

ecore™

Athletic



**Everlast Basic Rolls and Tiles**  
**Technical manual**  
Installation · Maintenance · Warranty

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

**ecore**

Revised on 10/14/19  
Supersedes all previous versions.  
Check website for updates.

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## I. JOB SITE CONDITIONS

1. Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after the installation of the floor, the floor should be protected with an appropriate cover.
2. Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65°F (18°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after the installation.

## II. SUBFLOORS

1. Ecore Athletic Basic rolls and tiles may be installed over concrete, approved Portland- based patching and leveling materials, and wood.

**NOTE:** Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

2. Wood Subfloors – Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of one inch. The floor must be rigid and free from movement with a minimum of 18” of well-ventilated air space below.
3. Underlayments – The preferred underlayment panel is American Plywood Association (APA) underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4-inch, with a fully sanded face.

**NOTE: Particleboard, chipboard, Masonite and lauan are not considered to be suitable underlayments.**

4. Concrete Floors – Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. New concrete slabs should cure for a minimum of 28 days. It must be fully cured and permanently dried.

## III. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS AND PREPARATION

1. Subfloors shall be dry, clean, smooth, level, and structurally sound. They should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue, and other extraneous materials, according to ASTM F710.
2. Subfloors should be smooth to prevent irregularities, roughness, or other defects from telegraphing through the new flooring. The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16” (4.8 mm) in 10’ (3.0 m).
3. Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents. All high spots shall be ground level and low spots filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
4. All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved Portland-based patching compound.
5. Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it will likely fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.
6. Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Excessive moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip III adhesive.

**HAZARDS:**

**SILICA WARNING** – Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling can produce respirable crystalline silica (particles 1-10 micrometers). Classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen, respirable silica is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that may cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or provide protective equipment to reduce exposure to below the applicable exposure limits.

**ASBESTOS WARNING** – Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint, or asphaltic “cutback” adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine the asbestos content. Consult the document “Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings” available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

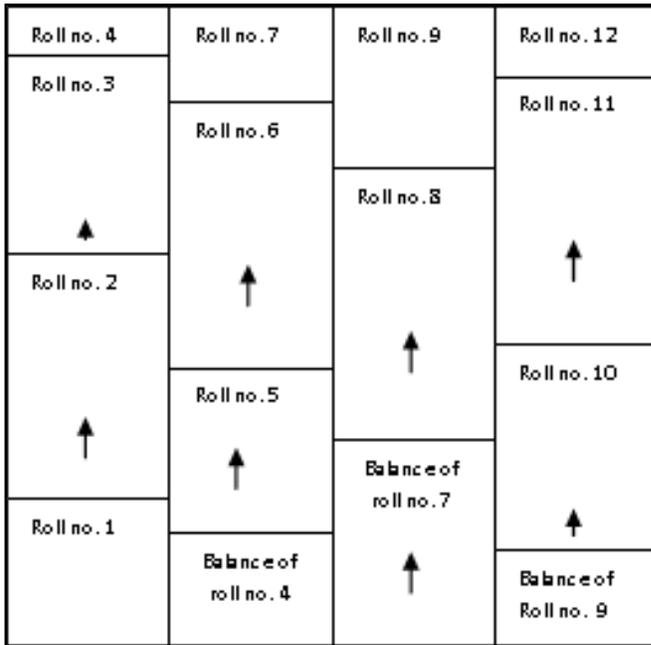
**LEAD WARNING** – Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication “Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing” available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

7. Moisture must be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If the levels exceed the limitations, the installation should not proceed until the situation has been corrected.
8. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
9. It is essential that pH tests be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.
10. Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' test pieces of the flooring with the recommended adhesive and trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the flooring and, when removed, there should be adhesive residue on the subfloor and on the back of the test pieces.

