



## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES—ULTRALOC PATTERN AND ULTRALOC MPC

We think giving you the very best for your carpet dollar is a three-step process: making it, installing it, and maintaining it. And while the making it is often the primary focus of manufacturers, the installation and maintenance procedures can make or break the beauty of your installation as well.

That's why Patcraft provides a detailed and comprehensive guide to carpet installation. It covers the basics-like the importance of checking out the products before any cuts are made – to more esoteric tips like the need to always align the center of diamond designs when matching for pattern.

With our guidance and careful attention to detail, a qualified installer will provide you with the kind of installation you need to enjoy years and years of service from your carpet from Patcraft.



### Installation Technician

For best results secure a professional carpet installer with a proven background. Patcraft fully endorses and highly prefers the use of a CFI (Certified Floorcovering Installer) or FCIB (Floor Covering Installation Board) certified installer. The use of CFI or FCIB certified installers sets the stage for a satisfactory carpet installation.

### Pattern Repeats

All pattern matches should be checked before carpet is seamed or adhered to the subfloor.

### Dye Lots

If more than one dye lot is used, verify customer satisfaction with all lots prior to installing carpet. Make sure you inspect this carpet prior to installation. No claims will be honored if carpet is installed with visible defects. Read all instructions prior to beginning any installation.



1-816-231-4646 or visit [cfi-installers.org](http://cfi-installers.org)

A ROLL THAT HAS  
BEEN CUT IS VOID OF  
WARRANTY  
with respect to  
*manufacturer's defect*



### Resilient Floorcovering

Remove all wax. The entire subfloor should be covered with the flooring and be smooth from wrinkles. The floorcovering should be firmly adhered to the subfloor. If floorcovering has been removed, all linoleum paste needs to be scraped away.

### Wood

All wood subfloors should be free from debris and foreign substances such as wax. Surfaces should be smooth.

### Concrete

Floors should be cleaned with a vacuum cleaner or fine bristle broom. Remove all foreign matter such as dust, oil, paint, grease or any compounds that would interfere with the adhesive properly bonding the carpeting to the subfloor. Any holes, cracks, broken places in the concrete or related floor defects should be filled in and patched with a premium grade latex patching compound.

Floors that are excessively dirty may require washing and time to dry.

Remove any floor imperfections such as ridges or humps. When height variations are present be sure to ramp to and from these areas.

### Trowel Notch Size

Trowel notch should be 1/8"x 1/8"x 1/8", U-shaped. It is important to maintain this notch size throughout the installation. Through wear on the floor these notches can vary. For this reason constant monitoring of this matter will insure proper adhesive application. If the floor is porous, a larger notch size can be required. The most important factor in trowel notch size is to insure proper adhesive transfer to the back of carpeting. Whatever trowel size is necessary for this to be accomplished is required.

### Site Conditions

The building temperature should be 65° to 95°F with a relative humidity ranging between 20% and 65%, and should be maintained for 72 hours before, during, and after carpet installation.

### Storage

Store carpet and adhesive in dry area. Never stack carpet more than two rolls high or stand up on roll ends on job site. Do not bend or fold carpet in storing.

### Moisture And Alkalinity

New concrete should cure at least 90 to 120 days. Concrete slabs must be checked for the presence of moisture and alkali. If pH factor is 10 or higher, requires corrective measures,



acceptable pH levels are between 5 and 9. Consult carpet manufacturer if moisture exceeds three pounds as determined by a calcium chloride test kit.

### Concrete Porosity

Apply small amounts of water to several areas of concrete floor to check for porosity. If the water beads, the floor is fine. If water soaks in quickly, the floor needs to be sealed.

### Subfloors

All subfloors must be smooth and level, free of dirt, wax, oil, grease, old adhesives and other residues. Concrete floors must be cured. Patch floor and fill cracks or depressions with a good grade latex underlayment. **DO NOT USE WATER-MIXED UNDERLAYMENTS.** Seal large patch areas, as well as dusty, chalky, porous floors, using Kure-N-Seal or a liquid latex additive.

### Wood Floors

Wood floors must be properly secured and have adequate cross air ventilation (min. 18"). Ground level subfloors should have an appropriate vapor barrier. Installation of Ultraloc MPC is not recommended over wood floors supported by wooden sleepers on concrete because of inadequate ventilation.

\*As indicated, some of these directions are specifically designed for Ultraloc MPC.

THE INSTALLER IS RESPONSIBLE for accepting floor conditions for proper floor preparations prior to installation.

After all other preparations have been made, use the following steps to ensure successful installation of Patcraft carpet.

