



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

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The backing is a very important part of a carpet, as well as the installation and the daily use are concerned, so therefore these installations instructions are based on the different backing types with which Fletco Carpets are delivered.

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*As a possible need for preparatory work as well as the choice of fitting methods always has to be evaluated in accordance with the local conditions Fletco Carpets cannot be held responsible for the performance of the work, whether or not our instructions has been followed. The use of adhesives and other materials should always be in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.*



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## General rules and conditions

### The room:

- ❖ The temperature in the room during installation has to be as recommended for the adhesive used, normally 18-25 °C.

### The floor (sub floor):

- ❖ Has to be level, firm and even, without cracks and edges.
- ❖ Has to be dry, clean and uniformly absorbent.
- ❖ Has to be cleaned for oil and grease spots (Pay extra attention when fitting on linoleum and vinyl, because these might have been treated with wax etc.).
- ❖ In the case of heavily absorbent sub floor, pre-treat with a primer before installation.
- ❖ The humidity of a concrete sub floor must not exceed 90% RH (This is particularly important in connection with new buildings).
- ❖ If floor heating is present, this has to be shut off and the floor cooled off before installation as well as up to 2 days after the installation has taken place.

### Material (carpet, adhesive etc.):

- ❖ To acclimatize the carpet and other materials before installation, place it in the room in question at least 24 hours before installation. **This acclimatization of the materials is important, especially in the winter period, where big differences in temperature can occur.**
- ❖ Inspect the carpet for visible faults and defects before cutting is started. In case of such findings the supplier has to be contacted for further agreement before continuing the work. If the supplier is not contacted we make a reservation as far as a possible complaint is concerned.
- ❖ The use of adhesives, tapes and other materials must always be in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer. We recommend usage of adhesives which meet the European GEV Emission Code EC 1 demands with as little emission to the surroundings as possible, (GEV = Gemeinschaft Emissionkontrollierte Verlegewerkstoffe e.V.), and with a high bonding strength (min. 15 N/cm).

❖

### Placing of the carpets:

- ❖ As a principal rule the carpet lengths must be installed with the joints perpendicular to the most light-giving window wall.
- ❖ When more lengths of carpet have to be fitted in the same room it is important to place them in the same direction (arrow on the back), and it is also important only to use carpets from the same production in the same room.
- ❖ Joints have to be avoided in areas with heavy traffic, i.e. in doorways, entrances and under chairs fitted with castors.
- ❖ In connection with joints the edges always have to be cut and the pattern has to be adjusted. (The pattern adjustment can in some cases be impossible over the whole length of the joint)
- ❖ To avoid possible colour differences always install outer edge against outer edge.
- ❖ When fitting carpets on stairs it should always be protected with a nosing.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## **After installation:**

- ❖ Always protect the carpet between the installation and in use against damage and soiling from traffic and subsequent craftsmen.
- ❖ The fitter has the responsibility for the covering has been done in a proper way, which takes the types of load, traffic before use in consideration.
- ❖ Before the adhesive is completely dry and tempered no furniture, equipment etc has to be placed on the carpet, because this can lead to visible and lasting pressure markings.

The finished installation must as far as ever possible be protected from direct sunlight during and until 48 hours after fitting.

## **Backing types and recommended methods**

The installation instructions are valid for the following Fletco products:

- A. Foam backing (domestic)
- B. Laminated felt backing (domestic)
- C. Laminated textile backing (domestic)
- D. Latex textile backing (domestic)
- E. Laminated film backing (domestic)
- F. Foam backing (contract)
- G. Latex textile backing (contract)

Method (See description)	Full adhesion					Loose laying	On grippers
	Wet adhesion	Easy release system	Wet fixation	Tackifying	Dry fixation		
<b>A</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>XX</b>	-	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> <sup>1</sup>	-
<b>B</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	-	-	-	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>	-
<b>C</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>XX</b>	-	-	-	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>	<b>X</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>XX</b>	-	-	-	<b>X</b> <sup>2</sup>	<b>X</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	-	-	-	<b>X</b> <sup>1</sup>	-
<b>F</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>X</b>	-	-	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> <sup>3</sup>	-
<b>G</b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>X</b>	-	-	-	<b>X</b> <sup>3</sup>	-

- = Not suitable

**X** = Suitable

**XX** = Very suitable (recommended)

1. Cuts smaller than 20–25 m<sup>2</sup> should to edge fixated with adhesive or tape.  
Cuts larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> should always be full fixated.
2. Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> should be edge fixated with adhesive or on grippers  
Cuts larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> should always be full fixated.
3. Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> (except from rooms where the carpet is exposed to heavy traffic and other material e.g. chairs with castors, trolleys, pallet trucks etc.) should be edge fixated with adhesive or on grippers.  
Cuts larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> should always be full fixated.



