientation. Place the second tile on the opposite side of one of the lines.

Position the tile such that the pattern of the two small center tabs (two large and two small) are in the same relative positions as the first tile. Align the dovetail patterns and press together with your thumbs. Complete the process by hitting the seam area with a rubber mallet.

The third tile may be positioned either with the inside of the dovetail aligned to the other line aligning with one of the tiles, or such that 1/2 of the tile locks with the first tile and 1/2 locks with the second tile.

Remember that with every tile you must repeat the relative position of the center tabs (two large and two small). Continue laying tiles in all directions until there is not enough room to lay any more full tiles within the space to be filled. There should be a space of at least 6" on all four sides of the room.

### **Step Five -Trim to Fit Room**

Beginning in one corner, first measure from the wall to the inside dovetail pattern at each end of the tile. Then measure from the corner of the wall to the center of the edge of the tile. Position the tile such that the corresponding edge will align to the edge to be fitted and trim to fit the space from the corner to the center of the tile and to the wall or edge. Maintain a 1/4" gap between the edge piece and the wall to allow for expansion. Save the remaining piece to fit to the opposite wall. Continue around the room, measuring and fitting each piece and allowing for a 1/4" gap for expansion. Finish with molding or 1/2" quarter round molding.

### **CUTTING TIPS**

Here are tips on cutting EcoFitness Rubber Interlocking Tile. This procedure works best when using a non-retractable utility knife. When using a utility knife, be sure to keep the blades sharp to aid in the cut, and help reduce the possibility of injury due to dull blades.

- 1 Mark the mats you will need to cut with chalk or a chalk line.
- 2 Put your straight edge on the corresponding marks you have made on the mats.
- 3 Holding the straight edge firmly and score the mats two or three times.
- 4 Pull the mat close to the score line, lift & bend the mat toward you. The score line will "break open."
- 5 Make several more passes with the knife, working down the established cut until the cut is complete.

For more information or questions, call your local Burke Distributor or Technical Services at 1-800-669-7010.