

All customers should satisfy themselves that the products they order from our company suitable for their project and will be used for their intended purpose. When cutting and installing GRP products, only standard basic PPE (Person Protective Equipment) is required such as goggles, gloves, dust mask and suitable work clothing including foot wear.

**General:** Ensure the area that is to be covered is clean, dry and free from rot (timber) rust (metal) oil & grease etc. and for outdoor applications from moss and mould etc. You need to ensure there will be a solid connection between the base and the GRP product being installed. Any loose or damaged areas must be made good to provide an even surface, however small undulations can normally be catered for by applying a thicker bead of adhesive where needed. When cutting GRP, the area should be well ventilated and cut smooth side up using an angle grinder with a suitable disc or a jig saw with a tile cutting blade.

**Fixing:** We recommend fixing these products in place with a polyurethane mastic which is generally available in black, grey and white as well as mechanical fixings such as screws or bolts. The mastic should be applied in zig-zag lines, and for angles and nosings, a bead should be run along the angle between the tread and the downturn to ensure full contact with the substrate. For fixing Deck Strips, adhesive should be applied in zig-zag lines, as well as around the perimeter. For timber decking a primer may be needed.

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 2m<sup>2</sup> 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 holes, we recommend drilling from the un-gritted surface.

**Maintenance:** Our GRP products are extremely hardwearing and virtually maintenance free. However to maintain maximum slip resistance they will require periodic cleaning. How often cleaning is required will be site specific and depend on the volume of foot traffic. Generally a stiff brush and hot soapy water will be sufficient to remove most dirt, alternatively a diluted detergent can also be applied for more stubborn marks. It is recommended that you apply this to a small sample in advance to ensure its suitability. If the project area is suitable, cleaning the anti-slip surface with a low bar pressure washer is a highly effective cleaning method. Ensure the nozzle is on "spread" rather than "point" so it will not compromise the gritted surface and keep the nozzle approx. 300mm from the anti-slip surface.

Each year, an inspection of the fixings and integrity of the adhesive should be carried out to prolong the products life. In the case of frost and snow, additional anti-slip products are often used such as salts, this will not have any detrimental effect to the GRP, but may affect the fixings / adhesive.

The comments above are only a guide and is by no means comprehensive. Always employ safe working practices as every installation and maintenance requirements will be site specific.