



altro

# installation guidance

## Altro safety flooring

JUNE 2010

### Storage

Altro safety flooring should be laid in accordance with the Code of Practice BS 8203: 2001. The material should be stored for approximately 24 hours at a room temperature of not below 14°C. When laying, the area should be at a steady temperature of between 14°C and 27°C for at least 48 hours prior to, during and for at least 24 hours after completion.

The material should be checked for any possible faults prior to laying and should be cut into lengths and laid loose for conditioning before adhering to the subfloor for a minimum of 2 hours.

Ensure that the material used in any one area is from the same manufacturing batch and that sheets are laid in the same direction.

Pattern ranges of Altro safety flooring will require the pattern to be matched from sheet to sheet (for further information contact Altro).

### Subfloor

The subfloor must conform with the requirements of BS 8203: 2001.

### Adhesive

For the correct choice of AltroFix™ adhesive, refer to the Altro Adhesives data sheets.

### Laying

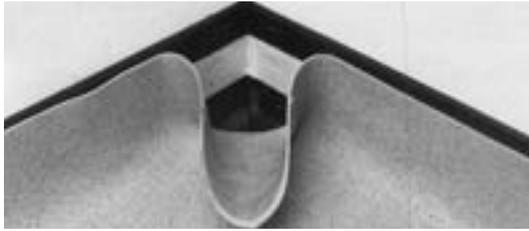
Altro safety flooring can be straight laid or used in conjunction with "sit on" or "set in" skirtings. The materials can also be self-coved. In areas that are subject to moisture spillage, the complete installation must be sealed i.e.: the use of conventional clamping or welding type drain gulleys and access covers, sealing of pipes, toilet pans, door frames etc. and the use of appropriate sealing methods between the junction of the Altro flooring and the wall covering or other floor surfaces. Refer to the Altro detail diagram sheet of the appropriate finishes.

Once the material has been conditioned, the joints can either be cut in before or after applying the adhesive. This will depend upon the preference of the flooring installer, however, it should be borne in mind that in large installations if the joints and/or the perimeter has been cut in, any movement of the sheet whilst placing it into the adhesive will create a problem.

Turn the material back and apply the adhesive to the subfloor in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

After the specified open time, which can depend upon the subfloor, place the floor covering back into the adhesive pushing out any air bubbles. Remove any excess adhesive immediately using a damp cloth and depending upon the adhesive used (refer to Altro Adhesives) roll the whole area with a floor roller both width ways and length ways. All joints within the sheet should be cut in, grooved and hot welded.

## Forming an internal mitre



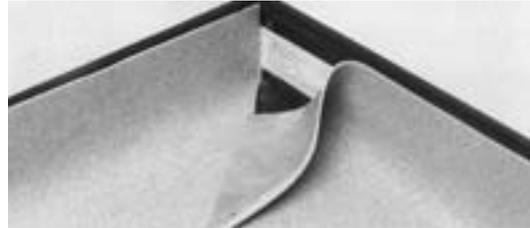
1. Once the main flooring is laid and adhered, push the flooring into the internal angle as far as possible.



2. Make a cut from the base out to the top of the flooring in line with the mitre.



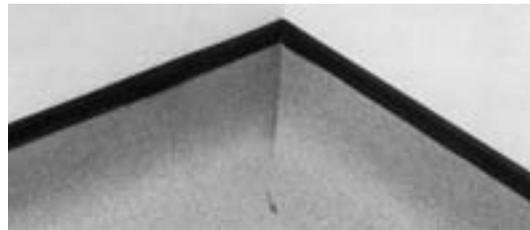
3. Fold in one side of the mitre and carefully cut off the surplus material.



4. This completes the first part of the mitre.

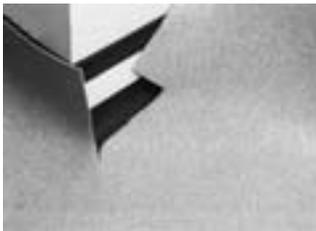


5. Fold in the second side and carefully cut in to complete the joint.



6. Adhere and hot-weld the joint.

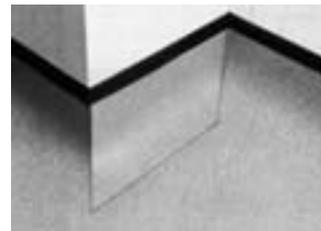
## Forming an external and internal mitre on a make-out section



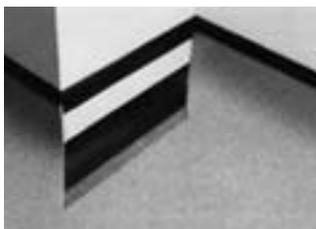
1. Roughly cut the flooring oversize to meet the required section.



