

Kinetex® is a unique textile composite flooring with specific installation techniques. While it may appear similar to carpet tile, special attention is required when installing Kinetex. The section below titled **“Module Placement”** should be strictly followed to gain experience with correct installation methods.

The Kinetex Installation Instructions and Kinetex Maintenance Instructions are available electronically. For further questions or additional information, **Customer Relations** can be reached at **800.451.1250**.

Installation Procedures for Kinetex Modules

Make sure you inspect modules prior to installation. No claims will be honored if modules are installed with visible defects. Read all instructions prior to beginning installation. *Follow approved installation method(s) for each specific product. The style “Dart” is for borders only.*

Kinetex PreFix™ Peel and Stick Our Peel and Stick Kinetex tiles are equipped with a pre-applied, pressure sensitive adhesive designed to simplify the installation of Kinetex modules. PreFix is nonflammable and both alkali and water-resistant. PreFix has no odor and “zero” calculated VOC’s, which make it ideal for use in schools, health care facilities and public buildings

Site and Modular Material Conditioning

The building must be enclosed and the HVAC in continuous operation. Modules must be conditioned to room temperature for 48 hours prior to installation. The ambient air relative humidity must be between 10%–65% with the floor and room temperature between 65°–95°F. These conditions must be maintained for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation and at least 48 hours after completion of the installation.

Surface Preparation

Dust, dirt, debris, and existing adhesive must be removed before the installation begins. Surfaces must be smooth, dry and level with all holes and cracks filled with Portland cement-based patch reinforced with polymers. PreFix peel and stick cannot be applied to any substrate where chemical or solvent based cleaners have been used. PreFix Primer, (included), must be used to ensure a dust-free substrate surface.

Prior to installation of PreFix peel and stick, substrate surfaces must be tested for moisture, no surface condensation or standing water is allowed. It is the responsibility of the owner or owner’s representative to perform moisture testing prior to starting the installation. ASTM F 2170-2 relative humidity probe moisture testing is required. Acceptable relative humidity probe testing results are up to 100% RH. Alkalinity test should also be performed per ASTM F 710. The maximum acceptable pH is 11.0.

PreFix Primer Product Application

Note: Read all installation instructions thoroughly.

1. **Dilute** 1 part of PreFix Primer with 3 parts of clean potable water. *Do not use PreFix Primer at full strength or any other dilution ratios.*
2. Mix using low-speed mixer and a Jiffy mixing paddle. *Do not mix at high speeds, which may cause product foaming.*
3. Pour the **diluted** primer onto the substrate and apply to the surface using 3/8” nap or foam roller. Do not puddle. Additional coats may be required upon visual inspection over extremely porous concrete.
4. Allow the material to dry to the touch. Lower substrate temperatures and/ or higher humid conditions could extend the drying time.

Subfloors

Wood - Wood floors must be APA flooring grade smooth and level, or CanPly Select Grade. If the floor is uneven, an approved underlayment will be required. Old finishes must be removed and wood floor must be primed and dried.

New Concrete – New concrete must be primed and dry.

Old Concrete – Old concrete must be primed and dry.

Terrazzo / Marble – Level all grout lines with Portland cement-based patch reinforced with polymers (Mapei ECO Prim Grip™ is recommended). Glossy surfaces must be sanded for adhesive bond. Waxes and similar finishes must be removed.

Resilient Flooring – Tiles must be well secured to the floor or removed. Broken, damaged, or loose tiles must be replaced. Waxes and similar finishes must be removed from VCT before applying primer. Existing sheet vinyl is not a suitable substrate for modular installation and must be removed.

Raised Access Panel Floors – The panels must be flat, warped panels can result in the carpet modules being off grid. The panel joints must be tight and level. Screws are to be countersunk.

Prefix peel and stick Adhesive System

PreFix peel and stick Kinetex features a pre-applied adhesive that is fully integrated with the unique Kinetex backing. This meticulously designed system allows for an amazingly breathable tile while actually increasing adhesive performance. No application of adhesive to the subfloor is necessary. There is no cure time needed as with trowel applied glues and also no dry time. Once a tile is down, it is ready to go.

Tools

Steel measuring tape, right angle square, trimmer tool, chalk line and knife.

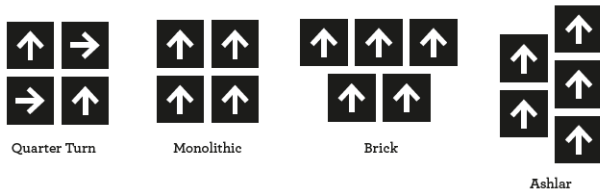
Installing Kinetex Modules

After the PreFix primer has dried, begin the installation at the intersection of the central module anchor lines. Peel off the release film and save it to be recycled. Complete the installation one quarter area at a time laying the modules firmly and accurately along the anchor lines.

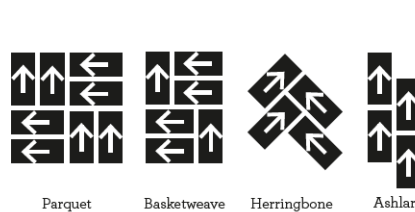
Follow approved installation method(s) for each specific product. The style, "Dart" is for borders only.

