Your Choice™ Installation System. This system provides you with options to install the flooring either fully adhered or perimeter fastened over qualifying wood, concrete, and existing flooring products.

The listed products are manufactured on Congoleum White Shield® backing. All Congoleum residential felt sheet products can be installed using the Your Choice™ Installation System. This system provides you with options to install the flooring either fully adhered or perimeter fastened over qualifying wood, concrete, and existing flooring products.

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS
- Fully Adhered Installation Method — The fully adhered method is recommended when installing White Shield-backed products on self-coved installations, complicated layouts, and where a lot of net fitting is required, as well as all other installations where the subfloor is smooth and in sound condition.
- Perimeter-Fastening Method — The perimeter-fastening method masks subfloor imperfections better and can reduce underlayment telegraphing in new home construction and other areas where subfloor movement is more likely to occur. Perimeter-fastened floors also have better indentation recovery and make an excellent choice when covering existing floors that have been prepared with embossing leveler.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Recommended Use
- Residential applications on all grade levels
- Interior use in dry, heated areas
- Do not install over ramps, in showers or other wet areas

Installation Temperature
Congoleum residential sheet flooring is designed to be installed in enclosed, heated areas only where HVAC has been in operation for at least 10 days prior to installation and thereafter. For best results the sheet flooring should be installed at the same temperature as the room(s) will be when occupied or in service. The subfloor, all flooring material, and adhesive must be conditioned at a constant temperature between 65°F (18°C) and 85°F (29°C) for 48 hours before, during and 48 hours after installation. Thereafter, maintain room temperature between 55°F (13°C) and 100°F (38°C).

Storage and Handling
Roll all White Shield felt-backed products face out, wrapped tightly around a rigid core when storing or transporting. Store the roll on a flat surface with continuous support in a clean, dry, interior area where it is protected from the elements. Ideal long-term storage temperatures range from 50°F (10°C) to 70°F (21°C).

Avoid stacking other heavy rolls or objects on rolls that can crush or distort them. Always handle rolls carefully to avoid damage.

RECOMMENDED SUBFLOORS AND PREPARATION

Suitable Substrates
Congoleum sheet products are recommended for installation over properly prepared suspended wood floors and approved underlayments, concrete on all grade levels, metal, terrazzo, ceramic and marble. The substrate must be clean, dry, smooth, structurally sound, and free of curing compounds, paring agents, old adhesive, paint, varnish, oil, grease, wax, solvent and other foreign material than can affect the flooring or interfere with the adhesive bond. Wood Floors must be double layer construction structurally sound and free of movement with at least 18" (46 cm) of well-ventilated air space below. Sand joints smooth and set fasteners 1/32" (.8 mm) below the surface. Rough, weathered or damaged subfloor panels must be sanded smooth or covered with a suitable underlayment panel. Fill underlayment joints wider than 1/32" (.8 mm).

Concrete Floors must be clean, dry and smooth. Level rough or uneven surfaces, cracks and control joints with a portland cement-based patching compound. Do not install flooring over expansion joints. Moisture vapor emissions must not exceed 3-lbs./1,000 sq. ft./24 hrs. when tested with the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM F 1869) or 75% RH when tested in accordance with (ASTM F-2170) with a pH range between 5 and 9. Existing Resilient Floors must be single layer, fully adhered and securely bonded to an approved subfloor. Remove all wax, floor finish or polish prior to installation. Do not install resilient sheet products over soft, heavily cushioned floors, floors with a cushioned backing, asphalt tile, self-adhered tile or tile installed below grade level.

Note: Installation over existing flooring may reduce the indentation resistance of the new floor.

WARNING: EXISTING IN-PLACE RESILIENT FLOOR COVERING AND ASPHALTIC ADHESIVES. DO NOT SAND, DRY SCRAPE, DRY SWEEP, DRILL, SAW, BEADBLAST, OR MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC “CUTBACK” ADHESIVE OR OTHER ADHESIVE.

These existing in-place products may contain asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Unless positively certain that the in-place product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern removal and disposal of material. See current addition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings for instructions on removing all resilient floor covering structures or contact your retailer or Congoleum Corporation Installation and Technical Office (609) 584-3805.

ADHESIVE
Congoleum 3044 is the only adhesive needed on fully adhered or perimeter-fastened floors regardless of whether the subfloor is porous or nonporous.
- Trowel notch size: 1/16" wide x 1/32" deep x 1/32" apart; all substrates

PREPARING THE AREA
- Remove all furniture and appliances from the room.
- Remove all trim and transition moldings.
- Undercut door trim to allow flooring to slide under freely.
- Prepare the subfloor and sweep or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dirt and debris.

FLOORING LAYOUT
- Unroll the flooring using care to prevent distortions and position it squarely in the room to achieve the best design layout.
- Make relief cuts down to the floor/wall juncture at inside and outside corners.
Flooring can be fit net in areas where no finished trim will be installed. Do not fit the floor tight.

FITTING
The listed products can be fit by the freehand, direct scribing, or pattern scribing methods. Note: The factory selvage edge may contain printed information that should be trimmed off.

