

# BETTER LIFE TECHNOLOGY

## Installation Training Manual



## **Better Life Technology, LLC**

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Don and Brett Sneed, father and son, developed the innovative concept of the G-Floor Parking Pad® as a new concept in floor coverings. This is one of the quickest and easiest ways to improve a home with colors and patterns for flooring. The BLT Roll-Out Garage Flooring is one of the best-selling garage floor protector mats in the world. It is the only garage floor mat available in sizes up to 10-feet in width of numerous colors and material grades, including the coin, diamond tread, channel-ribbed and the Levant patterns. Any design can be printed for a custom product to satisfy the customer's request. The high quality polyvinyl covering has been featured in many home improvement television shows and is currently featured in more than 1,200 retail stores nationwide. All products are made in the USA.

The roll-out flooring concept is also installed at the University of Kansas, is used in international trade shows and has been developed for specific customer created designs.

### **The New 2012 G-Floor - Wall to Wall Installations:**

In 2011 Better Life Technology formed a new division called G-Floor Graphics. BLT now manufactures G-Floor Material that is clear and is designed for residential and commercial floorcovering markets and many different applications in the commercial printing industry. Better Life Technology prints graphics either directly on to the bottom of the surface or prints graphics on to vinyl banner material and then welds the banner material to the Clear G-Floor products in the manufacturing process. This process gives Better Life Technology the capability to print any graphic possible on the G-Floor material to create the perfect floor for a garage, basement, mancave, etc. With the graphics being welded in to the material, the G-Floor has a wear layer that is .075" thick.

In 2012 Better Life Technology has launched a line of Rollout Epoxy Floorcovering designed for wall to wall installations that are adhered to the floor. BLT has partnered with CFI, Inc. to conduct installation training nationwide to create a network of recommended installers.

Better Life Technology, LLC is located at 9736 Legler Road in Lenexa, KS 66219. The telephone number is (913) 894.0403. Jay Brooks is the Product Manager/Sales for the firm and the contact for this program. He is available by calling (913) 894.0403, extension 357, or by email at [jbrooks@bltllc.com](mailto:jbrooks@bltllc.com). The company website is [www.bltllc.com](http://www.bltllc.com).

### **PURPOSE OF INSTALLATION TRAINING**

The installation of vinyl flooring is unique. Better Life Technology, LLC will create a list of qualified installers for this flooring to represent the company. The purpose of the training is to introduce the installers to the BLT concept of installation and the guidelines to be followed.

## **SECTION 1 – Preparation for installation of wall-to-wall applications**

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**1. Always maintain a clean jobsite, clear of debris.**

**2. Tool list**

- Utility knife
- .025" thick utility knife blades
- Seam roller (Hand)
- 75-pound floor roller
- Straight edge
- Chalk line
- Flat squeegee
- Broom and dust pan
- Floor scraper
- 6" broad knife
- Shop-Vac
- Tape measure
- Trowel 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" U-notch
- 3/8" nap roller cover – if using Full Spread Adhesive Method
- Paint roller
- Cleaning solvent
- Box of white rags
- ¼" nap roller cover for applying TopCoat.

**3. Installation Team**

In most cases, the proper installation of G-Floor products will require 2 installers in a Residential setting. In some Commercial Installations more manpower could be required.

**4. Site – Material Conditions**

- a. For best results, allow the material to acclimate to the jobsite for a period of at least 24-hours at a room temperature of 65-degrees F or greater.
- b. The temperature of concrete slab is to be no less than 60-degrees F.
- c. Store the material on a flat surface.

## SECTION 2 – Preparation for installation of wall-to-wall applications

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### A. Layout

1. When preparing to layout the floor, pay particular attention to avoiding high-traffic areas where seams will be placed.
2. If fill pieces are required, place them in areas that will have less traffic.

### B. Floor Preparation

1. Prepare the concrete slab in accordance with ASTM F 710. The website for the ASTM standards is [www.ASTM.org](http://www.ASTM.org). There is an abstract on each of these documents that gives a very good description of the specification. Among the areas covered in ASTM F 710 is completing a Moisture Test (either Calcium Chloride or RH Probe). Moisture levels should be less than 5 lbs. (Calcium Chloride) or 75% (RH). If your test exceeds these levels there are a number of different ways/products that can be used to reduce these to acceptable levels.
2. Scrape and sweep the floor
3. Fill all cracks, pits, divots, and expansion joints wider than .030" (thickness of a credit card) with Portland Cement Floor Patch. Do not fill in isolation joints around columns, etc.
4. Allow the patch to completely dry.
5. Knock down any ridges over areas that have been patched.
6. Sweep the floor again and shop vacuum the entire area including the perimeter.

