

INSTALLATION

Commercial & Residential

There are three (3) basic requirements necessary to assure a long lasting, attractive Centiva® floor:

1. Proper Subfloor Preparation
2. Installation
3. Adhesives

The following guidelines will help to ensure complete satisfaction with your installation by fulfilling these requirements. Centiva tiles and planks are suitable for surfaces on above and below grade. Centiva can be installed over concrete or wood subfloors.

1.0 SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

1.1 Testing

A calcium chloride test (moisture test) is essential on all concrete floors. This test should be performed in several areas: the perimeter of the room, at columns, and wherever else moisture might occur. The moisture level from the concrete should not exceed 3.0 lbs./1000 sq. ft. in a 24 hour time period. If the concrete exceeds the moisture limitations, the installation should not proceed until the problem is corrected. A moisture problem can be corrected by sealing the concrete with any of the many brands of concrete sealers available. After the sealer has been applied, always retest to ensure that the problem has been corrected. A moisture test indicates the conditions at the time of testing only. The flooring contractor cannot be held responsible if the moisture appears in the future causing adhesive failure. A new concrete floor contains a high percentage of moisture; therefore, it must be allowed adequate drying time. This drying time normally requires 28 to 30 days, but it can vary depending on several conditions such as the type of concrete used, average air temperature, and the thickness or location of the slab.

1.2 Preparation New Floors

Underlayment panels can be used to correct deficiencies in the subfloor and to provide a smooth, sound surface for Centiva tiles and planks.

There are numerous suitable underlayment panels such as Structurwood, Multiply, and Masonite brand underlayments. The most common of these is 1/4" APA underlayment grade plywood. Particleboard, strand board and flake board are NOT RFCI recommended underlayments; therefore, they are not recommended as a subfloor for Centiva tiles and planks.

Always fasten underlayment panels in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations because any failure of the underlayment or Centiva flooring as a result of the underlayment is the responsibility of the underlayment manufacturer and installer. Suitable underlayment with a fully sanded surface and a minimum thickness of 1/4" is preferred. Always make sure that the subfloor is free of any foreign material such as dust, grease, oil, polish, and loose material that may cause staining, telegraphing, or adhesive failure.

Concrete subfloors are acceptable as long as the concrete's moisture content is within the specified parameters.

A Portland based patching compound or leveler should be used to cover seams, cracks, indentations, and subfloor irregularities. Calcium sulfate/plaster/gypsum based compounds are NOT recommended as they may harbor and promote mildew growth, offer poor bond and adhesion strength, and/or have low indentation resistance.

1.3 Preparation Existing Floors

Centiva vinyl tile or planks contain no asbestos fibers. When removing existing resilient floor coverings, carefully observe the following warning:

Existing resilient floor coverings and black asphalt adhesive may contain asbestos. Improper procedures used to remove these products could release asbestos fibers into the air. Asbestos fibers, if inhaled, may cause serious bodily harm. Do not sand or dry scrape these materials. A preferred alternative to removal is to install a new floor over the old asbestos-containing floor whenever possible. If removal of existing floor covering is necessary, be sure that all precautions are taken and proper procedures are followed. For information regarding proper removal procedures, please consult Centiva or the Resilient Floor Covering Institute, 401 East Jefferson Street, Suite 102, Rockville, MD, 20850, phone: 301-640-8580. Check state and local laws regarding removal of asbestos-containing materials.

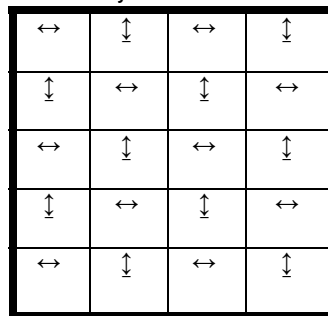
After removing existing flooring, make sure to remove also old cutback adhesive, grease, wax, or other foreign matter. Painted and/or varnished surfaces must be sanded and dust free. In some cases old concrete subfloors must be shot blasted and a floor leveler should be applied prior to installation. Poor subfloor preparation may telegraph later on through the Centiva flooring causing visible irregularities. Between floor prep and start of installation, make sure to keep the floor dry, free from dirt, dust and grit.