**IV. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING**

1. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original, unopened packaging with all labels intact.
2. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. In some instances it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until adhesive develops a firm set. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. Material should only be stored on a clean, dry, smooth surface.
3. **NOTE: Ecore Athletic Basic Rolls and Tiles are manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, color and for visual defects before beginning the installation. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects.**

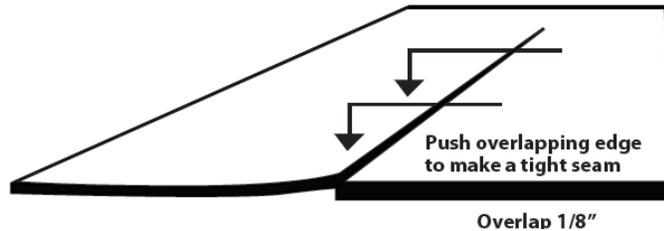
4. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.
5. Roll material is stretched slightly during the manufacturing process. At the job site, the installer should unroll all rolls and allow to relax overnight. A bare minimum of two hours is required. Shaking the material once it is unrolled can help it to relax.
6. Rolls are labeled with batch numbers and roll numbers. Do not mix batch numbers together and install all rolls in consecutive order.
7. Custom roll lengths eliminate the possibility of the rolls being manufactured and numbered in the customer's desired installation sequence, and Ecore cannot be responsible for any resulting shading issues.
8. Install all rolls in the same direction; note the "This Side Down" stamp at the beginning of the roll.



## V. INSTALLATION – ROLL MATERIAL

1. Make the assumption that the walls you are butting against are not straight or square. Using a chalk line, make a starting point for an edge of the flooring to follow. The chalk line should be set where the first seam will be located.
2. Remove the Basic roll from the shrink wrap and unroll it onto the floor. Lay the rubber on the floor in a way that will use your cuts efficiently. Cut all rolls at the required length, including enough to run up the wall a few inches.
3. If end seams are necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6". Trim end seams **after acclimation** using a square for tight fit without gaps.
4. Allow the rough cuts to relax in position for a minimum of two hours. 24 hours is preferred
5. After proper acclimation, allowing the material to relax and the rough cuts are made, you may begin the installation.
6. Align the first edge to the chalk line.  
**Note: it is very important that the first seam is perfectly straight.**

7. Position the second roll with no more than a 1/8" overlap over the first roll at the seam. After adhesive is applied to substrate, the material will be worked back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate gaps.
8. Care should be taken to not over compress the seam. Over compressed seams will cause peaking.



9. It may be necessary to trim the edge of the second lineal drop if the rolls do not extend the length or width of the room. Rolls laid end to end with a variance in roll width greater than 1/4" could result in peaked seams.
10. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

NOTE: This product is suitable for installation over a radiant heat source.

#### METHOD 1 – GLUE DOWN

- A. After performing the above procedures, begin the application of the E-Grip III, a one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. E-Grip III should not be mixed; use right out of the pail. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16" square-notched trowel.
- B. Fold the first drop lengthwise (half the width of the roll).
- C. Spread adhesive using the proper notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered by flooring and rolled within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30 - 40 minutes at 70° F and 50% relative humidity.

**Note: The open time of adhesive is affected by temperature and humidity. High temperatures and high humidity will cause the adhesive to set quickly. Low temperatures and low humidity will cause adhesive to cure at a slower rate. The installer should monitor on-site conditions and adjust open time accordingly.**

- D. Carefully lay the flooring into the wet adhesive. Do not allow the material to "flop" into place; this may cause air entrapment and bubbles beneath the flooring.
- E. Immediately roll the floor with a 75–100 lb. roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first and then the length. Roll again after 30-45 minutes.
- F. Fold over the second half of the first roll and half of the second roll. Spread the adhesive. (Spread at right angles to seam to prevent the adhesive from oozing up through seam. Gently lay (do not flop) flooring into wet adhesive. Roll the flooring.

- G. In some instances it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well.
- H. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

**NOTE:** Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles. They will telegraph through the material.

- I. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive off floor with a rag slightly dampened with mineral spirits. Follow the mineral spirits with a rag dampened with water to remove the mineral spirits.

**NOTE:** Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may darken the flooring and cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.

- J. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. **Tape MUST be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set which is approximately 2-3 hours. Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Ecore will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.**
- K. In some instances, it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be free from rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive.

## METHOD 2 – DOUBLE FACE TAPE DOWN

**NOTE:** It is characteristic for rubber flooring to expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. **Dependent upon conditions, double face tape may not be strong enough to hold rubber in place in every situation, and when used, neither the flooring nor the installation method can be warranted.** For permanent installations, it is recommended to use our E-Grip III urethane adhesive.

