



IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Please refer to the website for more installation instructions:

www.snapsysinterloc.com

The SnapSys Interloc System must be installed over a structurally sound floor that is clean, dry, smooth and flat within a tolerance of 1/4" in 10' and 1/16" in 12". To determine if a floor is flat, use a straight edge to identify the high and low areas. The high spots need to be planed and low areas need to be filled with a cement-based patching compound.

Be sure the tabs are fully interlocked. When installing the SnapSys Interloc System, listen for a "snap" sound to ensure the tiles are fully engaged. It is also important to visually examine the tabs to make certain there is a complete connection.

Use only with SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout. Other grouts are not sufficiently flexible to handle the movement associated with a floating floor and will fail.

YOUR WARRANTY IS VOID IF ANY OF THESE IMPORTANT GUIDELINES ARE NOT FOLLOWED.

Helpful Tools

- Bucket
- Safety Goggles
- Straight Edge
- Ear Protection
- Speed Square
- White Rubber Mallet
- Wall Spacers
- Tapping Block
- Undercut Saw
- Rubber-coated Pull Bar
- Wet Saw (w/Diamond Blade)
- Rubber Gloves
- Angle-Grinder (w/Diamond Blade)
- Tape Measure
- Tile-Snapper
- Utility Knife
- Sponge

The tools indicated on this page are helpful for a SnapSys Interloc system installation, but, not every tool listed is necessary. Always follow the tool manufacturer's safety requirements and keep appropriate safety guards in place.

Suitable Applications

- Over vinyl, wood, concrete, ceramic.
- On or below grade.
- Sub-floor with a thickness of 5/8" or more, installed over 16" on center. The deflection must not be greater than 1/360 of the span when measured under a 300 lb. concentrated load. (See ASTM C 627).
- Sub-floor within a tolerance of 1/4"-10' and 1/16"-12", as defined by the TCNA* *Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation*. A straight-edge should be used to determine whether floor is within tolerance.
- Approved radiant heating systems. Please note, the SnapSys Interloc System should not be installed above heating systems that may expose the grid to temperatures above 110° F (43°C).

Unsuitable Applications

- Carpet or cushioned vinyl.
- Unstable sub-floor.
- Showers, saunas, and steam rooms.
- Outdoor environments.
- Walls, stairs, countertops and backsplashes.
- Installations that expose the floor to temperatures exceeding 110° F (43°C) (wood-burning stoves, fireplace hearths, etc)

Installation Instructions



STEP 1: Floor Preparation

- Remove existing carpeting, padding, base, and/or quarter round moldings. Do not remove existing resilient floor covering as it may contain asbestos. Please refer to the RFCI publication recommended work practices for removal of resilient floor coverings.
 - Identify high and low spots that are out of tolerance. High spots should be planed, and low spots should be filled. When leveling subfloor, use only portland-based fillers. Never use gypsum-based fillers as they will support mold growth.
 - Inspect floor for movement. If movement is caused by loose boards, secure them. If movement is caused by deflection, consult a carpenter for structural repair.
 - Check all door and appliance clearances as well as transition heights.
- Cut or plane the bottom of doors to accommodate change in floor height. A tile with tray has a height of 9/16".
 - Undercut door casings and jambs. This will allow tiles to move freely while also covering the cut edges. A scrap piece of tile can be used to guide the saw blade. This will help achieve the correct height for undercutting.
 - Sub-floor must be clean, smooth, dry, and structurally sound.

STEP 2: Installation

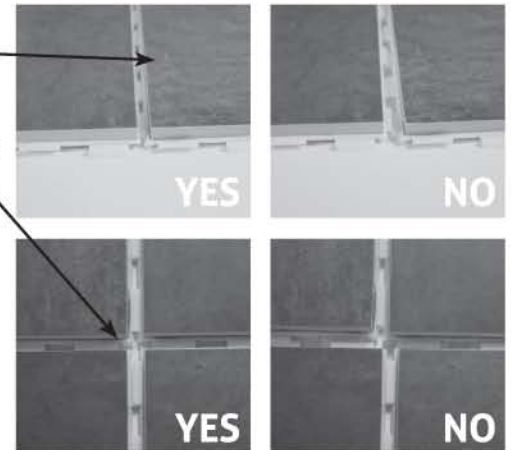
- Temperature during installation should be maintained above 60° F (16° C) and below 110° F (43° C). However, when applying grout, surface and air temperature needs to be at least 60°F (16°C).
- A 24-hour acclimation period is necessary if temperature variance from storage to jobsite is greater than 20° F (7° C).
- All claims for defective product must be filed before the tile is installed. A careful twisting and visual inspection should be performed prior to installation.
- Small cut pieces installed along the perimeter should be adhered using a premium construction adhesive (PL 400 or PL Premium).

