

Loose-laid Commercial Tiles BiteoConnect

1. GENERAL

The execution of flooring work constitutes a construction service within the meaning of the German Construction Contract Procedures Works (VOB). This installation guide has been developed in accordance with the VOB/C DIN 18365, Flooring Works.

2. PREREQUISITE FOR INSTALLATION

Examination of the Flooring

BiteoConnect Coverings undergo careful quality control, guaranteeing a high standard of quality. If any material defects are nevertheless identified on the construction site, these must be reported before cutting and installation. Recognizable defects (e.g. color, marbling, embossing, or thickness discrepancies) cannot be taken into account after the installation. Mild, product-specific odors that new products may have for a certain period are not reasons for complaint. Small dimensional tolerances and gaps between individual tiles are also product-specific.

According to accepted technical standards, the contractor for flooring work must assess whether the substrate meets the requirements for installing a floor covering before commencing work. Any concerns should be reported in writing.

3. COLOR CONSISTENCY

In a room, only material from the same batch of production should be installed. When ordering, it is essential to specify the requirement for consistent color and batch delivery. Slight color variations within a production batch are possible.

4. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

BiteoConnect Commercial Coverings must be acclimated to room temperature before installation. To achieve this, the flooring should be laid out in the room one day prior (in stacks of 4 - 6 tiles). The following mentioned climatic conditions must be maintained on the construction site three days before the start of preparatory work, during work, and up to seven days after completion. The substrate should be permanently firm and dry. The air temperature should not fall below 18°C, and high temperatures may require special measures (ventilation, air conditioning, etc.). High room temperatures can lead to altered reaction times and drying processes during the processing of installation materials and may result in dimensional changes to the floor coverings. Significant changes in temperature and relative humidity not only affect reaction time and dimensional changes but can also lead to damage.

Required floor temperature: at least 15°C

Relative humidity: between 40% and 65%

For floating installation, the substrate must not exceed 5% CM moisture, and for glued installation, no more than 2% CM.

Retailer Sweden:

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4. a. INSTALLATION ON HEATED SUBSTRATES

BiteoConnect Commercial Coverings are suitable for installation on underfloor heated constructions, provided that the surface temperature does not exceed 27°C. The heating system must be kept in operation at a surface temperature of 18 - 22°C three days before, during, and up to seven days after installation. The client is responsible for ensuring that these conditions are met and documenting compliance.

5. LOOSE INSTALLATION

In most cases, **BiteoConnect** can be loosely laid on an existing substrate. The connection is achieved through the interlocking of the dovetail profile, and a rubber mallet is used to secure the interlock. Even on critical substrates, such as dirty or damp subfloors (up to 5% residual moisture) or in the presence of screed cracks and minor irregularities, this installation is possible in most cases. When using on moisture-sensitive substrates (magnesia screed), and in case of doubt, we recommend consulting with the application technology department of IBOTAC GmbH & Co.KG.

In a loose installation, a gap of approximately 10 mm should be considered around all fixed parts (walls, columns, machinery, etc.).

For liquid-tight installation, we recommend using joint compound IBOPOLYMER 109 1-K. Adhesive and sealant.

When installing on hard substrates such as stone tiles, screed, etc., we recommend using an installation underlay/insulation.

If old ceramic tiles form the substrate, direct installation without prior spackling is only possible if the joints are narrow and the relief of the tiles is overall very flat, as otherwise the underlying tiles may be visible on the surface of the covering, and a tight interlocking cannot be guaranteed. In case of doubt, we recommend consulting with the application technology department of IBOTAC GmbH & Co. KG.

The dynamic load limits for loose installation (without anti-slip), total weight (vehicle + load) up to:

Hand pallet truck	2,5 t
Electric pallet truck	3,0 t
Solid rubber tires for forklifts (4 wheels)	5,0 t

The **load limits are guideline values** and apply exclusively at a floor temperature of approximately 22°C and for full-area installation. Binding load assurances can only be confirmed in writing after an on-site inspection by our application technology department.

The first 3 - 4 meters in entrances or exits of areas, as well as transitions, should be glued with **IBOFLEX 209 adhesive (14 kg)**, as well as (ramps and corners). In case of doubt, we recommend consulting with the application technology department of IBOTAC GmbH & Co. KG.