**NOTE:** Tape method is not recommended for ice rink applications.

- a. Dry lay the rolls onto the subfloor.
- b. Draw a pencil line beneath all seams to be taped.
- c. Use a high-quality double-faced carpet tape with a minimum width of two inches.
- d. Fold over the first drop along the chalk line (half the width of the roll).
- e. Apply two strips of the double-faced tape along the seam, one on each side of the pencil mark.
- f. Remove the release paper and place the flooring onto the exposed tape.
- g. When butting one roll next to another, overlap the seams by no more than 1/8". Work the material back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams over the tape and eliminate any gaps.
- h. Hand-roll the seams to ensure adequate contact. Do not roll the entire floor.

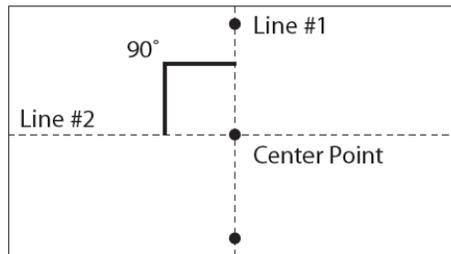
## VI. INSTALLATION – TILES

1. **Inspect all materials for visual defects before beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any moderate to severe discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**

**NOTE: Ecore Athletic Basic Tiles are manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer’s responsibility to inspect all products to insure the correct style, thickness, and color.**

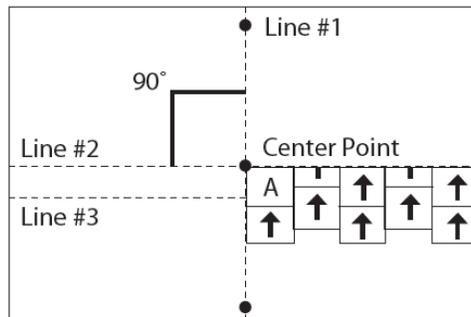
**Tiles manufactured from mats are intended for smaller installations. Larger quantities resulting in multiple dye lots may not be of an exact match in shade or density. Every effort is made to ensure the best possible match, however Ecore makes no warranty on the exact match between dye lots. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning the installation.**

2. Ecore Athletic Basic tiles must also be installed in the same direction. (Directional markings stamped on the bottom of the tiles must point in the same direction.)
3. Measure the width of the area to be covered.
4. Mark the center of the area at two points, one at each end.
5. Snap a chalk line, line #1, through these two points.
6. Determine the center point of the chalk line.
7. Using a Carpenter’s square or another method, snap a second chalk line, line #2, perpendicular (at 90°) to the first line. The lines should intersect at their centers.
8. The area to be covered is now divided into quarters. Begin the installation at the center of the area, where the two lines intersect. See diagram 3. Ecore Athletic Basic tiles must be installed in the same direction. (Directional markings stamped on the bottom of the tiles must point in the same direction.)



**Diagram 3**

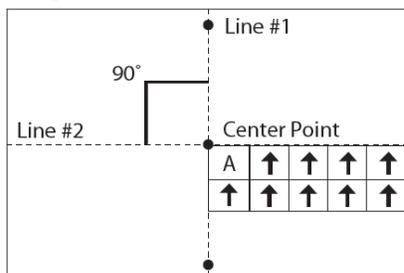
**NOTE:** To lay in an ashlar configuration, snap a third chalk line parallel to line #2 and perpendicular to line #1. The distance between line #2 and line #3 should be half the width of the tile (9 or 18 inches). See diagram 4.



**Diagram 4**

1. After the above procedure is performed, begin application of E-Grip III, Ecore Athletic recommended one-component moisture-cured polyurethane adhesive. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16” square-notched trowel.

2. Spread the adhesive using a 1/16" square- notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered with flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70°F and 50% relative humidity.
3. Place the first, tile A, into the wet adhesive making sure that the edges are precisely placed along the chalk lines and where they intersect. Press firmly on the tiles to remove any curls or entrapped air. See diagram 5.



**Diagram 5**

**Reminder:** Arrows on bottom of tiles must point in the same direction.

4. Lay whole tiles from left to right along chalk line #1 up to the wall on the opposite side of chalk line #2. The last tile will likely have to be cut to fit against the wall.
5. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves while using E-Grip III. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag slightly dampened with mineral spirits. Follow the mineral spirits with a rag dampened with water to remove the mineral spirits.

