# Gerflor INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**GTI MAX CONNECT, ATTRACTION, CREATION CONNECT** 

Product	Size	Thickness	Installation direction	Seams Welded
GTI MAX Connect	25" x 25"	6 mm	Same	CR 50 between batches
Attraction Tiles	25" x 25"	5 mm	Same	CR 50 between batches
Creation Connect	27.6" x 27.6 "	5 mm	Same	CR 50 between batches
Welding rod	5 mm	N/A	N/A	CR 50

### These instructions are specifically written for the installation of the following products:

## Important Note: Before installing, refer to Gerflor Installation Handbook for acclimation, job site conditions, subfloor prep, and other general installation recommendations.

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

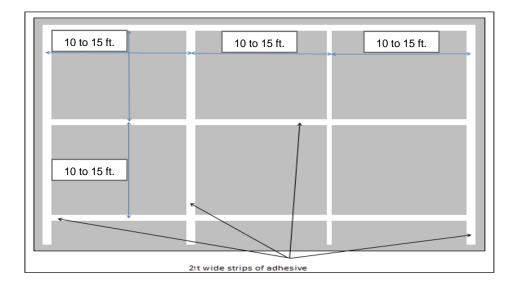
- **1.1.** Gerflor flooring products are formulated to withstand high moisture conditions. To perform as designed, the concrete should be properly prepared to create a contaminant free and porous substrate.
- **1.2.** Gerflor flooring products are <u>not</u> designed to withstand hydrostatic or osmotic pressure.
- **1.3.** The guidelines offered within this document are not intended to be all inclusive. Only qualified, professional flooring technicians experienced in the field of resilient flooring should proceed with this installation system.
- **1.4.** It is recommended to mechanically prepare the concrete via grinding or bead blasting the surface to achieve a CSP 1+, clean and porous substrate.
- **1.5.** Moisture and pH testing must be performed in accordance with ASTM F710-22.
- **1.6.** Adhesive bond tests are recommended to ensure adequate bonding to the substrate.
- **1.7.** Do not install material that has visible defects or damage. A contractor that installs material that has visible defects or damage assumes responsibility for that material.

### 2. LAYOUT AND INSTALLATION

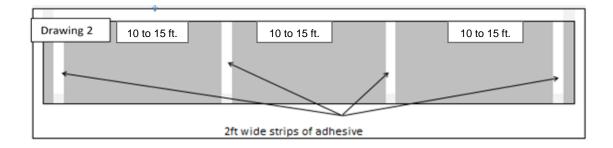
- **2.1.** Use Gerfix TPS, or Gerfix 196 adhesive (with technical approval)
- **2.2.** Mark a control/starting line.
- **2.3.** Install the first row along this line.
- **2.4.** Install successive tiles according to the layout.
- **2.5.** Apply adhesive every 10 to 15-lin. ft. in both directions as seen on the drawing below:



### **GTI MAX CONNECT, ATTRACTION, CREATION CONNECT**



**2.6.** In corridors, the tiles must be glued down every 10 to 15 feet across the width to stabilize.



- **2.7.** After the first rows in each direction have been established, two-foot-wide strips of adhesive must be applied every 15 linear feet in both directions.
- **2.8.** For areas with direct sunlight, temperature fluctuations, and heavy traffic of rolling loads, we recommend full application of the adhesive.
- **2.9.** A gap of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " minimum must be left on the perimeter of the walls.
- **2.10.** Tiles must be heat-welded where different lots are meeting.
- **2.11. DO NOT** mix batches of tiles.

### 3. INSTALLATION SEQUENCE OF TILES

							1							
						28	28							
					27	21	21	27						
				26	20	15	15	20	26					
			25	19	14	10	10	14	19	25				
		24	18	13	9	6	6	9	13	18	24			
	23	17	12	8	5	3	3	5	8	12	17	13		
22	16	11	7	4	2	1	1	2	4	7	11	16	22	
22	16	11	7	4	2	1	1	2	4	7	11	16	22	
	23	17	12	8	5	3	3	5	8	12	17	23		
·		24	18	13	9	6	6	9	13	18	24			
			25	19	14	10	10	14	19	25				
				26	20	15	15	20	26					
	rting re erly sq				27	21	21	27		•				
1		seque	nce of	tiles		28	28							
								-						

### NOTE: The tiles have factory arrows on back and must be installed in the same direction

- 3.1. Follow the installation sequence to avoid any failures.
- **3.2.** Chalk the centre lines of the work area in both directions so that one line is parallel to the length of the room and that the second line is on a 90° angle to the first line

### NOTE: Do not force tiles to follow the control line. As the tiles are installed and conform to the substrate, they will "self-adjust" as needed when connected.

