

Project Cost Estimator

Materials Description	Quantity	Cost
Utility Carpet or Synthetic Turf		
Self-levelling Cement (for concrete sub-floors)		
Hardboard underlay (for timber floors)		
Pressure Sensitive Adhesive		
Double Sided tape		
Carpet Trim Bars		
Garden Edging (for Synthetic Turf)		
Tent Pegs (for Synthetic Turf)		
Equipment		
Hammer & Nail Punch		
Utility Knife		
Straight Edge		
Paint Roller or Brush (for applying adhesive)		
Total		

All these materials you need for this job are available at Magnet Mart, your home improvement warehouse.

Note: Due to the general nature of this advice and its individual application, neither the publisher nor the retailer assumes any responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or expense which may be incurred or suffered as a result of the use of this pamphlet.

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Lay Utility Carpet



- Easy to follow step-by-step guide
- Important and handy tips
- Materials check list
- Project Cost Estimator

Before you start, please read through this pamphlet carefully and estimate and assemble all the materials you will need for the project and gather your tools and equipment together. Refer to the checklist and estimating form on the back panel of the pamphlet to assist in this preparation.

You Can Lay Utility Carpet

Utility Carpet & Synthetic Turf

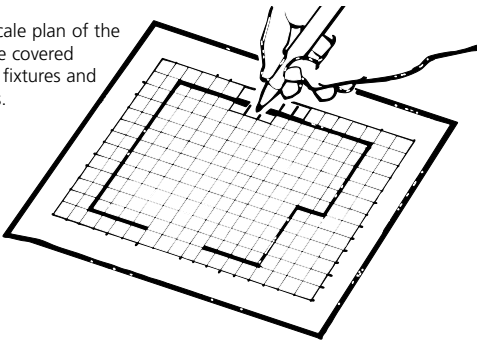
There are many situations around the home where utility carpet or synthetic turf can be used to enhance an outdoor area or a rumpus room, workshop or converted garage. Magnet Mart carries a range of utility carpets that are easily laid either as a mat or full-room floor covering.

Utility carpet can be permanently adhered to the sub-floor using pressure sensitive adhesive or you can fix the carpet using double sided tape for a semi-permanent location. Use this brochure and the advice of our experienced staff to get the most out of your utility carpet and enhance the look of your home.

Planning and Estimating

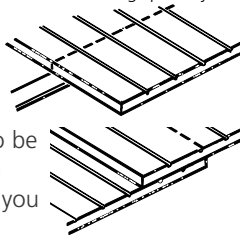
- Take a sheet of graph paper and draw a scale plan of the area to be carpeted, include any fixtures and mark the position of doorways or entries (see Fig 1).

Fig 1 Draw a scale plan of the area to be covered including fixtures and doorways.



- Mark on your plan how the sheets will run across the floor, ensure that seams or joins are not in high traffic areas such as doorways or in front of major appliances.
- Estimate the quantity of carpet you will need and allow for an overlap of 5cm on all joins and a 5cm allowance on all edges (see Fig 2), this allowance will later be trimmed off.
- Decide whether your carpet is to be permanently fixed in place using pressure sensitive adhesive or, if you may need to remove it at some future date, use double sided tape.

Fig 2 Allow 5cm for edges and overlapping when estimating quantity.



Preparation of the Sub-Floor

Utility carpets can be laid on nearly any surface including concrete, hardboard, fibro-cement sheet, metal or stone. Follow these easy preparation steps to ensure your floor looks its best.

- For outdoor application of utility carpet or synthetic turf ensure that the earth or sand surface is well compacted and firm. Ensure that the surface gradient will drain water away from any building or structure. Remove any sharp objects or stones from the area before laying the carpet or turf.
- For indoor locations or sheltered verandahs, thoroughly vacuum the sub-floor to remove any dust and grit. Remove any traces of oils, grease or solvents and ensure that the sub-floor is dry prior to laying carpet.
- Check the surface for dents, cracks and holes. On a timber floor, drive all nail heads below the surface using a hammer and nail punch (see Fig 3). Install hardboard underlay sheets over the entire surface driving nails in every 10cm around the sheets (see Fig 4).

Fig 3 Nail down nail heads below the surface.

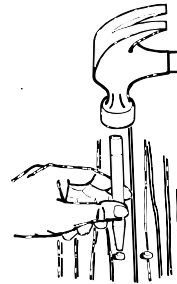
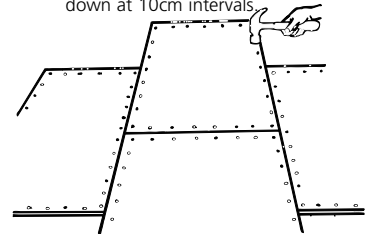


Fig 4 With hardboard underlay, stagger the sheets and nail down at 10cm intervals.

