

LokDots™ Installation

Notice – For best results review the following guidelines prior to installation. Shaw will not be responsible for improper installation and failure to follow these guidelines may result in limiting warranty coverage.

These installation procedures are intended for indoor use to assist in the installation Shaw modular carpet under most job conditions. Specific questions regarding installation not covered within must be referred to **Shaw Installation Services Department at 1.800.471.7429**. Any variance from these procedures will become the responsibility of the installer and not the manufacturer. Additional information regarding LokDots can be found at **www.LokDots.com**

site testing and conditioning

The installation is not to begin until the HVAC system is operational and the following conditions are maintained. Maintain the temperature of the installation site, carpet, and LokDots between a minimum temperature of 65° F and a maximum temperature of 95° F for 24 hours before installation. Do not begin the installation if the carpet tile, room or subfloor temperature is below 60° F. The LokDots will not apply properly when the carpet tile or the subfloor are below 60° F. The installation sites' relative humidity should not exceed 65%. Maintain these conditions for 24 hours prior to, during and permanently afterwards. LokDots should not be stored at temperatures exceeding 120° F. LokDots are freeze-thaw stable, and must be allowed to acclimate to site conditions of 60° F prior to application.

Moisture Requirements—Moisture testing must be performed. Shaw requires the use of the following test methods:

Relative Humidity (RH) ASTM F-2170 results should be below 95%. or the

Anhydrous Calcium Chloride ASTM F-1869 results should not exceed 10.0 lbs. per 1000 square feet per 24 hours (2.27 kg/92.9m²/24 hours).

Shaw recognizes the relative humidity (RH) test as the qualifying standard. Do not begin the installation if an unacceptable moisture level is detected or visual moisture is present. If excessive moisture is present, the general contractor or building owner must be advised and a decision made if the installation is to begin. Shaw Industries will not be responsible for any moisture related installation failures if these guidelines are not strictly followed. Carpet tiles and LokDots are not intended to be a moisture barrier against hydrostatic pressure in concrete.

pH Requirements—Test the concrete for alkalinity prior to beginning the installation. Check the concrete for surface pH at several locations. **A reading below 5.0 or above 12.0 requires corrective measures.** Specific information on the correct method of neutralizing low or high pH is available through Shaw Technical Services Department.

floor preparation

All substrates must be structurally sound, clean, level and dry. The floor must be smooth and level reducing any remaining adhesive ridges in order for the LokDots to bond the carpet tile securely to the subfloor. The substrate should be clean and free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint, curing agents, concrete sealers, loosely bonded toppings, loose particles, and any other substance or condition that may prevent or reduce the adhesion of LokDots. Depressions and cracks must be filled with a liquid latex additive cement based patching compound and all protrusions leveled.

NOTE: Do not sand or scrape Vinyl Asbestos Tile (VAT) without proper attention to abatement procedures and precautions in accordance with all state and local codes. Shaw Industries makes no claims as to the acceptability of this procedure as a mitigation method in lieu of asbestos removal; and accepts no responsibility if any loose asbestos containing floorings are affected upon removal of a Shaw Industries modular carpet installation. CAUTION: Cutback asphaltic adhesive or any other non-approved adhesives must never be allowed to come into contact with new adhesives. Installation failure could result and we would advise sealing the cutback with a sealer such as Shaw 9000. If this situation arises, contact Shaw Industries Technical Services Department at 1.800.471.7429.

- **Existing Multipurpose Adhesive**—existing ridges must be reduced to a smooth / level surface. All debris must be thoroughly swept or vacuumed and damp mopped.
- **Existing Pressure Sensitive Adhesive**—LokDots can be installed over existing pressure sensitive adhesive provided that the adhesive surface is smooth and level.
- **New Concrete**—Dusting / Powdering will interfere with the adhesion of LokDots and it is advised to damp mop the subfloor.
- **Gypcrete**—we would advise to prime the surface with a paint roll application of liquid latex such as Shaw 9050.
- **VCT / VAT**—all tiles must be secure to the subfloor.
- **Wood Subfloors**—must be Wood Association Approved and would advise damp mopping the entire subfloor
- **Raised Access Flooring**—All panels must be smooth, level, secure and free of any material that will affect the adhesive bond. Carpet tiles must be installed offset from access panel seams. Gaps between panels must not exceed 1/16" (1.6mm).

