

Recommended Installation for Feltex Woven Carpet

Feltex Woven carpet should be installed in accordance with AS/NZS 2455.1.2007 "Textile floor coverings – Installation practice – General" and as set below.

Carpet MUST be adequately power stretched using a tubed power stretcher, aided by a knee kicker, to be flat, taut and evenly tensioned in BOTH its width and length.

Feltex Woven carpet may be installed by double bond over soft underlay excluding foam, direct stick to a suitable subfloor or traditional/conventional stretch over soft underlay. Careful consideration should be given to the appropriate method suited the installation taking into account all criteria including number of widths, likely traffic load, pattern matching, roll lengths and end use.

It is a characteristic of Axminster carpet, that there will be more stretch in its length than its width, making the carpet susceptible to rucking in multiple width installations and/or high traffic areas if conventionally laid. **On this basis, Feltex recommends the double bond or direct stick method for commercial installations.** Any other proposed method of commercial installation should be discussed with your Feltex representative.

Double Bond or Direct Stick Method

- SBR latex slab underlay is recommended which should be installed in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations. Generally, soft foam or pad underlays not designed for double bond are not recommended.
- Pressure sensitive adhesives should be avoided in high traffic areas (as corridors)
- For further information with regard to adhesives and carpet seaming tape application, refer to the Product Data and Material Safety Data Sheets available upon request from adhesive manufacturers.
- We recommend for woven carpet, smooth edge for the perimeter for dual bond.

Conventional Installation

- Feltex recommends the use of new hair/felt/jute cushion pad type underlay or waffle rubber (above 3000g/m² for commercial installations or above 2360g/m² for residential installations). Foam underlays are not recommended. The underlay should be compatible with the quality and proposed use of the carpet (which should comply with the appropriate classification for the intended use/application as per AS4288-2003.
- For commercial installations architectural smooth edge should be used.
- Carpet should be adequately power stretched using a tubed power stretcher, aided by a knee kicker, to be flat, taut and evenly tensioned in both its width and length. Refer to Power Stretching Sequence in the Feltex Woven Carpet Maintenance, Cleaning and Installation Guide.
- Large open areas should be power stretched in section and stay nailed off prior to power stretching (and stay nailed again if required) the next section.
- A stringline must be used in both length and width to ensure pattern match and seams are straight and level.

Seam Joining - Feltex Woven carpets are manufactured in a manner that allows the woven carpet to be joined selvedge to selvedge. Seams must be heat bonded using appropriate low profile low heat, heat bond tape, compatible with the woven carpet. All cut edges must be adequately latex tipped.

Optimum seam appearance is achieved by trimming both selvages and latexing pre-cut edges prior to heat bonding. However, narrow loom woven carpet can be made to order with either sewn or hot melt seams. Any sewn seams are to be sewn at an even tension with a stitch rate of 35-40 stitches per 5cm. The stitch rate of hand sewn cross joins should be maximum 10mm spacing and reinforced with joining tape.

Cross Joins - An appropriate seam adhesive should be applied to the cut backing yarns bonding all yarns and threads and when dry, the prepared cross joins should be hot melt taped. Hand sewn cross joins (if preferred) should be re-enforced with hot melt tape applied with the woven carpet face down. All cross joins should be cut and prepared in a manner that assures accurate pattern alignment is achieved. Some loop pile woven carpet by their inherent construction, are difficult to cross seam to a satisfactory standard. All care in the planning should be undertaken to alleviate cross joins wherever possible.

Pattern Sequence & Alignment - When making a seam on patterned woven carpet using hot melt tape, accurate pattern matching is best achieved with the woven carpet laid flat and even, but not under tension. Any variation in the pattern match of adjoining widths can be eliminated by compressing the variation rather than stretching, to bring the pattern into sequence. The woven carpet may then be stretched. Hot melt tape is manufactured in a manner that allows it to be stretched in the length, equal to the woven carpet to which it is bonded.