# Sisal-Look Fitting Instructions – Double Stick Method

Check the floorcovering is the correct product and colour and that there are no visible defects before cutting or fitting. **We cannot accept any returns after the floor covering has been cut or fitted.**

## Preparation:

- Measuring: All floor coverings need to be acclimatised in the environment that they are to be fitted in as they can be prone to some shrinkage during this period. Therefore, it is important when preparing a cut plan to add at least 10cms to the overall length of the cut required.
- Acclimatisation: All floor coverings should be acclimatised in the area in which they are to be laid for at least 48 hours. It is recommended that the floor covering is laid out and cut to shape, but left oversized to allow for shrinkage as the floor covering acclimatises.
- Subfloor: Before laying the floor covering the subfloor should be checked to ensure that it is in good condition. The subfloor should be clean, smooth and uniform. An uneven subfloor will have an effect on the appearance and wear of the floorcovering. If floor boards are uneven with large gaps between boards, we would recommend that a minimum of 6mm ply is fitted. N.B. when installing floor coverings onto concrete it is important that the subfloor is dry, use the appropriate moisture meter to check this.

## Accessories:

- Underlay: A good quality 8mm contract underlay such as Ball & Young Cloud 9 Contract or Duralay's Durafit system is recommended.
- Adhesives: The underlay should be fixed to the subfloor with a tackifier and the floorcovering adhered to the underlay with a permanent adhesive. We recommend using F ball adhesives; F40 tackifier and F3 permanent adhesive.

Installation:

- Before cutting: Check the floor covering is the correct size, product and colour and that there are no visible defects before cutting or fitting. We cannot accept returns after the floor covering has been cut or fitted.
- Gripper: Short to medium pinned gripper (depending on the thickness of the product) should be fitted around the perimeter of the room leaving an appropriate gap for the floor covering to form a gully. You can also apply spray adhesive to the gripper for even more hold.
- Do not re-use existing gripper; unless you are replacing a like for like thickness carpet. If the previous carpet had a thick pile the gripper will invariably be set too far back to create the necessary tension when the new carpet is bolstered in.
- Make sure the subfloor is clean of all debris and dust free. For concrete subfloors apply tackifier evenly. Allow the tackifier to go off and then install the underlay. For floorboards use tackifier or where appropriate a combination of spray adhesive and where necessary staples.
- Now lay out the floor covering and position correctly, fold back around half of the floor covering and apply the adhesive.
- Do not over glue the area as most Sisal-Look products only have a light latex backing and glue can seep through to the pile. Use a clean a 2mm x 6mm notched trowel.
- Allow plenty of time for the glue to go off before folding the floor covering into the adhesive.
- Do not use a kicker, this will damage the pile, our Sisal-Look products cannot be stretched as you would do with some wool loops or twist pile carpets.
- Take great care when cutting the carpet. When cutting in around corners of the skirting and or cutting off the excess carpet before trimming to exact size. When folding the carpet back to cut through the backing place a piece of plywood underneath to ensure the pile below is not scored.
- Repeat this process for the remainder of the floor covering then go over the whole area with a 15 kg carpet glyda to ensure the adhesive has come into contact with the whole of the floor covering and the adhesive has “grabbed”.

- Now trim the edges of the floor covering and tuck in the edges into the gully after the gripper.
- All exposed edges should be protected by the use of an appropriate threshold i.e. doorways etc.
- If the weft appears loose at the side and not tucked in, the gripper may have been set too far back from the skirting. In some instances, a very light application of Copydex / F1 can be applied on the back of a knife, to help secure and pull down any areas where a weft may be proud of the gripper.

Joining:

- For areas that require a join we always recommend the use of a good quality "gold" heat seaming tape. Cut off the selvedge edge ensuring that you have a clean straight edge on both sides that are being joined.
- It is important to manage the consumers expectations and agree where joins should be, preferably away from the line of sight as you walk into a room, ideally situated under large pieces of furniture, out of main walkways etc.

Bowing:

- As with all woven products the lines of a design or pattern will run out along the seams, the position of any seams should be planned with care.
- Specific designs that run across the width of the carpet, i.e. a boucle design, will be more apparent. N.B our herringbone & chevron carpets, i.e. designs that run down the length of the carpet, are more forgiving.
- A tolerance of 1cm bow per metre across the width of the carpet is deemed acceptable and within tolerance, according to EU manufacturing guidelines. If the carpet is 4m wide, the flooring may bow from one side to the other by up to 4cm.
- In the vast majority of cases bowing won't be noticeable once various pieces of furniture are installed.