2.0 INSTALLATION

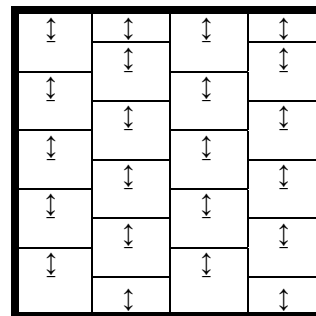
Before any installation takes place, please read the following information carefully:

- All Centiva tiles and planks should be present at the jobsite for 48 hours at a temperature between 68-72 degrees F in order to acclimate properly. Avoid installations with temperatures above 80 degrees F and below 60 degrees F. All Centiva tiles and planks are duplications of natural or real products; therefore, shades and pattern variations will occur.
- The **Classic Series**, including Coral Reef, Magics, Italian Style Marble, Concrete and New Terrazzo, achieves its natural and realistic appearance through its variations. The Centiva Classic Series is a non-directional floor tile! The product should be pre-blended before installation begins. This is similar to shuffling a deck of cards, and the purpose is to make the different shades and patterns occur at random. As larger the floor tile (12" x 12", 18"x 18" or 36"x 36") less blend is possible in ratio to the size of the room.
- The **Event Series** with its products Ultrastone (Plaza, Rialto and Terra), Ultraplank, Plankwood and Harmony Line is a multi-layered, solid vinyl tile and plank with a film photographic design and high density commercial wear layer of .30 mil (0.8 mm metric). Please pay attention to the backside of the tile of Ultrastone. Plaza and Rialto have as standard a frost finish surface. Due to light reflection, shine difference could occur if the tiles do not get placed in a certain direction. Therefore we recommend the following installation pattern:

Cross Joint Installation



1/2 Off Installation



Remember:
This procedure is recommended only for tile in the Event Series with frost finish (FR) **only**. (Standard for Ultrastone Plaza and Rialto)

2.1 Calculating

The number of tiles you will need:

Measure the room's length and width. Multiply the width times the length to get the square footage. Measure all offsets and alcoves separately, and add the square footage for each area to arrive at the total square footage. All Centiva products come standard in three sizes: 12-inch squares, 18-inch squares and 36-inch squares. Each 12-inch tile covers one square foot, so when you figure the number of square feet in the installation area, you already know how many tiles you need. Add 5% allowance for cutting waste and always round up to the next full carton (45 sq. ft.).

An 18-inch tile covers 2.25 sq. ft. Simply take your total square footage and divide it by 2.25. Again, add 5% for waste.

A 36-inch slab covers 9 sq. ft. Slabs are mostly used for larger applications and waste should be considered between 5 – 8%. Slabs are boxed in 90 sq. ft. cartons.

Centiva also offers other sizes, such as 9" x 9", 12" x 18", 12" x 36", and 18" x 36".

2.2 Feature Strips:

Feature Strips around a tile are easy to calculate.

You will need 2 linear ft. for each 12-inch tile

“ “ “ 3 linear ft for each 18-inch tile

“ “ “ 6 linear ft for each 36-inch slab

To figure out quantity on Centiva Floor Design patterns please ask your Centiva representative or call 1-800-633-3380.

2.3 Laying Out The Job Site Using Centiva Classic And Event Series Tiles or Slabs

Carefully determining where to begin your tile installation results in the most professional looking job. Always try to end up with at least half a tile at each wall for best appearance.

Follow these steps:

1. Treat the room as rectangle, disregarding offsets, alcoves, etc. Find the center points of the two end walls and strike a chalk line between them.