### C. Dry Fit Material

1. Unroll and position the first roll of material along the side wall, using the longest straightest run. Check that the alignment will keep the seams out of high-traffic areas.
2. Before trimming excess material off of the mat, check to insure that the material is at a desirable location at front of garage or area.
3. Unroll and position remaining rolls
4. Trim in order to dry fit the entire area.
5. Preparing the Seams:
  - a. For best results, it is recommended to double-cut the seams. If double-cutting is not a feasible option for your specific installation, straight-edging both sides of the seam will be adequate as well.
  - b. Once the seam is positioned for cutting, place a scrap piece of material underneath the seam. This will help create the proper amount of fullness in the seam.
6. If the floor is to be able to be rolled front to back or back to front in order to apply the adhesive, **apply seam tape** by folding back one side of material at the and placing seam tape underneath the other side. Leave half of the width of the tape exposed.
7. Drop the other side of material into the tape.
8. Use a hand roller to roll the entire length of seam into the seam tape.  
**PLEASE NOTE: Do not try to stretch the material. G-Floor has a memory and even though the material will stretch, it will return to original placement and create a gap at the seam.**
9. **Do not** apply seam tape if the material is to be rolled back side to side.

## SECTION 3 – QuickStick Adhesive Application

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### QuickStick Adhesive is the Manufacturer’s Recommended Method for G-Floor Installation

**Please Note:** Use caution when walking on the Release Liner on QuickStick Adhesive as the silicone liner can be slippery.

#### **Directions:**



1. Roll back the G-Floor material halfway, starting at the front of the area or garage. Prior to rolling/folding back material, place a 75-lb. floor roller, tool box, tools, etc. on the end or side of material that is not being moved in order to help hold the material in place.
2. Insure that the material is rolled back in a manner that the other half of the material laying on the floor does not move.
3. You will begin placing the QuickStick Adhesive on the substrate a few inches away from the material that has been rolled back.
4. Place QuickStick Adhesive on the ground and stick to substrate - 2-3" should be sufficient to hold on floor.
5. Pick roll of QuickStick off the ground and pull away from wall allowing roll to turn and unwind in your hands. Make sure you hold roll tight so slack does not form.
6. Working in 5' to 6' sections at a time, stop unwinding (do not cut) adhesive and keeping off ground, have helper take a flat squeegee and push QuickStick on to floor to form tight bond and push any air out. If any air pockets exist after squeegee has been used, poke a hole in the release liner and push any air out of the area through the hole.
7. Continue working the material 5' to 6' at a time until you reach the side wall.
8. Repeat as needed until you reach the front or back of the garage. You may need to cut smaller pieces of QuickStick and place them in areas around cabinets, steps, etc.



9. Return and fill in any areas that are greater than 1" gaps with QuickStick – always insure continuous coverage at the front of garage or area.

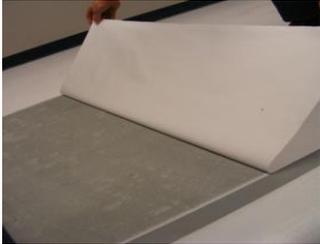
10. After the first half of the floor is covered with QuickStick Adhesive, remove the backing liner off of the first row (closest to the flooring material) of QuickStick and roll material into adhesive as slowly and evenly as possible.



11. Using a 75-lb. floor roller, roll each section of flooring after it is placed into the adhesive.

12. Repeat steps 9 and 10 until you reach the front of the area.

13. Repeat entire process with the back half of the area.



14. Complete the installation by trimming the material as needed.

## SECTION 4 Full-Spread Pressure-Sensitive Adhesive Method

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**Note: This method is only used in climate-controlled areas!**

