



## Installation | **Aspire**

### **PRODUCT DELIVERY**

1. Verify that packing slip matches with product and order and inspect delivered product thoroughly.
2. Do not stack more than 2 pallets.
3. Store product and adhesive in clean, dry environment between 65°F and 95°F. Product may be stored in temperatures under 65°F as long as it is installed in a room with working HVAC and has been properly acclimated prior to gluing.
4. Areas to receive flooring (including concrete slabs) should be weather tight and should be maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.
5. Read product and subfloor preparation instructions carefully and completely before beginning any installations.

### **PREPARATION**

#### ***PRODUCT***

Unpack Aspire tiles and place in area prior to installation; this is to ensure proper acclimate 48 hours prior to installation of tiles. Aspire should be protected from excessive moisture and other damage prior to applications, during application and while curing.

#### ***SUBFLOOR SURFACE***

The subfloor general conditions should be as follows:

- All play structures should be in place prior to Aspire tile installation.
- Structurally sound and fully cured for 28 days (concrete or asphalt).
- Have good drainage with a gradient (2 percent is suggested) that prevents pooling of water.
- Be reasonably flat and free of holes and variances of more than 0.125in in 10 feet.
- Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi.

#### ***CONCRETE AND ASPHALT***

##### ***GENERAL CONDITIONS***

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They shall be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors shall be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 0.125in per 10 sq. feet.
3. Subfloors shall have a proper drainage gradient (2 percent is suggested) to prevent pooling of liquid.
4. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland based cement patching compound.
5. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based cement patching compound.

***NOTE: Control joints (saw cuts) can be filled with PLAE Joint Filler.***



## Installation 2 | **Aspire**

6. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the flooring adhesive.