STEP 3: Assembly

- Tiles can be interlocked using a white rubber mallet and tapping block. Using a tapping block is optional.
- Tiles may be installed one at a time, or in rows.
- System is non-directional, and can be installed to the right or to the left.
- A tile cannot be installed between two other tiles.



- Ensure interlocking tabs are fully engaged.
- Grout joint intersections should form a perfect cross. This should be checked throughout the installation, and after the field tile has been installed. Adjustments can be made by using a white-headed rubber mallet and tapping the misaligned row in the appropriate direction.
- Tile rows can be shifted for perfect alignment using a rubber mallet and pull bar, or tapping block.
- Tiles can be disengaged in 2 ways:
 1. Lifting one tile upward until tiles disconnect.
 2. Placing the rubber-coated pull bar in the grout joint and twisting until tiles separate.



STEP 4 Layouts/Patterns

- Installs in straight, diagonal, staggered, or mixed size patterns.
- Installation can begin in the center of the room or at perimeter. As with a traditional tile installation, the layout should be planned so the cut pieces along the perimeter appear in an aesthetically pleasing manner.
- When beginning an installation along a wall, remove the tabs to allow for the ¼" expansion gap. Tabs can be removed using a wet saw, tin snip, or rubber mallet.
- It may be advantageous to begin an installation at a doorway or underneath an undercut.
- Due to the shade variation associated with glazed porcelain tile, tiles should be mixed from cartons if installing different lot number. We recommend all jobs be installed from the same lot number.

STEP 5: Marking/Cutting

- Always follow tool manufacturer safety requirements and use appropriate eye and ear protection.
- Tiles may be cut using a wet saw, tile cutter, or angle grinder, all with a diamond blade.
- A ¼" gap is required along the perimeter to allow for expansion and contraction.
- When marking cuts:



Step 1: Measure distance between wall and the field tile, then deduct ½" This factors in ¼" for the grout joint plus ¼" for the expansion gap.

Step 2: Mark the measurement on a tile, and proceed with the cut. The protective slip sheet can be used for determining the size of tile cuts. Simply place a sheet where the tile is installed, and fold it where cuts are needed. The folding sheet can be used as a cutting template.

- When using a wet saw, be sure to change the water often. Shavings from the plastic tray float, and will clog the water pump.
- After cutting the tile with a wet saw, set it with the cut edge facing down to allow the water to drain properly.
- When cutting tile using a tile cutter:
 - Step 1:** Score tile with tile cutter.
 - Step 2:** Snap porcelain tile.
 - Step 3:** Separate the two pieces of porcelain tile, then run a utility knife across the plastic tray and snap plastic tray.
- L cuts can be made using a wet saw or angle grinder.
- Curved, circular, or U cuts can be made using an angle grinder.
- Holes can be drilled using a high quality carbide-designed hole cutter or diamond bit.
- Once cut, a tile can be installed along the perimeter using a rubber-coated pull bar.

STEP 6: Grouting



- Rubber gloves
- Margin Trowel*
- Hard rubber-edged grout float*
- 5-gallon bucket with a fresh water supply
- Sponge designed for cleaning grout*

* Included in SnapSys Installation Tool Kit available at www.snapsysinterloc.com

Things to Know

- SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout is for use with the SnapSys Tile System which includes, Avaire, Zip-Tile, Eclipse and SnapStone. It is not warranted or approved for other applications.
- Using SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout is a critical part of installing the SnapSys Tile System –No other grout should be used. These instructions are for installing SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout over a SnapSys Tile floor.
- Stir grout thoroughly before use. Please note: A milky liquid may be present at the surface, and should be mixed in until a consistent grout texture is reached.
- Do not add water or any other material to SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout. This will have an adverse effect on the product and will void all warranties.
- Protect grout from freezing prior to opening and throughout curing process.
- Acclimate the grout to a temperature of approximately 60°F (16°C) - 70°F (21°C).
- SnapSys Flexible Grout may be applied as soon as you have finished installing your SnapSys Tile floor.
- Remove grout residue AS YOU WORK using water and a sponge. Do not use too much water. Do not over wash, please see our website for more information on over washing – the sponge should be lightly damp and nearly dry. Never grout more than 5-10 square feet before cleaning.
- Protect finished surface from light traffic for at least 24 hours at 70°F (21°C). Regular traffic may resume after 72 hours at 70°F (21°C) and 50% relative humidity. Do not expose grout to stains or cleaners for 7 days.
- Use Krud Kutter® Original or Krud Kutter® Tough Task Remover or UGC (Urethane Grout Cleaner) to cleanup any grout residue that remains on the tile surface after 24 hours. See our website for Grout Haze removal instructions.
- KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