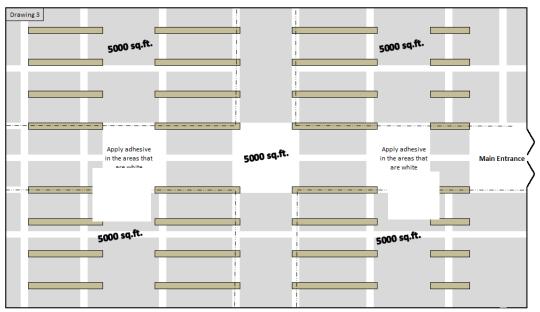
- **3.3.** Position centre lines to allow the perimeter tiles to be  $\geq$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  tiles.
- **3.4.** Use a composite dead blow hammer to interlock the tiles properly.
- **3.5.** Use the hammer to secure the dovetails at the outer edges of the tiles and the centre where the adjacent tiles meet, then hammer the remaining dovetails down.
- **3.6.** As the tiles are installed, inspect the dovetails to ensure they are flush. Use hammer as needed to seat them properly.
- **3.7.** It is normal to see small shaving appear from the dovetails when the tiles are hammered down. Be sure not to let any shaving or debris fall under the tiles during the installation.
- **3.8.** When installing around fixed objects, dry lay the row of tiles closest to the object on both sides and ends until the tiles wrap around and meet. This will allow the tiles to be sightly





adjusted if needed to engage the dovetails. Then continue with the pyramid installation process and adhesive application.

- **3.9.** Roll flooring with a 3-section 100 lbs roller within one hour after installation to complete the bonding process.
- **3.10.** For areas greater than 5000 sq. ft., we recommend gluing down specific areas of the surface.
- 3.11. Tiles must be heat-welded where different lots are meeting (dotted lines).
- **3.12.** The dotted lines show the junction between different lots where it will need to be heat-welded. (Approximately 5000 sq. ft. per lot)



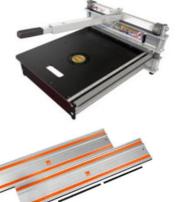
#### 4. CUTTING AND FITTING

- **4.1.** For door jambs or other irregular cuts, mark tiles with a pencil, heat with a hot air gun, and cut with a sharp utility blade. The tiles will cut easily when heated sufficiently. Pattern/scribing paper can also be used for fitting irregular shapes.
- **4.2.** The perimeter cuts can be made with a table saw and fine-tooth blade.
- **4.3.** A bullet PRO I-26 Magnum shear is highly recommended for faster, precise perimeter cutting

#### NOTE: Creation Connect will not fit in the 26-inch Bullet cutter

**4.4.** WEN 12 Amp Speed Plunge Cut Circular saw is an economical tool that can also be used for cutting perimeters. (Guide rails are also available.)





### 5. INSTALLING USING GERFIX TPS+ ACRYLIC ADHESIVE

- 5.1. Always refer to the Gerfix TPS+ Adhesive Technical data Sheet
- **5.2.** Recommended trowel size is 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32", covering from170 to 220 sq. ft. per US gallon.
- **5.3.** To ensure uniform adhesion of the entire surface, apply a workable amount of adhesive at once.
- 5.4. Maintain a uniform spread rate. Replace trowel (or trowel blade) with every pail used.
- **5.5.** Immediately after trowelling the adhesive onto the substrate use a medium-napped paint rollersaturated with adhesive to flatten out visible trowel marks and even out the adhesive. A doublearm roller frame is recommended to ensure an even coat of adhesive.
- **5.6.** "Open time" of the adhesive is dependent upon porosity of the substrate, temperature, and humidity. It is important that the installers familiarize themselves with the adhesive before starting the installations.

Application Characteristics ove	r Porous Substrates (Non-Poro	ous-see note below)
	Open Time*	Working Time**
GTI, Attraction & Creation Connect Tiles	20 to 30 minutes (to reach a tacky state***)	Up to 1.5 hours

- \* **Open Time:** is the wait time required before installing flooring into the adhesive.
- \*\* Working time is the wait time required before installing flooring into the adhesive.

\*\*\* **Tacky:** When the adhesive starts to becomes translucid and there is light transfer to the fingers when slightly touched.

