

# Floor Installation & Preparation Guide

## Laying Treadmaster using No.15 Fire Retardant Epoxy Adhesive General Floor Preparation and Installation Guide:

### Subfloor Preparation

Subfloors should be clean, dry and free from dirt, dust and grease. Ensure that where appropriate the requisite dampproof membrane is in place.

### Cement Floors

Cement floors should be at least 14 days old, dry, sealed and immaculately flat and level.

### Plywood Floors

Ensure that plywood floors are abraded and then cleaned. Dust and dirt should be removed from the surface and the plywood must be dry.

### Steel Floors

The surface should be degreased, abraded and degreased again, any residue being totally removed from the surface. Degreasing should be carried out using Treadmaster SPF Cleaner.

### Aluminum Floors

Surface should be prepared only 10-15 minutes prior to the installation of Treadmaster. This is to avoid oxidation of the cleaned surface, which would adversely affect the bond quality. Aluminium floors should be degreased, abraded and degreased again, any residue being totally removed from the surface. Treadmaster SPF cleaner (solvent based) or Loctite 7840 (water based) should be used as the degreasing agent. Both can be obtained from Tiflex and should be used according to the instructions.

### Fit-by Date

Every sheet of Treadmaster is identified with a fit by date. If this date is exceeded the back of the sheet will require cleaning with Treadmaster SPF Cleaner or Loctite 7840 as above, to remove any surface bloom before fitting.

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## Use of Cleaners

The health and safety requirements for SPF Cleaner or Loctite 7840 should be read and understood before use. Refer to separate Safety Data Sheets.

SPF Cleaner - the cleaner is applied liberally using a cloth, and the surface wiped thoroughly to remove all traces of grease, dust and dirt, turning the cloth frequently to avoid re-depositing any contamination. Cloths should be changed frequently to avoid transferring contamination from one area to another.

Loctite 7840 - the concentrate is diluted 50:1 with clean water. The diluted cleaner is applied with a cloth and rubbed thoroughly over the entire surface, ensuring removal of all traces of grease, dust and dirt. Rubbing should continue until the surface is fully dry. Cloths should be rinsed occasionally in clean water to avoid transferring contamination from one area to another.

Unroll the Treadmaster and lay it out on a flat, horizontal surface for 24 - 48 hours before cutting. Prepare the Treadmaster, cutting the material to the exact sizes required for laying before mixing the adhesive.

## Adhesive Coverage

Coverage using No.15 adhesive will vary according to the porosity of the surface, from approx. 3 to 5 square metres per 1kg pack.

## Installation:

No. 15 epoxy adhesive consists of the resin and a sachet of liquid hardener which have to be mixed together thoroughly using a heavy duty slow speed electric drill. We recommend fitting an Ardex Mixing Paddle for the best results. Remove the lid and the sachet of hardener (Part B). Unclip and remove the upper section of the tub. Set the stirrer to a slow speed and lower it into the resin until it touches the bottom of the container. Give the resin (Part A) a preliminary stir, moving the paddle around the sides of the container for up to a minute. Pour the liquid hardener (Part B) into the resin and continue mixing. Keep the paddle vertical and move it all around the container taking care to brush it against the sides so that no unmixed resin clings to the sides or bottom of the container.

When all the liquid curative is incorporated into the mix the speed can be increased to give quicker blending, still taking care to brush the paddle around the sides and bottom of the container. When the resin has a uniform creamy consistency, stop the stirrer and check with a long screwdriver or rod that there is no unmixed resin clinging to the sides or bottom of the container. If there is, scrape it off into the mix and continue stirring until the mix again has an even creamy consistency. The total mixing cycle will take around 4-5 minutes.

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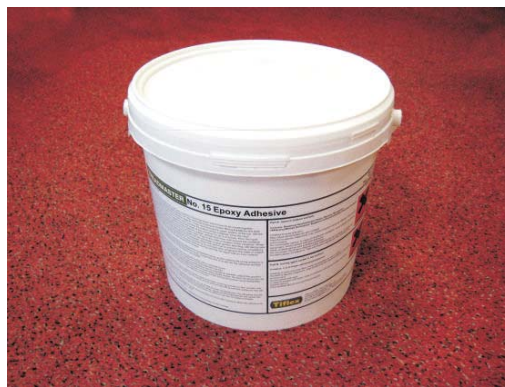
## Installation Continued:

Epoxy adhesives are exothermic and after mixing the cans may become warm to the touch. This is an indication that curing has commenced. After mixing, depending on the ambient temperature, you will only have approximately 45 - 60 minutes in which to spread the adhesive and lay the covering before the hardening begins. Pour the adhesive onto the floor and spread using a notched trowel. Notches should be approximately 1.5mm deep x 2mm between centres (trowel ref. A3) for porous subfloors and 1.5mm deep x 3mm between centres (trowel ref. A2) for non-porous subfloors. Care should be taken to spread the adhesive evenly. Lay the Treadmaster onto the adhesive and adjust the position.

Clean any excess adhesive from the trowel, the floor covering and the surrounding area before it has cured as once hardened it is very difficult to remove. Use Treadmaster SPF cleaner for this purpose. Immediately after laying, roll the surface slowly using a lightweight floor roller of some 50 - 60kg. Make certain the covering has not moved. Rolling may be repeated, but again take care not to move the Treadmaster. To facilitate cleaning, it is recommended that a masking tape is laid over the joints before rolling and that this is removed before the adhesive hardens. Epoxy adhesives are slow to cure and it is essential that the back of the floor covering remains in firm contact with the adhesive until cured.

Weigh the Treadmaster down over the whole area (30kg per square meter) until the adhesive has hardened. Particular care should be taken to weight the joints and edges. Although curing will begin after approximately 45 - 60 minutes depending on the temperature, the resin will not harden for some 8 hours, during which time care should be taken not to walk on the floor. Full adhesion strength will be achieved after 72 hours, although the bond strength will continue to increase for up to 7 days.

Laying at low temperatures causes the adhesive to thicken, making it more difficult to spread, reducing coverage and extending the curing time. No.15 epoxy adhesive must be used at temperatures in excess of 16°C to ensure satisfactory curing times.



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