

# TOP-TREAD FLOOR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## ALL WARRANTIES ARE VOID IF INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWED

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE INSTALLATION BEGINS:**

- The flooring should be at room temperature (72°F / 22°C) or final operating temperature for 24 hours before installation and kept there after installation. Installation in cold or cool weather will cause the plastic floor to contract, like most building materials. When the facility is later brought up to operating temperature the product will expand putting undue stress on the flooring and the support structure. To help eliminate any potential problems with expansion and contraction we recommend expansion joints for both the width and the length of the building. Please see attached expansion and contraction sheet for additional directions for installing expansion joints.
- Manufacturer recommends storing product away from exposure to the sun, as its U.V. rays and other general weather conditions will diminish the life of the product. Exposure to outside weather elements voids all warranties.
- A temporary covering should be installed over the floor, such as plywood, while the final stages of construction are being completed. The flooring is not designed to withstand the weight of some construction equipment that may be used and damage may occur, which voids all floor warranties.
- Don't install floor staggered or offset.
- Only store fiberglass beams lying flat to prevent warping.
- Never mount gatepost or penning directly to the floor. Always mount gatepost and penning to a stabilizer bar underneath the beam.
- When using fiberglass beams it is important to make sure your J bolts are not hooked at an angle. If the angle is too severe the pressure will cause the fiberglass beam to buckle. Use two J bolts to hook from both sides of the beam to apply even pressure.
- We suggest gate and penning mounting plates be 9" long by 3" wide. This will reduce the chance that the floor will sag when a plate ends up between support beams.
- Top-Tread flooring installs easily and quickly. The 18"x24" and 24"x24" floor can be started with either side. Place the side of the floor with three long support tabs for the 12"x24" floor next to the beginning wall. You can start in any corner and you can build either way – one row at a time. You cannot start in more than one corner at a time and build towards the center.
- Manufacturer strongly recommends the use of Safety Harness/Support Equipment whenever personnel are over a deep pit (4' deep or deeper), as structural failure could result in a significant injury or loss of life. For this reason we do not recommend our system for pit areas over 8' in depth.

**NOTE: A rubber mallet is recommended when installing Top-Tread plastic flooring; Do *not* use a steel hammer.**

## **TOP-TREAD NURSERY FLOOR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **STEP #1.**

- Position beams across the pit. 12" apart for the 12"x24" floor, 18" apart for the 18"x24" floor and 24" for the 24"x24" floor.
- When using fiberglass beam, install plastic end supports on each end and wherever the beam comes in contact with the concrete.
- Make sure the beam end supports are pushed all the way on the beam.
- Beam must have a minimum of a 2" ledge to rest on. **Jimdi does not recommend mounting the beam end supports unless the beams are on top of the walkway.** If you are installing it on top of a walkway you must use our beam end support and mount them to the concrete to prevent the beam from moving back and forth. **Make sure the floor is installed on the beam before you secure the beam to the concrete.**

### **STEP #2.**

- Place first floor piece in a corner and hook it over the beams with three long support tabs next to the beginning wall for the 12"x24" floor.
- The 18"x24" floor and 24"x24" can be started with either side.

### **STEP #3.**

- Place the next floor on the beams.
- For 24"x24", 18"x24" and 12"x24", lift one end up and push the floor so the two hooks (male end) fit snugly into the two slots (female end), this locks them securely in place.
- Make sure there are no gaps on the ends of the floor; if needed, use a rubber mallet to eliminate any gaps before installing the next piece of flooring.
- Always make sure the floor is completely down on the beam. This is especially important with fiberglass beams because they deflect more than steel beams.

### **STEP #4.**

- The floor in the second row is placed on the beam and snapped firmly into place.
- Continue until floor is completed.

**NOTE: If it is necessary to use our leg support system make sure to mount the base to the concrete pit. We do not recommend the use of our leg support system if the pit is deeper than 24 inches. Flooring system not for use on pit areas when beam/floor clear spans to or above 10 ft. with 12"x24", 18"x24" and 24"x24" design when using JDBeam of 5" height.**

## **TOP-TREAD INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS WHEN CUT PIECES ARE NECESSARY**

- When the flooring clear spans an uneven width, i.e. 7' or 9', you can start with the cut piece at the alleyway or if your back walls are not even you can finish with the cut piece.
- If the length of the flooring area is not an even measurement, i.e. 26'8" or 27'9", the Top-Tread flooring can be cut with a saw to fit any area.

## **TOP-TREAD FARROWING FLOOR** **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

### **ALL WARRANTIES ARE VOID IF INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWED**

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE INSTALLATION BEGINS:**

- After installation is complete make sure you do not bolt the crates directly to the floor. You should bolt the crate to a stabilizer bar that is placed under the two beams directly under the cast iron floor.
- Bolt the cast pieces together end to end using a stainless-steel bolt, and nylock nut.
- If installing flooring on top of a concrete walkway or alleyway, make sure to secure the beam end supports to the concrete. Failure to secure the beam end supports to the concrete allows the beam to move off the concrete edge.

#### **STEP #1.**

- Installation of the plastic flooring for the creep area of the farrowing floor is the same as installing the plastic flooring for the nursery floor, see steps 1-4 under nursery floor installation.
- Install the first row of plastic creep area. Start with 18"x24" piece at the front of the crate.
- For a standard 5'x7' crate you will need 4 18"x24" and 4 18"x18" plastic floors for the creep areas. For the sow area you will need 2 24"x42" cast.

