

## **Skirting versions for Homogeneous product**

### **1. GENERAL**

The operation of laying floor coverings is a construction service within the meaning of the regulations for the remuneration of construction services

### **2. CONDITIONS FOR LAYING**

#### **Checking the flooring material**

Gerflor Mipolam flooring materials for buildings undergo meticulous quality inspection and consequently ensure a high standard of quality. Should any material defect nevertheless be detected on site, this must be reported before cutting and laying. Detectable defects (e.g. defects of colour, marbling, embossing or thickness) cannot be acknowledged once the material has been laid. Faint odours specific to the product, which new products give off for a certain time, are not grounds for complaint.

In accordance with the recognized codes of practice, it is the responsibility of the contractor laying the floor covering to establish whether the substrate meets the requirements for the laying of a floor covering or the application of a wall covering. Any doubts must be reported in writing.

### **3. COLOUR UNIFORMITY**

In any one room, only lay identical material, either sheet or tile, from one and the same production batch. It is essential to specify identical colour and production batch when ordering. Slight variations in tone are possible within one and the same production batch. The best consistency of colour will be obtained if the rolls are cut up according to production sequence, in numerical order, and laid next to each other, even if this leaves gaps in the numbering. Consistency of colour cannot be guaranteed when short rolls are laid.

### **4. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS**

Gerflor Mipolam floor coverings must be acclimatized to room temperature before adhesive is applied. To do this, the floor covering should be arranged one day before the laying operation. The climatic conditions specified below should be respected in the building for three days before the preliminary work begins, during operations and for up to seven days after completion.

Required floor temperature and relative humidity must be in accordance with the local standards. High air temperatures in the room will cause changes in reaction times and drying processes during work with the materials and can lead to dimensional changes in the floor coverings. Radical changes in temperature and relative humidity can not only affect reaction times and dimensional alterations. They can also lead to subsequent damage.

#### **4. a. LAYING ON HEATED SUBSTRATES**

Gerflor Mipolam floor coverings are suitable for laying in buildings with underfloor heating, provided the temperature does not exceed 28°C.

In such cases, the heating should be kept on for three days prior to operations, during the work and for up to seven days after laying, maintaining a surface temperature in the range 18-22°C. It is the responsibility of the client to ensure that these conditions are fulfilled and to document the way they are respected.

### **5. STORING THE ROLLS**

Gerflor Mipolam sheet products must always be stored upright.

## 6. GLUING THE FLOOR COVERING

The floor covering must be glued according to the recommendations and instructions for use of the manufacturer of the adhesive. It is essential to respect adhesive ventilation times, recommended serrated trowels, etc. Contact adhesives containing solvents can penetrate the floor covering and cause alterations in colour on the surface of the floor covering. For application to walls or zones in which adhesion on contact is required, solvent-free adhesives should therefore be used. Ask the adhesive manufacturer direct; he will recommend suitable adhesives.

You can obtain the current list of recommended adhesives from [www.gerflor.de-Objektbeläge-downloads](http://www.gerflor.de-Objektbeläge-downloads).

## 7. SKIRTING VERSIONS

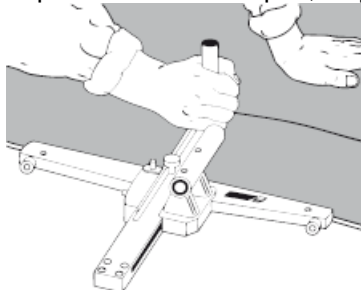
The many tried and tested skirting versions make it possible to produce a technically, optically and hygienically faultless, crevice-free wall-floor transition, consistent in colour. The wall-floor transition can be formed using Gerflor Mipolam skirting strips or coving in various radii, (25 mm) or by folding after grooving the back of the sheet (5 mm radius). The substrate, both wall and floor, must be suitable for a gluing process. In case of doubt, check proper adhesion by carrying out a test operation.

### 7. 1. SKIRTING STRIPS OF HOMOGENEOUS FLOOR COVERING, 5 MM RADIUS

By employing the tools described below, optimum use can be made of the offcuts from the same production batch. In this version, the skirting is applied first, and then the flat surface.

