

## **Elements of Nature Vinyl Tile Installation Instructions**

### **Material Storage and Handling:**

All flooring material and adhesive should be allowed to acclimate to room conditions a minimum of 24 hours prior to beginning the installation. Inspect all material for visual defects prior to installation.

### **Acceptable Surfaces:**

Wood-Any wood material approved for sub-floor use and acceptable as under-layment by the manufacturers own standards is acceptable. These may include OSB, plywood, particle board, lauan and other such structural products. Keep in mind that swelling and shrinkage may affect the Luxury Vinyl that is adhered to these products, so choose accordingly. Elements of Nature<sup>®</sup> can not be held accountable for a floor failure that is a result of subfloor or under-layment behavior.

Other Materials such as concrete are acceptable as long as they meet with the additional standards listed below.

DO NOT BOND TO- existing ceramic tile, vinyl flooring, cushion or sponge-back vinyl flooring, Linoleum, or floating floors such as laminate.

### **Surface Preparation:**

Surfaces must be structurally sound, clean, dry and free from grease, oil, dirt, curing compounds, adhesives or any other contaminant that would prevent a good bond. All fasteners must be secure and set flush with the surface of the sub-floor. All expansion joints (seams) greater than 1/8 inch, unlevel edges, chips or dips should be filled with a Portland based patching or leveling compound. If a moisture reducer or blocker system is utilized, verify suitability of use and warranted performance (bond testing must be performed prior to use). Glossy or painted surfaces must be sanded, stripped and cleaned of waxes, dirt or any contaminants. Concrete must be fully cured, not have excessive alkalinity (pH must be <9), and no moisture emissions that exceed 3 lbs/1000 square feet/24 hours (as measured by ASTM-1869-98).

### **Curing Time:**

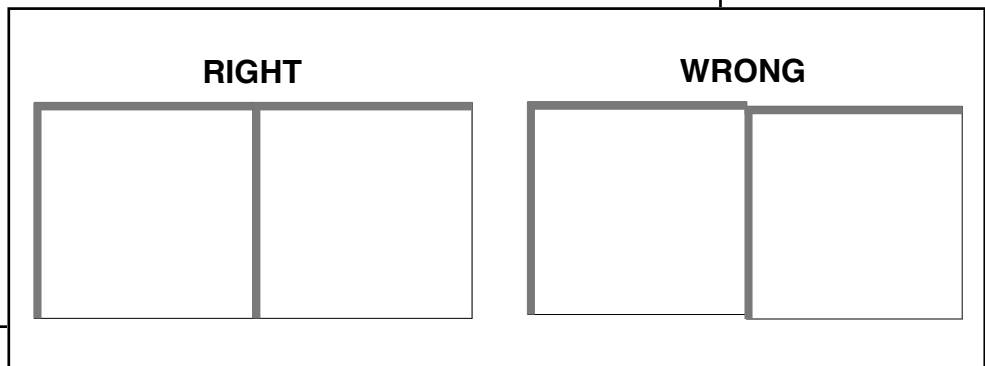
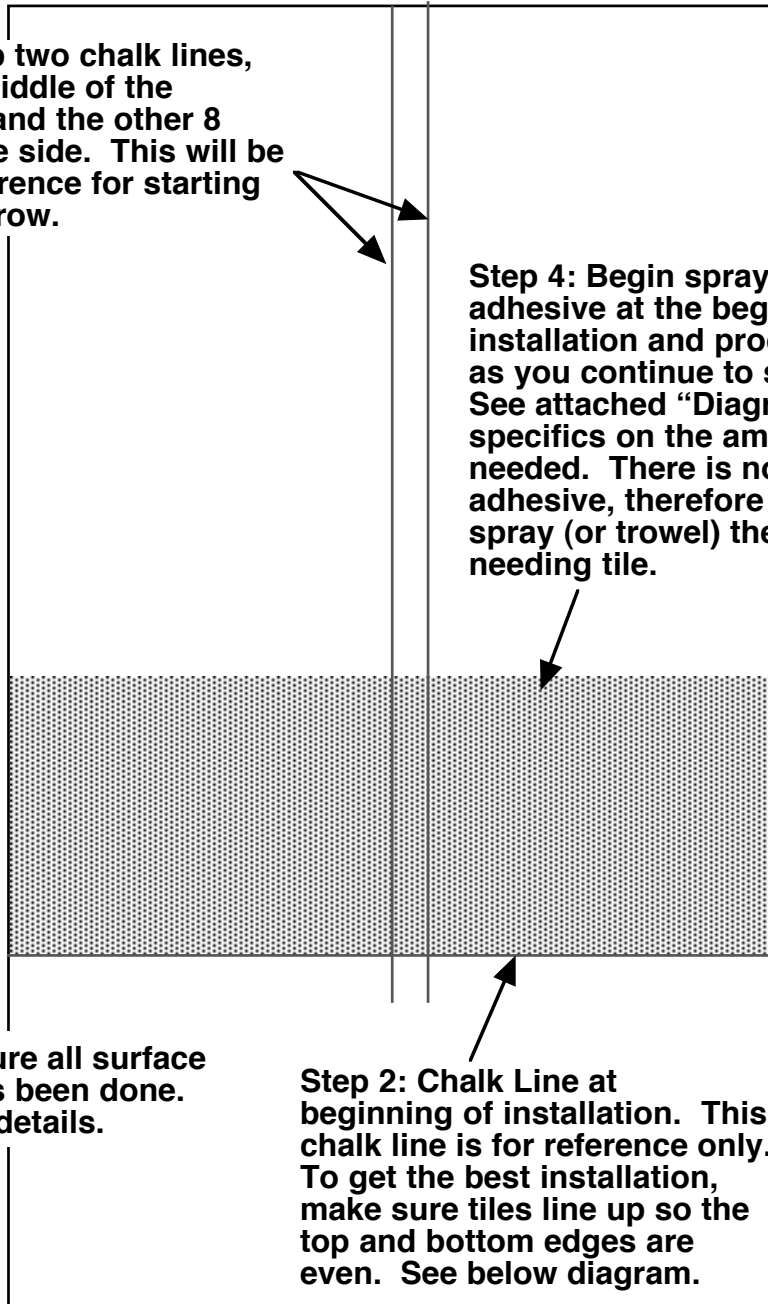
After installation is complete and rolled with 3 section 100 lb. roller, allow 24 hours of curing time before flooring is exposed to temperatures below 55 degrees F or above 95 degrees F.

