

For questions concerning J+J carpet installation, call our Customer Relations Department at 800-241-4586. For EF Contract installation questions call 800-451-1250. For complete Pentz Commercial installation instructions and questions call Pentz Commercial Technical Service at 866.706.9745 x8407.

Inspection: J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract and Pentz Commercial requires that the carpet be inspected prior to installation for proper style, color and potential defects. No claims will be honored if the carpet is installed with visible defects. Should there be a problem, call J+J Flooring Group Customer Relations Department at 800.241.4586, EF Customer Relations at 800.451.1250 or Pentz Technical Service at 866.706.9745 x8407.

Site Conditions: The building must be enclosed and the HVAC in continuous operation. The carpet must be conditioned to room temperature for 48 hours prior to installation. The ambient air relative humidity must be between 10%–65% with the floor and room temperature between 65–95 degrees Fahrenheit. These conditions must be maintained for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation and at least 48 hours after completion of the installation.

Surface Preparation: All cracks 1/8" wide or wider must be filled with a Portland cement based patch reinforced with polymers. Floors must be sound, clean, dry, smooth and even. The floor must be free of dust, depressions, protrusions, existing adhesive, curing agents, parting compounds, oil, grease, paint, and any other contaminant that may prevent the required adhesion. Perform a bond test of the carpet to the floor.

OLD ADHESIVES – Must be mechanically scraped down to a bare residue flat with the concrete substrate or covered with a skim coat of Portland cement based patch reinforced with polymers. Dissimilar adhesive residue may also be covered with Commercialon® Premium Sealer.

CONCRETE MOISTURE TESTING AND pH TESTING – Substrate surfaces must be tested. It is the responsibility of the owner or owner's representative to perform moisture testing prior to starting the installation. ASTM F 2170–2 relative humidity probe moisture testing is required. Acceptable relative humidity probe testing results are up to 80% RH. Alkalinity tests should also be performed per ASTM F 710. The maximum acceptable pH is 9.0. For test results that determine RH test readings above 80% and up to 95% or pH readings of 9.0–11.00, Commercialon® Premium Sealer is required.

Adhesives: The use of Commercialon® Premium Carpet Adhesive and Commercialon® Premium Carpet Seam Sealer is required for installing all J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract and Pentz Commercial broadloom carpet backings. Failure to use Commercialon adhesives and seam sealers will reduce warranty period to one (1) year.

Adhesive Application: The floor condition and carpet back affect the amount of adhesive required. The floor adhesive must be applied uniformly with a trowel containing sufficient notching (1/8" wide x 1/8" deep x 1/8" spacing, U shaped notch) so as to achieve full and complete coverage of the substrate and 100% transfer of adhesive to the carpet backing, including penetration into the backing's deepest recesses. Adequate open time should be given to allow the adhesive to become tacky or "string" to the touch.

Seam Sealing: All J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract and Pentz Commercial broadloom carpet requires proper seam sealing. All carpet edges must be treated with a 1/8" bead of seam sealer applied along the carpet edge at the point where the face yarn enters the back. Any sealer contaminating the face yarn must be cleaned immediately.

Seam Trimming: All Backing Systems:

1. Row cutting both seam sides is the preferred method.
2. Some styles may make a viable seam by the row cut-trace technique.
3. A minimum of 1" must be trimmed off all seam edges or cut at point of pattern match.
4. Do not trim seams with a slotted blade knife. Use seam trimming tools such as a cushion back cutter, loop pile cutter, etc. keeping the blade close to the seam side.
5. Establish a slight compression of seam edges; this will allow the seam to be made without a need to close the seam with a knee kicker.

Backing System Characteristics and Requirements

PremierBac® Plus / iLock®

1. Use a minimum trowel notch 1/8" wide, 1/8" deep, 1/8" spacing U shaped notch.
2. These are the only backing systems that can be installed by the stretch-in method.
3. Seam sealer is required.

Endure® Plus / TitanBac® Plus / iLock® MB / iLock® IC

1. The use of Commercialon® Premium Carpet Adhesives and Commercialon® Premium Carpet Seam Sealer is required. Use a minimum trowel notch 1/8" wide, 1/8" deep, 1/8" spacing U-shaped notch.
2. Patterned carpet may require more adhesive to provide additional slide time to align pattern, correct bow, etc.
3. Seams must be trimmed deep enough into body of carpet to obtain good lamination of backing and full face weight.
4. Following seam trimming, check both breadths of "dry" carpet together in seaming position to ensure they are the same height.
5. Should there be a variation in height at the seam, call the appropriate Customer Relations/Technical Department for assistance.

Patterned Carpet

1. Sequence patterned carpet by pattern size. Patterned carpet must be installed working from the longest pattern in the dye lot to the smallest pattern.
2. Check the pattern repeat variation (length) often referred to as "pattern run off".
3. Measure the pattern repeat nearest the carpet edge. Measure from an exact match point of the pattern to the corresponding match point of the next pattern in the length direction.
4. Measure the distance covered by the selected number of patterns in numerous places throughout the dye lot.
5. Use these measurements to sequence cuts working from the largest pattern repeat gradually down to the shortest repeat.
6. Installation of patterned carpet requires more time and expertise. Patterned carpet installation requires the use of power stretchers, pattern match stretchers, dead man, dry lines, stay nails, plus additional time and staffing.
7. It is always best when possible to dry lay the carpet in the area for 24 hours under controlled conditions as directed by 11CRC Installation Standard A600. This will help facilitate adjustment for pattern variations and further refine pattern sequence.