1. If the full-spread pressure-sensitive adhesive method is used please insure you are using an Acrylic Based Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (BLT can provide this). The most important issue is **allowing the adhesive to fully flash off**. The BLT pressure sensitive adhesive is white in the bucket – it will need to be CLEAR when you roll material back into the adhesive. If using another Acrylic Based PSA make sure no adhesive transfers to your finger when you touch it. Using a small fan for general air circulation will help with flash times – Air Flow should be going over the floor – not AT the floor.
2. It is recommended with the full spread method, that the material be rolled back side to side instead of front-to-back.
3. Place a 75-lb. floor roller, tool box, etc. on the opposite side of the material that you are working with in order to help prevent the material from shifting/movement.
4. Apply adhesive to the substrate/slab that is exposed with a 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" U-notch" trowel to slab that is exposed.
5. Use a paint roller with a 3/8" nap to knock down the trowel lines – Make sure to saturate the roller cover with adhesive before rolling on the existing adhesive so you do not pick up adhesive that you have already spread.
6. **Please Note:** Before applying the roller to the substrate, saturate the roller with adhesive. If this is not done, it will cause the roller to pick up adhesive from the floor and cause the layer of adhesive to be uneven.
7. After the adhesive has fully flashed off, roll one side of the seam into the adhesive.
8. Roll the other side of the material into the adhesive.
9. Use a hand roller to roll the entire length of the seam.
10. Using a 75-lb. floor roller, roll each section of material after it is placed into the adhesive.
11. Repeat steps as needed until entire area is completed.
12. Complete the installation with any final trimming that is necessary.
13. It is the Installer's responsibility to determine if the full-spread method is acceptable for the installation.

## SECTION 5 TopCoat

In addition to the High Gloss finish, the TopCoat is designed to add Stain Resistance to Tires, Chemicals, Oils, Mud/Dirt, etc.

- When using a topcoat, it is not necessary to use a seam sealer, as the TopCoat will fill in the voids at the surface of the material.
- TopCoat is recommended for all installations to add additional protection and stain resistance, however, at this time the TopCoat is only available with a High Gloss Sheen – please note this to your customer before applying.

### Installation Instructions



1. Sweep then wipe the surface of the floor that is to be covered with a damp rag or cloth. Allow the floor to dry completely as Top Coat will not adhere properly to a wet surface. When applying Top Coat make sure you have proper ventilation during all phases of application.



2. Follow directions on can. In a well-ventilated area mix all of Part B (small can) into Part A (large can). Top Coat will not work properly if both components are not mixed together.



3. Once cans are combined, mix thoroughly for 2 to 4 minutes. Note: After cans are mixed, begin applying immediately to the floor as the chemical reaction from mixing has started and you have a 4 hour working time before Top Coat in can begins to harden.



4. Top Coat can be applied by brush or roller (recommended). Pour material into a roller pan and set unused material to the side.



5. Load 1/4" nap roller with Top Coat and starting in corner work roller back and forth, working in 4' x 4' sections. Reload roller often to achieve best finish.



6. Spread evenly on surface until desired "high gloss" finish is achieved. Top Coat dries to touch in 4 hours, to recoat 8 hours, mar free 12 hours and max hardness 7 days.

## SECTION 6 Trim / Baseboards

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For a more finished look, BLT recommends that cove base, wood base/trim, or a PVC trim be added in conjunction with the G-Floor Products.

## SECTION 7 Issues and Things to Avoid

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1. **Stretching:** Do **NOT** stretch G-Floor Products. They have a memory and will return to that memory over time.
2. **Debris under flooring:** Sweeping and using a shop vacuum can help prevent things from getting underneath the floor. If something does get trapped underneath the floor it can be removed by cutting a half-moon shape around the piece of debris, lifting the G-Floor Material, removing the debris, and replacing the G-Floor Material.
3. **Material Movement:** When rolling/unrolling the material to apply adhesive, make certain that the material does not shift on the floor. This can cause issues with the position of the seam, wrinkling in material, etc. It will help to place the 75-pound roller, tool box, etc. on the side of flooring that is not being rolled/unrolled in order to hold it in place. Always check the position/alignment prior to placing material in adhesive.
4. **Air Bubbles:** The following can assist in preventing air bubbles from getting trapped underneath the G-Floor material:
  - a. When rolling the material either front to back/back to front or side to side, it is important to keep the roll as tight as possible.
  - b. While rolling/placing material back into the adhesive, it is important to do this procedure slowly, and in small sections. After each section, use your 75-lb. floor

- roller to push air out of each section, rolling any air toward the edges of the material.
- c. Take caution that the material has not shifted while rolling/folding back the material prior to placing adhesive on floor.
  - d. If an air bubble is present, use a utility knife to poke a small hole with the tip of the knife in the center. Push air from the bubble out of the hole that was made with the knife.

The installation is complete. We do not expect you to encounter a difficult situation, but if this should happen, please contact us at Better Life Technology at (913) 894.0403. Additionally, if you anticipate there being any issues prior to the project please feel free to contact us as well. Thank you for being a part of the BLT Team of Installation Professionals.