

# ARO Block 2 Installation Instructions

These installation recommendations consist of common-sense practices for direct glue tile products. Installers should rely upon their own professional experience and understanding of their unique requirements to be the best guide to a successful installation. Normal variations in the thickness of the felt and acoustic substrate in addition wall surface variation will result in tiles that are at different distances off the wall surface and may result in alignment issues with adjacent tiles. These issues are not considered a defect and planning should be taken to distribute these variations in a manner that is aesthetically pleasing.

## Tools Needed

- 1 Bar level or laser level
- 2 Heavy-duty construction adhesive (such as Liquid Nails LN-903, LN-FRP, and Loctite Express)
- 3 Standard caulking gun or 1/8" v-notch trowel
- 4 Utility knife or table saw and blades
- 5 Carpenter's square
- 6 Weighted roller

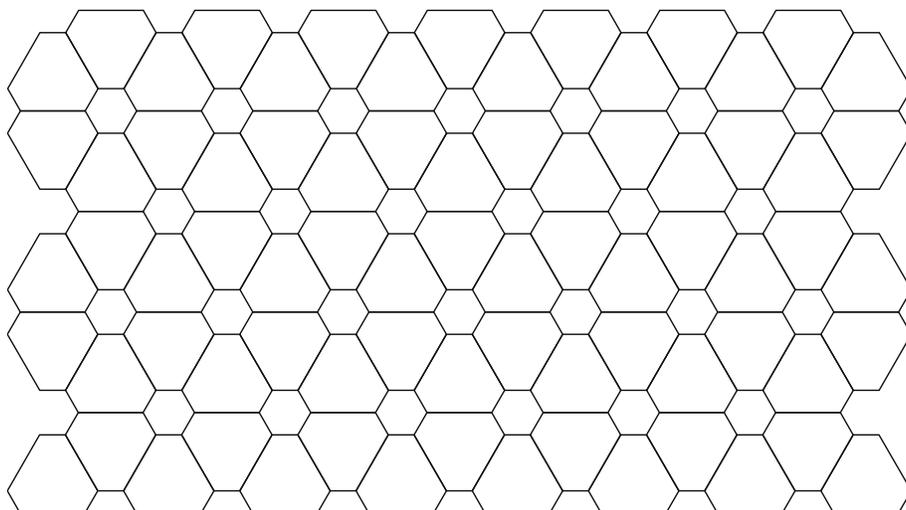
It is recommended that you have access to warm soapy water in the event of getting adhesive on the front of the tile. Any adhesive must be removed with warm soapy water before the adhesive has dried.

## Components Provided

Pattern Element (as ordered):



## Standard Pattern



## Installation Instructions

- 1 Handle the material keeping the felt faces together, and the substrate faces together to reduce the possibility of damage during installation.
- 2 Inspect the material. Subtle 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 disperse any minor color variation evenly. In the case of product defect or damage in transit, FilzFelt must be notified within five business days. Please note that FilzFelt cannot accept a return or warranty claim on any material that has been installed.

- 3 Allow Block 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 48 hours. Variations in temperature and humidity may affect the size and tiles may be trimmed with a carpenter's square and sharp utility knife or fine tooth blade (80 plus tooth) and table saw 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 at the bottom. This line will set the level for the entire installation so it is most important to get this right.
- 6 Tiles are applied according to the pattern specified. Plan out the pattern before adhering the tiles and make any adjustments to ensure any minor color variation is dispersed throughout the wall.
- 7 Using a standard caulking gun or 1/8" v-notch trowel, apply a thick bead or layer of adhesive around the perimeter of the tile about 1/2" to 1" (1.3 to 2.5 cm) from the edge. Apply the first four tiles in sequence edge-to-edge, ensuring that the edges are properly butted up against one another and 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. Use a carpenter's square and either a sharp utility knife or fine tooth blade (80 plus tooth) table saw to cut any custom sizes needed to finish rows or columns. Change blades often as wool felt requires a sharp blade to cut and will quickly dull the blade.
- 9 Allow the first row to set up (approximately 20 minutes) before installing the row above as the tiles may slip.
- 10 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.

## Cleaning Instructions

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Like any natural fiber, a minimal approach should always be taken to clean wool felt since the cleaning method could potentially do more damage than the stain. In this order, the cleaning approach should be: dusting with a roller, vacuuming with a clean soft brush, water and mild detergent, chemical spot remover. If a chemical spot remover is required, test first in an inconspicuous area.

Where wool felt is used as a wall and ceiling application, periodic spot removal of lint can be achieved easily by using a standard masking tape lint roller. It is always a good idea to use the lint roller first in any area intended to be spot cleaned. Once per year, it is recommend that the entire surface be given a light vacuum with a soft horsehair upholstery brush. In a clean office environment, it may not be necessary to do this annually.

For removal of minor stains, a mild enzyme-based detergent (such as Tide Free) is recommended. Create a dilute solution by adding three parts water to one part detergent in a clean container. Use a clean paper towel to gently blot the detergent into the stain. Press and release, press and release. Using a separate container of just 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.

There are many solvent-based spot removers available. Although they are not recommended except in the case of emergency, the best choices for wool felt are dry cleaning fluids. Be sure to test in an inconspicuous area first. Blot the stained area with a clean cloth soaked in dry cleaning fluid, then blot with clean cloth until dry.