



Making Area Rugs with Modular Carpet

General Guidelines:

These are some general guidelines for making area rug effects on top of hard surfaces from Milliken modular carpet (i.e. Color Thesis). The modular carpet tiles need to be secured to the hard surface and the outer edges of the "area rugs" protected. The tiles may be secured to the floor with pressure sensitive adhesive or Tractionback. If Tractionback is selected, the subfloor should be smooth and dust-free for the Tractionback to properly grip the subfloor to prevent lateral movement. We recommend damp mopping the floor to remove all dust. When installing modular carpet over a hard surface such as, VCT, Terrazzo, etc., make sure all waxes are removed.

If the outer edges of the tiles do not fit snugly to a perimeter wall or hard transition, you should add pressure sensitive adhesive around the perimeter to "lock-in" the installation. This helps prevent lateral movement from heavy and/or rolling traffic. Typically, a strip of adhesive about the width of a paint roller is adequate.

Protecting the outer edges of the modular carpet rug can be accomplished with a reducer strip. The height of the reducer should be taller than the intersection of the tile backing and the face yarn. The reducer would not have to wrap over the face. This will protect the edges from being bumped and scuffed by foot traffic, vacuum cleaners, etc. Should this step be omitted, one should be aware that edge damage may occur over time depending on the site conditions and use. If carpet edges are not protected, you can use a seam sealer along the edge to strengthen the yarn. This bundle lock may lessen the impact of potential edge raveling.

Another added step for a modular carpet rug installs with Tractionback is the addition of Milliken connectors. If used, these would be put at each corner as noted on our installation instructions for Tractionback Plus. They could help keep the modular carpet panel locked together thus stabilizing the installation. This could be helpful should a reducer strip around the perimeter of the rug not be used. The floor should be damp mopped so the Tractionback will grip the subfloor. We also recommend rolling the rug with a weighted roller after installation to insure good contact with the connectors.

This information is supplied by Milliken & Company
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