

Ribsy Installation Instructions

These installation recommendations consist of common-sense practices for cork tile and similar products. Installers should rely upon their own professional experience and understanding of their unique requirements to be the best guide to a successful installation.

Ribsy looks best installed according to a running bond pattern with no gaps between ends or rows. Each individual tile has a high and a low end. Tiles should be oriented so that two high or low points are never adjacent. Ribsy is a handmade product that takes advantage of the variations in thickness and color on natural wool felt. The installer should not attempt to align the ridges of tiles above and below as this is not the intended use of the product.

Tools Needed

1/8" v-notch trowel

Bar level or laser level

Carpenter's square

Heavy-duty construction adhesive (such as Liquid Nails LN-903, LN-FRP, and Loctite Express)

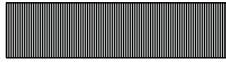
Utility knife (such as Olfa or similar) with extra blades or Table saw with fine tooth blade

Weighted roller

It is recommended that a cleaning solution be available to remove any adhesive that transfers onto the face of the wool felt. Adhesive must be removed with the solution before it has dried.

Components Provided

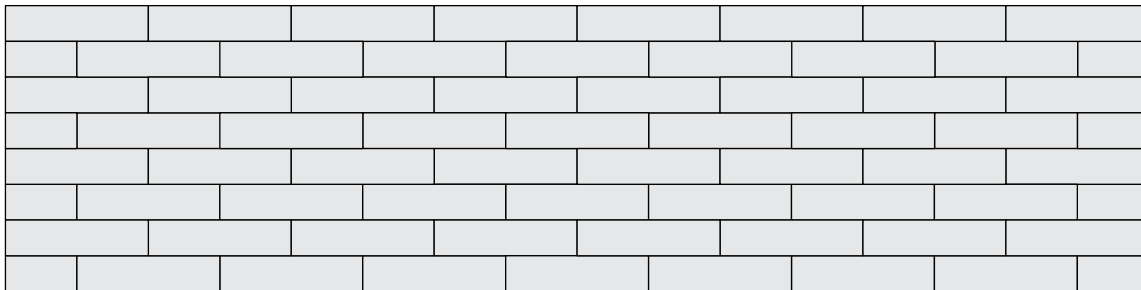
Tile (as ordered)



End-of-Run Trim (as ordered—refer to Step 6)



Standard (Running Bond) Layout



Installation Instructions

- 1 Handle the Tiles keeping the felt faces together and the cork faces together to reduce the possibility of damage during installation.
- 2 Inspect the product. Significant color and texture variations even within the same Tile are a normal aspect of this product. It is advisable to inspect for these irregularities and plan the layout accordingly making sure to evenly disperse color variation. In the case of product defect or damage in transit, FilzFelt must be notified within five (5) business days. FilzFelt cannot accept a return or warranty claim on any material that has been installed.
- 3 Allow Tiles to acclimate to the installation environment. After the shipping crates have been opened, the Tiles should be laid out individually on the floor for at least forty-eight (48) hours. Variations in temperature and humidity may affect the size and Tiles may be trimmed with a carpenter's square and utility knife to correct any irregularity or discrepancy between Tiles.
- 4 While the Tiles are becoming acclimatized, clean the work surface. It should be smooth, dry and dust free to allow the best possible adhesion. A Level 4 Finish wall preparation is sufficient.
- 5 Use the bar level or laser level to determine a base level line for your first horizontal course. This line will set the level for the entire installation so it is most important to get this right. Consider whether you will be scribing to the ceiling or floor or both BEFORE setting this level line.

- 6 Prepare a cleaning solution to remove any adhesive that transfers onto the face of the wool felt. A mild enzyme-based detergent (such as Tide Free) is recommended. Create a dilute solution by adding three (3) parts water to one (1) part detergent in a clean container. To remove adhesive before it has dried, use a clean paper towel to gently blot the detergent into area. Press and release, press and release. Using a separate container of clear water, use clean, moist paper towels to blot more water into the stain. Press and release, press and release. Finish by blotting firmly with clean, dry paper towels until the area is nearly dry. **IMPORTANT:** Adhesive must be removed before dry. Avoid aggressive rubbing, as this can continue the felting process and change the surface appearance of the felt.
- 7 Tiles are applied without pattern in a running (or staggered) bond. Tiles should be oriented so that two high or low points are never adjacent. Start installation at the bottom left of the wall. Apply heavy-duty construction adhesive to the wall using a 1/8" v-notch trowel. The adhesive should be generously applied to the wall using a roller but not so thickly that the level line is obscured. If you are using a laser level, this will not be an issue. Apply the first four (4) Tiles in sequence edge-to-edge, ensuring that the edges are properly butted up against one another, and all are perfectly level. Gently roll over the Tiles with the weighted roller, taking care not to smear any adhesive. Finally, using clean fingers, press against the Tile to ensure the best adhesion, and then check again for level.
- 8 Repeat the above steps until the first course is completed.
- 9 To cut any custom Tile sizes or to cut device cut-outs, use a sharp utility knife and carpenter's square. Make a first pass with light pressure to score the felt. Next, make one (1) to two (2) additional passes using firm pressure and making sure the blade is plumb. **IMPORTANT:** Always use a sharp blade and change blades frequently.

Devices may then be either wall-mounted or panel-mounted as specified by the client. All cutting and finishing of the cut-outs and installation of electrical devices are the responsibility of the purchaser.

- 10 Allow the first row to set up for approximately twenty (20) minutes before installing the row above as the Tiles may slip.
- 11 Move up to the next row and follow the above procedure, ensuring that the Tiles are butted firmly against one another. Continue checking level throughout the installation. Repeat until complete.
- 12 If Ribsy will end at an outside corner or in the middle of a wall, End-of-Run Trim may be ordered to conceal the exposed cork edge. This material will match the color of the order or will be another color as specified by the designer. End-of-Run Trim should be installed first using a level in combination with a ledger board to provide the straightest installation. After End-of-Run Trim is installed, the installation can proceed as directed. To permanently apply this material, a bead of silicone adhesive is recommended. A hot-melt adhesive or heavy-duty construction adhesive (such as Liquid Nails) may also be applied in a single bead down the center of each section. The ends of the trim are finish cut and will butt together to create a seamless look.

Cleaning Instructions

Like any natural fiber, a minimal approach should always be taken to clean wool felt since the cleaning method could potentially do more harm than the soiling or stain. The cleaning approach should be (1) dust with a lint roller, (2) vacuum with a clean, soft brush, (3) clean with water and mild detergent, and (4) clean with chemical spot remover. **IMPORTANT:** Always test any cleaning method in an inconspicuous area before attempting general cleaning.

For complete instructions, refer to the Product Maintenance + Cleaning Guide at filzfelt.com/cleaning-guide.