

# Installation Instructions

## StarTread

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### Upon Receipt

While Advance Flooring guarantees premium quality, we recommend inspecting the tiles for any damage or defects and verifying that the product, insert colour and quantity match your order. Please note that we will not cover costs associated with the replacement or repair of visibly damaged or defective tiles once installed.

### Site Preparation

#### Conditioning

Prior to installation, it's essential to condition the site. Ensure that all exterior windows and doors are properly sealed before starting the installation process or any floor preparations.

#### Site Conditions

The site and floors must meet the following conditions for at least 48 hours before, during, and after installation:

- Floor Temperature:  $\geq 15^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Ambient Temperature:  $\pm 18^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Site Humidity:  $< 70^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Floor Humidity:  $< 2.5\%$

Advance Flooring will not be responsible for any failures or damage arising from high moisture, alkalinity, acidity or other subfloor conditions.

### Floor Preparation

#### Substrate Requirements

Ensure the substrate is structurally sound, clean, level, and dry. It should be free from dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint, curing agents, adhesives, and any other substances that could impair adhesion. Verify that the compressive strength is appropriate for the anticipated traffic and usage. If necessary, apply a levelling compound and primer to achieve the required surface quality.

### Recessed Installation

For optimal aesthetics and safety, Entrance Matting Systems should be recessed into the floor so that the top surface aligns flush with surrounding floor coverings. The mats are designed with a low profile, allowing them to fit within the depth of the surrounding floor without requiring a recess in the concrete slab or subfloor.

### Recess Specifications

If a recess is created, it should be 15mm below the finished floor level. This recessed area must be in good condition, smooth, and level. Common materials for the base include concrete, with ceramic or stone overlays serving as the finished surface.

### Alternative Solutions

If a recessed installation is not feasible, Advance Flooring offers a variety of ramps and trims to create an attractive, functional entrance system that complies with disability access standards.

### Matwell Frame Installation

To achieve a clean and safe transition between your Entrance Matting and surrounding floor coverings, Matwell frame ALF3515 should be used. This frame, designed to be 15mm deep, must be securely positioned at the edges of the recess and fastened with screws, ensuring that the top edge is flush with the finished floor level on all sides.

The frame serves as a firm border for adjacent flooring, protecting the edges of materials such as polished concrete and ceramic tiles from chipping.

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### Preparation of Matwell Base

Once the framing is securely installed around the recess, the base must be adjusted to match the exact thickness of the matting. This preparation is crucial for creating a smooth, level surface that ensures the matting sits flat and remains stable under heavy foot traffic.

Floor Levelling Compound (FLC) is typically used, as it provides an excellent substrate that can be self-levelled to the required depth. If FLC is not suitable, alternative materials such as plywood or rubber sheeting can be used as packers to achieve the correct height.

It is essential that the final matting installation is performed competently. There are two common methods:

#### Factory-Cut Matting

The matting is pre-cut to the exact size and shape in the factory and can be simply dropped into place on site. For this method to be effective, precise measurements are critical, and templates should be provided for any irregular shapes using appropriate materials.

#### On-Site Cutting

Dimensions are measured on site, and the matting is produced slightly oversize and cut to fit by competent personnel on site. For aluminium matting, a small tolerance should be allowed around the edges to accommodate expansion due to temperature variations. In contrast, PVC matting systems should be fitted tightly to the Matwell surround.

Please confirm specific installation details for your product at the time of order, as these may vary.

### Preventive Measures for Entrance Matting Care

The susceptibility of carpet to soil largely depends on its colour and structure, so it's essential to consider these factors alongside durability when selecting a carpet. Needled textile floor coverings effectively conceal dirt due to their blend of coarse and fine fibres, making them easy to maintain and a cost-effective choice.

Additionally, implementing adequate dirt catchment areas in entrances and corridors is crucial for preventing dirt accumulation. An effective catchment area should be at least five metres long to ensure that approximately 80% of dirt is trapped, requiring everyone to walk over it. To maintain its effectiveness, this area should be included in regular cleaning routines.

When exposed to heavy wheeled traffic, the carpet should be adequately protected with plywood boarding.

### Product Quality and Warranty

Advance Flooring is responsible for the product's quality as outlined in the technical sheet. We will not be liable for improper installation or installation of visibly defective matting. The product is covered under warranty only when it is used and maintained correctly.