

SMYTH COMPOSITES

INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR GRP ANTI-SLIP STAIR TREADS, NOSINGS AND FLAT SHEET GRITPLATE

Before You Start:

Smyth Composites Limited operate as a “Toll Manufacturer” and therefore advise that Customers **MUST** satisfy themselves that the products they order are fit for the intended purpose.

When cutting and installing GRP Products Standard Person Protective Equipment (PPE) should be worn. This should include goggles, gloves, dust mask, overalls and suitable footwear.

Ensure the area that is to be covered is clean, dry and free from grease and any other transient coating (moss, mould etc.) that may cause an interface between the substrate and the GRP. Any loose / damaged areas should be “made good” to ensure a good even surface.

Note: Small undulations may be overcome by applying a thicker bead of adhesive where necessary. However if fixing on top of timber all rotten areas should be replaced and if fixing on top of concrete a proprietary concrete repair compound may be required.

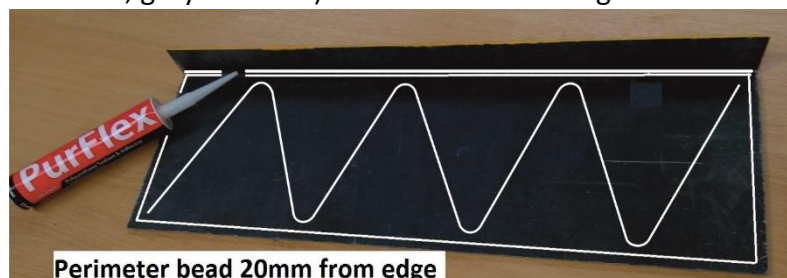
Consider dry laying the panels first to ensure they fit properly and evenly.

Cutting:

Whilst Smyth Composites supply to customer’s required sizes some cutting may be required on site to ensure a tidy fit around obstructions. Cutting (which can be safely conducted in off-shore environments) should be done in a well-ventilated area (unless adequate extraction facilities are available). We recommend cutting, smooth side up, with an angle grinder fitted with a suitable disc blade or a jig saw using a tile cutting blade.

Fixing:

We recommend fixing these products in place with a polyurethane mastic such as “Purflex” (available from Smyth Composites in black, grey or white) and mechanical fixings such as screws or bolts. The mastic should be applied in a zig-zag fashion, and in the case of treads and nosings, a bead should be run along the angle between the tread and the



downturn to ensure full contact with the substrate. A mid to low range torque should be applied to the fixings depending on the substrate/structure in order to avoid over tightening and stripping. Holes should be slightly bigger than fixing to allow for any movement.

When fixing Deck Strips, adhesive should be applied as per sketch (above), and if mechanical fixings are incorporated, then fixing from the centre of the strip working outward to the edges is the recommended method. Where possible and applicable, panels should be laid out to “acclimatise” to weather conditions at the time of installation. If fixing to timber decking it is recommended that a suitable primer or PVA sealant is applied to the timber to ensure moisture from the decking does not compromise the bond of the polyurethane adhesive.

When laying panels side by side or end to end, a nominal 3 to 4mm gap should be left and filled with mastic to allow for expansion and contraction.

As a guide, one 310ml tube of polyurethane mastic should be enough to fit 3 to 4 treads at 1000mm x 300mm or approximately 1.5 to 2m² of flat panel.

If using screws or bolts holes should be drilled 45mm from the edge of the tread or plate in each corner and along the edges where appropriate (treads only) and at 500mm centres on larger sheets. Holes should be drilled with an appropriate clearance and countersunk to avoid snagging problems. When drilling GritPlate or Treads we recommend you drill from the un-gritted surface.

When using mechanical fixings to fit a number of treads or sheets in one location it is advisable to use a template to ensure all holes are in the same position on each piece of GRP. This will ensure a uniform appearance which is visually desirable on long straight runs.

When fitting to open mesh sheet use either “J” or “U” bolts as necessary.

Cleaning and Maintenance:

FybaGrit products are extremely hardwearing and virtually maintenance free. However to maintain maximum slip resistance they will require cleaning periodically. The frequency of this cleaning will depend on local conditions and volume of pedestrian traffic. Generally a stiff brush and hot soapy water will be sufficient to remove most dirt however more stubborn grime may have to be removed by using high pressure power washing. It is suggested the integrity of any mechanical fixings and effectiveness of adhesive are checked annually.

Precautionary measures should always be taken to remove semi-permanent or alien coatings such as oil, grease, lubricants etc. In the case of frost and snow, proactive action should be taken to prevent slippage in the form of salts and sand which will have no detrimental effect to the non-slip surface.

Use After Fixing:

Once secured in place in with adhesive (“Purflex”) GritPlate can be walked upon after half an hour, where other adhesives are used a firm bond may not be achieved for up to an hour. If mechanical fixings are used light traffic can walk over the GritPlate within 15 minutes.

THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE ARE PROVIDED AS A GUIDE ONLY AND MAKES NO CLAIM TO BEING COMPREHENSIVE. ALWAYS EMPLOY SAFE PRACTICES. INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES WILL VARY.