



Tech Tips by Thomas

I would like to share another edition of my Technical Tips letter dedicated to our customers, installers, factory representatives, and anyone else that is looking for that special edge to make their rubber surfacing installation a success.

In this article I will be addressing one of the most important procedures for installing our recycled rubber flooring tile. This standard industry procedure should always be utilized when a tile installation takes place; I am, of course, referring to the 3-4-5 Triangle Method.

Most rooms are not perfectly square, eliminating the option to begin installation from the room edge. The 3-4-5 Triangle Method allows you to find the center of the room and break it into quadrants for ease of installation. In most cases, this method will also allow you to have a tile of equal size against the perimeter wall rather than a full tile on one side of the room and a small strip on the other.

Key factors for this type of installation are accurate measurements and precise positioning of the layout lines. The actual tile installation is relatively easy once the prep work is complete. One thing to note is proper preparation of the substrate as outlined in my previous [Tech Tip letter](#). Additionally, all tiles should be laid out and visually inspected prior to beginning the installation.

To begin, you need a reference line we will refer to as X. Create this line by measuring opposite sides of the room and marking the center point of each side. Using a chalk line, snap a line between these two marks. This is line X. Next, measure line X and mark the center point of this line. From this center point, a framing square should be used to establish a perpendicular line Y, to line X. Using a chalk line, snap the second line (Y) across the room. This procedure requires two people unless you utilize more advanced techniques that will not be covered in this letter.

Now comes the exciting part! You will check the squareness of these lines using the 3-4-5 Triangle Method. From the center point, measure 3 ft along one of the reference lines and place a mark using a pencil or marker. Next you will measure the other reference line and mark a distance of 4 ft. Your measurement between these two marks should be 5 ft. If not, then you must adjust the reference lines until they are exactly perpendicular to each other.

Once the above procedure is completed you will have four quadrants in which to install your tile. To install tiles in an ashlar configuration, snap a third chalk line (Z), perpendicular to line X



and parallel to line Y. The distance between lines Z and line Y should be half the width of the tile. This method can also be used to adjust the size of the tile at the room edge to better utilize your tile layout and minimize waste.

More details on this procedure are contained within our technical and installation manuals found on our [website](#). These manuals contain diagrams that may more clearly define this procedure for you. The manuals also contain detailed instructions for substrate preparation, adhesive guidelines and general installation techniques to help ensure your job is a success.

These articles are designed for you to learn as well as help you through technical questions when installing ECORE products. If you have a successful “real world” tip or story, we’d love to hear about it. Please email me at Thomas.Utley@ecoreintl.com. ECORE’s technical department is available from 8am-5pm, Eastern Standard Time, to answer questions on installation or substrate preparation. We welcome your questions, concerns and comments and look forward to helping you achieve an installation that falls within the standards of excellence. Until next time, best of luck to you and your crew and thank you for choosing ECORE for your flooring needs.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Utley".

Thomas Utley
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