

## Installation Methods - General Guidelines

Edward Fields custom rugs and carpets have unique characteristics and each installation should be carefully evaluated to determine the type of installation and the type of cushion/underlay or pad required for each type of carpet quality installed in specific areas.

As a rule it is advised to follow the CRI installation standard which is based upon reliable principles and procedures developed through practical experience, research, and information obtained from retailers, installers, end users, testing laboratories, and others who have specialized expertise.

All facets of the installation should be carefully coordinated. A scale drawing of the area to be installed is necessary to determine the carpet designation, carpet quantity, the installation method, pile height, type of cushion/underlay and gripper rod or adhesive, transition mouldings, wall base types and other accessories, and to identify the proper location of seams.

Particular importance should be given to carpet seams and junction types as well as the correct positioning for tuft direction of the rugs or carpets.

Underlay/Cushions and pads are a prerequisite for carpet durability and longevity. The use of a properly specified commercial carpet underlay also provides improved underfoot comfort, greater insulation, improved acoustics, impact resistance, and cleaning and vacuuming efficiency. Underlay thickness is also a critical consideration in order to obtain the desired long-term performance of a carpet. It is generally agreed that underlay should range from ¼" or 6mm to a maximum of ⅜" or 9.5mm thickness. Similarly, area rugs must be installed over non-slip pads for the same reasons.

Edward Fields' warranty is dependent on the use of appropriate carpet underlay and non-slip pads.

For installations in recessed (inset) flooring and for skirting and door clearance, the total height of carpet, backing, underlay and adhesive must be anticipated to align with the specified total height above the Fixed Floor Level (FFL).

For inset or wall to wall installations it is recommended to use the stretched in method of installation - rather than the double-stick down method. This allows carpet repairs to be carried out, and enables the drying of carpet, underlay and substrate following water incursion; the stretched method also allows refits to be executed quickly and efficiently and high performance, undamaged underlay can be reused or recycled.

A stretch-fit installation is the right choice for sustainability: product life is significantly extended by allowing repairs to be undertaken and since both underlay and carpeting can be separated on removal this allows reuse, material recycling, or proper triage prior to the appropriate path of disposal.