



## Installation and Maintenance Instructions

# VINYL FLOORING

## (VINYL STAIR TREADS AND RISER)

### NOTICE TO INSTALLER

THIS BROCHURE CONTAINS IMPORTANT INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INFORMATION, AS WELL AS CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS. PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE PLACED IN THE HANDS OF THE FLOOR OWNER. OUR WARRANTY WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ONLY IF THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE FOLLOWED IN EVERY RESPECT. VPI'S EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY LIMITS VPI'S LIABILITY TO REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, OR CREDIT, AT VPI'S OPTION, ON VPIFLOOR PRODUCTS FOR WHICH A CLAIM HAS BEEN MADE ACCORDING TO VPI'S CLAIM PROCEDURE. CLAIMS FOR SURFACE DEFECTS OR VARIATIONS IN COLOR OR PATTERN MUST BE MADE TO VPI PRIOR TO INSTALLATIONS OF THE MATERIAL. FOR A COMPLETE STATEMENT OF VPI'S EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY, CONTACT: VPI, CUSTOMER SERVICE, P.O. BOX 451, SHEBOYGAN, WI 53082-0451.

### GENERAL

**IMPORTANT:** Before proceeding with installation, ensure that proper floor preparation is completed and that installer is familiar with VPI Floor Preparation and Installation procedures. See VPI Vinyl Flooring - Floor Preparation Instructions document for further directions.

**VPI Vinyl Flooring** and **Adhesive** should be stored on the job site 48 hours prior to the start of the installation. Remove the treads from the cartons or pallet to ensure the treads are acclimated to the ambient temperature. Ambient temperature and product temperature should be maintained at 70° F for 48 hours prior to, during, and 48 hours after the installation. VPI does not recommend nor warranty any installation over existing resilient materials. All resilient materials must be removed prior to installation of VPI Vinyl Stair Treads.

These techniques can be used to install VPI Vinyl Stair Treads and Risers. Caution: Any treads with the visually impaired strips or detectable warning strips should not be bent or flexed. Cut the carborundum strips at least 1/8" from the edge of the tread.

**Note: When using Stair Stringers they will need to be installed PRIOR TO the installation of the Stair Treads and Risers or Stair Nosing.** For information on Stringer installation see VPI Stringer Installation and Maintenance Instructions.

### STAIR TREAD SURFACE PREPARATION

#### CONCRETE STEPS

The concrete must be dry, clean, fully cured and free of alkali or acids, curing compounds, paint, oil, solvents, urethanes and other extraneous materials. Newly poured concrete steps must be cured at least a minimum of 6 weeks prior to installation. Any cracks or surface irregularities must be filled with a

Portland based cementitious underlayment. **Gypsum-based underlayment should not be used.** VPI No. NC-2 Nose Caulk can be used for building up worn steps or in repairing cracked steps.

### **WOODEN STEPS**

Wooden steps must be completely and satisfactorily nailed. They must be free of polish, wax and other extraneous materials. Repair or replace any worn steps. Fill any cracks and gaps using a Portland based cementitious underlayment.

### **TERRAZZO, CERAMIC**

These types of surfaces create potential installation problems due to the glazed or polished surface. These may also have a sealer or wax applied to them. Remove all glaze or polished finish, any waxes, sealers by sanding or other acceptable means. The surface must be free of dirt, debris or any extraneous material that will prevent proper adhesion of the tile to the surface. All cracks, depressions, and other imperfections must be repaired with a high quality, cementitious underlayment.

**Gypsum-based underlayment products should not be used.** Any uncorrected sub floor irregularities may telegraph through the VPI Stair Tread and be visible on the surface of the finished installation. Make sure the underlayment is thoroughly dry before proceeding with the installation.

### **METAL**

These surfaces must be smooth, dry, clean and free from dust, paint, asphalt, old adhesives, grease, oil, rust and any other extraneous materials. Level all surface irregularities with a Portland cementitious underlayment. Metal surfaces should be lightly sanded or sand blasted for better adhesion.

### **ADHESIVES**

Caution: As with all installations the proper use of adhesive is important for a successful installation.

As a general rule, on the concrete or plywood steps where moisture is not a problem use VPI No. AS-L or AS-S Adhesive Tape or VPI No. 600 Cove Base Adhesive. Where moisture is a problem use VPI No. 100 2-part Epoxy Adhesive. At the nose, use VPI No. NC-2 Nose Caulk on all applications. On non-porous surfaces such as metal treads use VPI No. AS-L, AS-M or AS-S Adhesive Tape along with VPI No. NC-2 Nose Caulk.

**VPI No. 600** is a water-based acrylic polymer adhesive. Use on concrete or plywood.

**VPI No. 100 is a 2-part Epoxy** use for on or below grade applications or where traffic may bring in large amounts of water.

