



RUBBER FLOORING Installation and Maintenance Instructions

VPI Corporation

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RUBBER STAIR TREADS, RISERS, & NOSINGS

NOTICE TO THE 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 ASPECT. VPI'S EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY LIMITS VPI'S LIABILITY TO REPAIR, REPLACEMENT, OR CREDIT, AT VPI'S OPTION, ON VPI FLOOR 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,

Please note: In all cases, installations should comply with procedures outlined in ASTM Standards for installation, at a minimum. For procedures specific to VPI products, please refer to the instructions below or at www.vpicorp.com/product-installation-maintenance, for the most up-to-date recommended installation techniques.

GENERAL

IMPORTANT: Before proceeding with installation, ensure that proper floor preparation is complete and that the installer is familiar with VPI Floor Preparation and Installation procedures.

See **VPI Rubber Flooring - Floor Preparation Instructions** document for further directions.

VPI Rubber products and adhesive should be stored on the job site for 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 the product temperature should be maintained at 70° F for 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after the installation.

VPI does not recommend nor do they warranty any installation over existing resilient materials. All resilient materials must be removed prior to any installation of VPI products.

Rubber Stair Treads

These techniques can be used to install VPI Rubber Stair Treads, Risers, and Nosing.

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 NC-2 Nose Caulk can be used for building up worn steps or in repairing cracked steps.



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WOODEN STEPS

Wooden steps must be completely and satisfactorily secured with screws or nails. 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 type of 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 a problem use VPI No. 100 - 2-part Epoxy Adhesive. At the nose, use VPI NC-2 Nose Caulk on all applications. On non-porous surfaces such as metal treads use VPI NC-2 Nose Caulk.

Harsh Environment Treads:

Must Use VPI 100 2 part Epoxy adhesive.

VPI 100 is a 2-part Epoxy use for on or below grade applications or where traffic may bring in large amounts of water.

VPI NC-2 Nose Caulk is a solvent-free 2-part epoxy caulking compound that prevents cracking and flexing of rubber treads and nosing forming a bond at the tread nose joint.

INSTALLATION

VPI Rubber Stair Treads, Risers and Nosing 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 stair cases 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. When installing the one-piece tread and riser combination, it is recommended to use a cove stick or VPI NC-2 Nose Caulk where the stair tread and riser intersect. When using the Nose Caulk, press the tread riser junction into the caulk so no voids are present.



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VPI NC-2 Nose Caulk. Used for all VPI Stair Tread applications:

1. Cut the mixing nozzle to an inside diameter of 3/8". Do Not Remove the internal mixer.
2. Remove the end cap and attach the mixing nozzle with the retaining nut to the cartridge.
3. Purge the mixing nozzle before each use with approximately 1 to 2" of adhesive, dispose of the purge material.
4. The caulk is ready for use, coverage will be approximately 50 l/f with a 1/4" bead.
5. Cartridges with remaining adhesive may be reused again by replacing the mixing nozzle at the time of your next use.
6. Apply enough caulking compound inside the tread/nosing so when the nosing is pressed into place and the compound will conform to the step edge.
7. Thoroughly roll the tread nosing with a J-type hand roller concentrating on the nosing area.
8. Ideally, 100% contact between the nosing area and the step edge is required to support the tread nosing.
9. When installing VPI Rubber One-Piece Tread/Riser combination, caulk can be used to support the area where the tread and riser intersect.

RUBBER STAIR TREAD AND RISER and TREAD/RISER COMBINATION INSTALLATION:

1. Make sure all conditions are met regarding surface preparation before starting the installation.
2. Dry fit all the treads and riser material to ensure a proper installation as described in these instructions.
3. 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 the adhesive type.

VPI No. 100 is a 2-part Epoxy use:

1. On or below grade applications or where traffic may bring in large amounts of water.
2. Mix 2-part adhesives thoroughly before applying to the steps and risers.
3. 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 1/2" along each side of the nose free of any adhesive.
4. For One-Piece Tread/Riser combination, caulk can also be used to support the area where the tread and riser intersect or install cove stick for support.
5. Position the nosing against the step edge, push the nosing firmly into place making complete contact with the edge;
6. Then roll the tread or tread/riser into the wet adhesive to the back of the step and up the riser.
7. When used, install separate riser material within the same adhesive time limits.
8. Cross roll each tread and riser with a hand roller.
9. Check transfer of the adhesive to the back of the tread after rolling.
10. Clean any excess adhesive off the treads and risers with soap and water or mineral spirits if needed. Dried adhesives are difficult to remove.



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RUBBER STAIR NOSING INSTALLATION

1. Make sure all conditions are met regarding surface preparation before starting the installation.
2. Fill any voids in the wood or concrete steps with a cementitious-based patching compound.
3. Measure, scribe, trim and dry-fit the stair nosing to each step.
4. Wipe the back of the trimmed nosing with a clean dry cloth to remove any debris.
5. Mix the Adhesive for the steps according to the directions, using correct trowel.
6. Press the nosing uniformly and firmly to the step edge.
7. Press the step portion of the nosing down from front to back.
8. Roll nosing with hand roller.

MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

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

1. Treads are maintained by hand.
2. Wet mop or dust mop to remove dust and debris.
3. Clean the factory residue from the tread using PRT Initial Deep Scrub and a water solution. Allow 5 – 10 minutes and then scrub with a red pad or bristle brush.
4. Mop off the excess Green Prep and conditioner per instructions.
5. Clean with the stair treads with VPI Cleaner to neutralize, following directions on bottle, let dry.
6. Rinse the treads with clear water before waxing let the treads dry.
7. Apply PRT Flex Shield for a high gloss or PRT Satin Flex Shield to seal the pores on the surface.
8. 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.