#### Cutting strips of material

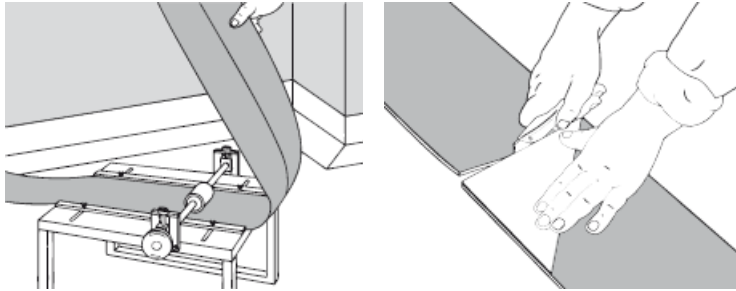
Strips of material of the desired width are cut along the straight edge in a single operation using the strip cutter mounted on rollers. The cutting head can be armed with an interchangeable blade, either trapezoid or hook-shaped, as preferred. Maximum strip width about 300 mm.



Strip cutter

#### Scoring skirting strips

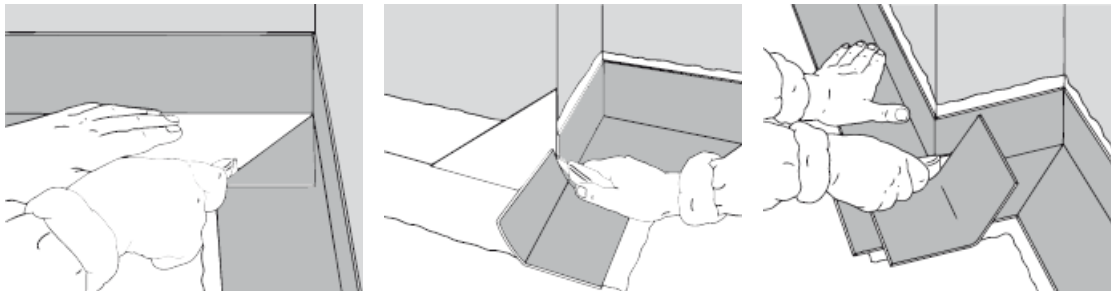
To prepare folded skirting strips from the floor covering, the material is grooved on the back. To obtain a straight folding groove, the desired strip width and depth of grooving are set on the bench cutter, and the strip of material is inserted under the pressure roller, wearing side up, and pulled through. Width of scored groove about 6 mm. Minimum thickness of the material in the fold zone in high-grade PVC floor covering about 1 mm. The shavings resulting from the scoring operation are saved for subsequent use as colorant for the cold-welding medium.



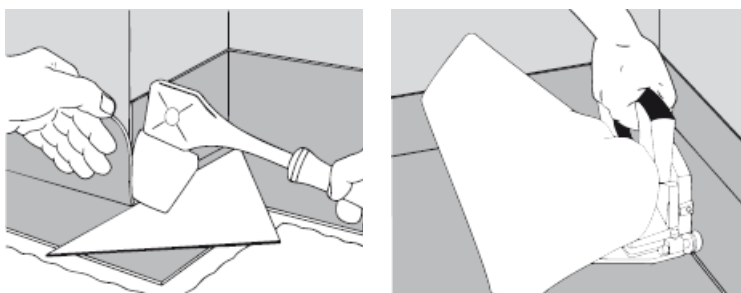
The skirting strips thus prepared are then cut roughly to length, leaving a sufficient margin at the ends. For clean, accurate, cutting of inner and outer angles, a simple triangle of aluminium sheet has proved a useful aid.

### Applying skirting strips

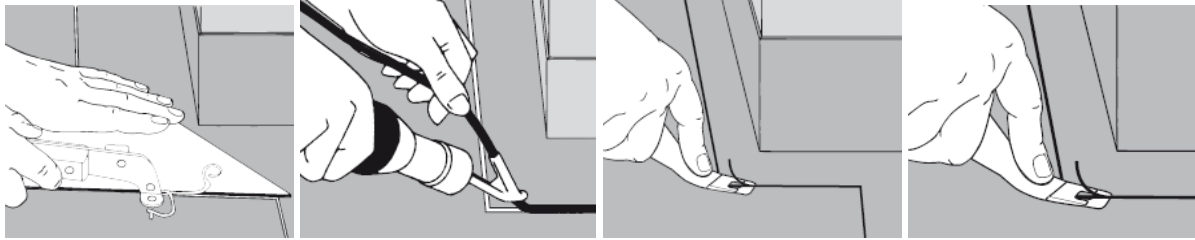
The skirting is cut straight. Application is by adhesion on contact, using a solvent-free adhesive.



