

AS 1884:2021



STANDARDS
Australia



Floor coverings — Resilient sheet and tiles — Installation practices



AS 1884:2021

This Australian Standard® was prepared by PL-015, Resilient Flooring. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 4 January 2021.

This Standard was published on 5 February 2021.

The following are represented on Committee PL-015:

- AWTA Product Testing (Testing Interests Australia)
- Australian Flooring Industry Alliance
- Australian Industry Group
- Australian Institute of Building Surveyors
- Australian Resilient Floorcovering Association
- Building Designers Association of Australia
- Carpet Institute of Australia
- Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia
- Floorcovering Institute of Australia
- Vinyl Council of Australia

This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR AS 1884:2020.

Keeping Standards up-to-date

Ensure you have the latest versions of our publications and keep up-to-date about Amendments, Rulings, Withdrawals, and new projects by visiting:

www.standards.org.au

ISBN 978 1 76113 155 4

Floor coverings — Resilient sheet and tiles — Installation practices

Originated as AS CA37—1966.
Revised and redesignated as AS 1884—1976.
Previous edition 2012.
Fourth edition 2021.

© Standards Australia Limited 2021

All rights are reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, without the written permission of the publisher, unless otherwise permitted under the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth).

Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee PL-015, Resilient Flooring, to supersede AS 1884 — 2012, *Floor coverings — Resilient sheet and tiles — Installation practices*.

The objective of this document is to provide minimum requirements for the installation and application of resilient coverings for Australian conditions to ensure that the installed product is fit for purpose.

Content in [Clause 5.9](#) and [Appendix G](#) has been used with permission from Dale Peterson.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices to which they apply. A “normative” appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an “informative” appendix is only for information and guidance.

The inclusion of roles and responsibilities in AS 1884:2020 was approved by the Standards Development and Accreditation Committee (SDAC) on 2 May 2019, on a transitional basis of 5 years from the date of publication.

Contents

Preface	ii
Section 1 Scope and general	1
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 Normative references	1
1.3 Terms and definitions	2
1.4 Materials	6
1.4.1 Resilient floor covering	6
1.4.2 Adhesive	6
1.4.3 Underlay and underlayment	7
Section 2 Pre-installation requirements	8
2.1 Site inspection	8
2.1.1 Pre-installation preparation	8
2.1.2 Subfloor information	8
2.1.3 Report by flooring contractor	8
2.2 Information	8
2.2.1 General	8
2.2.2 Commercial installations	9
2.2.3 Residential installations	10
Section 3 Subfloors and underlays	11
3.1 Concrete subfloors	11
3.1.1 Construction	11
3.1.2 Dryness	11
3.1.3 Surface pH	11
3.1.4 Surface quality	11
3.1.5 Surface preparation	11
3.2 Sand-cement Screed subfloors	12
3.3 Engineered screed subfloors	12
3.4 New concrete subfloors	12
3.4.1 General	12
3.4.2 Construction	12
3.4.3 Dryness	12
3.5 Existing concrete subfloors	13
3.5.1 General	13
3.5.2 Construction	13
3.5.3 Dryness	13
3.5.4 Surface	14
3.6 Timber, plywood, particleboard and fibre-cement sheet subfloors	14
3.6.1 New construction	14
3.6.2 Ventilation	15
3.6.3 Preparation of timber, plywood and particleboard subfloors	15
3.6.4 Installation of underlay for timber, plywood and particleboard subfloors	16
3.6.5 Plywood subfloors	17
3.6.6 Particleboard subfloors	18
3.6.7 Fibre-cement sheet subfloors	18
3.6.8 Existing coverings and finishes	19
Section 4 General conditioning and installation procedures	20
4.1 Conditioning of floor covering and subfloor	20
4.1.1 On-site storage and conditioning	20
4.1.2 Air-conditioned areas	20
4.1.3 Heated subfloors	20
4.1.4 Subfloors in cool rooms and cold stores	21
4.2 General installation procedures	21
4.3 Silica dust control	22