1. Prepare floor by removing all dust and foreign matter.
2. Snap chalk-line in area of beginning.
3. Make cuts to desired lengths.
4. Check dye lots. If there is more than one dye lot, determine best breaking point. Reduce extra cross seams by matching roll lengths.
5. From a starting point near the center of the room, snap a white chalk line on the floor, measuring from the perpendicular walls. This marks the location of your first seam.
6. **DRY LAY ALL CARPET TO BE INSTALLED BEFORE SPREADING ANY ADHESIVE.** Dry lay carpet by overlapping the edges 1 1/2" over the chalk line. Be



sure the carpet lays flat and the pile runs in the same direction. Directional arrows are provided on carpet back. Allow 1 1/2" extra at walls for trimming.

7. To start the seam, select one edge for cutting and fold the other side back out of the way. **TRIM OFF FACTORY EDGES WHEN MAKING SEAM, DO NOT USE THE DOUBLE CUT METHOD.** To make a clean, straight cut for length seams, follow directions below.

### **Straight Row Constructions [Non-Pattern Carpet]**

Use a screwdriver or tip of cushion back cutter to separate the yarn and visibly open a row approximately 1" from the edge. Cut along the row with a cushion back cutter, working down the entire length of the first carpet. To obtain a tight seam, cut close to the main body by trimming with the blade closest to the seam edge. Be sure to hold the cutter straight up and down.

To insure a well fitted seam, use the trace cut method to cut the second carpet edge. This is done by sliding the second seam edge 1 1/2" under the first edge then using the first edge as a guide, trim the second edge holding the cutter straight up and down.

Before removing the cut piece, be sure the carpet is cut completely through.

8. With the first trimmed edge positioned along the chalk line, position the second edge against the first, and check the alignment. Both edges should lay flat and fit together properly. If tuft rows are slightly bowed, use the trace cut method and re-cut to make the seam.
9. Once the seam edges fit correctly, check the carpet at the seam for height variation and correct to a level appearance if necessary.
10. Weight or stay-nail the center line of both carpets lengthwise to prevent carpet from shifting. Carefully fold back both breadths of carpet, being careful not to shift the carpet. Using adhesives recommended by the carpet manufacturer, spread the adhesive in a uniform manner with a 1/8"x 1/8"x 1/8" U-notched trowel. Keep trowel clean and renotched as needed.
11. Allow adhesive to remain open long enough to develop tack, but wet enough to provide a good transfer to the backing.
12. Lay one side into the adhesive to the chalk line and smooth out. Press the carpet into the adhesive, using a two foot section of the carpet core or the back of a push



broom. This insures even transfer of the adhesive and removes any trapped air bubbles.

13. Seal the seam by carefully applying a 1/8" bead of recommended seam adhesive to the primary backing level. Lay the other side into the adhesive. Butt the second edge tightly against the first edge. This allows the seam adhesive to transfer from one edge to the other and completely seal the seam. **DO NOT LET SEAMS PEAK.**
14. Use the carpet core or the back of a broom to press the second carpet into the adhesive. Push away from the seam to work out any trapped air before the adhesive sets up. Check the seam and clip any loose tufts with nap shears. For cut piles, make sure the yarn is not buried in the seam. Roll carpet with a 50 pound roller in both directions.
15. Clean excess adhesive from seam with recommended cleaner using a white cloth. **DO NOT SOAK OR OVERWET SEAM WITH CLEANING SOLVENT.** Remove the weights or stay nails.
16. If additional length seams are required, cut edges for seams and repeat steps 4 through 12. At the wall, fold back the unglued breadths toward the seam. Spread adhesive and allow time to tack.
17. Lay carpet into adhesive and smooth out to remove trapped air bubbles, working from the seam.
18. Using a wall trimmer, such as Roberts #10-905, trim along wall edge as each section is installed. **DO NOT TRIM FULL** as buckling could result.
19. Protect exposed carpet edges with vinyl or metal strip, minimum of 1/2", and fasten securely to the floor.
20. Protect installation from heavy traffic for a minimum of 24 hours. Plastic film or sheeting should not be used as carpet protection because it retards adhesive curing. Use a non-staining building paper such as St. Regis' Seekure.
21. If heavy furniture is to be rolled over a new installation, use plywood or masonite sheets to protect the carpet. These basic steps apply for ULTRALOC backings.



