
Installation Guidelines

Suburban Collection Stair Systems (Seamless Step Stair Tread-Type TS) Installation Guidelines

GENERAL INFORMATION

All recommendations are based on the most recent available information. The information in this sheet provides general guidelines. All instructions and recommendations must be followed for satisfactory installation. These installation specifications address the installation of Community Seamless Step (Type TS) stair and riser combination product.

Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation. Do NOT install Community Seamless Step (TS) stair and riser combination until job site testing and subfloor preparations are finished and the work of all other trades is complete. Site conditions must comply with relevant building codes and local, state and national regulations.

ESSENTIAL FIRST STEPS

- Prior to installation inspect for proper style, color and potential defects.
- No claims will be honored if products are installed with visible defects.
- Read all instructions prior to beginning installation.
- Community Seamless Step is recommended for use over properly prepared concrete, suspended wood, metal and other suitable substrates.
- Never install Community Seamless Step over residual asphalt type (cut back) adhesive as “Bleed Through” may occur.
- Community Seamless Step is not suitable for external installation of unheated locations.
- Community Seamless Step job site and subfloor must be acclimated to a stable condition before installation.
- Following installation, foot traffic should be minimized for 24 hours, point loads and rolling traffic for 48 hours and utilize minimal wet cleaning for 5 days.
- Community Seamless Step and adhesive should remain at a temperature between 65°-85°F with ambient humidity between 50-80% for 48-72 hours before, during installation and at least 48-72 hours after installation. Step surface temperature should be between 63°-72°F during the installation and curing time.

Community does not recommend the installation of a stair tread on the top step (that is; on the landing). Pattern registration between the tile and tread is difficult. Thickness between the tile and tread also makes the installation difficult. Community recommends using Community stair nosing for the top step and covering the rest of the landing with Community rubber floor tile.

STEP PREPARATION

Careful step preparation is vital for excellent appearance and good adhesion. All steps must be smooth, firm, flat, clean, dry, free from defects, oil, paint, old adhesive, drywall compound, old covering and any other foreign matter, and fit for purpose. Wooden Steps must be firmly nailed and sanded flat. A suitable smoothing compound should be used to ensure that no irregularities show through to the surface of the finished floor. Repair worn or uneven edges. Sand painted stair pan noses down to the metal for best adhesion. In all cases, the steps must meet the moisture and pH requirements before installation.

Installation Guidelines

Before proceeding with installation on any step, please make sure:

- Levelness and finish meet or exceeds American Concrete Institute standards, ACI 301.
- Curing compounds are mechanically removed. Many concrete curing agents can prevent adhesives or sealers from forming a proper bond, especially those with silicate compounds.
- Chemical agents are avoided for removal of curing compounds or old adhesives.
- Portland cement-based compounds are always used when patching cracks and holes, and when leveling is required.
- Beginning of installation means acceptance of surface and conditions.

INSTALLATION

Community Seamless Step treads come in various lengths and increments. The back edge of the tread and edges of both end of the treads have rough selvage edges from the factory. Each tread must be cut on both ends and fit against the stringer to assure a proper fit.

DO NOT pre-cut a quantity of nosing with the assumption that all step dimension is the same. Each step is slightly different, and each nosing must be custom fit on the job. Allow a 1/16" (1.6mm) on each side to allow for slight expansion of the Community Seamless Step against the stringer. Too tight a fit may result in the front edge of the nose becoming wavy and buckling over time.

The depth of the tread/riser combination must be cut in as well. On Community Seamless Step stair treads, the riser portion of the unit must be cut so, 1) the nose of the tread fits the step, 2) the grooved area on the back of the tread mates snugly at the intersection of the step and riser and 3) the top edge of the riser is even with the top of the nose of the next step. Make sure the tread nosing now dry fits tightly against the step nose and riser. The sides of the tread should be trimmed, leaving a slight gap of 1/16" on either side allowing for expansion. Undercutting these side cuts helps lay the treads in more smoothly.

A. No sanding is needed on the back of Community stair treads. They are already sanded. The only sanding that is required is on the front surface of the rubber riser in cases when the stair tread lip overlaps and is adhered to the rubber riser. Scribe the overlapping stair tread nose to the rubber riser awhile dry fitting. Then sand the rubber riser to the scribed line for proper adhesion.

Note: When installing the tread/riser combination part, you must install cove stick in the 90-degree junction area, where the tread ends, and the riser begins. This will work as a support for the bend at that junction, where the tread bends up to become the riser.

B. Community ML260 adhesive: is an acrylic based adhesive specifically formulated for the installation of rubber stair treads and riser only. Use on clean porous and non-porous substrates. For porous substrate use a 1/16" wide x 1/16" deep x 1/16" square notch trowel. Spread rates approximately 125-150 sq. ft. / gal. For non-porous use 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/6" "V" notch trowel. Spread rate approximately 150-185 sq. ft./gal.

