Index Solid 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.

Index Solid pattern elements look best installed according to a running bond pattern with no gaps between ends or rows.

A heavy-duty clay-based adhesive is recommended for installing Index Solid wallcovering. Apply adhesive to the wall using a roller for greater speed over large areas, and with a brush for cut-in or scribed sections.

Tools Needed

1 Bar level or laser level

2 Utility knife and blades

3 Carpenter's square

4 Adhesive application roller and pan

5 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. Cleaning instructions are included at the end of the installation process.
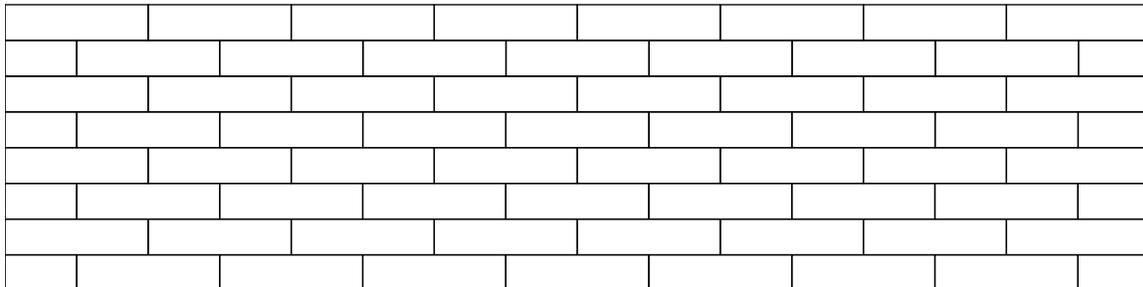
Components Provided

Pattern Element (as ordered):

End-of-Run Trim (provided if run ends at outside corner or middle of wall—refer to step 8):

Standard (Running Bond) Pattern

Installation Instructions

1 Handle the material keeping the felt faces together and the cork 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 evenly disperse any minor color variation. 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 Index Solid 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 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.

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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   Tiles are applied according to the standard pattern graphic. 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. Once the adhesive on the wall has become tacky to the touch, apply the first four tiles in sequence end-to-end making sure that the ends are properly butted up against one another and all are perfectly level. Gently roll over the four tiles with the weighed roller, taking care not to smear any adhesive. Finally, using clean fingers, press into the lower relief surfaces of the tile to insure best adhesion and then check again for level.

7   Repeat the above steps until the first course is completed. Use a carpenter's square and utility knife to cut any custom sizes needed to finish the row. Move down to the next row and follow the above procedure, making sure that the tiles are butted firmly against one another, but not crushed. Continue checking level throughout installation. Repeat until complete.

8   If the project specifies that the run of Index Solid will end at an outside corner or the run ends in the middle of a wall, End-of-Run Trim will be provided to conceal the exposed edge of the cork backing. This material will match the color of the order or will be another color as specified by the designer. To permanently apply this material, a bead of silicone adhesive is recommended. A hot-melt adhesive 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 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.