### **INSTALLATION PROCEDURES**

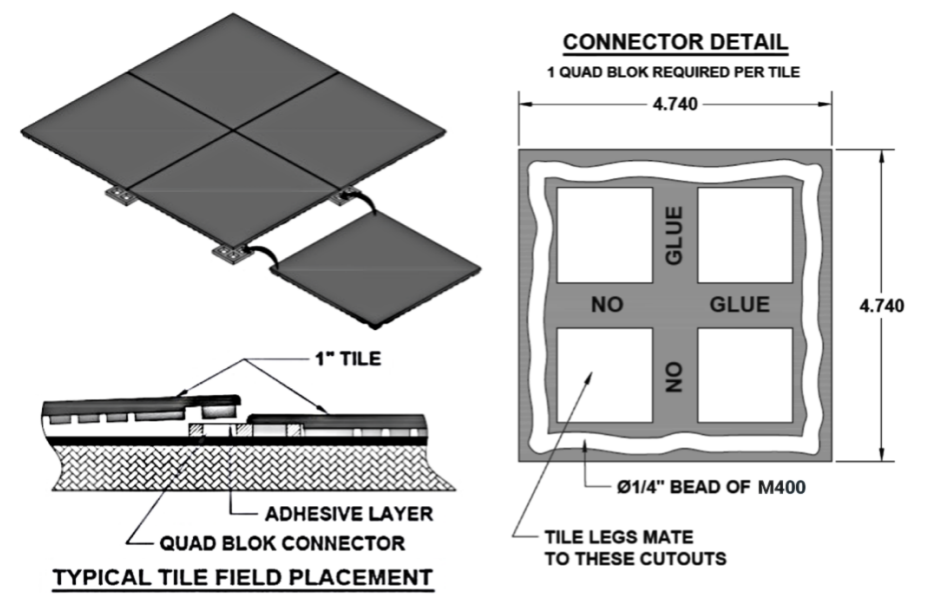
#### **TILE INSTALL**

1. Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any moderate to severe discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning the installation. **NOTE: PLAE tiles are manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to ensure the correct style, thickness, and color. Tiles manufactured from mats are intended for smaller installations. Larger quantities resulting in multiple dye lots may not be of an exact match in shade or density. Every effort is made to ensure the best possible match, however PLAE makes no warranty on the exact match between dye lots. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**
2. PLAE tiles must also be installed in the same direction. (Directional markings stamped on the bottom of the tiles must point in the same direction.)
3. Establish a starting point in the area. For most sites, starting at the corner along one edge is best to represent the length or width of the room. For irregular areas, the best starting point is often the center, to ensure a symmetrical finish.
4. Mark two points on the floor at an equal distance from the edge of the installation. These points should be located near the opposite ends of the site in the length-wise direction.
5. Snap a chalk line through the recognized points. Measure the chalk line and mark a point in middle.
6. Use a 3-4-5 triangle method, snapping a chalk line to form a 90° angle to earlier recognized length-wise chalk line. These perpendicular lines will serve as a guideline for laying the first course of Aspire tiles.
7. Once chalk lines are established, place the first tile at the intersection of two chalk lines, aligning adjacent edges of the tile with the chalk lines.
8. Apply a continuous 1/4" diameter bead of Interlock Block Adhesive the perimeter of the Interlock Block connectors. Working adhesive time is dependent upon environmental conditions. See NO GLUE zones in Connector Detail drawing below.
9. Fit the first tile with four prepared Interlock Block connectors by lifting each tile corner slightly, sliding the connectors under each corner and engaging the four corner legs of each tile with the respective apertures in the Interlock Block. Continue to sequentially lay the tile and to set the Interlock Block connectors along one chalk line until the first course of tile is complete.  
**NOTE: Cut the Interlock Block connectors in half to secure perimeter tiles**
10. Complete the other three quadrants in a similar fashion.
11. Depending on manpower availability, one or more quadrants can be worked on simultaneously using the above method.
12. Allow 24 hours for adhesive to cure before opening area for foot traffic, and 72 hours prior to placing equipment.
13. One 10.1 ounce tube of Interlock Block Adhesive is required for approx. 15 of the Interlock Blocks.  
**NOTE: Adhesive spills must be removed while still wet. Use a dry rag to pick up the majority of the**



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adhesive. Wipe the remaining residue with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. Cured adhesive can only be removed from surfaces by mechanical means, such as scraping or sanding.



14. Continue this method to assemble in the tiles in the second course. Complete the rest of the courses in a similar manner.
15. If installing Aspire tiles in a wall-to-wall setting, Interlock Blocks may be used and the walls will contain the outer rows of tiles. If tiles are not against a wall, you will need to adhere both the outermost tiles and ramps to prevent any shifting that could occur otherwise.
16. In most wall-to-wall installations, the tile in the outer course will have to be cut to fit. Tile may be cut using a heavy-duty utility or carpet knife and a straight edge.
17. In cases where there is no wall is to contain the tiles;
  1. If necessary, ramps can be cut in the same manner as tiles. If ramps are used at a corner, each ramp should be miter cut at a 45° angle.
  2. Ramps and outer tiles should be adhered to the floor with a 1/4" square notched trowel indoors over substrate. Tiles also should be adhered when tiles meet any products such as turf, rolled rubber, etc. Tiles should be connected with the Interlock Blocks to the next inner course, but do not need to be connected to each other. Ramps do not require Interlock Blocks.
18. For any fully adhered tiles, roll the floor with a 75-100 pound flooring roller. Adhesive should be allowed to cure for 24 hours before walking on the tiles.

**NOTE:** Avoid placing tiles that need to be cut or trimmed in high traffic areas, if possible.

### FULLY ADHERED INSTALLATION

Mandatory for exterior installations:



## Installation 4 | **Aspire**

1. Follow the site layout instructions to prepare the site area for installation. The tiles, accessories, and substrates should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

**NOTE:** *Dimensional tolerance for tiles is +/- 1/8" in thickness and +/- 1/8" in width. From time to time during installation, it may be necessary to measure and hand select tiles to ensure that course lines remain straight. Additionally, color tone and shading may vary to the extent that some hand selection is required to maintain maximum uniformity throughout the site. As with any flooring product, dry laying and full inspection of all tiles will allow for a quality installation. Tiles should be inspected from several angles and adjusted as necessary.*

**NOTE:** *Aspire is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.*

**NOTE:** *Use a 1/4" square notch trowel. Coverage rates for the Anchor adhesive are approximately 30 square foot per gallon using a 1/4" square notch trowel.*

1. When using PLAE Anchor, no moisture testing is required. However, if a moisture test is required by any specific party, three tests will be required for the first 1,000 sq. feet and one per additional 1,000 sq. feet.
2. Using a 1/4" square notch trowel, apply the Anchor adhesive out slightly wider than the tile being placed. Do not spread more adhesive than can be covered in 30 minutes.
3. Interlock Blocks must be used and installed per Interlock Block installation section above.
4. Place tiles with Interlock Blocks into the fresh adhesive bed following pre-established course lines. If applicable, place ramps into the fresh adhesive in a similar manner.
5. After placing tiles into adhesive bed, roll the tiles with a 75-pound three section flooring roller to ensure adhesive transfer to the back of the tile feet.
6. Adhesive should be allowed to cure for 24 hours before allowing foot traffic. All heavy traffic and/or light rolling loads should be avoided for a minimum of 72 hours after installation to allow adhesive to develop strength. In cases where 72 hours is not possible, it is recommended to cover the floor with a rigid covering such as 1/2" plywood sheeting with a fully sanded face against the surface of the tiles.
7. Tile cuts are typically laid out by referencing dimensions from the edges of the tiles, already in position, to a wall or other obstruction along or around which the tiles are to fit. These dimensions are then transferred to and laid out on the tile to be cut.
8. Corner ramps should be miter cut.