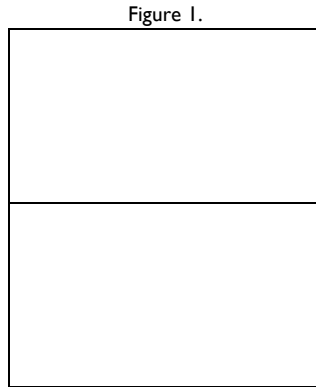


Figure 2

2. Find the center of the chalk line, using T-square or a Centiva tile to line up. Strike a second chalk line at right angles to the first one. The room is now divided into four equal parts.

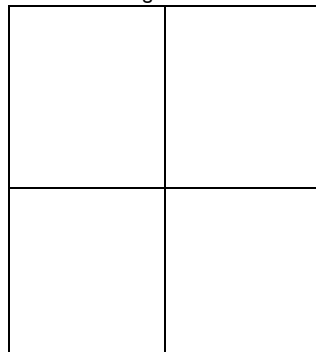
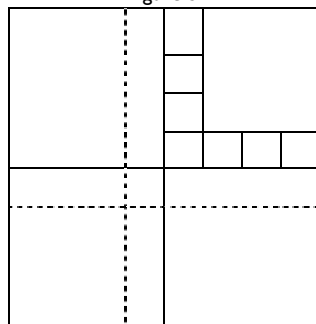


Figure 3

3. Starting in center of room where the two chalk lines intersect, loose lay several tiles in a row to one end of wall and a second row to a sidewall. Measure distance from last tile to wall. If it is less than half a tile, move centerline on half a tile nearer the opposite wall. Do this in both directions.



2.4 Diagonal Layout For Centiva Classic And Event Series Tiles Or Slabs

Extra measurements and guidelines are needed for diagonal installations. A sketch is useful for any complicated installation. Follow these guidelines for diagonal installations:

1. Divide the room into equal quarter sections and adjust the same way you would for normal installations.

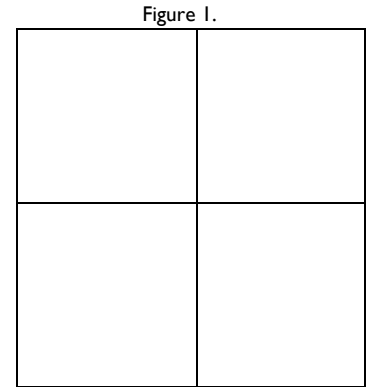


Figure 2.

2. Measure and mark a point 4'3" from the center point on each centerline. Snap a chalk line to connect the four new points.

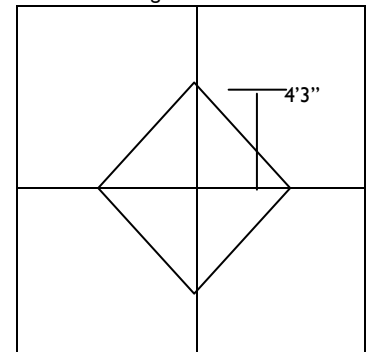


Figure 3..

3. Mark the midpoint on the new guidelines and snap another chalk line to its opposite midpoint. These lines should intersect the original center point or the measurements will be incorrect.

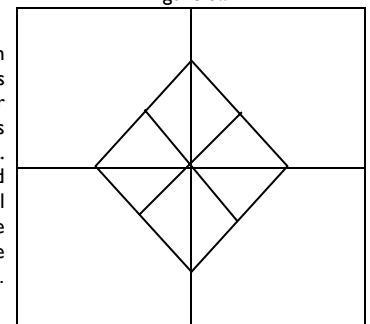
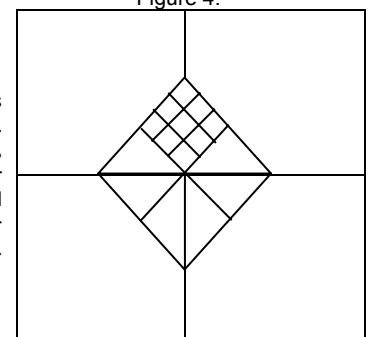


Figure 4.