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Installation Tips for Seaming Tufted Patterned Carpet

ATTENTION: As a minimum check, measure the pattern repeat at the open end of each roll. Then sequence all cuts to minimize the labor to bring the pattern into register at the seams.

J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract and Pentz tufted patterns cover the spectrum from “economy match” patterns to critical patterns, which require more attention in their alignment. The more critical patterns will require more adjustment during installation. An exact match cannot be guaranteed.

Procedures for Installing Patterned Carpet

1. Strike a chalk line on the floor the total length of the seam nearest the center of the area to be covered. Ensure that this seam line is square with the area.
2. All J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract and Pentz tufted patterns follow tuft rows. Row-cutting both seam sides is necessary to maintain the pattern continuity at seams. Dry lay the area to be installed prior to spreading any adhesive.
3. Select the match point far enough in from the factory edges to obtain full face weight and good lamination of the backing system. Graphic patterns are to be row-cut so that when the trimmed carpet panels are seamed together the pattern will be complete. Trim at least 1” inside the carpet edge or at pattern match point.
4. Row-cut the first seam side ensuring that the blade on the loop pile or cushion back cutter is close to the side to be seamed.
5. Row-cut the second seam side cutting close to the tuft row that will complete the pattern when joined to the first trimmed seam edge.
6. Align and match the pattern at the seam center. When working from the seam center, it may be necessary to power-stretch and stay-nail the short pattern seam side to maintain the pattern alignment along the seam length. By starting in the seam center, the pattern run-off is diminished by 50%. Substantial adjustment during the installation is possible and expected.
7. Should the pattern not match along the length of the seam, it will be necessary to power-stretch the short pattern seam edge into register with the long pattern seam side.
8. Turn back the seam side with the long pattern. Apply the Commercialon Premium Carpet Adhesive to an area 4-6 feet wide the full length of the seam to the chalk line. Ensure that the trowel is supplying enough adhesive for the required full and complete coverage of the carpet back. (Too little adhesive will not allow the carpet to be moved into alignment.) Lay the first seam into the adhesive. Stretch and adjust so that the seam edge is aligned with chalk line.
9. Ensure that the second seam side is matched at the center of the seam. Turn back the second (short seam side) and apply the Commercialon Premium Carpet Adhesive. Adequate open time should be given to allow adhesive to become tacky or “string” to the touch.
10. Apply Commercialon Premium Carpet Seam Sealer to the first seam side. Lay the second seam side into adhesive. Close the seam and use a power stretcher to align pattern.

11. Clean any seam sealer from the carpet face yarn before seam sealer dries.
12. Working from seam center, power-stretch, align pattern, check diagonals, adjust bow and skew. Stay nail to complete seam as needed.
13. Immediately following seam completion, slowly roll all carpet with a 75-100 lb roller; roll North, South, East and West to obtain full and complete adhesive coverage of the carpet back.

Pattern Match Policy

J+J Flooring Group, EF Contract or Pentz Commercial DOES NOT GUARANTEE AN EXACT PATTERN MATCH ON ANY OF OUR PATTERNED CARPET. Carpet is a flexible textile material and some degree of shrinkage and/or stretch occurs during the manufacturing process. For this reason, an exact pattern match cannot be assured on patterned carpet. The installation of carpet with a pattern requires more time, expense, and expertise vs. installing non-patterned carpet.

PATTERN BOW- Maximum bow is 1 inch in 12 ft. width. To measure, stretch a string across the width of the carpet from the match point on one side to the corresponding match point on the opposite side. Measure the length of the greatest pattern separation from the string.

PATTERN SKEWING- Maximum skew is 1 ¼-inch in 12 ft. length. This is sometimes referred to as being on the bias. Square the carpet on one end. If the pattern on one side (a) is farther from the squared end than the pattern on the opposite side (b), then the pattern is skewed or on a bias.

PATTERN RUN OFF OR REPEAT VARIATION- Maximum length-wise repeat variation is 2 inches in 15 feet of carpet. For Example: Exactly match the pattern at one match point along the trimmed seam edges. If the pattern run off is 2 inches or less in 15 feet of carpet length from the previous matched point, the pattern repeat variation is within tolerance.

TRUENESS OF EDGE- Maximum variation is 1 inch in 15 feet of length. This is sometimes referred to as serpentine edge. This condition is most visual along the carpet edges, but will to a lesser degree be obvious into the body of the carpet. Do not attempt to correct trueness of edge by cutting the carpet to a straight line. The carpet edge must be nudged or stretched back into a straight line.

The procedures listed above are our best recommendations for installing J+J Flooring Group broadloom carpet and Pentz Commercial broadloom carpet.

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