## Note: For <u>non-porous</u> substrates such as existing flooring or metal, let the adhesive dry completely, with no transfer to the fingers when touched, then <u>immediately</u> install the flooring, and roll with a 100 lb. roller.

- **5.7.** Starting from the centre line and working outward, apply the adhesive and install tiles when theadhesive is ready.
- **5.8.** Press tiles firmly against adjoining tiles and press into the adhesive.
- **5.9.** Periodically, lift the edge of a tile to confirm transfer of adhesive to the back of the flooring. There must be adhesive transfer for the tiles to be adequately secured to the substrate.
- **5.10.** Once flooring is placed into the adhesive, immediately roll thoroughly with a 3 section 100 lbs roller in both directions.
- **5.11.** Always roll seams, at the walls, and under toe kicks with a hand roller to ensure 100% transferof adhesive.
- **5.12.** During the installation, with the lights on and off, always double-check the flooring for bubbleswith portable, ambient, and/or fixed lighting.
- 5.13. Avoid adhesive displacement by prohibiting traffic for a period of 24 hours and 72 hours for rolling loads.

### 6. INSTALLING USING GERFIX 196 HYBRID MULTI-PURPOSE ADHESIVE

- GERFIX 196 IS CHEMICALLY REACTIVE. ONCE MIXED, THE POT LIFE IN THE BUCKET IS 2 HOURS; AFTER SUCH TIME, DISCARD ANY REMAINING ADHESIVE
- Trowel the adhesive onto the substrate using a 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" U notched trowel. Coverage of 425 550 sq. ft. per Pail.
- It is imperative to use the proper trowel as well as maintaining the proper notch size over the course of the entire floor.
- Prepare concrete per ASTM F-710. Concrete should be mechanically prepared to a CSP 1+ to ensure a porous contaminate free substrate.
- Inadequate application of adhesive will void the warranty.
- Use mineral spirits\_to remove wet or dry adhesive.
- 6.1. Always refer to the Gerfix 196 Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.
- 6.2. Follow the guidelines indicated on the Technical Data Sheet.
- **6.3.** Recommended trowel size is 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32", covering from 170 to 220 sq. ft. per US gallon.



- 6.4. Mix 2-part acrylic adhesive part A and part B as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- **6.5.** To ensure uniform adhesion of the entire surface, apply a workable amount of adhesive at one time.
- 6.6. Maintain a uniform spread rate. Replace trowel (or trowel blade) with every pail used.
- **6.7.** Immediately after troweling the adhesive onto the concrete use a medium napped paint roller saturated with adhesive to flatten out visible trowel marks and even out the adhesive. A double arm roller frame is recommended to ensure an even coat of adhesive.

Application Characteristics over Porous Substrates (Non-Porous – see note below)				
	Open Time*	Working Time**		
GTI, Attraction & Creation Connect Tiles	20 to 30 minutes ( <b>to reach a</b> <b>tacky state</b> ***)	1 to 3 hours		

- \* **Open Time:** is the wait time required before installing flooring inot the adhesive.
- \*\* Working time: is the wait time required before installing flooring inot the adhesive.

\*\*\* **Tacky:** When the adhesive starts to becomes translucid and there is light transfer to the fingers when slightly touched.

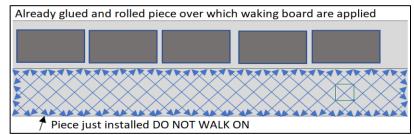
NOTE: For <u>*Non-Porous*</u> substrates such as metal, existing floorings, etc., allow the adhesive to transition from the wet stage to a tacky-dry stage (no transfer to fingers, when lightly touched) then immediately install the flooring and roll with a 100lb. roller.

- **6.8.** Starting from the center line and working outward, apply the adhesive and install tiles when the adhesive is ready.
- 6.9. Press tiles firmly against adjoining tiles and press into the adhesive.
- **6.10.** Once flooring is placed into the adhesive, immediately roll thoroughly with a 3 section 100-lbs steel roller in both directions.
- **6.11.** Always roll seams, at the walls, and under toe kicks with a hand roller to ensure 100% transfer of adhesive.
- **6.12.** Continually check the flooring for bubbles. To verify there are no bubbles, look down and across the flooring from both a standing and prone position with the lights on and off. The use of a light source at floor level can be helpful in finding any air pockets or bubbles.
- 6.13. Heat welding can proceed after 24 hours from time of installation
- 6.14. No heavy foot traffic for 6-12 hours after installation, no heavy rolling loads for 24 hours and no heavy point loads for 72 hours.
- 6.15. Use mineral spirits to remove fresh or dried adhesive from the surface of the flooring
- **6.16.** Following the above steps is of the utmost importance for a successful installation that will resist high moisture levels and be serviceable over the life of the floor.

