

TRAXXSHIELD 100

ROLLED MOISTURE BARRIER™

INSTALLATIONS OVER CONCRETE FLOORS

Installation Instructions

TraxxShield100™ rolled moisture barrier is a superior underlayment for use over concrete floors where high Relative Humidity (RH) or high PH readings are present. It is designed to suppress the upward movement of water vapor and alkalinity from the concrete slab into the finished flooring, which can cause floorcovering damage, emulsification of the floorcovering adhesive, and mold/fungal conditions.

TraxxShield100™ can be installed over on-grade and below-grade concrete slabs, as well as elevated precast slabs, slabs on metal decks, elevated structural concrete, lightweight concrete.

Note: TraxxShield100™ is not designed or warranted for use in resisting liquid water pressure, a condition referred to as Hydrostatic Pressure. Therefore, do not use TraxxShield100™ where standing water or glistening water is present on the slab.

I. Moisture Testing on the Concrete Slab is Not Required.

- Because TraxxShield100™ can suppress 100.0% Relative Humidity and pH of 14, it is not required to test the moisture conditions of the concrete. If the general contractor requires this RH testing for documentation of the installation, then the tests must be conducted in accordance with the latest version of ASTM F2170, *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes*.



[Scan here to watch installation video](#)



II. Preparing the Concrete Slab

1. It is required that the concrete slab is smooth and level so that imperfections do not telegraph through the finished flooring. Be sure to patch all cracks and joints which are 1/8" or greater. Use a high-quality patch/leveling compound which is warranted by the manufacturer for high moisture applications. All patching materials must be cured and surface-dry before installing TraxxShield100.
2. In cases where residual adhesive is present, the concrete surface must be scraped and the adhesive removed. TraxxShield Primer can be used over cutback adhesive residue after scraping. Do not use solvent-based adhesive remover chemicals, as they could contaminate the concrete surface.
3. In cases where an existing concrete slab is contaminated with oils or solvents, this condition may cause damage to TraxxShield100. These oils and/or solvents must be removed before installation of TraxxShield100. Please contact Traxx Corporation if contaminants are suspected.
4. A water-based latex primer **MUST** be applied over the concrete slab with a 3-hour drying time in order to provide a compatible surface for accepting the adhesive backing of the TraxxShield100. TraxxShield Primer has been specifically formulated for this use, and is **approved for both POROUS and NON-POROUS concrete. The primer should be applied using a 3/8" nap roller.** To confirm the primer is cured, perform a 'tape test'. Place a 12-inch strip of tape on the concrete surface, roll into place, wait a few seconds, then pull off the tape. The tape should be clean. Any primer residue that is removed is an indication that the primer did not cure onto the concrete surface. In this case, allow more time for drying and curing.
5. Upon completion of preparing the concrete slab surface, it should be dry, smooth, clean, and structurally sound within the finished flooring manufacturer's specifications.
6. In certain ceramic tile installations when you are dealing with major cracks in the concrete, TraxxShield100 can be used as an Anti-Fracture Membrane bridging horizontal cracks up to 3/8" in full floor thin-set applications.



III. Installing TraxxShield100™ — Acclimation

- Acclimate the rolls of TraxxShield100™ for 24 hours at the job location with the Room Temperature and Slab Temperature greater than 65°(F) in order to ensure good adhesive bonding of TraxxShield100™ to the concrete slab. It is recommended to lay out several pre-cut pieces of TraxxShield100™ to your desired lengths for 15 minutes to allow each piece to relax and acclimate to room temperature.
- Per the floorcovering manufacturers' instructions, finished floorcovering requires at least 2 days of acclimation in order to minimize expansion and contraction after installation. Do not install floorcovering until proper acclimation occurs.
- In planning your lay-down of TraxxShield100™, keep in mind that rolls are 3 feet wide x 66.6 feet long (200 sq. ft. per roll).
- The black adhesive backing of TraxxShield100™ has a gray Release Liner. This side should be **FACING DOWN** on the concrete slab.

(The next page illustrates a step-by-step peel & stick installation method for TraxxShield100™)



III. Installing TraxxShield100™ — Peel & Stick Method



1) Layout The Seam

STEP 1: After the primer has cured, attach TraxxShield™ Seam Tape at 3-foot intervals across the slab. **If installing Sheet Vinyl, use TraxxShield™ Double-sided Tape.** This is where the seams of the Traxxshield100™ roll will lay.



2) Hand-Roll The Seam

STEP 2: Hand roll the seam tape to secure the bond to the slab.



3) Roll out TraxxShield100™

STEP 3: Starting at one corner of the room, roll out TraxxShield100™ up to 1/8" from the wall and cut your ends using a utility knife. If working solo, you may find it easier to handle a piece no greater than 20 feet in length.



4) Fold-back & Remove Liner

STEP 4: Attach this first roll of Traxxshield100™ to the slab. Pull the nylon liner from the roll and stick this roll to the concrete using a squeegee to eliminate any bubbles.