**Step 3: Snap two chalk lines, one in the middle of the installation and the other 8 inches to the side. This will be another reference for starting the off-set row.**

**Step 4: Begin spraying (or troweling) adhesive at the beginning of the installation and proceed away from it as you continue to spray (or trowel). See attached "Diagram A" for specifics on the amount of adhesive needed. There is no open time for the adhesive, therefore it is advisable to spray (or trowel) the entire area needing tile.**

**Step 1: Make sure all surface preparation has been done. See page 1 for details.**

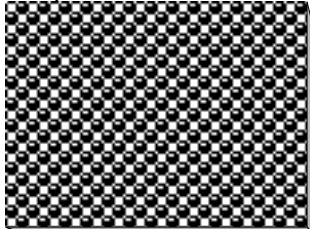
**Step 2: Chalk Line at beginning of installation. This chalk line is for reference only. To get the best installation, make sure tiles line up so the top and bottom edges are even. See below diagram.**



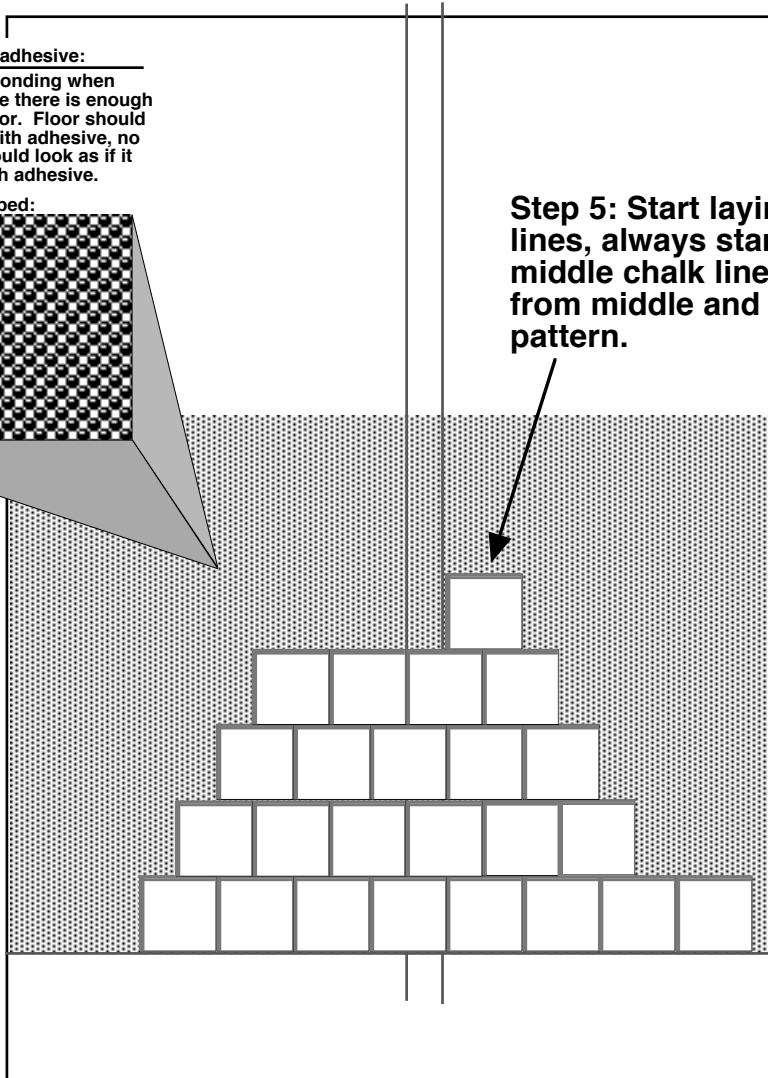
**Proper spraying of adhesive:**

To ensure proper bonding when spraying, make sure there is enough adhesive on the floor. Floor should be coated evenly with adhesive, no puddles. Floor should look as if it were splattered with adhesive.

**Example adhesive bed:**



**Step 5: Start laying tile from the chalk lines, always start each row from the middle chalk lines and work outwards from middle and top, in a pyramid pattern.**



**Step 6: Once all tile is layed, roll entire installation with a 3 section, 100 lb. floor roller to ensure 100% bonding of tile to sub-floor.**

**Proper tile installation:**

**Drop the tile in, corner first. Do not drop the tile short and push the tile in place. Drop the corner of the tile directly on top of the other tiles, then proceed to push the edges firmly against the other tiles.**