1. Apply adhesive to the subfloor with the proper trowel. Be sure to apply enough adhesive to the step riser. This will eliminate any waviness of the tread's lip after installation.
2. Dry cut and fit tread prior to applying adhesive.
3. Spread adhesive onto the step surface using the appropriate 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16 trowel.
4. Place tread into the adhesive in 10 to 15 minutes.
5. Drying time of the adhesive is 30 minutes and working time is 10 to 15 minutes. These times will vary depending on surface porosity, conditions and adhesive film thickness.

Installation Guidelines

6. Prohibit traffic for at least 12 hours.
7. Remove excess adhesive from the tread surface when wet using a water dampened cloth.

Community Double-Sided Tape: is a high strength, reinforced, double adhesive tape system designed to minimize installation expense and to allow immediate foot traffic in stairway areas that cannot be closed. It also eliminates the need to install during premium shift times due to adhesive odor related considerations. The tape is supplied in rolls, it's 6" wide by 64' long. The 6" width accommodates both Community's two piece and single piece Seamless Step.

NOTE: Not to be used to install landing tile.

INSTALLATION

1. Cut the Community Double-Sided tape to the length needed.
2. Apply the adhesive side of tape directly to the properly prepared step. Leave the protective paper on the tape.
 - a. Two 6" wide pieces should be adequate. Overlap tape in cases where the step depth is shallow. If two pieces of tape are not adequate to cover the whole area of the step, a gap between the two pieces of tape is allowed. It is important that the front edge of the tape is close to the nose of the step and the back edge of the tape should be close to the riser. Be sure to leave the paper cover on the top of the tape as you press it in place to assure a good bond to the step.
3. Apply the adhesive side of the tape to the riser in the same manner. Overlap the tape on the step if necessary. A gap at the top of the riser is allowed. Be sure to leave the paper cover on the top of the tape as you press it in place to assure a good bond to the step or use a hand roller or "J" roller.
4. Press the Community Double-Sided tape firmly into place with your hand.
5. Remove the protective paper from Community Double-Sided tape that has been applied to the front of the step.
6. Fit the nosing of the stair tread material TIGHT to the nosing of the step. Tap the rubber nosing into place using a rubber mallet.
7. Rub the remainder of the step tread into place with your hand to get bond or use a hand roller or "J" roller. This will prevent any movement of the stair tread.
8. Remove the protective paper from the back of the tread riser. Do not allow the material to touch the step.
9. To prevent the Community Double-Sided tape from sticking to your fingers, use a piece of wax paper or a piece of the protective paper to hold the stair tread and work the stair tread back to the riser.
10. Use a pressure roller to fit the step tread tight to the riser.
11. Rub the riser portion of the step tread into place with your hand or use your hand roller or "J" roller.
12. Roll the entire step tread with a hand roller or "J" roller.

Note: The stair tread can be removed again if it is only placed into position without being pressed down into the tape. Note: Community Double face tape is NOT to be used to install landing tile.

Generic Contact Adhesive: Community does not supply contact adhesive. Check with contact adhesive manufacture for specific warranties regarding compatibility and installation instructions.

GENERAL GUIDELINES ONLY

1. Apply the contact adhesive to the step and the back of the stair tread with a medium nap paint roller. APPLY IN A UNIFORM EVEN COAST. IMPORTANT!! The vertical stair nosing part of the step tread is not adhered. EXCEPTION: For strongly undercut steps, it is necessary to adhere the front of the nosing. In this case, the inside of the nosing and the respective part of the riser must be roughened with sandpaper.
2. The grooves at the transition from the tread to the riser must not be filled with adhesive. Use the paint roller to apply the adhesive in this area.
3. The applied adhesive should be allowed to dry 10 to 30 minutes (dry to touch). Drying time will depend on temperature and humidity. Drying time is to allow solvent gases to escape. If contact is made too soon, the gases

Installation Guidelines

can cause the material to bubble.

NOTE: Contact adhesive has instant adhesion. To prevent placing the step tread in the wrong location, do the following.

4. Cut a piece of wax paper the length of the stair.
5. Crease the wax paper at a 90-degree angle.
6. Place the wax paper on the riser and on the step. The wax paper will not stick to the adhesive.
7. Holding the back of the top tread up, fit the nosing of the material tight to the nosing of the stair.
8. Tap into place with a rubber mallet.
9. Rub the remainder of the stair tread into the adhesive not covered with the wax paper.
10. Remove the wax paper, holding the back of the stair tread up.
11. Before placing the riser portion into the adhesive, use a pressure roller to press the material firmly against the stair and riser.
12. Place the riser portion into the adhesive.
13. Roll the entire step tread with a seam-roller.
14. Cut the extending part of the riser off even with the step.
15. Excess adhesive can be cleaned off using Rubbing Alcohol (Isopropyl).

CAUTION: The 72" Seamless Step tread must not be bent or folded during fitting so the vertical nosing will not be overstretched and become wavy. This means that two (2) installers are required for installing the tread.

FINISHING

- Check the adhesive bond over all surfaces.
- Protect the installed step tread after installation from sun and moisture for 1-2 days.