

Magnetic surfaces simplify installation



Magnetism

According to <u>Wikipedia</u>, the mystery of Magnetism is roughly defined as the class of physical attributes mediated by a magnetic field with the capacity to induce attractive and repulsive phenomena in other entities. Essentially, electric currents and magnetic moments of elementary particles are what give rise to a magnetic field, which acts on other currents and magnetic moments.



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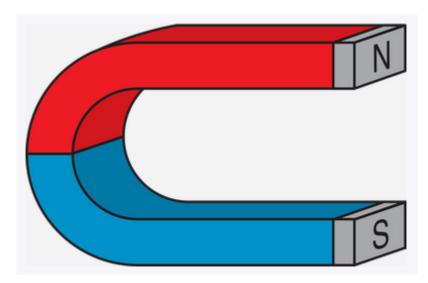
Magnetism

National Geographic tries to describe Magnetism in everyday language as being caused by the force of electric charges. Every substance is made up of atoms with electrons, particles within the atom that carry electric charges as they circle the nucleus, or core, of an atom. It is this movement that generates an electric current causing each electron to act like a microscopic magnet.



Electron

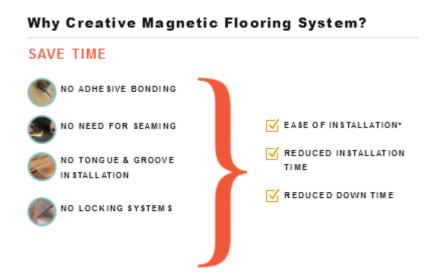
Usually, there are an equal number of <u>electrons</u> that spin in opposite directions. This is what cancels out their magnetism. Materials such as cloth or paper are weakly magnetic. Substances such as iron, cobalt, and nickel also have electrons; though most of them spin in the same direction, which is what makes the atoms in these substances strongly magnetic; though the substances aren't magnets until another strongly magnetic substance enters the field of an existing magnet. The magnetic field is the surrounding area with the magnetic force. Each and every magnet have north and south poles.



Opposite poles are attracted to each other, while the same poles repel each other. As iron is placed within the proximity of a magnet, the north-seeking poles of the atoms in the iron line up in the same direction. Then, the force generated by the aligned atoms creates a magnetic field that make the iron a magnet. Though how exactly would magnetism simplify a flooring installation?



<u>Magnetic flooring</u> may be installed without glue, nails, staples, bonding, seaming, tongue and grooves or locking systems. It requires installing magnetic underlayment, planks that have trace amounts of iron within them, paint with magnetic properties or flooring with magnetic plates attached to it.



The base underlayment is a sheet of material with a grip to it that insulates the floorboard from the concrete underneath. These materials include iron particles, which are integrated into it. The opposing charges are what create the magnetic bond between the sub-floor and the finished floor. Once this surface has been installed, the flooring will not shift. These magnets are strong enough to lock the planks in place. Installation requires light labor without glue, nails or staples; this can reduce the number of installation steps.

The magnetic planks made of vinyl, ceramic or acrylic-infused hardwood are what makes these materials waterresistent after it's properly installed. Better still, the sub-floor has properties comparable to a sound barrier. The planks can be easily rearranged when it's time for a refresh. You can install them in just a few hours and redecorate them as frequently as necessary; even move the materials around it from room to room. Without glue, this surface is safer since it does not have elevated levels of volitile organic compounds (VOC's).



Homeowners can conveniently install and interchange single planks unlike other types of surfaces, which saves money. With magnetic flooring, there is less material waste when repairing an isolated area instead of the entire floor.

Businesses such as hotels may recognize the value of magnetic flooring for several reasons including minimal downtime. Proprietors are certain to save money on the installation end with patterns available for around \$4.50 per square foot. Remember that installation costs could be eliminated if it's decided to do-it-yourself, as magnetic flooring is installed without adhesives.



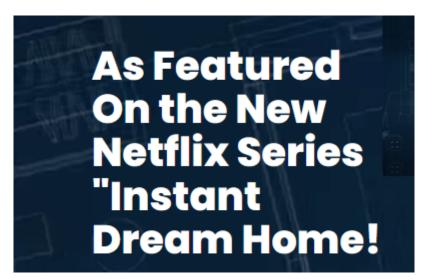
Even if it was decided to have your magnetic flooring professionally installed, it would still cost less money because the installation would require less time without adhesives. Something to consider when shopping for your next floor.

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Since magnetic flooring is a fairly new concept, locating it might not be easy. It's probably not available at big box stores yet; though it's <u>available online</u>. Watch MGB's Youtube <u>video</u>. What do you think of this new type of flooring?





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