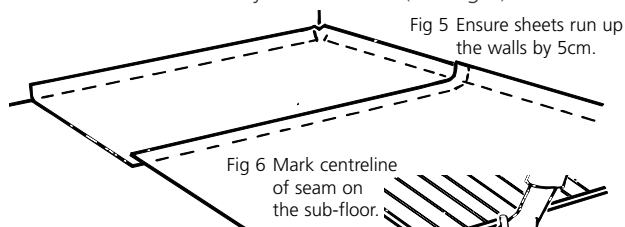


- For concrete, ceramic or stone floors it may be necessary to level the floor using a self-levelling cement. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for mixing and applying the cement and ensure that it is correctly cured (dried) before laying carpet.
- When you are satisfied that the sub-floor is clean, dry and level move the carpet and adhesives into the room to acclimatise for around 24 hours before laying.

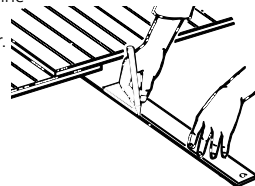
Indoor Installations – Tape Fixing

To lay utility carpet or synthetic turf indoors or on a sheltered patio or verandah, follow these simple steps:

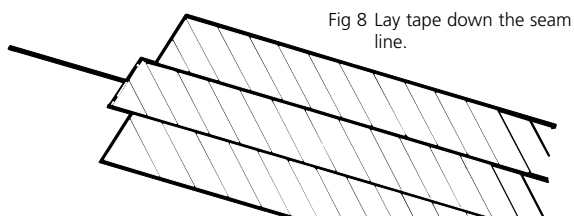
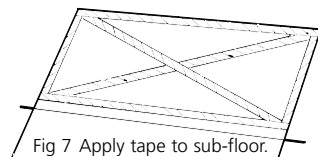
- Acclimatise the carpet and adhesives for at least 24 hours in the location where they will be used, this ensures that temperature differences will not affect adhesion.
- About one hour prior to laying the carpet or turf, it is a good idea to unroll the material to allow it to flatten out and 'relax'. Check your planned layout by positioning the sheets side-by-side with a minimum overlap of 5cm. Be sure that the sheets run up the walls and fixtures by at least 5cm (see Fig 5).



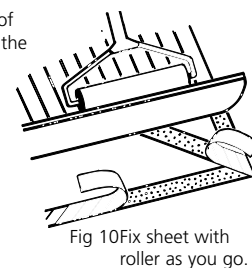
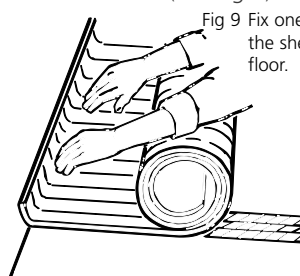
- With a pencil and straight edge, mark the centreline of all seams on the sub-floor (see Fig 6).



- To fix the carpet with double sided tape, roll back the sheet(s) and apply the tape to the sub-floor around the edge and diagonally across the area that the sheet will cover (see Fig 7). On the seam side, lay the perimeter tape approximately 20cm back from the pencilled centreline as shown.
- Lay three widths of tape down the seam line, one length on the pencilled centre line and a length immediately on either side (see Fig 8) to make a total taped width of around 10cm.



- Peel the release paper from the perimeter tape at one end and firmly fix the corresponding end of the sheet to the floor (see Fig 9).



- Remove the release paper from the diagonal and perimeter tapes and roll the sheet out evenly, fixing the sheet with a roller as you go (see Fig 10).
- Fix the remaining sheets in the same manner, ensuring that each sheet overlaps the first by 5cm.
- To fix the seams, place a straight edge on the centreline of the seam and using a sharp utility knife, cut through both thicknesses of sheet in one go (see Fig 11).

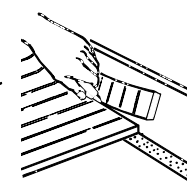
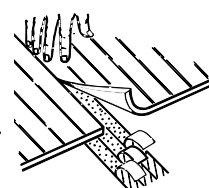
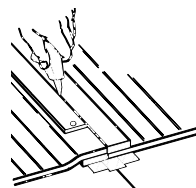
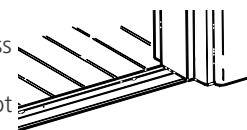


Fig 11 Overlap 5cm and cut with a straight edge. Fig 12 Remove offcuts and tape down. Fig 13 Fixing edges around the walls.

