

Johnsonite®

Inertia™ Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles

Installation and Maintenance

Introduction

Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles are manufactured from a 100% synthetic rubber formulation in either Speckled or Solid Colors. The product is available in a Hammered or Weathered surface texture coupled with the product's unique two-ply vulcanized construction, which incorporates a highly-resilient rubber wear layer and an elastic cushioned performance layer, which creates a tough, abrasion and impact resistant composition with excellent slip-resistant, fatigue, and acoustical characteristics.

Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles are designed specifically for weight room, aerobic, and other high impact applications.

The highest quality of materials and workmanship are employed in the manufacture of Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles and careful inspection is made before shipment. However, a quality installation is the responsibility of the installer. It is the installer's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the order and the materials is checked for damage, defects, and satisfactory color match during the dry laid installation. An authorized Johnsonite distributor or Johnsonite representative shall be notified of any nonconformance before final adhesive application proceeds.

Johnsonite cannot accept any responsibility for the loss or damage that may result from the use of this information, due to processing or working conditions and/or workmanship outside our control. Users are advised to confirm the suitability of this product by their own tests.

Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles are for interior installations only and not recommended for environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens)

Handling and Storage

1. Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles and adhesives must be site conditioned at room temperature for 72 hours prior to, during, and after the installation. **Room Temperature must be maintained between 65° and 75°F (18° and 24°C) and relative humidity at 50%.**
2. In rooms that are exposed to intense or direct sunlight, the product must be protected during the conditioning, installation, and adhesive curing periods, by covering the light source.
3. Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles are not recommended for exterior use. Exposure to excessive UV rays can result in fading and/or color variation.

General Subfloor Preparations

1. **All subfloors** must be clean, smooth, flat to within 1/8" in 10 ft., and dry. Dust, scale, and loose particles must be removed. The surface must be free of solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing compounds, and any other foreign material, which could affect adhesive bonding.

Do not install Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles over expansion joints or in environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens)

2. **Concrete subfloors** must be checked for moisture content. The test shall be in accordance with ASTM F-1869 Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride. One test should be conducted for every 1000 sq. ft. of flooring and the results not exceed 3 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. in 24 hours. If the test results exceed the limitations, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected.

An adhesion bonding test of the actual materials to be installed should be performed, every 1000 sq. ft., utilizing a 12" x 12" piece of tile. The test pieces should remain in place for 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the concrete.

Excessive alkali must be removed by mechanical means. (i.e.: bead blasting, sanding, or grinding)

Fill all depressions, cracks, and other surface irregularities with a good quality cementitious underlayment filler.

3. **Wood subfloors** must have a minimum 18 inches (47 cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces should be covered with a polyethylene moisture barrier.

Wood joists should be on 16" (41 cm) centers with 1" (2.5 cm) boards installed diagonally and covered with 1/2" (12.7 mm) A.P.A. Approved underlayment plywood. Nail on 4" (10.2 cm) centers around perimeter and across field. Countersink nail heads. Fill all depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality latex patching compound and sand entire surface smooth.

Single Wood and Tongue and Groove subfloors should be covered with 1/2" (12.7 mm) or 3/4" (19 cm) A.P.A. Approved underlayment plywood.

Johnsonite does not warranty installations over "particle board" or "chipboard" type underlayments.

Johnsonite does not recommend nor warrant rubber tile installations over existing resilient floors. All resilient flooring and adhesives must be removed prior to installing the rubber flooring system.

Caution: Some resilient flooring products and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.

4. **Terrazzo and Ceramic Floors** - The floor surface must be thoroughly sanded to remove all glaze and waxes. Remove all loose tiles and clean the grout lines. Fill all grout lines and other depressions with a cementitious leveling compound.
5. **Existing Steel floors** - The surface must be thoroughly cleaned by sandblasting, wire brush or other mechanical means to remove all rust and other contaminants. Paint the surface with an anti-corrosive coating (i.e.: Sherwin Williams "Kromik Metal Primer" or equivalent) to prevent rust from recurring.

