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Australian Standard®

Textile floor coverings—Laying practice

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Australian Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association
Australian Retailers Association
Australian Wool Corporation
AWTA Textile Testing
Carpet Institute of Australia
Commercial Carpet Suppliers' Association of New South Wales
Confederation of Australian Industry
CSIRO, Division of Wool Technology
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Australian Standard®

**Textile floor coverings—Laying
practice**

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Carpets under the direction of the Textile Standards Board to supersede the 1981 edition.

In the preparation of the Standard, consideration was given to requirements included in AS 1884, *Floor coverings—Resilient sheet and tiles—Laying and maintenance practices*, and in BS 5325, *Code of practice for installation of textile floor coverings*.

At the time that this Standard was published a separate Standard on underlay materials for soft floor coverings was being prepared. When this Standard becomes available, it should be consulted, where relevant.

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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard

Textile floor coverings—Laying practice

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE. This Standard sets out requirements for laying textile floor coverings (carpets). It gives details of the work necessary in preparing subfloor surfaces, together with the procedures that should be adopted where textile floor coverings are laid over various types of subfloors and where underfloor heating units are installed. Details of information to be supplied to the contractor are also specified (see Appendix A).

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 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS. The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS
1684 SAA Timber Framing Code
2454 Textile floor coverings—Terminology, definitions and structure classification

1.3 DEFINITIONS. For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions below apply.

NOTE: The terminology used in the Standard relative to textile floor coverings and their laying practice is that defined in AS 2454.

1.3.1 Crotch—the junction of the lower edge of the riser with the rear-most edge of the stair tread.

1.3.2 Planeness (of a surface)—a surface of a grade such that when a straightedge 1.5 m long is placed on it at any position, no part is more than 6 mm below the straightedge.

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

1.3.4 Screed topping—a bed of fine concrete or other suitable material applied to a subfloor and brought to a defined level (see Figure 1.1).

1.3.5 Smoothness (of a surface)—a surface of a grade such that when a straightedge 150 mm long is placed on it at any position, no part of it is more than 1 mm below the straightedge.

1.3.6 Soft floor laying contractor—the firm or person authorized by the purchaser to carry out the laying of the floor covering.

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

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

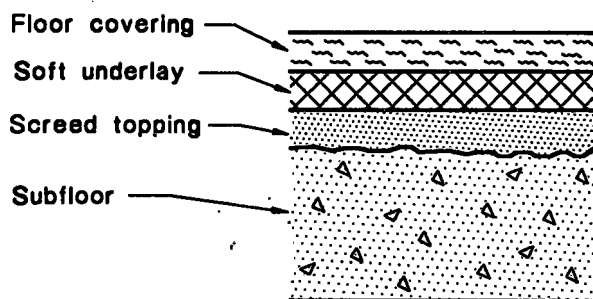
1.3.8 Underlay—a coherent layer of material placed between the subfloor and the textile floor covering.

NOTE: 'Hard underlay' (e.g. sheet material, screed topping or floor levelling compound) provides a smooth, plane surface on which to lay the textile floor covering. 'Soft underlay' provides a cushioning effect (see Figure 1.1).

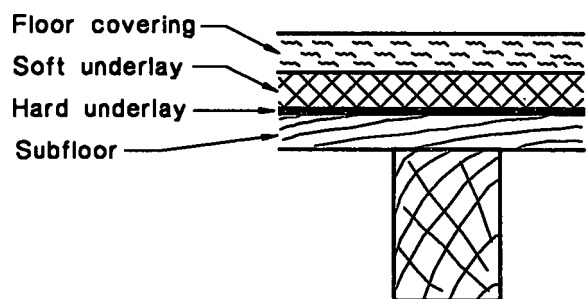
1.4 MATERIALS.

NOTE: Where a relevant Australian Standard does not exist, the requirements of this Clause are matters for agreement between the purchaser, the contractor, and the supplier of the textile floor covering, underlay or adhesive, as appropriate.

1.4.1 Textile floor coverings. Textile floor coverings shall comply with the requirements of the relevant Australian Standards. Where applicable, the textile floor covering referred to in this Standard shall be suitable for use above subfloor heating where the temperature of the upper surface of the subfloor does not exceed 27°C. Wherever possible, if defects are found, the manufacturer should be contacted.



(a) Concrete floor



(b) Wood floor

FIGURE 1.1 ILLUSTRATION OF CONCRETE AND WOOD FLOORS AND EXPLANATION OF TERMS