Do not take the material from one temperature extreme to another, e.g., laying it in direct sunlight for trimming, then transferring it to the room, as curling may result.

SELF-COVING
- Self-covered installation must be fully adhered.
- Do not perimeter fasten self-coved installations.
- Use a cove stick with a minimum 1 1/8” diameter.
- Use Congoleum 3044 adhesive to adhere flooring to the walls and seal all corners and seams with the appropriate seam sealer.

INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATION
Fully Adhered Method
To adhere the flooring, roll one-half of the sheet back, taking care to avoid bending or creasing it. The adhesive must be spread on 100% of the exposed subfloor with no voids, puddles, or thin spots. Uniform coverage can be maintained by using a clean, properly notched trowel. The adhesive should be spread in a straight line to where the flooring laps or tubes back on itself. After the flooring material has been placed into the wet adhesive, it must be rolled immediately with a 3-section steel, 100-pound (45 kilogram) or heavier flooring roller. Repeat this process on the other half of the sheet.

Perimeter-Fastened Method
At the completion of the installation, flooring must lie completely flat with no buckles or waves. To accomplish this, a few basic rules must be observed:
- Store and transport material on a flat surface with continuous support.
- Avoid stacking other heavy rolls or objects on rolls that can crush or distort them.
- Always keep flooring rolled face out around a sturdy core with a minimum 4” diameter until ready for installation. Note: Complex installations may require the flooring to be rolled face in for placement into a room. Make sure it is brief, then immediately unroll the floor and allow it time to relax prior to fitting or cutting. Floored floorings rolled face in for an extended period of time (more than 5 minutes) may experience noticeable contraction and curl that will make it difficult to adhere along the perimeter and at seams.
- Prevent distortions from occurring during installation. Avoid folding, creasing, or kinking the flooring.
- Make sure the flooring is not bowed when installing around island cabinets, extending into alcoves or through doorways into adjacent rooms. Stretch a string or chalk line from one end of the sheet to the other, over a continuous grout line to make sure it’s straight. Adjust the flooring to remove any bow before fitting it.
- Fit the flooring with a 1/16” gap between the edge of the sheet and the walls where trim will be installed. In areas no trim will be installed, cut the flooring net, not tight. When ready for installation, unroll flooring and allow it to relax for a few minutes. Position the material in the room using care to avoid folding or creasing it. Fit flooring to the room “net” not tight. Allow 1/16” gap in areas where finish trim will be installed.
- To adhere the floor, turn back one edge and apply a 4” to 6” wide band of adhesive along the perimeter, at floor vents, and other cutouts. Place flooring into the adhesive and push any fullness out toward the perimeter. Thoroughly roll the adhered area before the adhesive sets up. Repeat the procedure to adhere the entire perimeter.

Staples
Staples can also be used in lieu of adhesive to fasten the perimeter in areas where trim will be installed on installations over wood subfloors. If using a combination of staples and adhesive, complete the adhered areas first. The minimum size staple should have a 1/2” crown with a 3/8” leg. Use the longest staple length that can be seated tightly to the floor surface. Staple every 2” along the wall and 1/4” away from the edge of the sheet. After the floor has been fastened, install trim.

Any minor fullness can be removed by warming the area with a heat gun and then covering it with a piece of underlayment or other flat object until it cools.

SEAMING

Seam Placement
Place seams:
- In the least conspicuous and least traveled area in the room.
- A minimum of 6” (15.4cm) away from parallel underlayment joints.
- At least 6” (15.4cm) away from seams in old sheet flooring or within the center of a row of tile.

Matching Designs
Always install sheets in the sequence they were cut from the roll, starting with the first sheet. Follow the specification printed in the selvage for sheet reversal or non-reversal.

It is not unusual to see minor run-out of the design in long seams. If this occurs, roll the larger sheet face in for a few minutes. (This will relieve stresses and cause the sheet to shrink.) Do not allow flooring to remain rolled face in for more than 5 minutes.

Seaming Specifications
Reverse Sheets - Rotate alternating sheets 180° to seam the same edges together.
Do Not Reverse - Seam opposite edges together.

Estimating
When estimating flooring with seams, add 3” (7.7cm) to the length of the room dimension for the first sheet and 3” (7.7cm) plus the design match for all other sheets.

Seaming Procedure
All seams must be cut using the overlap and double cut method. The straightedge and butt and recess scribe method will not produce an acceptable seam.

Install the first sheet leaving 12” (30.8cm) unadhered along the entire length of the seam (fully adhered floors). Position the second sheet in the room, overlap the selvage edges and carefully match the design. Adhere the second sheet leaving 12” (30.8cm) unadhered at the seam for a total dry zone of 24” (61.5cm).

Place a 3” (7.7cm) wide strip of scrap flooring under the entire length of the seam.

Cut the seam in the center of the embossed line when seaming designs with grout lines that are wider than 5/32” (4mm).

Cut the seam up on the shoulder of the grout line in the land area when seaming designs with narrower grout lines. Cut the seam with a sharp utility knife and steel straightedge.

