

Flooring rough-in inspection checklist

Flooring 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 manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The flooring foreman testing and prepping each area, or the GC's superintendent releasing slab or sheathing to the flooring crew. When: Before material is staged on an area, with moisture testing early enough that a failed slab can still be remediated without moving the finish date.

Moisture and condition

- ☐ **Moisture tests performed at the required density**
Test locations spread across the slab per the testing method, each result recorded and photographed with its location. **3 photos required**
- ☐ **Substrate sound, clean and free of contaminants**
No curing compound, oil, dust or old adhesive where the system requires bare substrate; cracks documented. **2 photos required**
- ☐ **Moisture results compared to the flooring manufacturer's limit**
Each reading checked against the limit in the installation instructions for the product and adhesive actually going down, with failing areas flagged to the super. **No photo required**
- ☐ **Permanent HVAC running and floor surface temperature read**
HVAC at occupancy settings for the period before install the flooring manufacturer lists, with a reading taken on the floor itself, not the air, within the product's range. **1 photo required**
- ☐ **Substrate firm underfoot with no bounce or loose areas**
Area walked for deflection, rocking panels, squeaks or hollow-sounding toppings that would open seams, click joints or board ends once the finish is down. **No photo required**

Flatness and prep

- ☐ **Flatness checked with a straightedge across traffic paths**
Highs and lows marked and corrected to the tolerance the finish material requires, not a generic assumption. **2 photos required**
- ☐ **Underlayment or leveling work cured and sound**
Patch and self-leveler edges feathered, no debonding sound on a chain drag, cure time documented. **2 photos required**
- ☐ **Transition profile fits the height difference at each doorway**
Underlayment, pad and finish buildup measured against the neighboring floor, and the reducer, T-molding or carpet edge on the finish plan confirmed to span that difference. **1 photo required**
- ☐ **Substrate joints marked with the treatment the details show**
Joints located and marked before cover: expansion joints brought through with the cover assembly the details show; control and saw-cut joints filled under resilient and wood. **No photo required**

Materials on site

- ☐ **Adhesive, pad or underlayment on site is the warranted one**
Pail or roll label photographed and checked against the approved submittal and the adhesives, pads or underlayments the flooring manufacturer lists for this product's warranty. **1 photo required**

- ☐ **Flooring cartons stored flat, dry and off the traffic path**
Cartons stacked flat to the height the manufacturer allows, off wet slabs, away from exterior openings and direct sun, not staged in corridors. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Roll, dye-lot and run numbers logged by room**
Roll tags or carton ends photographed; sheet and carpet rolls from one dye lot laid in roll sequence, plank cartons from one run or mixed as the manufacturer directs. 1 photo required

Layout

- ☐ **Starting layout snapped and approved**
Control lines photographed showing the pattern is centered and square to the main sightlines of the space. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Material acclimated per the manufacturer's requirement**
Acclimation start logged with space temperature and humidity, material on site long enough before install. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Pattern direction and edge cuts dry-laid against the finish plan**
Plank, sheet or carpet pile direction, seam placement and cut sizes at walls, doorways and thresholds laid out per the finish plan, no seams in doorways or slivers at edges. No photo required