Product Specific Installation Methods:

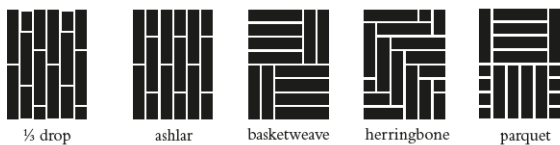
24" x 24" modules



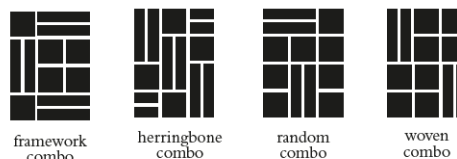
18" x 36" modules



12" x 48" modules



12" x 48" and 24" x 24" combo



Alignment

As each module is installed, ensure that the installation is remaining "square" and conforming to the chalk lines by checking the joints for excessive play.

Module Placement

Arrows are printed on the back of the module to show machine direction. A tight installation without compression is mandatory for optimum performance and appearance of the modular installation. It is critical that each module uniformly touch each adjoining module without a gap. To ensure a clean tight fit, do not pull/tug or slide-in modules, but instead lay each module into its location against the adjoining module. Use your hands to press/form the module into place where the new module meets the previously installed module.

Approved installation methods for Kinetex are shown below. Follow arrows printed on back of the product. Recommended installation methods are style specific. Refer to the applicable sample folder or efcontractflooring.com for style specific installation methods.

Modular Install Pattern

Follow approved installation methods for each specific product. Kinetex modules have an arrow on the back of each module denoting machine direction.

Module Repositioning During Installation

To reposition a Kinetex module during installation, remove it by gently lifting along all four sides of the module with a spatula or putty knife, rotating around each side of the module doing a little at a time. The very center of the module should be the last part of the module touching the floor upon removal.

Do not stretch a module once the sticky backing is attached to the floor in order to align next to an adjoining tile. An attempt to stretch will likely result in the module pulling back to its original position. Never attempt to remove a module all at once by pulling one or only two sides of the module. Doing so may lead to distorting the module.

Module Replacement

On occasion, it may be necessary to replace damaged or heavily soiled modules. Modules can be replaced with new Kinetex modules from on-site inventory or from another area of the installation. A difference of appearance may be noticed when modules are replaced; this difference usually diminishes in a short time.

Joints

Although a tight installation is required, care should be taken to avoid exerting excessive pressure when butting one module against another. This can result in buckled or peaked joints.

It is important for the installer to do a periodic check throughout the installation for tightness. This check should occur after the placement of each 5 to 7 tiles to ensure proper alignment. Failure to effectively drop-in, or place modules will create the possibility for gaps and allow the subfloor to be visible between the tiles. These gaps may be more noticeable when viewed from a standing position.

Transitions

The Kinetex edge must be protected at the transition of the Kinetex to other floor covering materials. The total thickness of the Kinetex cannot exceed the thickness of the flooring that it is transitioning. Vinyl or metal transition strip may be required to protect the edge. Transition to Kinetex must accommodate a thickness of 3/16". Warranty implications apply.

Stairs

Use single or double undercut stair nosing and cut modules on steps and risers, inserting the stair nosing edge and the top of the riser edge of each module into the vinyl undercut. PreFix primer is also required for stairs.

Cutting/Trimming

Kinetex modules may require cutting at perimeters, floor electrical outlets and door openings. Perimeter modules may be cut in the conventional way of letting them cover up the wall areas when cutting them down with a tool such as a cushion back wall trimmer; or they may be cut by measurement, cutting from the back using a carpenter's right angle square and a wall trimmer tool.

To avoid dislodging modules, do not walk on or move furniture onto modules until the area is completely anchored. Roll entire area with a 75-100 lb. roller in both directions (north-south and east-west). It is also required that sheets of plywood or hardboard be laid over the new modular surface when moving heavy furniture on carts or dollies. As a final step, vacuum the entire area with an upright vacuum.

NOTE: These installation recommendations are made for the experienced installer. Adherence to these procedures will result in a quality job. Any questions concerning these recommendations or any special situation encountered should be directed to the EF Contract Customer Relations Department.

Chair Pads/Mats

The use of chair pads/mats with spikes will void all warranties.

Following the Installation

1. No rolling traffic is permitted on the completed installation for at least 24 hours.
2. The indoor temperature should never fall below 55° F, regardless of the age of the installation.
3. Chair glides and casters for use with Kinetex must be of a type specified / suitable for carpet or soft surface (narrow tip chair supports or 90 degree edges are not suitable). The correctly specified glide or caster will protect your investment from damage that may otherwise not be covered by the floor manufacturer's warranty.
4. Plastic Film Protection often includes adhesive. This type of protection is not recommended, as its adhesive can transfer to the Kinetex face causing aggressive soiling of the product. Instead, craft paper, hardboard or similar protection is recommended.