- Remove the off cuts and fold back the flaps of the sheets to expose the tape underneath. Remove about 1 metre of release paper from the double sided tapes and carefully fold the sheet edges down so that they butt neatly together (see Fig 12). Smooth the edges down with your hands or a roller.
- Fix all seams as above then carefully trim the excess from around the edges of the room by firmly pushing the excess into the corner between floor and wall with a blunt instrument (a spoon handle is ideal). Hold the utility knife close to parallel to the floor and cut away the excess material (see Fig 13).
- Tuck under any remaining excess carpet and apply trim bars to protect exposed edges from foot traffic (see Fig 14).



Indoor Installations – Adhesive Fixing

To permanently lay utility carpet or synthetic turf using pressure sensitive adhesive, follow the first three steps as described in tape fixing installation, then:

- Using a 6mm mohair roller, apply the adhesive in a light coat over the area of the first sheet, coat the seam line and a little into the area of the second sheet (see Fig 15).

Fig 15 Applying adhesive to the area to be covered.

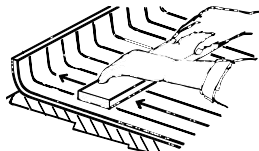
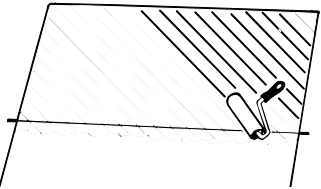


Fig 16 Smooth out using a board or roller.

- When the adhesive is tacky but does not leave a residue on your finger it is ready to accept the sheet. Roll out the first sheet ensuring that there is a 5 cm overlap against walls and fixtures and smooth out using a board or roller (see Fig 16).

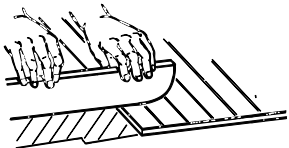


Fig 17 Overlap sheets by 5cm.

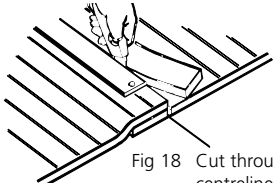


Fig 18 Cut through centreline.

- Apply adhesive to the area for the second sheet as described above, when you lay the second sheet, ensure that it overlaps the first by 5cm along the seam (see Fig 17). Continue in this manner until all sheets are laid.
- Join the sheets by cutting through the centreline of the overlap using a sharp utility knife and straightedge (see Fig 18). Remove the offcuts and fix the loose flap to the sub-floor, smoothing with your hand or a roller, ensuring that the cut edges come together neatly.
- Once all seams have been joined, wait 24 hours for the adhesive to cure then trim the excess around the perimeter of the room and fit trim bars as required to doorways or exposed edges.

Outdoor Installations

Laying carpet or synthetic turf over an earth or sand surface is similar to an indoor application, follow these easy steps:

- Ensure the surface is compacted and has sufficient gradient to drain rainwater away from buildings or other structures. Installation is best done on a clear, dry day to allow adhesives adequate set time. Preferred temperature range is between 18° – 25° C.
- Sheets of synthetic turf can be joined by adhering a cut edge of a sheet to the black selvedge of the adjoining sheet (see Fig 19). Carefully spread outdoor adhesive along a length of the black selvedge, then roll the adjoining sheet onto the glued area and firm down (see Fig 20). Repeat until the entire seam has been fixed.

Fig 19 Adhere cut edge to black selvedge of adjoining sheet.

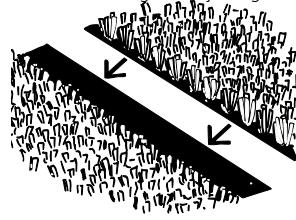
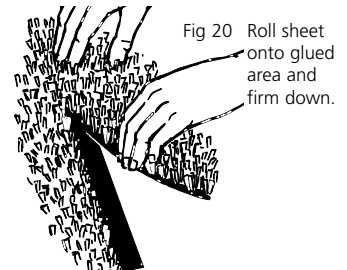


Fig 20 Roll sheet onto glued area and firm down.



- Do not move or stretch the turf for at least 24 hours after gluing.
- Fix around the perimeter of the turf with heavy gauge tent pegs or a suitable garden edging such as treated pine or plastic edging (see Fig 21).
- Fixing to a hard outdoor surface can be achieved using outdoor adhesive or double sided tape. Note that with greater temperature fluctuations, an outdoor turf or carpet will tend to appear loose in hot weather (due to expansion) and too tight in cold weather conditions (as the material contracts due to cold).
- If you decide to use double sided tape, ensure that the turf is cut slightly oversize to allow for seasonal movement.

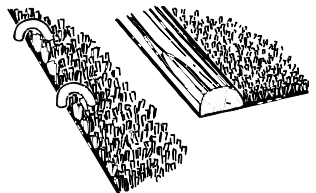


Fig 21 Fix down edges with pegs or pine edgings.