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6. FULL SURFACE ADHESION

If the aforementioned load limits are exceeded, **IBOFLEX 209 Adhesive (14 kg)** must be used for full surface adhesion (adhesive quantity: 300 - 350 g/m² on smooth substrate, refer to adhesive recommendation table).

This also applies to areas where an elevated floor temperature, approximately 25 °C and above, is expected, for example, due to direct sunlight exposure.

If the load limits from section 5 are exceeded and adhesion is necessary, please consult with our application engineering team regarding loads!

The static load limits for both unglued and glued tiles are approximately 65 kg/cm².

These load limits apply exclusively at room temperature of approximately 22 °C and for full area installation. Binding load assurances can only be confirmed in writing after on-site inspection by our application engineering team.

6. a. RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE_

IBOFLEX 209 Adhesive (14 kg)

7. CUTTING OF TILES

The tiles at the edge should be cut using a jigsaw or circular saw with a wood saw blade (the teeth should not be too fine).

To reduce the risk of joint displacement, we recommend arranging the tiles in a step-like pattern during installation, for example:

1	2	4	6
3	5	7	

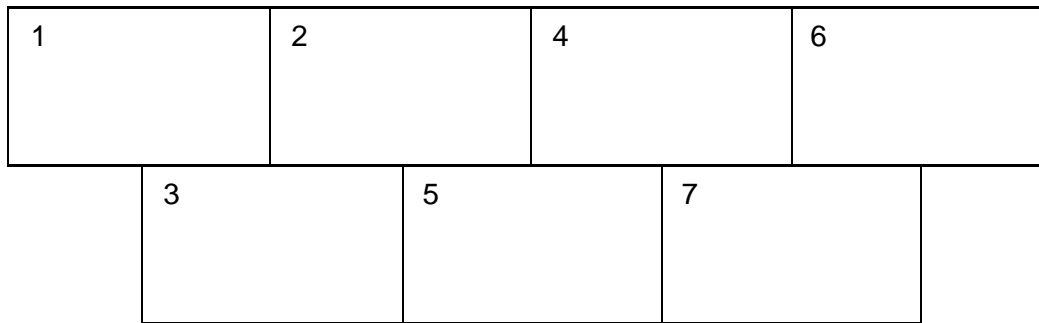
square panels

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rectangular panels

8. SPECIAL NOTES REGARDING THE USE OF THE FLOORING

Discoloration

In particularly extreme cases, the transfer of aggressive substances such as tar, grease, oils, paint, which may be brought in, for example, on shoe soles, can lead to discoloration in heavily trafficked areas. Changes in color, typically manifesting as yellowing of the flooring, may generally occur in ground-level locations where tar and bitumen cuts are used in road construction. Such discolorations on the coverings cannot be eliminated, especially the lighter color shades are more sensitive to discoloration than the darker, muted tones. Certain types of rubber (e.g., in tires and wheels, and in chair and furniture feet or casters) may cause discoloration on elastic floor coverings after prolonged contact, which cannot be removed. These should be avoided, and appropriate non-discoloring rubber qualities, where the manufacturer guarantees suitability for elastic coverings, or vinyl or polyethylene should be used. Hair dye, alcohol, and iodine-based skin disinfectants, as well as solvent-based, dyed media, lead to discoloration of the surface of the covering if not promptly removed after wetting the floor. Disinfectant and soap dispensers should be arranged so that the substances do not drip onto the floor. Cleaning agents such as basic cleaners, coatings, and wiping care products should be coordinated to exclude undesirable interactions (sticky surface, discolorations). Please observe the corresponding cleaning recommendations.

9. HEAT EXPOSURE

Material handling vehicles as well as electric pallet trucks should not be set in motion with spinning wheels or braked abruptly, as this can result in surface burns and irreparable damage to the covering.

Glowing cigarettes, carelessly thrown on high-quality, elastic coverings, create traces of charring and crust formation on the surface. These traces can only be eliminated by repairing the affected areas. Immediately extinguished cigarettes, on the other hand, leave only slight marks.

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10. OFFICE CHAIRS

Office chairs must be equipped with Type W castors according to EN 12529 (double-swivel castors) for use on elastic floor coverings, i.e., with soft castors in the prescribed dimensions and rounded edges.

As of January 1, 2022.

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