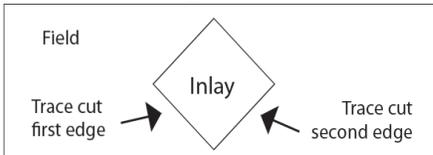
**NOTE: Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may darken the flooring and cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.**

6. Continue this process with each row until you reach the wall across from chalk line #1.
7. Go back and fill in gaps between the two original chalk lines and the wall on those two sides.
8. If some seams are gapping it is possible to hold them together temporarily with blue painters tape. Tape should be removed after adhesive has developed a firm set (approximately 2-3 hours). Allowing tape to remain longer than 2-3 hours or using aggressive tapes may result in adhesive residue. Ecore Athletic will not be responsible for residue left behind from tape of any kind.
9. Roll a 75-100 lb. roller over the floor within 45 minutes to ensure a proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled. Roll a second time within the first 60 minutes.
10. Keep traffic off the floor for a minimum of 24 hours. Floor should be kept free from rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or debonding in the uncured adhesive and cause tiles to shift.

**VI. INSTALLATION – ACCENT TILE INLAY**

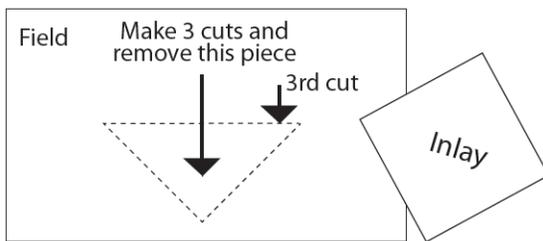
**NOTE:** Total glue down is the only recommended method for permanent installations.

1. Cut inlays into field area before spreading adhesive. **Logos and inlays are NOT approved for double stick tape installations.**
2. Position the inlay on the field area at the desired location for trace cutting



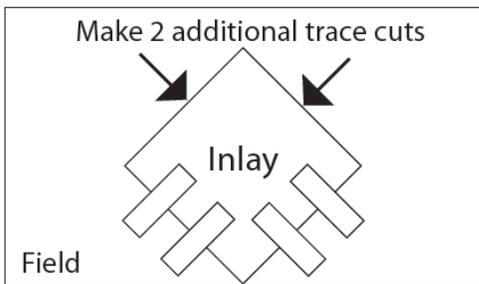
**Diagram 6**

3. Starting at one corner and using a straight edge, trace-cut along one edge of the inlay. See diagram 6.
4. Starting at the same corner, trace-cut along an adjacent edge of the inlay. Remove the inlay.
5. Make a third cut and remove the triangular-shaped piece. See diagram 7.



**Diagram 7**

6. Position the inlay into the triangular-shaped hole. Be sure that the corner and edges are butted tightly against the field piece. Tape the edges in place with masking tape. See diagram 8.



**Diagram 8**

7. Using the straight edge and the square, continue trace-cutting the remainder of the field for the inlay.
8. Remove and discard the scrap pieces.
9. Place the inlay into the field and tape the remaining edges with masking tape.
10. Fold over the material and apply adhesive to the subfloor as for a regular installation.
11. Continue the installation, following the directions for the glued down method.

## Floor protection, Cleaning and Maintenance

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE SPECIFIER:

Ecore recommends our environmentally friendly E-Cleaner and E-Strip maintenance products.

Proper protection and maintenance of ECOsurfaces post-installation should be specified by the architect/designer. ECOsurfaces should not be subject to construction debris and potential damage caused from construction activities. The specifier should determine and assign the specific type of cleaning and products based on the material being installed.

### It is the Specifier's responsibility to:

Provide specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete, such as covering the entire floor with paper or other protective material.

Determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing of ECOsurfaces. This responsibility should be specifically assigned to the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner. All Ecore published procedures shall be followed.

### It is the General Contractor's responsibility to:

Provide a building or installation area that is fully enclosed from the elements. The roof, windows, and doors shall be finished.

Insure that the temperature shall be climate controlled with a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F for 48 hours prior to, during, and after the ECOsurfaces flooring installation.