For additional information or technical bulletins regarding these subfloors or others please contact 1.800.471.7429

site layout

- The starting point in a modular installation must be as near to the center of the room as possible and must be positioned to utilize the largest perimeter cut module size.

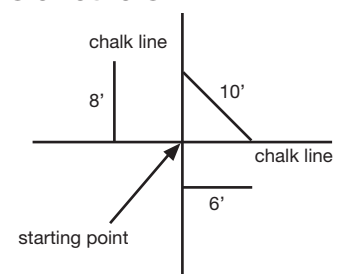


Figure 1

- Snap a chalk line parallel to one major wall bisecting the starting point. It may be necessary to offset the center chalk line to assure perimeter modules will be at least half size.
- A second chalk line must be snapped from the starting point at 90° to the first line. This can be accomplished using a 3-4-5, 6-8-10, or larger triangle, depending on the room size. Meters or feet may be used to lay out the triangle in these proportions. **See Figure 1**

LokDots applicator

Slide leader liner into slots.
Spin several revolutions until
liner is tightly wrapped
around rewind spool.

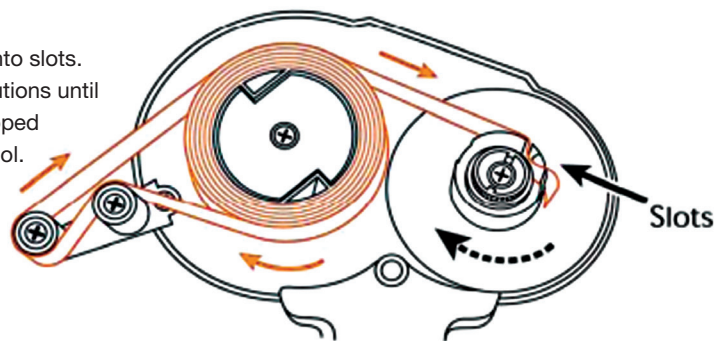


Figure 2

loading

- Open cover and place LokDots roll onto the larger applicator wheel so that it unwinds in a clockwise direction. Use the bar in the center of the wheel to lock into place.
- Pull leader liner forward winding over the first roller and under the second roller. Pull tightly over top of roll.
- Thread the leader liner through the slots on the smaller dispenser wheel to secure. Turn smaller wheel clockwise for several revolutions. Close cover. **See Figure 2**

use of applicator

- Place the nose roller on the back of the tile in the area for adhesive.
- Using a slow, controlled application speed, pull the dispenser toward you. Apply the amount of adhesives that fit the application (more adhesive may be required for high traffic areas).

applicator troubleshooting

- The applicator came apart: The dispenser is very robust. If the cover separates from the dispenser when dropped, snap it back on!
- Removing adhesive from carpet face or other material: Using a few dots, blot the adhesive stuck to the undesired surface to pull the adhesive up. Dots can also be removed from the face of the carpet by freezing the dot with ice then removing the adhesive. Rubbing alcohol may also be applied to release adhesive.
- The liner is wrapping back around on itself. The liner usually wraps back on itself if the used release liner doesn't remain tight. To ensure that the liner has tension during application, thread the used liner through the slot in the take up wheel.

installation

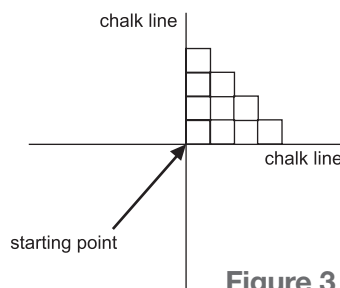


Figure 3

- Begin the installation by installing by carton / pallet. Each module has directional arrows on the backing (numbers within the arrows are for manufacturing purposes and are not related to installation) These arrows allow for one-directional or multi-directional installation. Some styles may be large scale or linear in design and require quarter turning. If you are unsure about whether or not your product requires a quarter turned installation, please 1.877.502.7429 regarding Shaw Contract products and 1.800.241.4101 regarding Patcraft products.