### Straight Stairs With Nosing

1. Carpet should be installed with one piece covering tread and nosing, and a separate piece covering the riser. Measure both the left and right side of each step accordingly.
2. With pre-cut, allow 1" extra in length and width. Mark the exact measurements of each tread and nosing, and cut carpet to fit.
3. Apply a band of non-flammable contact adhesive with a 3" paint roller to the nosing, under the nosing, and 2" to 3" on the stair tread.
4. Apply non-flammable contact adhesive to the corresponding areas on the back of the pre-cut carpet for both the tread and nosing.
5. With a 1/8"x 1/8"x 1/8" U-notched trowel, apply a premium grade multipurpose adhesive to the remaining areas of the tread and riser.
6. Position carpet to tread and nosing, and smooth out carpet to the side and corners using your hands and a stair tool.
7. Position carpet to the riser and smooth out with your hands and a stair tool.

### Straight Stairs Without Nosing

1. Carpet should be installed with one piece over tread and riser. Measure both the left and right side of each step accordingly.
2. With pre-cut carpet, allow one inch extra in length and width. Mark the exact measurement of each step, and cut carpet to fit.
3. Apply a band of non-flammable contact adhesive with a 3" paint roller to the step nosing carrying over 2" to 3" on the tread and riser. Apply non-flammable contact adhesive to the corresponding area on the back of the pre-cut carpet.
4. Using a 1/8"x 1/8"x 1/8" U-notched trowel, apply a premium grade multi-purpose adhesive to the rest of the tread and riser.
5. Allow multi-purpose adhesive to tack before installing carpet on step. Contact adhesive should be dry to the touch.
6. Smooth carpet out to sides and corners on both tread and riser, using hands and a stair tool.



### Special Instructions For Ultraloc Pattern

Patcraft Ultraloc Pattern is a high performance backing that may be installed using the Stretch-In, Direct Glue or Double Glue method. Stretch-In installations of Ultraloc Pattern larger than 30'x30' are not recommended. Stretch-In installations require the use of a dense commercial grade cushion such as Patcraft Dura-tech cushion. For more information about the Double Glue and Stretch-In installation methods refer to those sections of this manual or CRI-104 Installation Standard.

### Temperature

Room, sub-floor, and carpet must be kept at a minimum of 65° to 70°F for 48 hours before and 72 hours after installation. NOTE: Warmer temperature and loose-laying cuts into room 24 hours before installation will help relax the unitary backings.

### Trimming Seams

*Pattern carpets:* Seams must be trimmed by row cutting each side with consideration to pattern match. Use a screwdriver to separate the yarn rows and then trim each side using a Cushion Back Cutter or Loop Pile Cutter.

Apply Patcraft 4000 seam sealer to both edges if using the Stretch-In method. Apply to the edge that is placed into the adhesive first if using Direct Glue or Double Glue.

*Non-pattern carpets:* The preferred trimming method is to row cut both edges as described above. If, after row cutting both edges, gaps or fullness are present then the row cut/trace cut method may be used.

### IMPORTANT NOTES for Direct Glue installations

One very important point to bring to the installer's attention when installing Patcraft Ultraloc Pattern products...these are non-porous backings, thus the adhesive must be tacky before you put the carpet into the adhesive or it will not adhere and set properly. Room and floor temperature must be 65°-70°F 48 hours before and 72 hours after installation. Use 1/8"x 1/8"x 1/8", U-notched trowel.

### Graphics Pattern Carpets And Cut/Uncut Carpets

All patterned carpet is subject to certain industry tolerances. We feel our tolerances are more stringent than standard industry tolerances. Our tolerances are as follows:

NOTE: Stop installation and contact mill if the following tolerances have been exceeded.

1. If skewing is greater than 1 1/2" in 12' width.
2. If bowing is greater than 1 1/2" in 12' width.



3. If pattern elongation is more than 1 1/2" in 12' width.

### We Do Not Guarantee Pattern Repeat Match

We have established our tolerance so that a match should be achievable by stretching the short side out to meet the long side.

### How To Match Pattern

#### CORRECTION FOR PATTERN ELONGATION

Dry lay the entire area to be installed and trim seams prior to spreading adhesive. Dry laying the carpet allows the installer to make adjustments to the breadths to ensure that patterns runs true along perimeter walls, borders, and columns. Roll installation sequence is provided on each roll ticket. As a starting point, rolls should be installed in sequential order for the best pattern match.

Alternately, a back stamp, including date and time (24 hr. format), can be used to sequence cuts in the event that roll tags are missing. Adjacent cuts should be within 5-6 minutes of each other. If pattern match problems are present after sequencing the cuts, use the pattern measurement method described below:

***An easy way to determine which cuts will match best is to count off 30 patterns and compare the measurements to determine sequence.***

Example:

- Drop A 30 patterns measure 15'
- B 30 patterns measure 15'2"
- C 30 patterns measure 14'11"
- D 30 patterns measure 15'1"

The proper judgment in this example is to place the drops as follows to diminish the pattern elongation: 14'11", 15', 15'1", 15'2".

