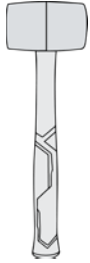# Swisstrax

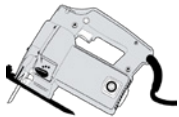## Swisstrax Installation Guidelines

TOOLS REQUIRED

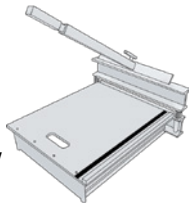**Rubber Mallet**

Chalk Line
(optional)

Metal 1m Ruler

CUTTING TOOLS (Choice)

Jigsaw/Table Saw
Fine Toothed Blade

Guillotine
Optional

TOOL TIPS

+ If using an electrical saw, use a fine toothed blade.

+ Do not walk on tiles that are not interloced together as they can be dangerous slipping hazard.

+ Always wear safety glassing when cutting the tiles.

+ To lift single tiles, use a flat screwdriver or a paint can opener.

BEFORE YOU START

Heat Expansion
Tiles can expand and contract with changes in temperature. Areas of tile that are exposed to a heat source* for a long period of time can affect the flooring system. Remember to leave a 5mm expansion gap around walls and edges to allow the floor to move.

*Heat sources include but not limited to:
Direct sunlight (for example south facing shutters), ovens, furnaces, catalytic converters.

Outdoor Usage
The Swisstrax range is suitable for use outdoors but must be installed on a flat, hard surface.

Tight Turning Circles
We do not recommend dry steering on Swisstrax tiles. Turning the wheels whilst the vehicle is stationary puts a lot of stress on the tile's connection points.

Installation Guide
The method of installation used in these instructions are based on a garage with no specific features (cabinets or built in units). The installation starting point can vary, but it's always best to ensure the looped edges are facing towards the open areas of the garage to ensure a smooth and easy installation.

PREPARATION

Step 1: Sweep the floor to remove any loose impediments. Remove any high points in the floor and fill any holes with a suitable floor repair compound.
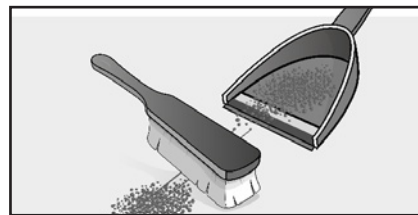
Step 2: Split the tiles into several stacks and place them around the area. Leave them to acclimatise for 24 hours. They will be easier to access during installation.

Step 3: It's extremely important that tiles are kept square during installation. Every room has a different starting point. If you can, identify the straightest wall or edge to work from. We recommend starting from the front left corner of the garage if possible.

Loops and Pegs
When starting the installation, we recommend beginning from the front left corner of the space with pegs facing the wall/entrance. This ensures that the looped edges of the tiles face inward, making it easier to connect the next tile's pegged edges into those loops. If you start with the looped edges facing the wall, you'll need to lift each tile to fit the pegs into the loops, which makes the installation process more difficult and time-consuming.
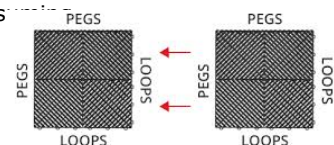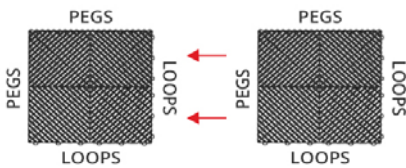
STARTING OUT

Step 1: Begin fitting the tiles together, working left to right with the pegged edges facing the walls.
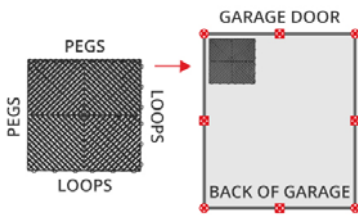
Step 2: Continue fitting the tiles, installing the first three rows from left to right until you reach the wall.

Step 3: Install ramp edges. You either have looped (female) edges or pegged (male) edges. If you're following these installation instructions, you'll need to order looped ramps for the front of the garage. Pegged ramps are also required if you need to create a "pad" or an "island" with ramps on either side. You'll also need corner pieces too.

Step 4: Shuffle the floor to ensure your ramps are aligned with the garage door entry.

Step 5: Continue to install all full size tiles until you get as close as possible to the back wall. Do not make cuts until ALL full size tiles have been installed. Be sure to check the alignment of the floor as you progress.

Step 6: Finish with cuts, and clean the floor thoroughly after installation.

CUTTING

Step 1: To make a cut, simply push it up against the wall and mark each side, accounting for the 5mm expansion gap. Be sure to position the tile in the correct orientation so that it will interlock with the rest of your tiles before marking.

Step 2: Use an electrical saw such as a track saw, jig saw, table saw or circular saw. Use a fine toothed blade.

Step 3: Cut the tiles, leaving a 5mm expansion gap around the edge. Ensure you wear safety glasses whilst cutting. Refer to the tool manufacturer's safety guidelines.

POINT LOADING

Occasionally, you may need to apply a lot of weight to the floor tiles over a small area (e.g. motorcycle stands, machinery feet and vehicle jacks).

We recommend putting something down on the floor such as a board of wood, or a metal plate to help spread the weight over a larger area.

Try to ensure the weight is mostly applied to the center of the tile, rather than at the connection points to ensure maximum strength.

SCRATCHES

All hard or resilient flooring will be prone to scratches.

Replacing a tile is easy using a flathead screwdriver or paint can opener.

You can find installation videos on Swisstrax via their official youtube channel.

If you have any concerns about fitting your floor, you can contact us here.
+44 (0)1582 788 232
info@gftcompany.com

FOR THE PERFECT FINISH

+ Leave an expansion gap (min 5mm) between the tiles and any fixed point
+ Don't force tiles together - if they don't fit together easily, something is wrong
+ You may need to trim the bottom of your door to allow the tiles to fit
+ Use ramps to create safe transitions into the room

Swisstrax