#### **STEP #2.**

- With the interlocking cast system, you will use a total of 2 pieces. The sizes will depend on the length of the crate. For example a 7 ft. crate would require 2 24"x42" interlocking cast.
- Lay the fiberglass beam approximately 24" from the creep area floor and begin installing the interlocking cast.

#### **STEP #3.**

- If you have our overlapping cast iron floor with the holes on each end, make sure to bolt all the pieces together using a stainless steel 1/4"x1 1/2" hex head bolt and nylock nut. Do not over tighten. Over tightening will cause cast iron to crack and could result in part failure.

#### **STEP #4.**

- Install your next row of plastic flooring and repeat the above steps.

**NOTE: Jimdi strongly recommends the use of its JDBeam fiberglass beam with its Top-Tread flooring system; Metal rails have shown the ability to rust in short period of time. This causes the metal rail to deteriorate and expand which can consequentially damage the plastic flooring which voids all warranties.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL US AT 724.939.6611 OR EMAIL US AT INFO@JIMDIINC.COM.**

**Date: 3.7.2024**

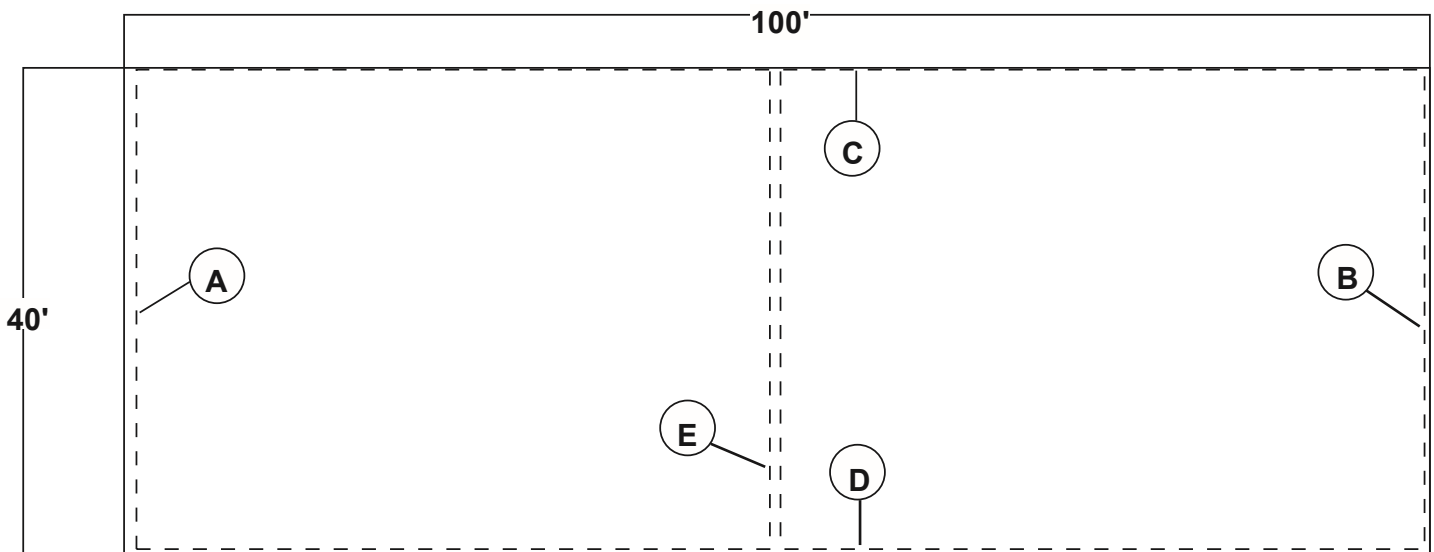
## EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION DIRECTIONS

1. Always try to bring the flooring as close to final operating temperature as possible when doing the installation. This will make the flooring panels expand to the sizes that they will eventually reach when the barn is in operation. If this is not possible you must allow for expansion by installing expansion joints.
2. Expansion or contraction of polypropylene will be approximately 0.00075 inches per foot per degree Fahrenheit. For example, if you have a nursery building measuring 100 ft. long x 40 ft. wide it will expand about 2-1/4 inches in length and about 29/32 inches in width if the building increases from 80°F to 110°F. The correct approach is to allow expansion room in the form of expansion joints for both lengthwise and widthwise growth due to excessive temperature changes. Expansion joints should be placed on both ends and the middle of the lengths of the total floor. There should also be an expansion joint on both sides of the width of the flooring. Please look at the diagram provided. **An expansion joint is recommended for every 60 ft. of flooring.**
3. Remember that polypropylene, like all building materials, will expand and contract with temperature variances. It is always better to have some expansion room in a flooring installation than a snug fit without any space for product expansion.

**EXAMPLE: FLOORING AREA = 100FT LONG X 40FT WIDE**  
**EXPANSION JOINT CALCULATION =**  
**+/- 2-1/4 INCHES OVER 100FT LENGTH**  
**+/- 29/32 INCHES OVER 40FT LENGTH**

A = EXPANSION JOINT  
B = EXPANSION JOINT  
C = EXPANSION JOINT

D = EXPANSION JOINT  
E = EXPANSION JOINT



**For any questions or help in figuring the necessary expansion joints contact us at 724.939.6611 or [Info@Jimdilnc.com](mailto:Info@Jimdilnc.com).**