The two floor sections on the skirting strip are cut right through, overlapping. In this way, with the help of the aluminium triangle, abutting edges are obtained. The wall and floor sections are of the inner corners are cold-welded. To cut the wall section at outer corners, place a distance piece 1.5-2.0 mm thick (e.g. aluminium triangle) against the wall as a cutting guide. This leaves the projecting material that will be needed for subsequent hot welding. To cut the second wall section, the wall section already applied serves as a guide.



The wall sections of the butt-joined outer corners are welded after gluing with an electric welder (put a triangle underneath) and then polished with fine steel wool and ethyl acetate and a soft cloth. Note: polishing of the outer angle will remove the coatings applied to the wearing surface. After the floor covering has been laid, the joint seam is grooved, then welded with a manual or automatic welder, and the welding bead is removed in two operations.

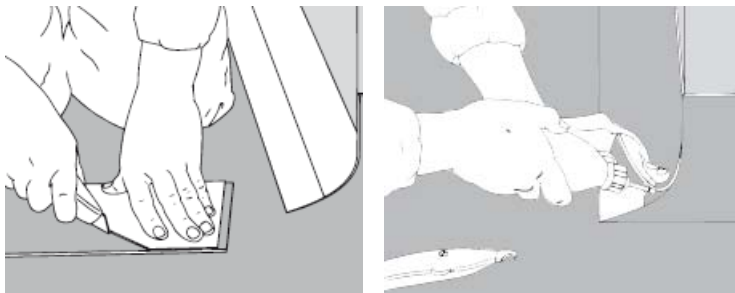


That is how the technically and hygienically flawless Gerflor Skirting System is obtained.

Note: a cold-welding medium in the same colour can be obtained by dissolving PVC shavings obtained during grooving in the cold-welding medium.

## 7. 2. SKIRTING STRIPS OF HOMOGENEOUS FLOOR COVERING, WITH 25 MM RADIUS COVING

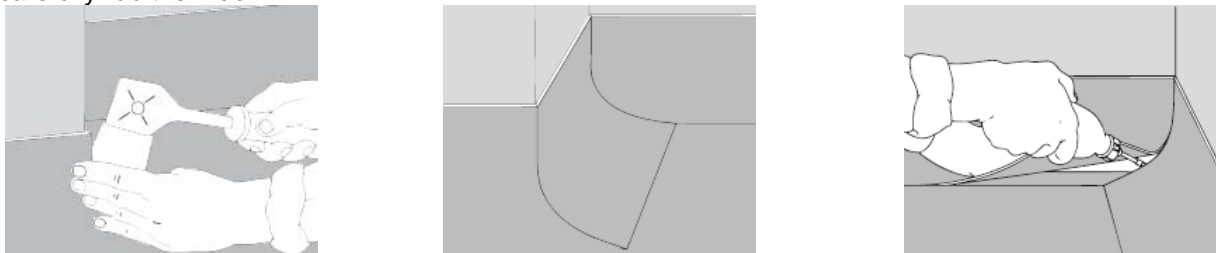
In this version, the floor is laid first and the edges of the flooring trimmed. Apply corresponding coving profiles with contact adhesive (solvent-free).



Cut the skirting strips from sheet in the required width and cut them roughly to length leaving a margin at the ends. Cut the two ends of the skirting strip for inner corners with a template for wall profiles (obtainable from Wolf GmbH, 71665 Vaihingen). Use the same template to cut the two skirting strip ends that abut at an outer corner.

The skirting strips are applied with contact adhesive. Use a solvent-free adhesive for this operation.

After the appropriate ventilation period, lay the skirting strips at the edge of the flooring surface and carefully rub them down.



Weld the wall and floor sections of the outer corners cold, and the wall sections, including the coving, thermally, and then polish the outer corners with fine steel wool and ethyl acetate and a soft cloth. Note: polishing of the outer edge will remove the coatings applied to the wearing surface.

