Installing ShadowFX Carpet Tiles with GroundBridge and Tactiles

ShadowFX Carpet Tiles can be installed over most any existing floor, such as access floors (over bare metal panels or over conductive surfaces like high pressure laminate), ESD epoxy, ESD vinyl tile, bare concrete (with or without moisture issues), and painted and other non-conductive surfaces.

GroundBridge forms a uniform ground plane over any non-conductive floor. It's a thin, lightweight material composed of conductive cellulose. Available in 12" rolls, GroundBridge is rolled out over your existing floor in a stripe pattern with the strips spaced 36" apart (48" on center). Quick, no mess, and ESD safe.

Tactiles join together ShadowFX Carpet Tiles at their corners, to create a floating floor. Simply position and stick. Tactiles create a strong bond that locks carpet tiles together along a horizontal plane, but allow for a quick release vertically by pulling up on a single tile. Easily and quickly replace and reposition worn or damaged tiles.

INSTALLATION

Step 1.
Prepare your subfloor.

Prepare your subfloor by cleaning it, removing or repairing any imperfections, and removing any waxes or polishes.

If you have moisture issues with your subfloor, proceed to Step 2. Otherwise, skip this step and go to Step 3.
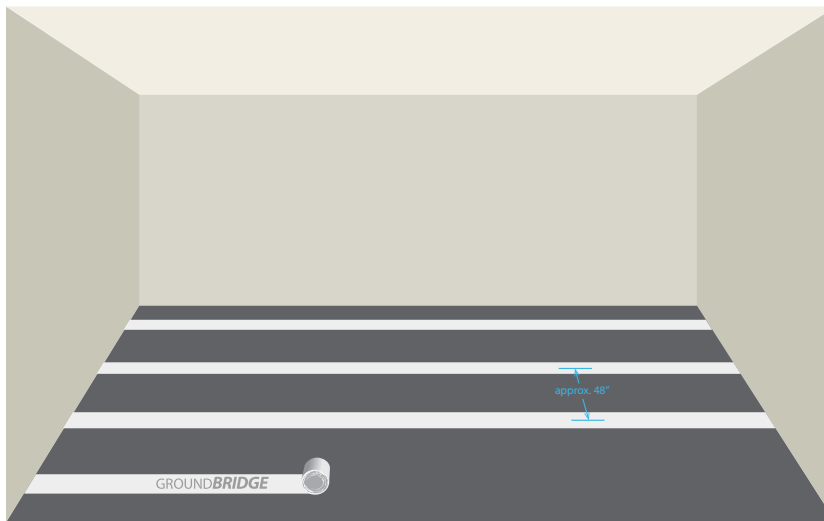

Step 2. (optional)
If your subfloor has issues with moisture, then install MoistureGard.

Follow the installation directions and install MoistureGard over your subfloor.

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Installing ShadowFX Carpet Tiles with GroundBridge and Tactiles (continued)

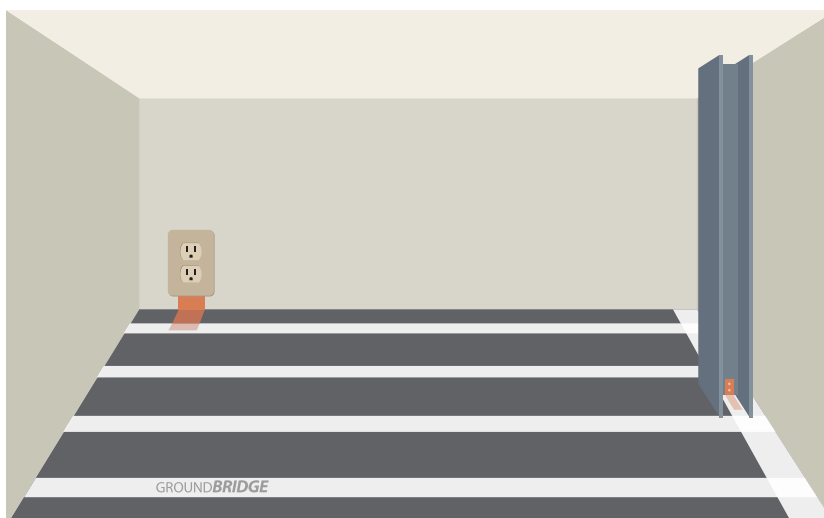
Step 3. (optional)
Install GroundBridge.

If you are installing ShadowFX Carpet Tile over a conductive subfloor such as bare metal access floor panels, ESD epoxy, or ESD vinyl tile, then you don't need to install GroundBridge and can proceed to Step 5.

Available in 12" width rolls, lay GroundBridge out in strips parallel with the room's longest dimension. Strips should be spaced approximately 36" apart (48" on center) so that they will be positioned underneath every other seam, thereby making contact with every row of 24" carpet tiles.

Step 4. (optional)
Finish installing GroundBridge by positioning strips along outside edges of floor.