5) Attach TraxxShield™ and Make Seam

STEP 5: As you begin your second roll, one installer hand-presses and lightly butts the seam line, as the other installer moves the piece forward. Be sure to stay over the seam tape. **Double-cut this seam when installing Sheet Vinyl to prevent seam-telegraphing.**



6) Follow with Squeegee

STEP 6: Closely follow this team with a squeegee to press the roll into place, and thereby eliminate any bubbles. Fully secure this roll with a 100-lb roller. When installing in hallways, it is easier to run short pieces from wall to wall.



7) Hand-Roll Tight Seam Line

STEP 7: The TraxxShield100™ edges are highly-engineered, so the seam line can be lightly net fit (butted) without any gaps. Use a hand roller on the seam line to secure the bond.



8) Secure with 100-lb Roller in Both Directions

STEP 8: Proceed to roll out each row of TraxxShield100™ to complete the room. Secure the bond with a 100-lb. roller in both directions.

NOTE A: In some cases, you may need to double-cut your seam, like at cross-cuts. In either case of butt-seaming or double-cutting, the seam line should be perfect. It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that the seam or any other imperfection does not telegraph through the floorcovering. A Portland cement-based feather finish can be used on your seams if required.

NOTE B: There should not be any air bubbles when installed in the squeegee method. However, if an air bubble is experienced, you may cut a line through the bubble. As the air is released, use a hand-roller to re-adhere TraxxShield100™ to the slab. The opposite sides of the cut on Traxxshield100™ will bond

back together. And, if you should experience a splice tape or other imperfection on any roll, just cut that section out

NOTE C: When installing carpet tile and resilient flooring products, it is required to skim-coat the top surface of TraxxShield100™

IV. Installing the Finished Flooring

1. Follow the finished flooring manufacturer's acclimation and installation instructions.
2. It is highly recommended to **use premium commercial-grade adhesives (acrylic pressure-sensitive, 2-part epoxy, 2-part polyurethane).**
CAUTION: Clear Thin Spreads have a higher risk of emulsifying when soaked with water and chemicals during cleaning over non-porous substrates.
3. TraxxShield100™ is a **NON-POROUS** underlayment. Apply the floorcovering adhesive directly onto the TraxxShield100™ surface according to the adhesive manufacturer's trowel recommendations for **NON-POROUS** surfaces.
4. Always use a new trowel.
5. **IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO DO A 3-FT. SQUARE TEST USING THE ADHESIVE APPLIED TO TRAXXSHIELD100™ TO TEST THE ADHESIVE COVERAGE AND BONDING OF THE FLOORCOVERING.**
6. **Note when installing Carpet Tile and Resilient Flooring (Sheet Vinyl, VCT, LVT, LVP, SVT, ElectroStatic Tile):** It is required to skim-coat the top surface of TraxxShield100™ with a Portland cement-based, latex finishing underlayment (like Ardex Feather Finish®, UZIN NC 888, or Mapei Planiprep™ SC)
7. Spray adhesives are only approved over TraxxShield100™ that is treated with the Feather Finish®-type skim coat.
8. When applying rolled adhesive, use a heavier nap roller (3/8" – 1/2" nap).
9. For those adhesives requiring a wet-set application, always follow the adhesive manufacturer's Instructions for NON-POROUS substrates for correct open times to flash off.
10. Do not use solvent-based adhesives.
11. Do not tear or damage the TraxxShield100™ during the finished flooring installation.
12. Ensure that the seams of TraxxShield100™ are offset from the seams of VCT, LVT, or SVT tiles. Vinyl planks should be installed at 90 degrees to the TraxxShield100™ seam pattern.

Approved Floor Coverings for use with TraxxShield100™ Moisture Barrier

- Carpet Tile
- Vinyl Composition Tile (VCT)
- Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT)
- Luxury Vinyl Planks (LVP)
- Solid Vinyl Tile (SVT)
- Static Dissipative Conductive Tile
- Engineered Wood (Nail-Down or Floating)
- Solid Wood (Nail-Down Only)
- Laminates
- Ceramic Tile/Porcelain/Natural Stone

Contact Technical Services Regarding:
Sheet Vinyl/Rubber Flooring/Sports Flooring /Wood Courts/Broadloom Carpet

TraxxShield100™ has been approved for use with the large variety of floorcoverings stated above to suppress moisture vapor in concrete slabs. It is the responsibility of the contractor or architect to ensure that the specified floorcovering is dimensionally stable. If you have a floorcovering not on this list, please contact TRAXX Corporation.

V. Initial Maintenance & Cleaning of the Finished Floor

Upon completion of finished flooring installation, TRAXX Corporation requires a minimum of 5 days (120 hours) before any cleaning or maintenance. Failure to do so may result in improper drying and curing of the floorcovering adhesive. Longer curing times may be required by the adhesive manufacturer. TRAXX Corporation is not responsible for improper installation of the finished floor, nor cleaning/maintenance performed before curing of the floorcovering adhesive.