Note: The red iron oxide primer on new steel floors does not have to be removed.

6. **Concrete floors equipped with a radiant heating system**, care must be taken that the floor surface temperature does not exceed 85⁰ F (30⁰ C) during normal operation.
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Installation

1. **Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Multi-functional and Sports Floor Tiles must be dry laid prior to adhesive installation.**

Speckled and Solid Color Inertia Tiles - Start at the center of the room and position the tiles point to point and lay the tiles with the directional arrows, on the back of each tile, running parallel to the adjacent tile.

(Note: Inertia Solid Color Tiles are for accent and border applications and should not be used for full service applications.)

Make all final cuts around room perimeter, alcoves, offsets, and other obstructions utilizing a table saw equipped with a 10" diameter tungsten carbide or diamond-tipped saw blade with 32 teeth or greater.

2. After the entire floor has been dry laid, view the floor under normal occupied lighting conditions.

It is the installer's responsibility to inspect the dry laid installation and notify the appropriate authority of any imperfections or irregularities prior to final adhesive installation.

3. Only Johnsonite's #965 Acrylic or #975 Two-Part Urethane adhesives are approved for installing Johnsonite Inertia Rubber Sports Floor Tiles.

Johnsonite's #965 Acrylic adhesive is a water-resistant adhesive and Johnsonite's #975 Urethane is a water-proof adhesive. Use the #975 Urethane in areas that may have excessive surface water exposure (i.e.: shower and locker rooms, therapeutic, swimming pool, and other similar areas).

Caution: #965 Acrylic latex adhesive is substrate porosity sensitive. Determine subfloor porosity and follow the specific label instructions regarding porous and non-porous substrate drying times prior to the installation of the rubber floor tiles.

4. After proper mixing (#975 Urethane only), apply adhesive to subfloor. For porous and non-porous substrates:

Johnsonite 965 Acrylic Adhesive		Johnsonite 975 Two-part Urethane Adhesive
Trowel: 1/8" x 1/8" x 3/32" U-Notch	or	Trowel: 1/16" Square Notch
Coverage: Approximately 85 ft ² /gal		Coverage: Approximately 150 ft ² /gal

See adhesive label for mixing directions and subfloor porosity conditions. Remove wet adhesive at seams or off tile surface with a cloth dampened with rubbing alcohol or water.

Caution: Urethane adhesives must be removed when wet. The removal of dried adhesive can result in tile damage.

5. Position the tile and butt the edges firmly together. **Do not force the tiles together where it creates a ledge condition at the seams and corners.** Lower the tiles into the adhesive. Sliding the tiles will result in forcing the adhesive out between the seams. Work off the tile surface or use a kneeling board. Periodically, lift the corner of an installed tile to ensure proper transfer of the adhesive.
6. After all tiles have been installed, roll the floor, in both directions, with a 100 lb. 3-section roller. Roll a second time one hour later. Inspect the floor 2-1/2 hours after installation and roll a third time, if necessary. Use a hand roller in areas which cannot be reached with a large roller. Re-inspect floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.

7. Avoid all traffic for at least 12 hours and only limited light traffic for a period of 72 hours after the installation. Do not allow roller traffic on the floor until after a minimum of 72 hours. Avoid cold or excessive heat, including direct sunlight during this 72 hour period.

Maintenance

For glue down **Square Edge** tiles initial cleaning should not be performed until 72 hours after installation. Refer to Johnsonite Rubber Tile Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

For **UnderLocking** tiles initial cleaning should be performed immediately after the installation. Refer to UnderLock Maintenance Instructions for complete details.

To support our customers' maintenance program, Johnsonite recommends the use of TASKI cleaning products. For specific maintenance advice, please contact TASKI at 1-800-827-5487 (USA and Canada calls).

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