### 7. INSTALLING USING GERFLOR T-111 2-PART PU ADHESIVE

Note: T-111 is recommended to be used for areas subjected to excessive topical water and heavy rolling loads. Do not allow *any* traffic for 16 hours after the installation for adhesive to cure.

- 7.1. Always refer to the Gerflor T-111 Polyurethane Adhesive Technical Data Sheet.
- **7.2.** The recommended trowel size is 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" 'U' notch, covering 170 220 sq. ft. per US gallon.
- **7.3.** Mix polyurethane adhesive part A and part B as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- **7.4.** Installers must be familiar with the use of polyurethane adhesives.
- **7.5.** To ensure uniform adhesion of the entire surface, only spread a workable amount of adhesive at one time. Maintain a uniform spread rate. Replace trowel (or trowel blade) with every pail used.
- 7.6. There is no 'open time' needed with this type of adhesive, the flooring must be applied into the wet adhesive within 40 minutes.
- **7.7.** While installing, always work to have complete tiles glued at the end of the day.
- **7.8.** Do not stand, kneel, or walk on the sheet vinyl flooring. The use of kneeling board and walking board is



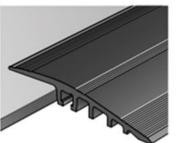
mandatory to eliminate adhesive displacement.

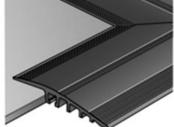
**7.9.** Adhesive transfer must be **100% wet transfer** to the backing of the flooring. Trowel ridge marks should not be visible on the back of the flooring or on the subfloor. Use weights if needed for end seams or perimeters. If the adhesive skins over or dries it must be scraped up and new adhesive applied.

- **7.10.** Care must be taken to avoid flopping the tiles into the adhesive as this may cause air to become entrapped
- **7.11.** Using a 100-lbs sectional steel roller, roll the flooring in the width first and then the length to ensure adhesive transfer and to evacuate all air that can lead to bubbles. Optimally there should be an individual tasked solely with this responsibility
- **7.12.** Continually check the flooring for bubbles. To verify there are no bubbles, look down and across the flooring from both a standing and prone position with the lights on and off. The use of a light source at floor level can be helpful in finding any air pockets or bubbles.
- 7.13. Avoid adhesive displacement by prohibiting ALL traffic for a period of 16 hours and 36 hours for rolling loads.
- 7.14. The use of walking 4' x 8' x <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" Masonite boards and kneeling boards are mandatory to protect from adhesive displacement during installation.

### 8. DOORWAYS AND TERMINATIONS

### 8.1. ALUMINUM PROFILE





- **8.2.** For heavy traffic and can be used for GTI or Attraction tiles. (Premade corner pieces are also available.)
- 8.3. 4 mm x 50 mm and 30mm long nylon plugs are included in profile kit.
- 8.4. Cut tiles and lay metal at desire location.
- 8.5. Hold metal securely and use hammer to drill 3 mm pilot holes through the centre of each hole.
- **8.6.** Remove metal and finish holes with 6 mm drill bit.
- 8.7. Vacuum holes and insert nylon plugs
- 8.8. Realign metal and secure with 4 mm x 50 mm screws and Philipps screwdriver.

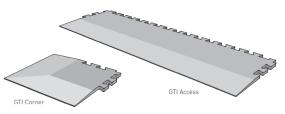
### 8.9. GTI ACCESS AND CORNER PIECES

- 8.10. For moderate traffic, only available for GTI
- 8.11. Must be glued down using T-111 adhesive
- **8.12.** Weight down until adhesive cures

#### 8. HEAT WELDING - REFER TO THE "HEAT WELDING GERFLOR VINYL PRODUCTS" DOCUMENT

#### 9. ONCE THE INSTALLATION IS COMPLETED

- **9.1.** Perform a visual inspection of the project.
- 9.2. Verify every welded seam.
- **9.3.** Repair every imperfection before leaving the project.



- **9.4.** Make sure that every vertical obstacle such as doorframes is well trimmed and sealed with an acrylic, silicone, or equivalent sealant product.
- **9.5.** To maximize the aesthetic appearance and serviceability of the newly installed flooring, provide your customer with a copy of the **Gerflor Maintenance Instructions.**