One strip of GroundBridge should be added along one edge of the room that runs perpendicular to the strips installed in Step 3, that connects all of the strips. This strip will connect all of the ends of the strips at the room's edge, making a unified ground plane above your subfloor.

Step 5.
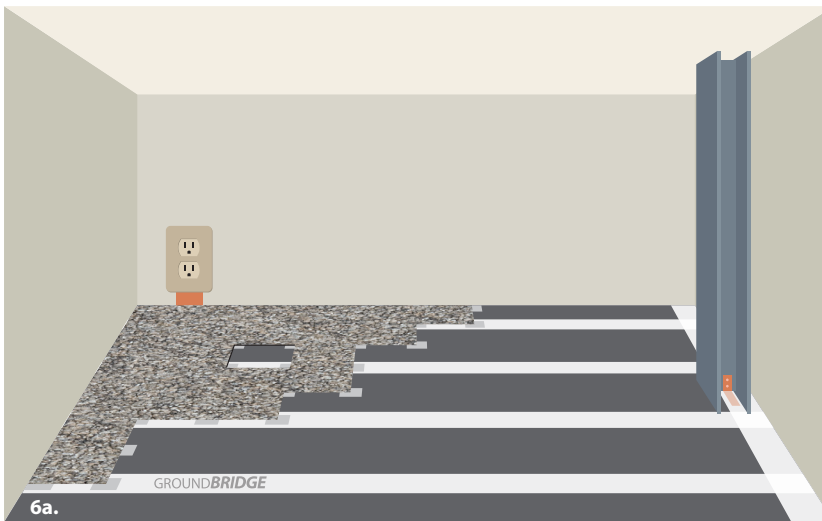**Ensure that your GroundBridge (or conductive subfloor) is properly grounded.**

Your GroundBridge needs to be properly grounded by using strips of 24" copper tape. Copper strips need to be installed at a frequency of 1 copper strip for every 1000 sq. ft. of floor space (generally one strip of copper tape per room). At least 2 inches of copper strip should contact a groundbridge strip (or your conductive subfloor). The copper tape has a self-adhesive backing to hold it in place.

Option 1: Install copper strip by attaching one end to a grounded electrical outlet.

Option 2: Install copper strip by attaching one end to a grounded metal structure such as an I-beam.

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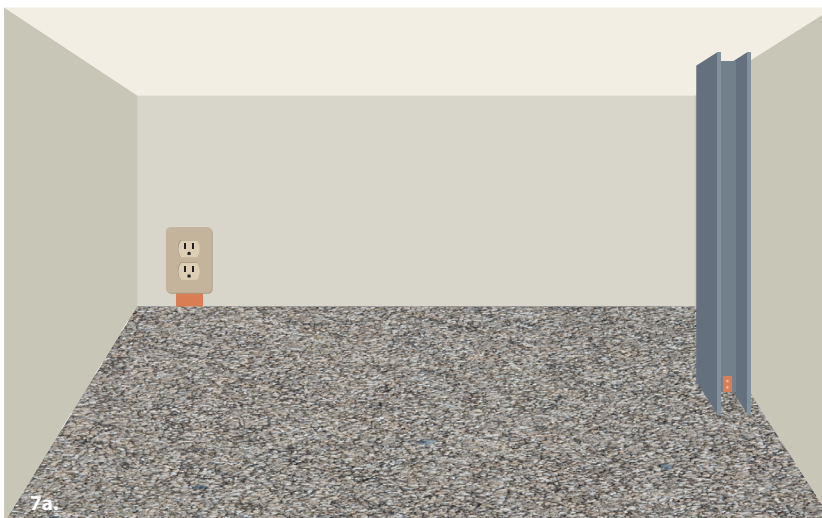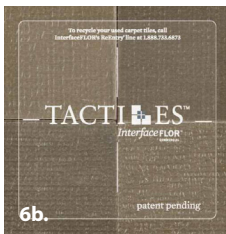## Installing ShadowFX Carpet Tiles with GroundBridge and Tactiles (continued)

6a.

6b.

6c.

Step 6.
Install ShadowFX Carpet Tiles using Tactiles.

Position carpet tiles onto subfloor (and GroundBridge if used). Individual tiles can be removed easlily by pulling upward in the middle of it's edges (fig. 6a.).

Connect four tiles together using Tactiles by joining the four corners where they meet. (figs. 6b. and 6c.)

Two adjacent tiles at the room's edge should be connected at their touching corners (in this instance, one Tactile to connect two corners).

7a.

7b.

7c.

Step 7.
Test completed installation.

Finished floor (fig. 7a.) should be tested for electrical resistance using an ohm meter. To be certified ESD-safe, nine or more readings should be made with electrodes placed 1 foot apart (fig. 7b.). Using an applied voltage of 100V, the finished floor should measure $1.0 \times 10^6 - 1.0 \times 10^8$ ohms (fig. 7c.).