

INSTALLATION GUIDE NO	DESCRIPTION	DATE
IG26A	VINYL FLOORING TO CERAMIC WALL IN SHOWERS & GENERAL	SEPT 2025

INSTALLATION GUIDE

RECEIPT & STORAGE

On receipt of rolls

- > Check that colours correspond to those ordered, that quantities are correct and that there is no damage.
- > In particular, check that rolls are from one batch, if that was requested on the order.
- > On arrival at site, the rolls should be safely secured in an upright position and stored, together with the adhesive, at a minimum temperature of 18°C for at least 24 hours before laying.
- > Inflammable adhesives require special storage conditions. Contact the adhesive manufacturer or see current literature for details.
- > To achieve best results, site conditions should be as described in BS8203. A working temperature of between 18°C and 27°C is required for at least 24 hours prior to, and during, the laying period and for 24 hours afterwards. Conditioning areas and laying areas should be of similar temperature, to prevent thermally induced dimensional changes.

PREPARATION OF WORK AREA

FIRE RATING - The substrate should be either bare plaster or plasterboard composition to achieve a Class 'O' fire rating*.

- > The wall surface must be smooth, sound, clean and dry.
- > All paint, oil, grease, dust, and any other contaminants liable to impair adhesion must be removed, prior to application of the wall-cladding.
- > Plaster and plasterboard are ideal substrates. * The Class 'O' fire rating as defined in the UK Building Regulations for vinyl to walls and ceilings.

KEY POINT

It is advisable to use a waterproof barrier on the floor and walls prior to installing the floor sheeting or wall cladding.

A smoothing compound should be applied over the waterproofing barrier to ensure a smooth screed/wall. *Product recommendation and application methodology to be secured from supplier.*

Once the screed is dry, the sheeting can be primed using QAN 439M to the back of the sheeting. Allow to dry. Apply BAN 523 contact adhesive to both the back of the sheeting and the floor/wall to ensure that you get a good bond. Cove the sheeting at least 5cm up the wall.

Follow ceramic installation methods.

TC48SA Tile Capping

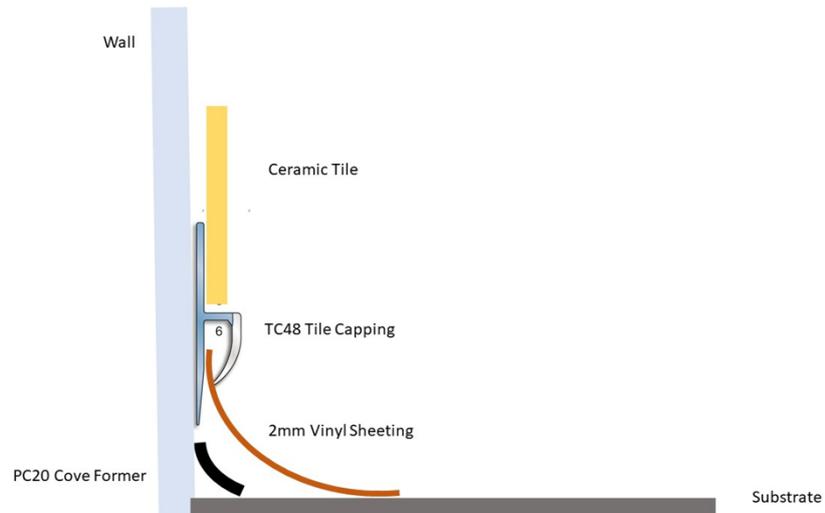
The TC48SA profile must be installed before the ceramic tiles. Alternatively, leave the last row of ceramic tiles undone until the TC48SA is installed to prevent excess adhesive coming into contact with the TC48SA profile.

Fitted at the required height and handles the transition by capping the sheeting and forming a "ledge" for the tile to sit on.

- a. Strike a line on the wall at the height at which the top of the tile cap will sit.
- b. Cut the profile to the sizes required and mitre cut internal and external corners with either a mitre block and hacksaw, or radial arm "chop" saw fitted with a suitable blade.
- c. From the front of the profile, drill 4mm Ø pilot holes through the 45mm fixing flange, 40mm in from each end and at centres of 300mm.
- d. Apply a 10mm bead of proprietary cartridge adhesive to the back of the profile and lining the top of the profile to the chalk line place against the wall, applying firm pressure along the profile's length.
- e. Screw the profile to the wall using a no.6 screw (appropriate to the substrate) through the pre-drilled holes. Steel cork pins can be used as an alternative if the substrate allows.



- f. Ensure that any excess adhesive is removed immediately from the profile using a damp cloth.
- g. Install ceramic tile over top section of the TC48SA profile.





Alternative finishing option:

If no finishing strip is being used, turn the sheeting up the wall by 5cm. Once the screed is dry, the sheeting can be primed using QAN 439M to the back of the sheeting. Allow to dry. Apply BAN 523 contact adhesive to both the back of the sheeting and the floor/wall to ensure that you get a good bond. Cove the sheeting at least 5cm up the wall. Fit the last row of ceramic tiles over the sheeting turn-up. It is recommended to apply a bead of polyurethane silicone between the tile edge and vinyl sheeting.



Welding

HEAT WELDING

Heat welding of vinyl floor coverings has been used successfully for many years and employs the technique of heating both the vinyl flooring and the vinyl welding rod to a sufficient temperature to melt and fuse them together. The procedure is the same for both sheet and tile installation with the exception that the edge of the tiles do not require cutting in prior to grooving.

CUTTING IN THE SEAMS

Factory edges should never be butted together but should be overlapped and cut by one of the following methods:

Using Seam Cutters

>>Polysales recommends that the sheet is overlapped at the seams by a minimum of 25mm.