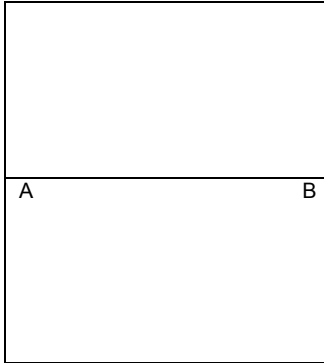
4. Use the guidelines for the installation. Nine 12-inch tiles, four 18-inch tiles or one 36-inch slab will start towards all four directions.



2.5 Layout Of Room Using Centiva Event Series Ultraplank, Plankwood, Good Ole Woods Or Bamboo

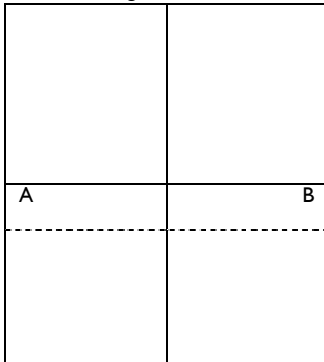
Find the center point of the room. Strike a line (A-B).

Figure 1.



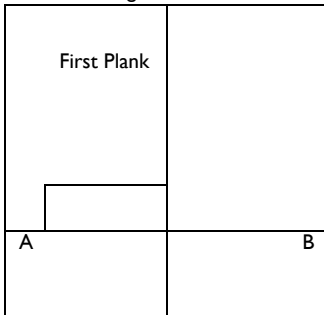
Obtain a true 90° angle by using a carpenter's square. Strike a second line, which will divide the room into four equal parts. Measure the distance from the center to the wall parallel to the direction of the plank. Divide that measurement by the width of a plank (3"). If less than half a plank (1 1/2") remains as the border plank, adjust the point by 1 1/2". This will give a large border along the wall and reduce the chance of having to cut a small sliver of flooring to place along the wall.

Figure 2.



Centiva Vinyl Plank features beveled and square edges to accent individual planks and create a distinct plank effect. For this reason, anytime you make a cut, you will want to place that cut edge along a wall. Placing a cut edge against the uncut edge of another piece of flooring will not look natural or realistic. However, for special patterns, the floor may be installed cut edge to cut edge and beveled edge to beveled edge for a consistent and finished look.

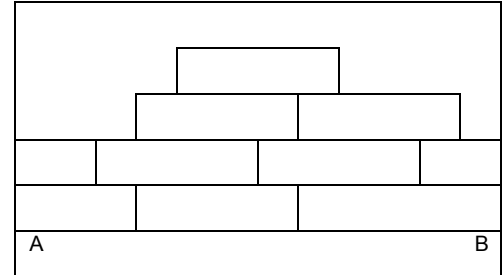
Figure 3.



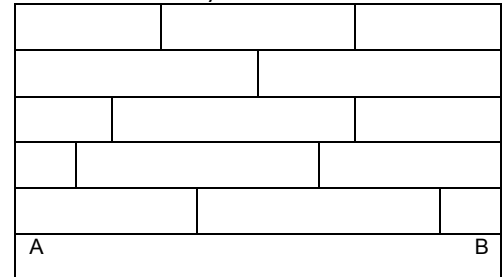
2.6 Laying Of The Plank

Spread adhesive following the specific recommendations for the adhesive outlined in the Adhesives section of the manual. Place the first piece of plank at the junction of the chalk lines. Continue to lay the plan, making sure each plank is flush against the chalk line and tight against the adjoining plank. Make sure the plank is well seated into the adhesive, paying special attention to the edges. Lay row by row, or in a pyramid fashion.