4.4	Cleaning and maintenance	23
Section 5	Installation procedures for specific flooring types	24
5.1	Resilient wall and floor sheet	24
5.1.1	General	24
5.1.2	Setout	24
5.1.3	Adhesive	24
5.1.4	Seaming	24
5.1.5	Coving	25
5.1.6	Completion	25
5.2	Wet area floor and wall resilient sheet	25
5.2.1	Floor resilient sheet	25
5.2.2	Wall resilient sheet	27
5.3	Linoleum	30
5.3.1	On site storage and conditioning	30
5.3.2	Adhesive	30
5.3.3	Setout	30
5.3.4	Installation	30
5.3.5	Seaming	31
5.3.6	Border coving	31
5.3.7	Completion	31
5.4	Rubber sheet and tiles	31
5.4.1	Conditioning	31
5.4.2	Adhesive	32
5.4.3	Tile setout	32
5.4.4	Sheet setout	32
5.4.5	Installation	32
5.4.6	Seaming	32
5.4.7	Completion	32
5.5	Vinyl composite tiles (VCT)	32
5.5.1	Conditioning	32
5.5.2	Adhesive	32
5.5.3	Setout	33
5.5.4	Installation	33
5.5.5	Completion	33
5.5.6	Protection	33
5.6	Luxury vinyl tile and plank (LVT, LVP)	33
5.6.1	Conditioning	33
5.6.2	Adhesive	33
5.6.3	Setout	33
5.6.4	Installation	34
5.6.5	Completion	34
5.6.6	Protection	34
5.7	Loose lay installation — Sheet, plank and tile	34
5.7.1	General	34
5.7.2	Conditioning	34
5.7.3	Seaming	34
5.7.4	Mechanical fixings	35
5.7.5	Completion	35
5.8	Hybrid modular flooring	35
5.8.1	General	35
5.8.2	Conditioning	35
5.8.3	Installation over existing floor coverings	35
5.8.4	Inspecting the hybrid modular floor coverings before installing	35
5.8.5	Setout	35
5.8.6	Threshold strips, expansion and edge treatments	36
5.8.7	Completion	36
5.9	Static (electrostatic) control	36
5.9.1	General	36

5.9.2	Conditioning	36
5.9.3	Adhesive	36
5.9.4	Installation	37
5.9.5	Conformance testing.....	37
5.9.6	Completion.....	37
Appendix A (normative) Testing for moisture content in subfloors — <i>in situ</i> probe method.....		38
Appendix B (informative) Moisture vapour emission rate surface test (secondary test method).....		40
Appendix C (normative) Testing the pH level in concrete subfloors.....		42
Appendix D (normative) Site information to be provided to the contractor.....		44
Appendix E (informative) Surface preparation of concrete.....		46
Appendix F (informative) Adhesive.....		49
Appendix G (informative) Information on electrostatic discharge (ESD) control resilient flooring.....		51
Appendix H (informative) Glossary of terms.....		53
Bibliography.....		56

NOTES

Australian Standard®

Floor coverings — Resilient sheet and tiles — Installation practices

Section 1 Scope and general

1.1 Scope

This document sets out procedures for the preparation, laying and fixing of resilient sheet and tile floor coverings in all forms including flexible PVC, semi-rigid PVC, hybrid modular, linoleum, and rubber. It also applies to self-adhesive tiles.

This document gives details of the work necessary to prepare subfloor surfaces, together with procedures to be adopted for laying the resilient covering.

This document does not apply to the laying of textile floor coverings (carpets), bamboo, laminate, engineered flooring, melamine, timber or cork products.

1.2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document.

NOTE Documents referenced for informative purposes are listed in the Bibliography

AS 1684, *Residential timber-framed construction (series)*

AS 1860.2, *Particleboard flooring, Part 2: Installation*

AS 2870, *Residential slabs and footings*

AS 3740, *Waterproofing of domestic wet areas*

AS/NZS 1859.1, *Reconstituted wood-based panels — Specifications, Part 1: Particleboard*

AS/NZS 1859.2, *Reconstituted wood-based panels — Specifications, Part 2: Dry-processed fibreboard*

AS/NZS 1859.4, *Reconstituted wood-based panels — Specifications, Part 4: Wet-processed fibreboard*

AS/NZS 2269.0, *Plywood — Structural, Part 0: Specifications*

AS/NZS 2908.2, *Cellulose-cement products, Part 2: Flat sheets*

AS/NZS 4858, *Wet area membranes*

IEC 61340-4-1 ed2.1 Consol. with am1, *Electrostatics — Part 4-1: Standard test methods for specific applications — Electrical resistance of floor coverings and installed floors*

IEC 61340-5-1, *Electrostatics — Part 5-1: Protection of electronic devices from electrostatic phenomena - General requirements*

ISO 10581, *Resilient floor coverings — Homogeneous poly(vinyl chloride) floor covering — Specifications*

ISO 10582, *Resilient floor coverings — Heterogeneous poly(vinyl chloride) floor covering — Specifications*

ANSI/ESD S20.20, *ESD Association Standard for the Development of an Electrostatic Discharge Control Program for Protection of Electrical and Electronic Parts, Assemblies and Equipment (Excluding Electrically Initiated Explosive Devices)*

ASTM E96, *Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials*

ASTM F2170, *Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes*