

Carpet and carpet tile rough-in inspection checklist

Carpet and carpet tile rough-in is the last time the work is fully visible. Once the cover inspection passes and the walls, ceilings and slabs close, every defect left behind becomes a demolition bill. This checklist walks the rough-in in the order the work goes in, with the photo each item needs before it gets buried. Work is commonly verified against CRI carpet installation guidance, manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The carpet foreman prepping the floor, with the GC's superintendent walking the substrate before the field is covered.
When: After the space is enclosed, conditioned and the slab is dry, before adhesive or tackless is set and the floor is covered.

Substrate condition

- ☐ Substrate flat, sound and dry
Slab or underlayment within the specified flatness, ridges ground and low spots patched, moisture within the maker's limits for the adhesive or cushion system, no telegraphing defects. 2 photos required

Cleanliness and bond surface

- ☐ Old adhesive, dust and compounds removed
Bond surface free of old adhesive, curing compounds, sealers and dust so adhesive or tackless holds, prepped where the maker requires. 2 photos required

Layout and anchorage prep

- ☐ Tackless, cushion or layout lines set for the field
Tackless strip and cushion set correctly at the perimeter for stretched-in work, or the tile layout snapped from balanced center lines so borders are even and no sliver cuts land at the edges. 1 photo required