

Laying instructions

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Gluing INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpets

Applies to carpets with “CR” and “TR” backing

General notes on laying INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpets:

Part C of the DIN 18365 German Construction Tendering and Contract Regulations (VOB) and the generally applicable rules of the trade apply.

These must be observed at all times during the laying process, particularly with regard to the inspection and preparation of the underlay and the climatic conditions.

For **all** INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpets without exception, the installer must cut the edges of the strips along a rail, either between the yarn edges or along the back, depending on the quality of the product. Please contact INFLOOR’s Application Technology department if you are unsure how to proceed. The corresponding telephone number is provided at the end of these instructions.

Factory edges must **not** be placed next to one another, as it is not generally possible to produce the optimal seam joints required for the product type in question in such configurations.

Product inspection:

Before cutting, the product must be checked for noticeable defects or faults. The bills of delivery are particularly helpful when doing this. Once the color and quality have been checked, the most important factors to inspect are the color consistency (checked by placing several strips next to one another) and whether there are any noticeable flaws in the material.

We accept no liability for any noticeable (obvious) defects reported after the product has been cut.

Arranging the strips:

Start by working out the nap direction of the carpet. Once this is done, cut the carpet into “rough” lengths and lay the strips out in the room with the nap on all the strips facing the same direction. Due to the visibility of the seam, the seam should face toward the main light source.

As a general rule (in accordance with the German Construction Tendering and Contract Regulations [VOB]), the contractor has the right to decide the direction in which the carpet is laid. However, we recommend always discussing with the client/owner to decide on both the laying direction (relevant for cutting) and the pile direction.

In order to prevent differences in color, always observe the following directions right from the start of every project:

When laying multiple strips in one room, all the strips for a single room unit must be laid next to one another in the order in which they are cut off the roll before the first strip is glued into place.

Whenever you cut a strip lengthways, **always** lay the outer edges of the strips as produced in the factory next to each other.

When laying multiple rolls/pieces in one commercial property or room, always lay the individual pieces in their order of production.

For example:

Carpet rolls with the piece numbers 999/001A – 999/011A are due to be laid throughout a large commercial property. In this situation, the first strip of Roll 999/002A must be laid next to the last strip of Roll 999/001A, the first strip of Roll 999/003A next to the last strip of Roll 999/002A, and so on.

<u>Piece 999/001AO</u>	<u>Piece 999/002AO</u>	<u>Piece 999/003AO</u>	
1 – 2 – 3 – 4 -----	1 – 2 – 3 – 4 -----	1 – 2 – 3 – 4	etc.

For example, strips from Piece 999/001AO must not be laid next to strips from Piece 999/008AO.

Before further laying work can begin, the product must always be adapted to the ambient conditions (temp. & humidity) of the installation site (air conditioning!). This is especially important when laying multiple rolls within a single room unit. Due to the differences in pressure conditions between the outer and inner windings of the roll, it is impossible to reliably check the color consistency at the edges of the strips when changing rolls (Roll 1/Strip 4 to Roll 2/Strip 1).

Please contact us if you are unsure how to proceed!

For the subsequent processing of the product, all the edges of the strips for a single room unit should be cut as follows:

Cutting edges between the pile rows

The vast majority of INFLOOR - GIRLOON qualities can and must be cut between the pile rows. While this technique requires a greater level of professional skill from the installer, it is without doubt the best and most elegant method for laying an INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpet. Cutting between pile rows is the edge cutting method that produces the best results in terms of seam visibility.

The pattern and potential changes in color/yarn type must always be taken into account when choosing which pile rows to make the edge cut between.

Please contact us if you are unsure how to proceed.

Before cutting the strip edge, open up the gap between the pile rows using a suitable awl (point and thickness must be chosen based on the pile density) to create a fine line in which the threads of the pile are slightly parted.

Next, cut the strip/web edge along this line using a suitable retractable knife.

Always cut in such a way that the strip/web edge that has been cut off the carpet falls away to the right of the knife.

In our experience, the best tools for cutting the strip edges are the **Type 10.153 commercial seam cutter by Luis Vogl of Munich** (Tel. +49 (0)89/46200655) and the **Type #65659 carpet cutter by Wolff of Vahingen/Enz** (Tel. +49(0)7042/95110).

Note: If you are not familiar with how to use the tools listed above (adjusting the blade, placing felt underlay beneath your cutting line), please contact us before starting work.

Cutting uni velour qualities from the back along a rail

This process is exclusively intended for cutting uni or all-over patterned qualities.

Cutting strip edges along lines between pile rows is very challenging, especially with very fine uni velour qualities (1/20" tufted velours).

These qualities and deep-pile velours can also be cut from the back along a suitable rail.

When using this technique, **always** make sure that the blade does not sink too deep into the product; it must only cut the backing and the carrier fleece. If the blade cuts too deep, it will cut entire threads of pile or pile tips, thus making it impossible to produce a clean, flush seam joint ("V seams").

In order to prevent this from happening, always take care not to apply pressure to the rail when cutting. When pressure is exerted on the rail, the pile threads are pushed to the side, which makes it easier for a blade to cut them off if it cuts too deep.

For this reason, you should use a rail with an anti-slip coating.

We recommend using a Luis Vogl steel combi-edge (Art. no. 10.926) or a Wolff flexible steel straight edge (Art. no. 13873) as your rail.

Use the Luis Vogl Wonder Knife (Art. no. 10.060/blade Art. no. 10.164) as your knife. The design of this knife allows you to hold the body of the knife against the rule/rail, and the moving slotted blade allows you to adjust the cutting depth.