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**Note:** When installing cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> full fixation should always be applied in areas where the carpet is exposed to extra heavy loads e.g. chairs with castors, trolleys, pallet trucks etc. or in areas with heavy traffic.

## **Description of methods:**

**Full fixation** = fixation of the carpet to the whole floor surface by using one of the following methods:

**Wet adhesion:** Fitting with a wet dispersion adhesive applied by a trowel.

**Easy release system:** Fitting with a wet dispersion adhesive applied with a trowel on a slip-primed sub floor.

**Wet fixation:** Fitting with a wet fixation adhesive applied by a roller (should only be used on a filled sub floor).

**Tackifying:** Fitting with a finger dry adhesive applied with a roller (should only be used on a filled sub floor).

**Dry fixation:** Fitting with a fully adhered underlay with full surface tape.

**Loose laying** = carpet is loose laid but edge fixated with tape or adhesive.

**On grippers** = carpet is stretched and fastened on grippers with a separate underlay of felt.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with foam backing (domestic)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid (Note: Edges should be fixated with adhesive tape - min. 50 mm width).

If more length has to be installed adhesive tape is also used under the joints. (Using a length of adhesive tape on both sides of the first length can reinforce the joints.)

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all cuts larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>.

Full fixation can be done as

- ❖ Wet adhesion
- ❖ Easy release system
- ❖ Wet fixation
- ❖ Dry fixation

Wet adhesion is always giving the strongest finish, and to minimize the water influence on the underlay we normally recommend, "late wet adhesion".

### **Flat woven carpets:**

Depending on the type, flat woven carpets are full fixated in one of the following ways:

1. The lengths of carpets are rolled out with an overlap of app. 3 cm. The 1<sup>st</sup> length is fixated in such a way, that about 50 cm of free edges without adhesive are present. The 2 overlapping edges are now both cut through simultaneously with a sharp straight knife along a steel ruler. The edges in the joint are now fitting perfect to one another and the joint can be fixated. Thereafter the 2<sup>nd</sup> length can be fixated and drum rolled like the rest of the carpet.
2. The lengths of carpets are cut individually and joined together in a normal way.

Never use carpets clamps, knee stretchers etc., because these tools can cause fibre pullouts or otherwise damaging the carpet.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with laminated felt backing (domestic)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid. (Note: Edges should be fixated with wet adhesion along all walls (app. 30 cm)). Adhesive tape will normally not give sufficiently bonding strength on this type of backing.

If more lengths have to be joined use also here wet adhesion (app. 30 cm on both side of the joint).

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all installations larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>.

Full fixation is normally done as wet adhesion, **and for this type of backing it is especially important to make it as a "late wet adhesion", i.e. observing the open time recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive used.**

Full fixation can also be done by the Easy release system.

### **Flat woven carpets:**

Depending on the type, flat woven carpets are full fixated in one of the following ways:

1. The lengths of carpets are rolled out with an overlap of app. 3 cm. The 1<sup>st</sup> length is fixated in such a way, that about 50 cm of free edges without adhesive are present. The 2 overlapping edges are now both cut through simultaneously with a sharp straight knife along a steel ruler. The edges in the joint are now fitting perfect to one another and the joint can be fixated. Thereafter the 2<sup>nd</sup> length can be fixated and drum rolled like the rest of the carpet.
2. The lengths of carpets are cut individually and joined together in a normal way.

Never use carpets clamps, knee stretchers etc., because these tools can cause fibre pullouts or otherwise damaging the carpet.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with laminated textile backing (domestic)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid. (Note: Edges should be fixated with wet adhesion along all walls (app. 30 cm)). Adhesive tape will normally not give sufficiently bonding strength on this type of backing.

