

## Installation Guidelines

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# EliteFlex™ 6 ft Cushion EliteFlex™ 6 ft Hardback

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# Basics

Bentley Mills has adopted the Carpet and Rug Institute's "Standard for Installation of Commercial Carpet," (CRI 104) as the basic minimum industry guideline for the installation of Bentley Mills carpet. Please note, the instructions for some specific styles may exceed the basic minimum requirements set forth in the CRI 104 Standard. When consulting the CRI 104, please make certain it is the most recent edition and contains the latest updates. Copies may be obtained on the CRI website ([www.carpet-rug.org](http://www.carpet-rug.org)).

## Layout

Carpet seams will never be completely invisible and are usually most visible the days following the initial installation. Seams become less visible with routine vacuuming and foot traffic.

**Note: Bentley's EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion and EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback require no pattern matching.**

# Floor Preparation

## Concrete Subfloor

All new concrete must be fully cured, clean, and dry. Old concrete must be clean, dry, level, and free of paint, dirt, old adhesive, oils, or other contaminants. The concrete should be free of curing or parting agents that interfere with the bonding of the adhesive. Whenever a powdery surface is encountered, such as lightweight concrete, a sealer compatible with the adhesive, such as Taylor 2025 Primer, must be used to provide a suitable surface for a direct glue installation.

Level the floor to the standards outlined in the American Concrete Institute specifications for Concrete Building ACI 301 in regards to trowel finish and finishing tolerance. Leveling compounds must be Portland-based cement. Patch cracks and holes with one of the following approved patching compounds: Ardex Feather Finish, Ardex K-15, Henry's 547, Mapei Plani Patch mixed with Plus additive or similar cementitious based compound. Do not exceed manufacturer's recommendation for patch thickness. Gypsum based compounds are not recommended.

**Note:** Incompatible adhesives, solvent-based materials, and other contaminants should be removed 85-90% and encapsulated with Taylor Zephyr prior to installation of carpet. Contact Bentley Mills for further information at 800.423.4709.

## Concrete Moisture

### Healthbond 2399 Adhesive (EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion and EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback)

- Up to 100% RH - No testing required.
- No pH testing required.
- No verifiable intact moisture vapor retarder required.

### Healthbond 1000 Adhesive (EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion Only)

- 95% RH maximum - Testing required.
- 9 pH maximum - Testing required.

## Other Substrates

Underlayment grade OSB, APA registered underlayment plywood, Gypsum or lightweight concrete must be primed with Taylor 2025 primer.

## Test Conditions

Testing is not required when using Bentley Healthbond 2399 adhesive. No RH testing, no pH testing, no intact moisture vapor retarder required.

**Note:** Hydrostatic pressure is not an acceptable condition of the substrate. Hydrostatic pressure is the occurrence of the concrete slab being hydrated from below or water under the slab pushing up through the surface. This is visually seeing effervescence or alkaline salts carried with water on the surface of concrete and occurs with “on grade” or “below grade” concrete.

# Installation Instructions

## Conditioning Carpet

The carpet should be allowed to acclimate in the anticipated installation space for a minimum of 24 to 48 hours prior to installation. The amount of time necessary for conditioning will depend upon potential temperature extremes during storage. Carpet subject to extreme temperature fluctuations will require more acclimation time than carpet stored in a climate-controlled building. During periods of high humidity more time may be required to allow the carpet to acclimate. Water-based adhesives may need more time to flash off prior to placing carpet onto the adhesive.

## Seam Cutting

Bentley Mills goes to great lengths to determine the appropriate products to be offered with the EliteFlex backing option. EliteFlex backing options require the same general installation methods and recommendations. **Most EliteFlex seams require a slight serpentine double cut seam, however, some styles require a straight double cut seam in an effort to reduce possible visual discrepancies with the face yarn.** Verification of product seaming method is the responsibility of the dealer/installer. For any questions, please contact Bentley Mills at 800.423.4709.

### EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion and EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback

- Recommended seam cutting tool - National Carpet Equipment #575 Commercial Seam Cutter or equivalent.
- Installations utilizing a wet set adhesive requires the seams to be dry cut.
- Overlap the selvage edges 2” to allow sufficient material to be cut.
- With firm and continuous pressure, cut both breadths of material in a slight serpentine double cut resulting in 18-24” wave repeat; the blade should be sharp and lightly touch the subfloor.
- All EliteFlex products should use the slight serpentine double cut method, with the exception of the following products which require a straight double cut for best seam appearance:
  - **Allegro** (Straight Cut ONLY)
  - **Backstage** (Straight Cut ONLY)
  - **Interlude** (Straight Cut ONLY)

**Note:** For the most current version of our Installation Guidelines, please refer to the QR Code found on the cover page or visit [bentleymills.com](http://bentleymills.com)

## Seam Sealing

### EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion

- Remove both top and bottom strips of carpet and properly edge/seam seal only with Bentley PermaWeld Premium Seam Sealer.
- Apply a continuous 1/8" bead of seam sealer to the cut edge on one side only in sufficient quantity to seal both trimmed edges and to cover the primary and cushion backing without contaminating face yarns.
- Immediately place the edge of the second piece of carpet into contact with the first piece which has the seam sealer on it. To achieve a good bond, it is essential for the two pieces of carpet to have a tight fit.
- Traffic on the seam should be restricted for 12 hours.

### EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback

- EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback does not require seam sealing

## Adhesive and Adhesive Application

Once the floor has been properly prepared as detailed in CRI 104, a full spread method of adhesive is required to install both EliteFlex Hardback and EliteFlex Cushion carpet. Full spread means that the entire area to receive carpet should be covered. Healthbond 2399 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive and Healthbond 1000 Multi-purpose Adhesive are specifically designed for interior installation of Bentley carpet. These adhesives can be applied using common tools and techniques over a variety of porous and non-porous surfaces.

### Healthbond 2399 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion and EliteFlex 6 ft Hardback)

- Up to 100% RH- No testing required.
- No pH testing required.
- No verifiable intact moisture vapor retarder required.
- Full Spread
  - Apply with:
    - 1/2" nap paint roller (33 sy/gal spread rate) or
    - 1/16" X 1/32" X 1/32" U notch trowel ( 24-28 sy/gal spread rate)
  - Allow adhesive to flash 100%.
  - Roll with a 75-100 pound roller to ensure proper adhesion.
- Traffic should be restricted for 12 hours after installation.

### Healthbond 1000 Multi-purpose Adhesive (EliteFlex 6 ft Cushion ONLY)

- 95% RH maximum - Testing required.
- 9 pH maximum - Testing required.
- Dry cut seams prior to applying adhesive
- Full Spread
  - Apply with:
    - 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel (16 sy/gal spread rate)

- Wet set installation method.
- Roll with a maximum 35 pound roller to ensure proper adhesion.
- Traffic should be restricted for 12 hours after installation

## Important Advice

These installation procedures are recommendations designed for the experienced and competent installer. Strict adherence to these procedures will result in a quality installation under most conditions. **Any situation that could alter the installation procedure or jeopardize the possibility of a satisfactory installation, such as identification of defective material or unusual installation conditions, creates a responsibility for the installer to STOP the installation immediately** and call Bentley Mills Customer Care at 800.423.4709. Bentley Mills will not be responsible for substandard installation or for an installer's decision to proceed with an installation that is not resulting in a satisfactory or acceptable finished installation.

## Contact Us

Bentley Mills, Inc. 14641 East Don Julian Road, City of Industry, California 91746

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