Hold the knife at a 90° angle from the floor and apply sufficient pressure to cut through both sheets in a single pass. Use caution to avoid cutting into the subfloor surface. Remove the scrap flooring and salvage edges.
Seaming 6' Wide Material Slit from 12' Width

ArmorCore and ArmorCore UR are available in 6' widths that have been slit from 12' wide material. Therefore, only one side will have a true selvage edge. The seaming specifications on multiple seam installations will vary from one seam installation.

Reverse Sheets

- One seam only: Install designs with “Reverse Sheet” specification in rooms requiring only one seam by following the procedure detailed earlier. Be certain to seam the side of the sheet with the true factory selvage.
- Multiple seams: In rooms where there is more than one seam, install the first 2 sheets reversed by seaming the factory selvages together. Install the third and alternating sheets (or fill pieces) reversed by overlapping the slit edges 2 full design units (one on each sheet of flooring).

Do Not Reverse

Position the slit edge over the factory selvage and visually match the design so that it repeats consistently across the sheets.

Cut the seam 1/8" into the field area (beyond the embossed line). Do not cut the seam along the edge of the mortar line because this will create a high/low condition weakening the seam weld.

Note: Some designs have a cross-direction match that will not divide equally into 72" (e.g. a design with a 26-1/4" cross-direction match will not be slit at a grout line). If more than one (1) seam is required, 12-foot wide flooring should be considered to avoid excessive waste.

Adhering the Seam

Tube the seam edges back to expose the subfloor. Apply adhesive with the recommended trowel. On perimeter-fastened floors, apply an 8" band of adhesive centered under the seam cut. Do not apply excessive adhesive! Use extreme care to prevent adhesive from being scraped or forced up into the seam cut as it will discolor the seam and weaken the seam sealer weld.

Lay the flooring material into the wet adhesive and roll in both directions with the seam cut accurately matched. Secure the replacement piece with tape on all sides.

Sealing the Seam

All seams in Congoleum sheet flooring must be sealed with Congoleum seam sealer, following package instructions. (Refer to the chart on page 1 for seam sealer recommendations.) Seal seams immediately after completion or by the end of the day. Any adhesive in the seam cut must be completely removed prior to seam sealing.

NOTE: Seams in ArmorCore UR featuring Stain Defense System (SDS) must be prepared prior to applying seam sealer by lightly abrading the seam area with the 3M Scotch-Brite® pad and dowel pin found in the SU106 Seam Sealer Kit.

DANGER: Seam Sealers are extremely flammable. Avoid open containers. Do not smoke. Extinguish all flames or other sources of ignition in area. Avoid prolonged contact with skin. Provide adequate ventilation. Keep from children. Carefully read all labels on cans or bottles before using.

Finishing the Job

- Clean any adhesive smears on the face of the flooring immediately while wet with a clean cloth and dilute solution of neutral cleaner and water. Mineral spirits can be used to remove dried adhesive.

CAUTION: Mineral spirits is extremely flammable. Read and follow cautions on container label.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER INSTALLATION

- Protect and do not disturb the sealed seams on your resilient sheet flooring for at least 16 hours after seam sealer application to ensure a proper seam bond.
- Keep traffic to a minimum during the first 24 hours to allow the adhesive to harden. Then open to light foot traffic only for the next 24 hours. Resume normal traffic after 48 hours.
- Furniture should not be placed on the floor for 24 hours so the adhesive have had adequate time to dry.
- Always move heavy furniture and appliance with care to avoid gouging or tearing the floor. First, lay strips of plywood or hardboard panels on the floor. Then roll, "walk" or slide these items on the strips. Do not push or pull appliances and heavy furniture without taking these precautions.
- Wash your floor using Congoleum Bright N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable resilient floor cleaner 48 hours after installation.
- Keep the room temperature between 65°F and 85°F for at least 48 hours after installation. Maintain the room temperature 55°F and 100°F thereafter.

Repair

- Surface cuts and punctures are easily repaired by applying the recommended seam sealer to the damaged spot. More extensive damage can be repaired by replacing the damaged area with a patch.
- Obtain a matching piece of flooring material.
- Cut a section of the floor slightly larger than the damaged spot. Remove complete design units when possible.
- Position the replacement piece directly over the damaged area and accurately match the design. Secure the replacement piece with tape on all sides.
- Use a sharp utility knife and steel straightedge to cut the seams on all sides of the repair piece.
- Cut the seam in the center of a grout line or in a dark color of the floor if possible. Hold the utility knife at a 90° angle to the floor and cut through both pieces in a single pass.
- Remove the damaged area.
- Install the repair piece using 3044 Adhesive to secure the repair piece.
- Seal the seams with the recommended seam sealer following label instructions.

安装和过渡

- 安装 Trim and transition moldings.
- 封闭地板的边缘，使用高质的丙烯酸基封闭剂填充湿区，如浴缸和水槽周围，防止水渗入地板。

CAUTION: 液体易燃。阅读并遵循容器标签上的注意事项。