The fixation can also be done on grippers with a separate underlay of felt.

If more lengths have to be joined use also here wet fixation (app. 30 cm on both side of the joint).

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all installations larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>.

Full fixation is normally done as wet adhesion, **and for this type of backing it is especially important to make it as a "late wet adhesion", i.e. observing the open time recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive used.**

Full fixation can also be done by the Easy release system.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with latex textile backing (domestic)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid. (Note: Edges should be fixated with wet adhesion along all walls (app. 30 cm)). Adhesive tape will normally not give sufficiently bonding strength on this type of backing.

The fixation can also be done on grippers with a separate underlay of felt.

If more lengths have to be joined use also here wet fixation (app. 30 cm on both side of the joint).

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all installations larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>.

Full fixation is normally done as wet adhesion.

Full fixation can also be done by the Easy release system.





# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with laminated film backing (domestic)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid (Note: Edges should be fixated with adhesive tape - min. 50 mm width).

If more length has to be installed adhesive tape is also used under the joints. (Using a length of adhesive tape on both sides of the first length can reinforce the joints.)

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all installations larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>.

Full fixation is normally done as wet adhesion, **and for this type of backing it is especially important to make it as a "late wet adhesion", i.e. observing the open time recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive used.**

Full fixation can also be done by the Easy release system.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

## Fletco carpets with foam backing (contract)

### **Loose laying:**

Cuts with this type of backing smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> can be loose laid, but only in areas with light traffic and without wheeled material.

(Note: Edges should be fixated with adhesive tape - min. 50 mm width).

If more length has to be installed adhesive tape is also used under the joints. (Using a length of adhesive tape on both sides of the first length can reinforce the joints.)

### **Full fixation:**

Full fixation should be used to all cuts larger than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup>, and as mentioned above also for cuts smaller than 20-25 m<sup>2</sup> in areas with heavy traffic and/or wheeled materials, e.g. office chairs with castors.

Full fixation can be done as

- ❖ Wet adhesion
- ❖ Easy release system
- ❖ Wet fixation
- ❖ Dry fixation

Wet adhesion is always giving the strongest finish, and to minimize the water influence on the underlay we are normally recommending, "Late wet adhesion".

### **Joints:**

By joints with this type of backing it is very important to use knives, which cuts the foam before the carpet. Observe this to avoid fraying of the foam in the cuts.

By cutting it is an advantage to hold the cutter with a slight slant against the length, which has to be joined.

**Loop pile carpets** are after cutting joined in such a way, that the structures of the loops engage like a zipper.

This effect is unlikely to obtain in the full length of a long joint.



# Installation Instructions for Fletco Carpets

Fletco carpets with latex textile backing (contract)

These carpets are always laid using dispersion adhesives for **full adhesion**.

- ❖ For flat woven carpets we recommend a dispersion adhesive with a minimum bonding strength of **15 N/cm**. The adhesive should also meet the requirements of "Die Deutsche Gemeinschaft Emissionskontrollierte Verlege Werkstoffe e.v." (an organisation controlling the level of emissions from products used on floors). It should have a low emission GEV rating of **EC 1**.

## **Joints:**

When cutting it is always helpful to hold the cutter at a slight angle to the length of carpet that is going to be cut.

## **Loop pile carpets:**

To achieve the best result lay the loop pile carpet so that the structure of the loops engage like a zipper. Achieving this "zipper effect" is difficult to achieve with longer lengths of carpet.

## **Flat woven carpets:**

When laying flat woven carpets it is essential to comply with the **application rates and the ventilation times specified by the adhesive manufacturer**, as otherwise there is a risk of insufficient bonding. The lengths should be rolled out in the room in which they are to be fitted **at least 24 hours** prior to fitting to allow them to **acclimatize**.

The lengths of carpet are laid out with an overlap of about 6 cm. The first length is then bonded leaving a margin of about 50 cm up to the joint. The joint is now made with a double cut using a sharp straight steel-bladed knife. Both edges of the joint now fit together perfectly and the joint is bonded. The second length is then bonded and everything is rolled out using a roller. We recommend a 2nd drum rolling 30-40 min. after installation in the length direction of the carpet.

To prevent fraying or other damage to the carpet, never use carpet clamps, knee stretchers etc.