Pyramid Fashion

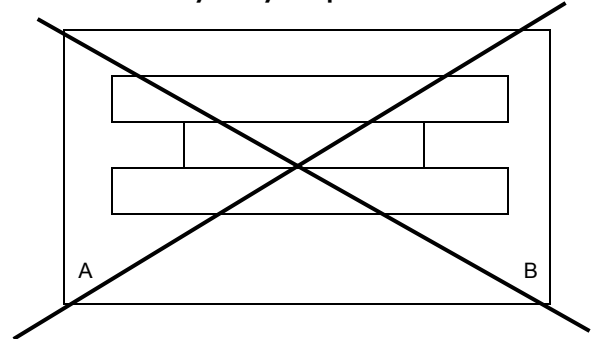


Row by Row Fashion



*Row by row fashion installation specially recommended when using IFA D-2001 Wet Set Adhesive.

This is the incorrect way to lay the plank!



Fitting the Border:

Measure the distance from the last plank in the row to the wall. Mark the plank and cut it against the mark. Lay the plank in place, making sure the cut edge is against the wall.

Fitting Around Irregular Objects:

Make a pattern out of heavy paper to fit around pipes and other irregularities. Place the pattern on the plank, trace, cutting along the trace lines with scissors or a sharp knife. Place the cut plank into position.

The manufacturer or supplier will not be liable for any loss, damage, or complaint of any kind if the specific procedures in the Installation Guidelines are not followed.

2.7 Useful Installation Tips:

- Intricate cuts around door frames, cabinets, transitions, etc. It is always recommended to fit in prior to spreading adhesive. See also adhesive pages.
- Have several clean white cloths and a container of denatured alcohol or mineral spirits available for cleaning off excess adhesive from the tile as you work. Any excess adhesive must be removed from the tile surface, in between tile seams, or the surrounding area **WHILE STILL WET**. IFA's D-2001 and IFA PS-5000 may be cleaned with soap and water while still wet, **BUT** IFA's EP-2000H may only be cleaned with mineral spirits or denatured alcohol **WHILE STILL WET**. **DO NOT ALLOW ADHESIVE TO DRY ON TILE SURFACE**. To obtain best results, dampen a clean cloth with cleaner and gently rub areas as to not move the tiles out of place. Do not saturate the area with cleaner and make sure that you clean up any excess cleaning solution as you go.
- Never begin installation when all necessary tools are not available. (straight edge knife, curved edge knife, ruler, trowel, roller, etc.)

2.8 CFD (Centiva Custom Floor Design)

- Please contact your Centiva representative for more information.

3.0 ADHESIVES

IFA recommends all tiles and planks be installed with IFA adhesives only. Please choose the following adhesives that apply to your specific job specifications. Attention: The use of dry set IFA PS 5000 is for installation of the Event Series only. IFA PS 5000 is not to be used for Centiva Classic Series.

3.1 QUICK, HANDY ADHESIVE REFERENCE GUIDE

Adhesive	D-2001	PS-5000	EP-2000
Installation	wet set	pressure sensitive, dry set	epoxy mix
Sub-floor	Porous only	porous or non-porous	porous or non-porous
Over old vinyl	No	Yes	Yes
Trowel size	1/16x1/16x1/16 sq. notch	Porous - 1/16x1/16x1/16 V-notch or roller Non-porous - 1/32x1/32x1/32 V-notch or roller	1/16x1/16x1/16 sq. notch
spread rate	~125 sq. ft. per gallon	~220-260 sq. ft. per gallon	~110 sq. ft. per gallon
open time	20 minutes	2 hours	varies
roller	100 lb.	100 lb.	150 lb.
max. moisture	3 lbs/1,000 s.f. in 24 hours	3 lbs/1,000 s.f. in 24 hours	3 lbs/1,000s.f. in 24 hours
Centiva Floor	Classic or Event	EVENT ONLY	Classic or Event