Coverage

Tile Size	12 x 12	18 x 18	6 x 6	6 x 24	12 x 24
1/4" Grout line	50-55	80-90	30-35	N/A	75-80
1/8" Grout line	110	N/A	N/A	135	160-170

Surface Preparation

- Conduct a final floor inspection, verifying:
 - all tabs are fully engaged.
 - all grout intersections are properly aligned, forming a **+**
 - grout joints are clean, dry, and free from debris.
- Surface temperature must be above 60°F (16°C) and below 80°F (27°C).

Preparation for Grouting

- Liquid may be present on the surface of the grout when opened due to settling.
- Please note: SnapSys Flexible Grout is measured by weight, not volume. Extra space is left in the bucket to allow for stirring.
- Working time of grout is 2 to 3 hours at 70°F (21°C). Working time is affected by many variables, including surface and room temperatures and humidity. Warmer climates will shorten working time, while colder conditions will extend working time.
- DO NOT add any water, liquid or other material to SnapSys Flexible Grout!
- Prepare one 5 gallon (18.93 liters) bucket of cleaning water, 1/2 full, changing the water every 100 sq. ft.

Grouting & Caulking

- Use a hard, rubber-edged grout float. Do not use a foam-edged grout float.
 - Step #1:** With float at a 45 degree angle, spread SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout diagonally, pressing firmly to ensure joints are filled completely.
 - Step #2:** With float at a 90 degree angle, pull diagonally across joints removing excess grout from tile using the edge of the float like a squeegee. Use caution not to pull grout out of filled joints.
- Inspect grout joints and pack additional grout if needed.
- SnapSys Urethane Flexible Grout should not be used to fill in the expansion gap along the perimeter of the room. In an environment exposed to moisture such as a bathroom, a caulk should be used to seal the perimeter.
(To order color-matched caulk, visit our website at www.snapsysinterloc.com)

Initial Cleaning

- Remove grout residue AS YOU WORK, particularly in warm/dry climates. Never grout more than 5-10 square feet before cleaning.
 - Step #1:** With a lightly damp and nearly dry sponge, gently wipe grout joints and tile surface in a circular motion, loosening grout residue while make the joints smooth. Do not use too much water, this may result in over-washing.
(see our website for more information on over-washing.)
 - Step #2:** Wipe the loosened grout residue diagonally rinsing sponge after every pass; use each side of sponge only once between rinsing.
- Check work as you clean. Repair any low spots/joints with additional grout.
- Do not wash too vigorously - just a light motion will suffice.

Final Cleaning

- After 24 hours, use a sponge and water to remove any remaining grout residue - this will have a shiny or smeared appearance on the surface of the tile.
- Allow cleaned areas to dry and inspect the floor again.
- Protect finished surface from light traffic for 24 hours at 70°F (21°C). Regular traffic can resume after 72 hours.
- A complete cure requires 28 days at 70°F (21°C) and 50% relative humidity. Never cover grout during curing.
- If grout haze exists after 24 hours, it may be removed using Krud Kutter® Original, Tuff Task® Remover, or Snapsys Urethane Grout Cleaner, and a nylon scrubber pad, taking care to avoid getting the cleaner in the grout lines. For more information see our Grout Haze Removal Instructions on our website at www.snapsysinterloc.com.
- Low spots/joints can be touched up after 24 hours. Do not expose grout to stains or cleaners for 7 days.
- No sealing required.

Cleaning Tips

- Use a sponge designed for cleaning grout. This has a denser texture, and will make it easier to remove grout haze during the cleaning process.
- Keep water clean. It is best to rinse sponge in a 5-gallon bucket filled to the top with water. This allows grout from the sponge to sink to the bottom, keeping the top area clean for rinsing.
- When cleaning the grout, don't use too much water, do not over wash – the sponge should be lightly damp and nearly dry.
- Grout Haze Removal instructions can be found on our website www.snapsysinterloc.com.

Long-Term Care

- SnapSys Flexible Grout may be cleaned using Soft Scrub® with Bleach and a soft, bristled brush.
- Do not use a vinegar cleaner, enzyme cleaner, or steam cleaner.
- See *Care & Maintenance* page on our website for more information.

Questions? Call toll-free: **1-877-263-5861** www.snapsysinterloc.com

REV: A_1013

©2013 CoMc, LLC. All rights reserved. SnapSys Interloc is a registered trademark of CoMc, LLC.