### Compact and Comfort floorings

Inner corners are treated in the same ways as for homogeneous floorings. For outer corners, proceed as follows: the back is cut halfway with a gouging plane (4 mm). Cute 1.5 mm into the floor section. The

floor covering is heated, pulled round the outer corner and rubbed down. A square of corresponding size is matched to the floor section and inserted. The seams are welded, either cold or hot.

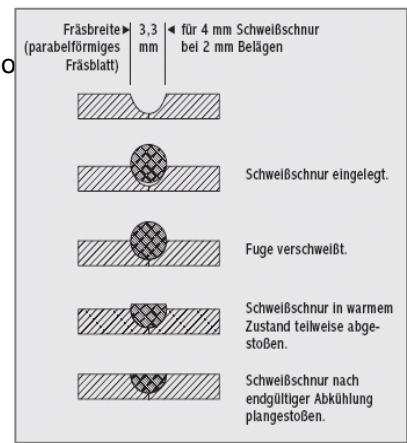
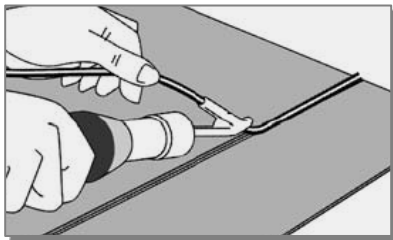
## 8. HOT WELDING

All Gerflor Mipolam floor and wall coverings are hot-welded. Hot welding is carried out 24 hours after gluing the floor covering. To gouge out the seams in the floor area, a parabolic-shaped cutter should be used to ensure optimum welding. Cutter diameter 3.3 mm for a welding bead 4 mm in diameter. Depth of groove  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the thickness of the floor covering.

The seams of the wall covering are cut out with a triangular scraper.

For welding Gerflor Mipolam floor coverings, we recommend the use of a suitable welding nozzle to ensure that the heat is directed precisely onto the seam groove, as far as possible avoiding shiny bands each side of the seam (e.g. Janser 224800 007 ultra-fast welding nozzle, or Herz article no. A000107, or Leister article no. 27. 21/105. 433).

- Determining factors for a properly executed and durable weld are:
- welding bead of the same material (PVC welding bead for correspo
- well-executed grooving;
- sufficient welding temperature;
- appropriate welding speed and contact pressure;
- removal of the welding bead in two passes;
- spot-checks on weld strength;
- suitable tools, machines and equipment.



## 9. FURTHER HINTS ON THE USE OF THE FLOOR COVERING

### Discoloration

In some special cases, the transfer of aggressive substances such as tar, fats, oils or dyes carried in on the soles of people's shoes can lead to discoloration in zones of heavy traffic. Discoloration in the form of yellow staining of the floor covering can generally occur in any ground-floor situation when tar or bitumen mixtures are used in road surfaces. Such discoloration of the floor coverings cannot be removed; lighter colour combinations, in particular, are more sensitive to discoloration than darker, muted shades. In the longer term, some types of rubber (e.g. on the feet of chairs and articles of furniture) can cause discoloration of elastic floor coverings, which are impossible to remove. This can be avoided by the use of suitable, non-discolouring grades of rubber, for which the manufacturer guarantees suitability for elastic floor coverings, or of PVC or polyethylene. Substances containing hair dye or alcohol and skin disinfectants containing iodine, as well as media containing solvents and dyes, can cause discoloration of the surface of the floor covering if they are not removed immediately after coming into contact with the floor.

Disinfectant and soap dispensers should be so arranged that their contents do not drip onto the floor. Cleaning agents such as basic cleaner, coatings and household cleaners should be matched to each other in order to exclude unwanted interactions (sticky surface, discoloration). Please respect the corresponding cleaning recommendations.

#### **10. EFFECTS OF HEAT**

Smouldering cigarette butts carelessly dropped onto high-grade elastic floor coverings leave traces with carbonization and the formation of crusts on the surface. These traces can only be removed by repairing the affected areas. In contrast, cigarette ends that are trodden out at once only leave faint traces.

#### **11. CLEANING**

It is the duty of the contractor to give the client recommendations on cleaning and maintenance. It is advisable to obtain a receipt for these from the client.