

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR TREND Q

For the perfect finish working with Trend Q, follow these simple guidelines:

Cement subfloor

The cement sub-floor has to be completely dry and clean, level, and with no visible signs of shrinking before you can start an installation. Residual humidity should be less than 0.5%. A cement sub-floor must be at least 3/4" thick and with an adhesion to concrete of more than 142 lbs./square inches. If the cement sub-floor is more than 1 1/2" thick it will be necessary to use a reinforced mesh.

IT IS IMPERATIVE TO RESPECT STRUCTURAL JOINTS AND CONNECTION JOINTS BETWEEN COLUMNS AND WALLS.

Concrete subfloor

For direct installation on a concrete sub-floor without the use of any other cement-based layer, except for an auto-leveling product, the floor must be level, consistent, dry and clean with a maximum level of humidity less than 3%.

The use of a primer on the sub-floor

The use of a primer is necessary if the sub-floor is too porous or dusty. A primer will reduce the level of absorption of the sub-floor and stabilize it, blocking the effects of the dust.

Leveling the sub-floor

If the sub-floor is not perfectly level, the use of an auto-leveling product is necessary before installation. The work of the installers will be faster and more accurate using an auto-leveling product like Keralevel LR, from Kerakoll, or similar from Mapei, Ultraplan 1, Novoplan 2 (for perfect adhesion of the underlayment to the concrete or cement subfloor, you can use Ultraprime L), or from Laticrete, Laticrete 86 self leveling, or Laticrete 86 Latilevel, and then Laticrete admix and primer.

When you receive the tiles on the job site

When you receive the tiles on the job site, they may appear warped. This happens during transit. Do not worry; TREND Q is flexible so it is very easy to rectify this problem. Open all the boxes and place 20 tiles one on top of the other with the polished surface facing down. As you stack them, place 4 small pieces of cardboard along two opposite sides (two on one side and two on the other) between one tile and the next. Let them sit like this undisturbed for 12 hours.

Once this process is complete, all the tiles should have the corners down and show a little belly in the middle. They are ready to be installed. If, when you open the box, all the tiles appear flat, just flip all the boxes upside down, place a few boxes on top of each other and leave them like this for 12 hours.

Installing TREND Q

The manufacturer recommends installing the material in rooms which have been kept at a constant temperature between 50 and 80 degrees F for at least 12 hours. The adhesive must also be kept at the temperature recommended by the manufacturer for at least a few days prior to use.

Suggested adhesives:

- Mapei Granirapid – cement fast – bi-component;
- Laticrete 4237rapid+211 (latex) – cement fast – bi-component.

Please check with your Stone Source Sales Consultant to get the name of the correct adhesive.



According to the type of installation, we recommend that you consult with your adhesive manufacturer's specialist who can guide you to the best solution.

VERY IMPORTANT:

All the tiles have to be back-buttered and the adhesive spread on the sub-floor using two different trowels: a 5/16" trowel notch for the floor and a 2/16" trowel notch for the back of the tile. This type of installation system is called "FULL BED" and assures better adhesion of the tile.

Position the tile on the adhesive, exerting pressure on the center of the tile (the belly).

You will use approximately 1.43 lbs. of adhesive per square foot.

Preparing the adhesive

TREND LASTRE, a polyurethane adhesive in two parts, is prepared using a mixer for adhesive, moving it from bottom to top very slowly (400 lapses per minutes). Parts A and B come already measured, so you can mix them as they are. Once the paste is homogenous and uniform, the adhesive is ready. It must be used within one hour from the time it is mixed. To clean your tools, use alcohol and water if the adhesive is still fresh. If it has set it will have to be removed mechanically.

Structural joints

All structural joints have to be maintained up to the surface level. Do not cover structural joints.

Expansion joints

If an installation is to be completed with butt-joint tiles, you will need to cut expansion joints every three feet in all directions. If you are using pre-cut tiles, you can avoid extra cuts by using multiples of the size of each tile (for example, two 24" tiles to have an expansion joint every four feet) according to the way the tiles are installed: straight, at an angle, etc.

You can consider a ratio between length and width of 2:1 to cut the expansion joints.

If you leave a joint between the tiles (TREND suggests 1/16" for tiles smaller than 24x24, for larger tiles, at least 2/16"), there is no need for expansion joints, just respect the structural joints.

In any connection joining wall and wall, floor and wall, floor and stairs, or pillars, the expansion joints must be from 2/24" up to a maximum of 5/16" in width and for a depth of at least 1/3 of the sub-floor (not including the material to be installed).

All the structural as well as expansion joints on the surface must be filled with polyethylene, for half of the length of the joint, and then covered with a silicon based product according to the nature of the use: light commercial, high-traffic commercial, etc.

Grout joints

Under normal conditions, the manufacturer recommends a cement-based product to close the joints between tiles. Using a latex-based product together with cement, or an epoxy grout, adds flexibility and reduces absorption. The directions of the adhesive manufacturer should be followed.

THIS GENERAL INFORMATION IS BASED ON THE MANUFACTURER'S PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH INSTALLATION PROCEDURES. YOU SHOULD ALSO RELY ON THE TRAINED EYE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE TILE CONTRACTOR OR TILE INSTALLER ON THE JOBSITE.