>>Set the first cutter to the thickness of vinyl sheet. Using the factory edge as a guide, trim off 6mm along the length. Where it is not possible to use the seam cutter against the wall, or in other areas of restricted access, use a straight edge and straight bladed knife held squarely to the floor.

>>Set the second cutter to the thickness of vinyl sheet. Using the edge previously cut on the top sheet as a guide, cut through the bottom sheet. Remove the scrap piece of material.

Using a Recess Scriber

>>Prior to overlapping the vinyl sheet, trim off the factory edge on the bottom sheet. This is best done by striking a chalk line, then – using a utility knife and straight edge – cut through to remove the scrap piece.

>>Overlap the top sheet and then trace the bottom edge onto the top sheet with a correctly set recess scriber.

>>To highlight the scribed line, rub some chalk dust into the surface. Trim the top sheet to the scribed line.

Double Cut

>>Using a straight edge and keeping the utility knife upright, cut through both layers to ensure there is a tight seam.

>>Once the seam is cut, discard the waste material, and check the final appearance.



GROOVING THE SEAMS

Prior to welding, some of the material must be removed from the seam, creating a groove profile that will accept the vinyl welding rod. We recommend the 'U' shape profile. This leaves a semi-circular groove in the vinyl and should extend into the vinyl for 2/3 of its thickness.

MANUAL GROOVING

KEY POINT: The groove on foam backed ranges such as Acoustic and Sports flooring should only be cut in the vinyl wear layer; NOT cut through to the PVC foam backing.

>>Place the centre of the grooving tool over the centre of the seam.

>>Bring up the straight edge to touch the side of the grooving blade and align the straight edge, maintaining an even distance from the seam.

>>Pulling the tool towards you, groove to the required depth. Move the straight edge as required and repeat until the whole seam is grooved.

>>Sweep well to remove any dust and trimmings from the groove.

POWERED GROOVING

>>Set the blade to the correct depth of cut.

>>Align the guides with the cut seam. Press the cutter into the full depth of cut and then move forward following the cut seam.

>>Use hand tools to complete grooves next to walls, skirtings etc.

>>Sweep well to remove any dust and trimmings from the groove.

>>Never use a powered grooving machine with a standard blade on Polysafe safety vinyl sheet ranges. The silicon carbide and aluminium oxide particles will destroy the blade. A diamond blade is commonly used on Polysafe floor coverings.

PRIOR TO WELDING THE SEAMS

Before commencing heat welding Polysales recommends leaving the adhesive to set for a minimum of 24 hours. This should ensure the adhesive does not bubble up when heat is applied; bubbling will adversely affect seam strength.

WELDING THE SEAMS

KEY POINT: Ensure a constant rate of welding. Moving slowly will 'burn' the vinyl and moving quickly will not fuse the welding rod. The finished width of the weld may also vary and detract from the appearance.

>>Ensure nozzle attachment is free of debris — clean with a wire brush.

>>Pre-heat the welding gun to a setting appropriate to both the material and the site conditions ensuring that the nozzle is pointing upwards during this pre-heat period.

>>Try out the welding rod on a scrap of material to ensure the temperature is correct and that fusion is taking place. Adjust accordingly. When you are satisfied that the temperature is correct, you can proceed to weld the joint.

>>Place the welding rod into the nozzle aperture. Starting as close as possible to the end of the room, press the welding rod down into the groove with the nozzle attachment, the toe of which should be parallel to the vinyl surface. Pull the gun towards you whilst maintaining the downward pressure. Ensure the gun is kept square to the floor. With your spare hand, alternately check the weld security and that the welding rod is feeding freely.

>>Typically, you would start welding from the edge of the room towards the centre. At this stage, pull the gun away from the groove and cut off the welding rod. Using a trimming tool and guide trim off the excess welding rod. Commence welding as before, from the opposite end of the room. Run out the weld into the pre-cut 'V' and cut off the excess welding rod.



>>Where Ejecta set-in skirtings are used, the horizontal seam between the skirting and the Polyflor sheet should be hot welded as described previously however the vertical joints and mitres should not be hot welded; simply neatly abutted/scribed.

TRIMMING THE WELD – Spatula or Mozart Tool

KEY POINT: Polyflor foam backed vinyl sheet flooring is liable to compression and sometimes, even after the final trim, the weld is proud of the floor. In this case using a Mozart trimming tool in preference to a traditional spatula is advisable.

Prior to commencing, it is advisable to ensure that your preferred trimming tool has a sufficiently sharp and properly defined blade profile. This keen edge will make trimming easier and minimise the risk of damaging the product. Trimming of the weld must be carried out in two stages. Failure to follow this procedure will result in welds which are prone to dirt pickup.

>>Place the trimming guide and blade over the welding rod and push the knife forward and trim off the top layer of welding rod. This can be done whilst the weld is still warm. Trimming the weld speeds up the cooling time.

>>Wait at least 10 minutes for the remaining weld to cool to room temperature, the excess weld should be trimmed using the trimming blade with the guide removed. Keep as shallow an angle as possible between blade and floor to avoid the risk of damaging the product.

GLAZING THE WELD

Should a glazed finish be required this can be achieved with the nozzle attachment removed but still on the same heat setting; play the standard gun nozzle over the trimmed weld. Repeat over the whole length of the weld, keeping the gun moving constantly to prevent burning.

We recommend installing a specialised ACO drain/channel for vinyl fitted with a special nylon holding clamp to secure Polyflor sheet vinyl.

If further information is required, please contact Polysales on (011) 609 3500 or marketing@polysales.com