

## Installation Instructions for Broadloom

**INSPECT CARPET FOR CORRECT COLOR, PATTERN AND VISIBLE DEFECTS.  
TOTALLY ENTERPRISES, LLC IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPROPER INSTALLATION.**

- 1. Proper Site Conditions** – The building must be enclosed. The HVAC must be operational and activated. The carpet should be stored between 650 F and 850 F for at least 48 hours in order to acclimate. Relative humidity must be 12% - 65% maximum for 24 hours prior, during and after the installation.
- 2. Subfloor** – Must be structurally sound, free of dirt, dust, and debris. Grease, oil, paint, wax, old adhesive residue, or any other foreign substances could adversely affect a proper bond. Level all high spots, fill cracks, holes and minor depressions with suitable floor patch. Subfloor irregularities will “telescope” through newly installed carpet. Carpet installation will be no better than the subfloor it’s installed upon.

**DO NOT** sand, scrap, chip, pulverize or demolish existing resilient tile, sheet flooring, backing, lining, felt. These products may contain asbestos or asbestos fibers. Inhalation of asbestos dust may cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. If asbestos is suspected, stop installation immediately and obtain assistance from a qualified Remediation Expert.

- 3. Moisture Testing** – All subfloor surface must be tested for moisture. It is not Totally Enterprises, LLC’s responsibility to perform moisture tests. It is the responsibility of the General Contractor or Owner’s representative to perform these tests. Totally Enterprises, LLC recommends the following Moisture Tests and Readings:

- Calcium Chloride Test – Must not exceed 5lbs per 1000 sq.ft. per 24 hours.
- Relative Humidity ASTM F 2170 – must not exceed 80% Relative Humidity.
- Alkalinity Readings – Must not exceed pH level of 9 or below 5.

Moisture readings in excess of those recommended above can cause adhesive to breakdown and fail. If excessive contact the General Contractor for Remedial recommendations.

- 4. Recommended Substrates** – Concrete (on or above grade ), cement terrazzo, patching compounds, self leveling compounds, light weight concrete and gypcrete. Light weight concrete and gypcrete must be sealed with primer/ sealer before installation, regardless of MVE rates.

All slabs on or below grade must have a functioning vapor barrier directly beneath the concrete slab. The vapor barrier must always be on top of the capillary break.

- 5. Patterned Carpet Layout** – Before spreading any glue, Dry Lay patterned carpet throughout entire area to be carpeted. Make sure rolls are sequenced according to pattern size count by recording the number of pattern repeats in a 10’ length of each roll. Start with the longest pattern count, then sequence rolls with decreasing pattern size. This will allow the smaller patterned repeat rolls to be stretched into the larger ones. Remember, carpet is a textile and stretches. It does not shrink. Dry laying, allows patterned carpet to acclimate and reveals pile direction. Make certain pile direction of all drops lay in same direction.

All seams must be row cut face up. Use a screwdriver or awl to separate rows of yarn. Cut with a cushion back or loop pile cutter. Do not cut through the loops. Cut between them. Make sure row cut is made on a pattern line in order make a pattern matching seam with next drop.

Once patterned carpet is measured, sequenced, dry layed, oriented in same pile direction and squared with the two dominant walls, snap a chalk line near center of the room between opposite walls. This will serve as a straightness

## Installation Instructions for Broadloom (cont'd)

guide for first and subsequent seams. Failure to chalk and follow straight lines will result in the appearance of pattern run-off along walls.

- 6. Adhesive & Seam Sealer** – Spread Totally Enterprises, LLC's Multipurpose Adhesive using 1/8"x1/8"x1/16" V-Notched Trowel. After adhesive becomes tacky, place first drop into adhesive and apply seam sealer. A solid bead of seam sealer must cover and seal total thickness of both the primary and secondary backings. It should not appear on face yarns. Seam sealer (properly applied) will prevent seam delamination, loss of tufts and edge ravel. All seams must be sealed. Totally requires the use of Totally Adhesive and Seam sealer.

Spread adhesive for second drop. Place carpet breadth into the adhesive. Match pattern in the center of the seam. Stretch second drop in both directions, away from the center point of the seam. Use of a power stretcher, deadman, mini-stretcher (crab) and stay nails are required and necessary tools for all patterned carpet. Pattern will not match without use of these tools.

- 7.** Once carpet is seam sealed, positioned, stay nailed and pattern matched, roll the carpet with a 75 – 100 lb. roller to ensure 100% transfer to the carpet backing.
- 8. Pattern Bow, Pattern Skew & Pattern Elongation** – are common characteristics of patterned carpet.

For Bow & Skew: Select the most prominent wall. Cut the carpet on pattern across the carpet width. Position carpet along the prominent wall. Because of the bow and skew, the carpet not align with the wall, but actually run up the wall.

Fold carpet back and spread Totally Carpets Broadloom Adhesive with a 1/8"x1/8"x1/16" V Notched Trowel. Allow adhesive to tack and exhibit good adhesive legs.

Use a mini-stretcher to pull the bow or skew off the wall. Then, align the pattern along the prominent wall. This process will form bubbles in the carpet. This is normal. Continue aligning the pattern as the bubbles move down the length of seam.

Use a "deadman" or power stretcher to align the pattern on the opposite wall or chalk line.

Stay nails are necessary to hold pattern in place while adhesive dries. Remove stay nails once adhesive has fully set.

For Pattern Elongation – Match pattern at center of the seam. Working both ways away from the center of the seam and towards the wall, use a power stretcher or mini-stretcher to align pattern along length of seam. Stay nails are required.

- 9. Non-Pattern Carpet Layout** – Sequence drops of non patterned carpet by roll number. This procedure minimizes the effects of normal variations of texture, color, bow or skew from one end of production run to the other. Avoid placing drops or fills from roll numbers early in the sequence next to roll numbers late in the sequence. This could contribute to color and texture variances at seam areas.

All seams must be row cut face up. Use a screwdriver or awl to separate rows of yarn. Cut with a cushion back or loop pile cutter. Do not cut through the loops. Cut between them. Make sure row cut is made on the proper color and/or texture line to ensure a proper matching seam. Non patterned carpets are often constructed with yarn types that are different from each other and care must be given to cut seam along proper row.

## Installation Instructions for Broadloom (cont'd)

Once carpet is dry laid, oriented in same pile direction and squared with two dominant walls, snap a chalk line near center of the room between two opposite walls. This will serve as a straightness guide for first and subsequent seams. Failure to chalk and follow straight lines could result in the appearance of texture run-off along wall.

- 10. Adhesive & Seam Sealer** – Spread Totally Enterprises, LLC's Multipurpose Adhesive using 1/8"x1/8"x1/16" V-Notched Trowel. After adhesive becomes tacky, place first drop into adhesive and apply seam sealer. A solid bead of seam sealer must cover and seal total thickness of both the primary and secondary backings. It should not appear on face yarns. Seam sealer (properly applied) will prevent seam delamination, loss of tufts and edge ravel. All seams must be sealed.

Spread adhesive for second drop. Place carpet breadth into the adhesive. Match the seams and texture lines (if any). Use of a power stretcher, deadman, mini-stretcher (crab) and stay nails could be required..... even though carpet is not patterned.

- 11.** Once carpet is seam sealed and positioned into the adhesive, roll carpet with a 75-100 lb roller to ensure 100% transfer to the carpet backing.
- 12. Protection** – Protect carpet from ongoing Trade Traffic. DO NOT USE PLASTIC. Plastic will discolor and cause accelerated soiling when plastic is removed and sticky residue remains. Use cardboard, masonite or craft paper.