

## **OBSERVATORY FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE**

*Thank you for purchasing protective flooring for your new observatory. Your observatory is watertight, and should be sealed round its base with silicone sealant at the time of installation, or the first opportunity the base has dried out. However, you may experience condensation or under floor dampness owing to the nature of your concrete base which will act like a sponge, absorbing water every time it rains. By laying a damp proof membrane you can eliminate up to 85 - 90% of all moisture inside your dome. Fitting anti-fatigue rubber flooring will further enhance the look of your observatory providing additional insulation and a protective rubber surface which will help minimise damage to your equipment should you accidentally drop something on the floor.*

*The plastic membrane is cut from 1000 guage/250 micron waterproof polythene. The flooring, which comes in 61cm x 61cm interlocking rubber tiles, protects your floors, is shock absorbing, water resistant, reduces noise and vibration. It has a diamond plate finish.*



- **TOOLS YOU WILL NEED**

*Although your membrane and flooring tiles are cut approximately to size, you will need to trim both to exactly fit the inside of your observatory and fit round your pier. You will require a large pair of sharp scissors, such as those used to cut wall paper, a sharp Stanley knife and a tape measure.*

- **INSTALLING THE MEMBRANE**

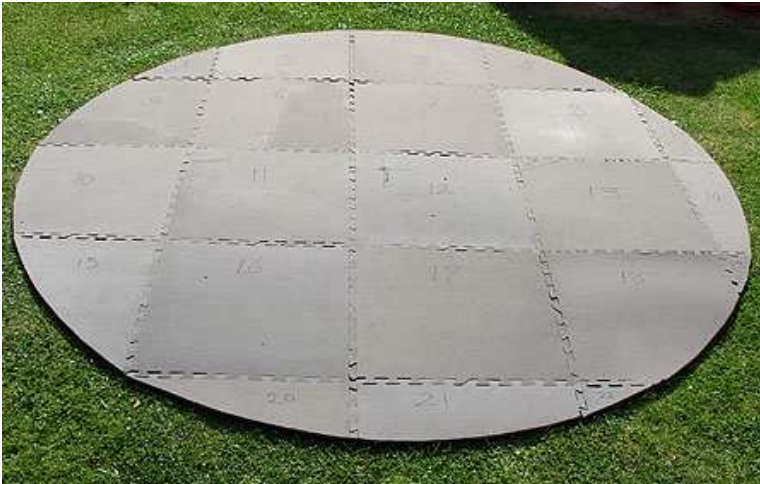
*It is important to get the floor surface perfectly clean, preferably with a vacuum cleaner, before you lay any floor covering. Any small stones will eventually wear holes in your floor covering*

*Ideally, it is desirable to fit your membrane prior to the installation of your pier. The plastic membrane can then be fitted under the pier thus helping to hold it in place. Holes will need to be cut to facilitate the boltholes that are drilled into the floor for securing the pier. Alternatively, measure the position of the pier relative to the floor (your pier may be offset within the dome) and cut a cross on the membrane to allow it to pass over the pier, then trim to fit. Please note that the rubber floor tiles are NOT laid under the pier.*

*The membrane and the floor tiles are laid over the fibreglass flange on the inside of the observatory, within 10mm from the wall (the 10mm gap will allow for expansion of the rubber tiles in warmer weather). If the flooring is fitted to tightly it may not lay flat in places.*

- **INSTALLING THE FLOOR TILES**

*It is advisable to lay your floor tiles out on a flat surface before installing them in your observatory. You will find that the tiles have all been numbered on the reverse side, so lay the tiles face down and construct your circle before fitting them inside the dome.*



**PLEASE NOTE:** *That your floor tiles have been cut an extra 15mm wider on the diameter to allow for trimming to fit the exact shape of your observatory. It is recommended that you fit the outer tiles around the observatory wall first, leaving the centre tiles until last. A sharp pair of scissors will suit this task. Make sure the tiles are not too tight a fit to the inside edge, as already mentioned above, or you will get a bulge in the middle.*

*Next fit the centre tiles one at a time ensuring you get them in the correct number order. Using a sharp Stanley knife, cut the tiles to fit round the*

*base of your pier. Also trim the outside tiles to fit round any power supplies or cables coming into the observatory. Once you have fitted all the floor tiles and ensuring there are no bulges in the centre of the floor, gently tread down the tiles, you will find the edges and joints will fit better together once the floor has had time to settle. You will have been given a few extra off cuts in case you need the odd piece or corner to fit where the dome inside flanges come together.*



**FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT CALL +44(0) 1353 886128**