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TEXTILE FLOOR COVERINGS— LAYING PRACTICE



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA
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Australian Consumers Association
Australian Federation of Consumer Organizations
Australian Retailers Association
Australian Wool Corporation
Australian Wool Testing Authority
Carpet Manufacturers Federation of Australia
Confederation of Australian Industry
Consumer Affairs Council, N.S.W.
Cordage Institute of Australia
CSIRO, Division of Textile Physics
Department of Consumer Affairs, N.S.W.
Department of Housing and Construction
Department of Public Works, N.S.W.
Government Stores Department, N.S.W.
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Victoria
Retail Furnishers Association of New South Wales Limited
Royal Australian Institute of Architects
University of New South Wales
Wool Textile Manufacturers of Australia

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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Carpets under the direction of the Textile Standards Board. It sets out procedures to be adopted for the laying of textile floor coverings.

In the preparation of the standard, consideration was given to requirements included in AS 1884, Laying of Resilient Sheet and Tile Floor Coverings, and in BS 5325 (see Clause 1.2, References).

Requirements for materials and site inspections prior to the laying of floor coverings are stated, as are the minimum requirements for subfloors over which textile floor coverings are laid.

The terminology used in the standard relative to carpets and carpet-laying practice is that specified in AS 2454, Textile Floor Coverings—Terminology, Definitions and Structure Classification, which was prepared concurrently with this standard.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
TEXTILE FLOOR COVERINGS—LAYING PRACTICE

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This standard sets out requirements for the laying of textile floor coverings (carpets). It gives details of the work necessary in preparing sub-floor surfaces, together with the procedures that should be adopted when textile floor coverings are laid over various types of subfloors and when underfloor heating units are installed.

NOTE: Underfloor heating units refers to any panel heating appliance or system whereby the subfloor structure is warmed intentionally for space heating purposes.

1.2 REFERENCES. The following standards are referred to in this standard:

AS 1684	SAA Timber Framing Code
AS 2454	Textile Floor Coverings—Terminology, Definitions and Structure Classification
BS 5325	Code of Practice for the Installation of Textile Floor Coverings

1.3 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions apply:

Subfloor—the surface on which the floor covering or the underlay is to be laid (see Fig. 1.1).

Screed topping—a bed of fine concrete or other suitable material applied to a subfloor and brought to a defined level (see Fig. 1).

Underlay—a layer of sheet material or in-situ filling on the subfloor or the screed topping to provide a smooth level surface to receive the floor covering. Underlay may be in the form of soft or hard sheet underlay or trowelled underlay (see Fig. 1.1).

Purchaser—the principal to the contract or the person authorized by the principal to superintend the work on his behalf.

Soft floor laying contractor—the firm or person authorized by the purchaser to carry out any necessary preparation of the subfloor surface and the laying of the floor covering.

NOTE: The soft floor laying contractor is referred to in this standard as 'the contractor'.

1.4 MATERIALS.

1.4.1 Textile Floor Coverings. Textile floor coverings shall comply with the requirements of the relevant Australian standards (see Note to Clause 1.4.3). Where applicable, the textile floor covering referred to in this standard shall be suitable for use above subfloor heating when the temperature of the upper surface of the subfloor does not exceed 27°C.

1.4.2 Underlays. Soft and hard underlay sheet shall comply with the requirements of the relevant Australian standard (see Note to Clause 1.4.3) and Clause 2.2 herein.

1.4.3 Adhesives. Adhesives used to bond textile floor coverings or component items thereof shall comply with the relevant Australian standards (see Note).

Where underfloor heating units are installed, the adhesive shall not be affected adversely by the temperature at which the heating units are to be operated.

NOTE: Where no relevant Australian standard exists, the requirements of Clauses 1.4.1, 1.4.2 and 1.4.3 are matters for agreement between the purchaser, the contractor, and the supplier of the textile floor covering, the underlay or the adhesive, as appropriate.

1.5 SITE INSPECTION AND REPORT.

1.5.1 Contractor Inspection. The contractor shall obtain the site information on the subfloor outlined in Appendix A and shall inspect the following:

- (a) Where possible, each of the relevant particulars required in Appendix A.
- (b) If the subfloor is concrete, whether or not the concrete is sufficiently dry when tested in accordance with Appendix B, Paragraph B3.
- (c) Whether or not the floor has been finished off true to grade.
- (d) Whether or not any repairs to the subfloor require to be performed and whether or not the surface of timber subfloors should be sanded.

NOTE: It is the purchaser's responsibility to provide the contractor with the information required by Appendix A.

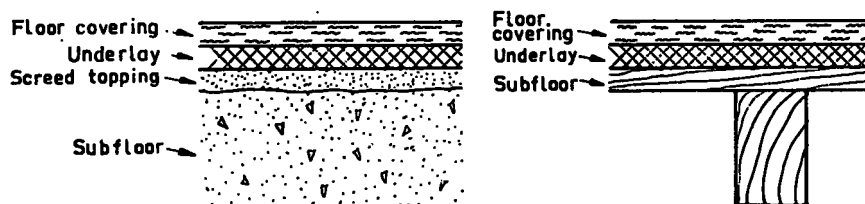


Fig. 1.1. ILLUSTRATION OF CONCRETE AND WOOD FLOORS AND EXPLANATION OF TERMS