3. Take a separate piece of flooring roughly cut to size, apply adhesive, position and cut to fit the back internal mitre.



5. Groove and hot weld to complete the section



2. Once the main flooring is adhered, cut in the back and front mitres, then cut out the section to remove the make-out.



4. Cut in the front external mitre.

## Grooving

A 3mm groove must be cut evenly along each floor joint using a hand or automatic rotary grooving tool. Use of the special Altro automatic grooving blades is recommended as standard blades are quickly destroyed when used on safety flooring.

## Forming a hot welded joint

After cutting in and adhering the sheet vinyl flooring, all joints must be welded with Altro Weldrod™, using a hot air welding gun fitted with a 5mm high speed welding nozzle. Internal and external mitres should be either hot welded or fitted with Altro One-cove mitre cover plates. (See separate datasheet). After a long period of use, the filter of the welding gun may become clogged with debris. This must be kept clear to reach the optimum weld temperature. Where possible, allow 12 hours between laying and welding, to ensure the adhesive is properly set.

## Welding

The internal and external mitres on the coved sections should be welded first. Turn the speed nozzle at the end of the welding gun to the up position, for easier starting, or use an Altro coving speed nozzle. Once these are finished, turn the nozzle to the down position to hot weld the grooved floor joints.

## Finishing

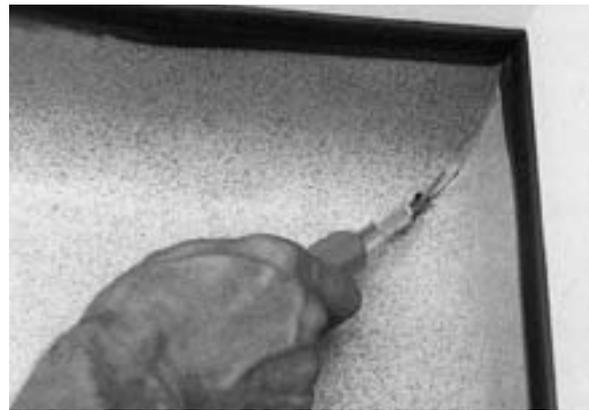
Once the weld has cooled and set, trim the weld flush with the surface with the most appropriate tool. For floors use the spatula, for external mitres use the square router blade and for internal mitres the round router blade. For Altro Marine 20™ safety flooring, the Altro T20 chisel has been specially designed for removal of surplus weldrod.

For details on equipment and tools, refer to Altro's Recommended Equipment and Tools data sheet.

## Welding an internal mitre



1. Groove the internal mitre before welding.

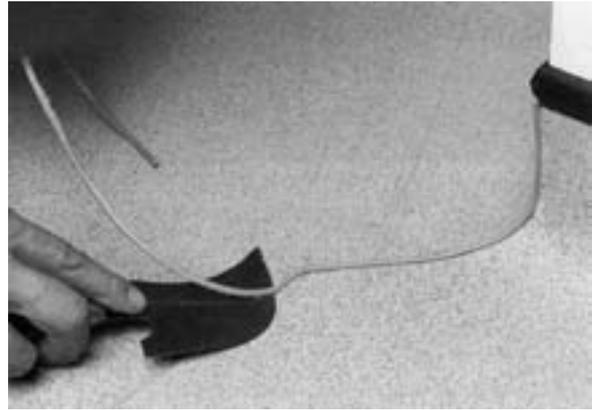


2. Trim the weldrod with the round router blade.

## Welding an external mitre



1. Groove the floor and bottom section. The top section of the mitre forms a natural 'Vee' and does not need grooving.



3. Allow the weldrod to cool completely, then trim surplus with the spatula.



2. Start welding the mitre from the top, with the weldrod feed above the nozzle. When welding the floor feed the weldrod below the nozzle.



4. Chamfer off the external mitre with the square router blade.

## Protection and maintenance

Altro safety flooring should be covered and protected from all other trades with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

For maintenance of Altro safety flooring refer to Altro's cleaning and maintenance recommendations.

## Laying Altro Static Dissipative safety flooring

Altro Walkway™ 20SD should be installed following the same procedure as standard sheet. But the recommended conductive adhesives must be used (refer to Altro's Adhesives data sheets). The use of copper strips, etc, will depend upon the requirements and standards that the client needs to achieve (for further information contact Altro Technical Services).

for further information or technical advice

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