Insure that any areas of the flooring that are subject to direct sunlight through doors or windows shall have the doors or windows covered for such time until the installation of the ECOsurfaces material is complete.

Protect Everlast from damage and construction debris by using an appropriate floor covering. All sections shall be fully covered until such time that the recommended initial cleaning may be performed.

### Everlast Rolls and Tiles Cleaning Instructions

Steps	Green Products	Dilution	Diluted Coverage	Pads & Brushes
Initial Cleaning	Ecore's E-Cleaner	10 oz./gal. water	2,000 sq. ft./gal.	Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal
Daily Cleaning	Ecore's E-Cleaner	2-4 oz./gal. water	6,000 sq. ft./gal.	Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or 3M 5100 Red Pad or equal
Heavy Soil and Restorative Cleaning	Ecore's E-Strip	16-32 oz./gal. water	500-1,000 sq. ft./ gal.	3M 7100 Brown or 7200 Black stripper pad or equal

#### VIII. CLEANING PROCEDURES

1. Initial Cleaning
  - a. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Scrub floor with E-Cleaner, using low speed rotary scrubber or auto scrubber with Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or pad per table above.
  - c. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).
  
2. Daily/Regular Cleaning
  - a. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
  - b. Damp mop with a microfiber mop or scrub floor with E-Cleaner, using low speed rotary scrubber or auto scrubber with Microfiber mop, Soft Nylon Brush or pad per table above.
  
3. Heavy Soil
 

Hard-to-clean areas may require a higher concentration of Ecore’s E-Cleaner and may even require restorative maintenance (below).
  
4. Restorative Maintenance
 

Restorative maintenance is not needed until there is a noticeable accumulation of dirt and contaminant build up. Normally this accumulation occurs in hard-to-reach and high traffic areas. A good maintenance program will minimize the frequency of restorative cleanings.

  - a. Sweep or vacuum to remove loose soil.
  - b. Heavy scrub using a rotary low-speed scrubber or auto scrubber with pad per table above and E-Strip diluted per table above.
  - c. Pick up solution with wet vac.
  - d. Rinse with clean water.
  - e. Allow floor to thoroughly dry.

## Warranty

All Ecore Athletic rubber flooring is guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects on both material and workmanship. If such a defect is discovered, the customer must notify Ecore Athletic either through the contracting installer, distributor, or directly. If found to be defective within three years under normal non-abusive conditions, the sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods, or at the seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective goods.

Ecore Athletic Basic rolls and tile warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, normal wear or quality of installation expected from the use or environment of installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by Ecore Athletic, slight shade variations or shade variations due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

**Excluded from Warranty** - These warranties do not apply to the following:

1. The exact matching of shade, color or mottling.
2. Any express or implied promise made by any salesperson or representative.
3. Tears, burns, cuts or damage due to improper installation, improper use or improper cleaning agents or maintenance methods.
4. Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats may be required under chairs with casters/wheels.
5. Labor costs for installation of original or replacement material.
6. Sale of "Remnants", "Seconds", "Off Goods" or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "Seconds", "Off Goods", or "Remnants" such are sold "as is," and Ecore Athletic makes no warranties whatsoever, express or implied with respect thereto, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
7. Problems caused by moisture, hydrostatic pressure, or alkali in the sub-floor.
8. Problems caused by uses, maintenance, and installation that are contrary to Ecore Athletic specifications, recommendations or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage or discoloration to flooring products from rubber mats, rubber backed mats, or car tires.
12. Installation of Ecore Athletic products with adhesives other than those recommended by Ecore Athletic.
13. Fading and/or discoloration resulting from heavy sunlight penetration and ultraviolet ray exposure from direct or glass-filtered sunlight.
14. Material that is not installed and maintained as recommended by Ecore Athletic.
15. Damage to flooring products from pallet jack and tow-motor traffic.
16. Environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, grease or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens or auto repair facilities.)
17. Premature wear and deterioration from spikes and skate blade exposure.
18. Differences in color between products and photography.
19. Embossing / density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. Ecore Athletic shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. These warranties give you specific rights, and you may also have rights which may vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state Consumer Affairs Office or your State Attorney General. For complete and latest warranty information for products within the Ecore Athletic collection, please see [www.ecoreathletic.com](http://www.ecoreathletic.com).

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**Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:**

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