**VPI No. AS-L, AS-M or AS-S Adhesive Tape** is a double-sided instant bonding adhesive tape system designed to adhere stair treads, nosing and riser material to sound substrates. It's available in 1-1/2", 3-1/2" and 9-1/2" wide by 164-foot rolls.

**VPI No. NC-2 Nose Caulk** is a solvent-free 2-part epoxy caulking compound that prevents cracking and flexing of stair treads and riser forming a bond at the tread nose joint.

## **INSTALLATION**

VPI Vinyl Stair Treads and Risers are available in convenient lengths and sizes. Cutting and dry fitting of these products will be required to obtain proper fit for each product. First, scribe and fit the treads to each step. Second, scribe and fit each riser material making sure they fit tight to the upper step nosing. Wide staircases may require seaming multiple tread pieces together which will require additional planning and dry fitting. All tread and riser and one-piece tread-riser combination must be trimmed to fit and dry laid on each step prior to any adhesive application.

**VPI No. NC-2 Nose Caulk.** Used on all VPI Stair Tread applications.

- Cut the mixing nozzle to an inside diameter of 3/8". **Do Not Remove** the internal mixer.
- Remove the end cap and attach the mixing nozzle with the retaining nut to the cartridge.
- Purge the mixing nozzle before each use with approximately 1 to 2" of adhesive, dispose of the purge material,

- Now the caulk is ready for use, coverage will be approximately 50 l/f with a ¼” bead.
- Cartridges with remaining adhesive may be reused again by replacing the mixing nozzle at the time of your next use.
- Apply enough caulking compound inside the tread/nosing so when the nosing is pressed into place the compound will conform to the step edge.
- Thoroughly roll the tread nosing with a J-type hand roller concentrating on the nosing area.
- Ideally, 100% contact between the nosing area and the step edge is required to support the tread nosing.

## **VINYL STAIR TREAD AND RISER INSTALLATION**

- Make sure all conditions are met regarding surface preparation before starting the installation.
- Dry fit all the treads and riser material to ensure a proper installation as described in these instructions.
- Make sure there is no debris on the back of each tread and riser by wiping them with a clean dry cloth.

### **Preparing the Tread for Installation**

- Select adhesive type.

**VPI No. 600 acrylic adhesive** over concrete or wood steps. Do not use on non-porous floors.

**VPI No. 100 is a 2-part Epoxy** for on or below grade applications or where traffic may bring in large amounts of water.

- Mix 2-part adhesives thoroughly before applying to the steps and risers.

**VPI No. AS-L, AS-M or AS-S Adhesive Tape** where suitable.

- Apply the 1-1/2” Adhesive Tape (VPI No. AS-S) across the back of the entire stair nosing leaving about ½” space between the internal angle and the edge of the tape. Roll this tape with a hand roller to ensure good adhesion. Do not remove the release paper yet.
- Apply the 9-1/2” Adhesive Tape (VPI No. AS-L) across the back of the entire tread and the riser, making sure that there is at least ½” between the internal nose gap and the start of the tape. Roll the tape with a hand roller to ensure good adhesion to the back of the tread. Do not remove the release paper yet.
- For all applications, apply caulking compound inside the tread/nosing so when the nosing is pressed into place the compound will conform to the step edge. Leave ½” along each side of the nose free of adhesive.

### **Installing the Tread on the Step**

- For the Adhesive Tape applications remove the paper backing from the tread only.
- Roll the tread so the back edge is against the face of the front edge.
- Position the nosing against the step edge, push the nosing firmly into place making complete contact with the edge;
- Then roll the tread or tread/riser into the wet adhesive to the back of the step and up the riser.
- When used, install separate riser material within the same adhesive time limits.
- Cross roll tread and riser with a hand roller.
- Check transfer of adhesive to the back after rolling.
- Clean any excess adhesive off the treads and risers with soap and water or mineral spirits if needed. Dry adhesives difficult to remove.

## **MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES**

### **VPI VINYL STAIR TREADS**

Allow the adhesive on the treads to thoroughly dry before completing initial maintenance. Initial maintenance and normal maintenance procedures are as follows:

- Treads are maintained by hand.
- Wet mop or dust mop to remove dust and debris.
- Stripper and water solution can be hand mopped on the treads for heavily soiled conditions. Scrub

- with a hand brush or cloth.
- If stripper is used, **neutralize** treads with neutral cleaner and water.
  - Rinse with clear water before waxing.
  - Clean treads as conditions and soiling dictate.

Any questions about surface preparation, sub-floor conditions or general installation questions or maintenance not covered in these instructions, please contact VPI.



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