In this example the elongation from least to greatest is 3", or 1.6%. Experience has shown that most carpets easily stretch 1.5%-2% with a power stretcher. The deviation between Drop A and Drop C is only 1/2 of 1%.

### Procedure

First, determine the short patterned and long patterned side. Since there is no dependable way to shrink a synthetic tufted carpet, we must use a process we do know: stretching. We are very simply going to stretch the short pattern side out to meet the long pattern.



### Installation Over Separate Cushion

When using a separate cushion, the installation instructions of the cushion manufacturer need to be followed for their warranty to be valid.

### Stretch-In, Or Tackless Installation

The basic stretch-in instructions are simply install proper tack strip around all walls and doorways and lay in the separate cushion. Power stretching of all Ultraloc Pattern carpeting is mandatory for warranty to be valid. Carpet must be stretched 1-1 1/2% in both length and width directions. Refer to CRI 104 for more information on the stretch-in method.

### Double Glue-Down Installation

Site, environmental, and ventilation conditions become even more important when performing double glue-down installations. In double glue-down installation, a separate cushion is adhered to the floor and the carpet is adhered to the cushion. Use only cushion specifically designed for double glue installations. Patcraft offers cushion for this type of installation.

Install the cushion in the longest continuous lengths possible with consideration to traffic patterns and seam placement of the carpet. Use a trowel with notch dimensions of 3/32" x 3/32" x 3/32" and a V-notch. Allow multi-purpose adhesive to become tacky before placing cushion into adhesive.

After cushion has been secured, dry lay carpet into the area to be installed. Carpet seams should run at right angles to the cushion seams or offset at least 6" to either side. Care must be taken to avoid cutting into the cushion when cutting carpet seams. Use a 1/8"W x 1/8"D x 1/16" spacing U-notched trowel for spreading adhesive. Allow adhesive to become tacky before placing cushion into adhesive. Proper open time considerations are critical for a successful installation. The use of Shaw 4010 or 8200 seam sealer is required. It is generally recommended to use a hot melt seaming tape when constructing double glue-down seams. Use a non-silicone, low profile tape such as Roberts 325 or Orcon K-80.

Roll installation in both directions with the lightest roller that will achieve 100% transfer of adhesive into carpet back. Re-roll after 3-12 hours.

### Adhesives

Patcraft has developed its own adhesives designed to insure the best bond possible for the perfect installation. Alternatives will be listed, but Patcraft adhesive is the primary choice. If an alternative adhesive is used, the warranty will be limited to the warranty of the adhesive company. If other than recommended adhesives are used, all warranties will be void.



Patcraft sundries include:

Premium Multi-purpose Adhesive . . . . .1000, 1200, 2057 and 2100  
Seam Sealer . . . . .4000 and 8200

### Recommended Adhesives

Patcraft Backing Systems

Ultraloc Pattern . . . . .1000 (G100P), 2057 (2057P)

Ultraloc MPC . . . . .1000 (G100P), 2057 (2057P)

### Alternative Adhesives

W.W. Henry 1 800 232 4832

Parabond 1 800 763 7272

AAT 1 800 228 4583

Capitol 1 800 831 8381

Chapco 1 800 621 0220

W.F. Taylor 1 800 397 4583

MD/AIM 1 800 543 7616

MAPEI 1 800 992 6273

DAP, INC. 1 513 667 4461

### Summary

1. Clean floor and prepare as necessary.
2. Use proper adhesive and trowel notch size.
3. Make sure adhesive is tacky before carpet is dropped into place.
4. Roll carpet thoroughly in both directions to insure adhesive transfer.
5. Make sure seams are tight and flat. All sprouting or loose fibers should be clipped with sharp nap-shears.
6. Remove all excess adhesive.
7. Proper application of seam sealer is mandatory.
8. Temperature before and after installation should be between 65° and 95°F.
9. Restrict heavy traffic for 24 hours after installation. (This includes furniture movement).



10. All warranties are based on proper installation methods.

**Additionally...** Refer to FCIB for **Ten Point Plan for Installation Excellence Division of Carpet and Rug Institute**. For any further information, consult CRI manual #104. The Carpet and Rug Institute, P.O. Box 2048, Dalton, Georgia 30722-2048, 800-882-8846, [carpet-rug.com](http://carpet-rug.com).