Cutting uni qualities using a double cut

Although this method is still in common use today, especially when working in commercial properties with large quantities of carpet, all installers should be aware that it can make it impossible to produce perfect seam joints that suit the product type in question.

As such, we no longer recommend using a double cut. Please contact us if you are unsure how to proceed.

Cutting patterned qualities:

For all **patterned** qualities (except those with all-over patterns), the edges of the strips must be cut individually. This applies to both loop pile and velour products alike.

Generally speaking, the cuts should be made between pile rows, as they are for uni qualities.

Depending on the quality of the product, the cut is made freehand (i.e. without a straight edge or a rail) using either the Luis Vogl commercial seam cutter (see above) or a suitable seam cutter designed for top cutting (e.g. the Pajarito Type 668 or Mittag cutter).

Always cut in such a way that the strip edge that has been cut off the carpet falls away to the right of the knife.

In some cases, it may not be possible to cut **print pattern** qualities along a line between pile rows because the print does not line up with the line between the pile rows.

Laying this type of product is always more time-consuming and technically challenging for the installer. As such, suitable tensioning tools must always be kept to hand for such jobs.

The best way to cut such qualities depends on a number of factors, including whether you are working with a loop pile or a velour product, and must be determined on a case-by-case basis. Please always contact Infloor's Application Technology department before proceeding.

Cutting loop pile qualities:

Here too, the strips must be cut individually and between the pile rows. Double cuts are only permitted in exceptional cases, and **only with express written approval** from the INFLOOR Application Technology department. In addition to this, a liquid seam edge reinforcer must always be used on the cut edge in such cases in order to permanently block off the rows of studs that have been cut into. Naturally, this also applies to top seams, crosscuts (e.g. marker cuts made against rails or hard flooring) and damage caused to the row of studs when cutting between the pile rows.

Generally speaking, the cuts should be made between pile rows, as they are for uni and patterned qualities.

Please contact us if you are unsure how to proceed.

Gluing and sealing the seam:

Once the edges have been cut for all the strips for a room unit, lay all the strips for the room unit flush against one another.

Check the color consistency of all the strips for the room unit again.

Once you have done this, open up the seam area **lengthways** (i.e. along the entire length of the strips) on the two outer strips by pulling back the outer strip halfway and Strip 2 about 50 cm. Once you have done this, apply an ample amount of glue to the underlay, which should have been prepared in compliance with the applicable DIN standards.

An extremely high quality dispersion adhesive with a high initial and ultimate bond strength and the lowest possible emission class must be used for gluing INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpets. Please contact INFLOOR's Application Technology department if you are unsure how to proceed.

Caution:

INFLOOR – GIRLOON carpets that bear the "BLUE ANGEL" seal of environmental quality are among the most low-emission flooring types that can be achieved using today's technology. Where this status also needs to be applied to the laying of the products, suitable laying materials (primer, filler, fixation materials, etc.) must be used for the work.

The installer must contact the manufacturers of the laying materials for information on the appropriate laying materials for each individual job.

The glue must be applied using a toothed spatula with "B1" toothing. The quantity of glue applied must be no less than 350 g/m² (please contact us if you are unsure how to proceed).

Note:

The use of solvent-based adhesives (e.g. neoprene glue) can cause damage to flooring (e.g. causing the backing to peel off), and is thus not permitted.

Once you have applied the glue, immediately lay the outer strip (Strip 1) on the glue layer and roll it into place (do not stretch!). Next, working from Strip 1 and starting at the middle, lay the 50 cm of Strip 2 (the left-hand strip) that you had pulled back on the glue layer so it is completely flush with Strip 1.

When laying Strip 2, make sure that the edges of the two strips are completely flush with one another to create an almost completely sealed seam.

While you are sealing the seam, small bulges may occur; these can be smoothed out over the Strip 2 glue layer, which is only 50 cm wide, without any problems.

If the edges of the strips veer apart from one another, this can be remedied easily using a knee kicker or a double head stretcher and a few seam clamps.

Once you have done this, you will need to roll the entire surface of the flooring into place in order to ensure that the adhesive covers a sufficient area.

Repeat this process for the other strips in the room, working on one strip at a time.

Caution:

The climatic conditions at the time of laying must not change until the adhesive has fully hardened. When covering the product after laying to protect it from dirt (during subsequent work), make sure the adhesive has fully hardened before doing so or use a breathable cover so that the moisture from the adhesive can escape. Never use self-adhesive cover materials (e.g. adhesive film) for this purpose, as such materials may leave adhesive residue on the pile of the flooring.

Important notes:

The specifications contained in these laying instructions are based on practical experience gained using the INFLOOR – GIRLOON application technique. Since we are not familiar with the conditions at your specific installation site, test laying should be carried out if you are in any doubt as to the suitability of this method.

Please note that it is standard professional practice to keep to hand and use tensioning tools such as seam clamps, a knee kicker, a double head stretcher and – for print and web products – a lever-operated stretcher when laying a carpet. This cannot be deemed an unusual expectation or a cause for increased workload.

In accordance with the tolerances defined as per DIN CEN/TS 14159, no warping of any kind or curved edges qualify as product defects for tufting or web carpets. As such, we do not recognize such features as product defects.

Since it is impossible for an installer to fully smooth out warping in a pattern, this also applies to warping that remains after the carpet has been laid, in accordance with DIN CEN/TS 14159.

DIN 18365 and the generally applicable rules of the trade apply in addition to these laying instructions!

If you have any further questions:

Contact the INFLOOR – GIRLOON Application Technology department on:

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