- Installation must begin at the intersection of two chalk lines. Installation must continue until completed in one quadrant, then proceed to an adjoining quadrant until all four quadrants are completed. Larger areas may require chalk lines bisecting the original four quadrants. **See Figure 3**
- Install modules using the pyramid technique. This allows multiple alignment checks. If the edges do not align and the misalignment increases with progression of the installation, the source of the problem must be identified and corrected. **See Figure 3**
- Carpet tiles come in various sizes. Shaw's Ecoworx tiles are offered in 24" squares or 18" x 36" rectangles. Both have directional arrows on the back of the tile. This facilitates the installation method which is based on the requirements of the product, or the preference of the customer. **See Figure 4**
- Apply LokDots adhesive tabs to the back of each tile in the pattern shown in **Figure 4**. We recommend starting approx 2" from the edge of the tile and moving down the tile perpendicular to the directional arrows. We recommend applying adhesive tabs in a series of 3 tabs in each corner, and in the middle for 24" tiles for an average of 15 per tile. The 18 x 36 tiles has 3 rows in the middle due to its longer length for a total of 21 tabs per tile.
- Slide modules into position to prevent yarn from being trapped between the modules. Trapped yarn will adversely affect the appearance of the installation and will cause alignment problems.

- Modules must fit snugly, but not be compressed. Press the entire surface of the tile to ensure adhesion. Check for fit by measuring the length of ten full modules after installation. The measurement must not be less than, or exceed by more than 1/4 inch, the length of the modules being multiplied by ten. For example: if 24" X 24" modules are being installed, the measurement should be between 240 and 240 1/4 inches.

LokDots is a pressure sensitive adhesive. It is very important to roll the entire installation with a 75 lb or greater roller to assure the proper adhesion of LokDots to the substrate.

LokDots application

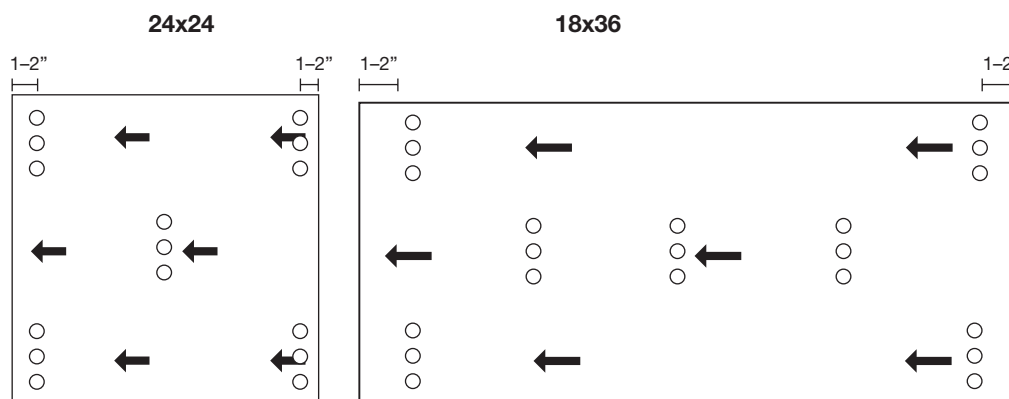


Figure 4

Directional arrows are featured on the back of the tile. Numbers within the arrows are for manufacturing purposes and are not related to installation

flatwire cable systems

Flatwire cable systems must be centered under the modular tiles for better seam quality.

cutting techniques

- A performance feature of LokDots is its ability to secure the perimeter and any cut tiles in the installation. For ease of installation to secure the perimeter, LokDots may be applied to the floor to facilitate cutting the tile from the face side. We recommend properly securing the perimeter as well as field cuts as this prevents shifting over the life of the installation.
- Modules may be cut by measuring and cutting from the back using a straight edge. Care must be taken to assure the arrows are pointing in the correct direction. Once cut, dots may be applied to the trimmed module then put into place.
- Modules may also be cut by letting them cove up the wall and cutting with a cushion back wall trimmer or similar tool. **DO NOT COMPRESS!**

post installation care

- Use plywood over the carpet when heavy objects are moved within 24 hours after installation.
- Protective chair mats under chairs with casters are recommended and will prevent excessive wear to the face of the carpet.
- A non-staining building material paper must be placed over the carpet to protect it when additional construction activity is to take place. **Do not use plastic sheeting as it will trap moisture.**