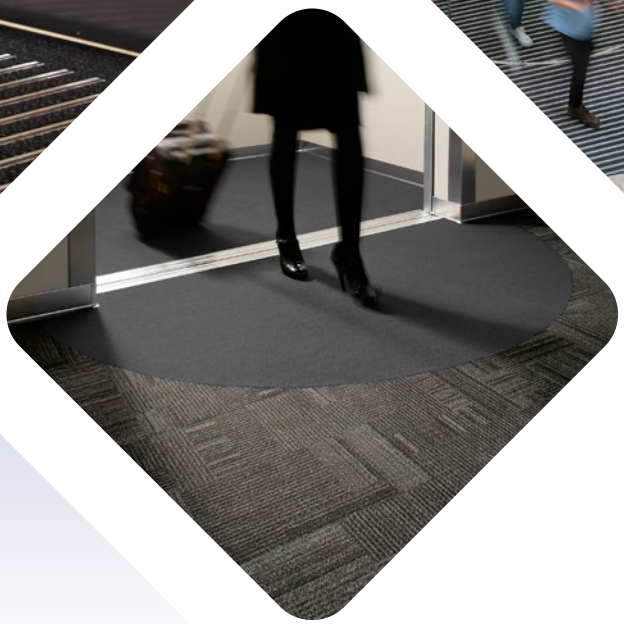
Smart Entrances Start Here

Specifying Barrier Matting That Works



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Why use barrier matting?

✔ Increase public safety

According to the Health & Safety Executive, 90% of slip accidents in public buildings occur on wet floors.

An effective matting system can reduce the amount of dirt and moisture tracked into a building by up to 90%, helping to reduce such slip accidents.

✔ Remove dirt & moisture

More than 70% of dirt and moisture in buildings is tracked in by pedestrian and wheeled traffic.

An effective matting system removes and retains dirt and moisture, improving the appearance of internal floorcoverings and preventing unnecessary replacements.

✔ Reduce maintenance costs

On-going cleaning & maintenance is the largest cost in the lifecycle of any floorcovering. An effective entrance mat will reduce the amount of dirt that is tracked into a building therefore reducing maintenance costs, a buildings operational carbon and increase the life of a building's floorcoverings.

Follow our 3 step guide to selecting the correct barrier matting

Step 1

Choose the correct application

Volume & type of traffic

Consider the number of times a person may enter and leave a building in one day e.g break times, start and end of day etc

The volume of foot traffic, as well as the frequency and load weight of wheeled traffic will determine the type of mat required.

Foot Traffic

More than **5,000** crossings per day

Heavy

Examples:
> Railway station
> Stadiums
> Airports
> Shopping centres
> Large hospitals
> Supermarkets
> Department stores

More than **500** crossings per day

Medium

Examples:
> Offices
> Hospitals
> Schools
> High street shops
> Hotels

Typical types of wheeled traffic

Severe
250kg

Examples:
> Forklift truck
> Cherry picker

Heavy
150kg

Examples:
> Pallet truck
> Retail cage

Medium
100kg

Examples:
> Shopping trolley
> Box truck
> Baggage trolley

Light
50kg

Examples:
> Wheelchair
> Suitcase
> Shopping trolley

Other factors to consider:

> Consider the environment immediately outside the building as this can affect the type, length (going) and performance of mat you select e.g. adjacent to turfed area, exposed entrance, entrance protected by canopy etc.

> Different entrances in a building may have different types and volumes of traffic, therefore more than one matting solution may be required in a building e.g. main and secondary entrances or main and service entrances.

> When specifying aluminium entrance mats consideration should be given to the type and amount of lighting and/or glass atriums as this may lead to visual distortion or strobing in certain circumstances. To minimise this effect avoid combining silver or mill finish aluminium with dark wipers. In some circumstances, black anodised aluminium and black wipers can be combined to minimise this effect.

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Step 2

Choose the correct type and performance

Type of matting - Primary, hybrid or secondary

Primary Barrier Matting - the first point of contact, used both externally and internally dependent on wiper type and application. Available in a choice of thicknesses to suit matwell depth, or for surface mounting. Primary barrier matting is usually supplied as a made to measure solution.

Hybrid Barrier Matting - the first point of contact, used internally. Available in a choice of thicknesses to suit matwell depth or for surface mounting. Hybrid barrier matting is modular, easy to install solution and usually cut to fit on-site.

Secondary Barrier Matting - is made from high performance textiles and is often used in conjunction with a primary or hybrid mat to provide additional performance. Secondary barrier matting can be used as a stand-alone solution in some circumstances as well as in other areas of a building such as circulation areas.

Type of matting - Open or closed construction

Open Construction - (Fig.1) incorporates spaces between rails, allowing dirt and moisture to fall through in to the matwell below which can be lifted intermittently to remove the debris as well as for deep cleaning the mat itself.

Closed Construction - (Fig.2) no spaces between rails so dirt and moisture remain on the surface of the mat and can be removed by regular cleaning in addition to periodic deep cleaning of the mat itself.

Open Construction

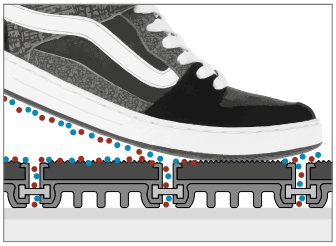

Fig.1 - Linking strips are interspersed with holes

Closed Construction

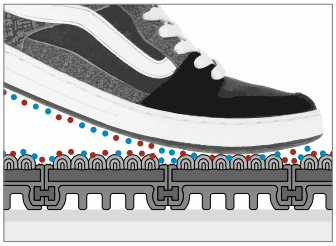

Fig.2 - Dirt and moisture remain on the surface

Performance of matting - Wiper options

The amount and type of wiper will affect the level of dirt and moisture that is removed from foot and wheeled traffic.

	Wiper options	
Moisture & dirt removal	**Single wiper**	**Double wiper**
High	Esplanade 6000, Esplanade 5000, Access 6000, Access 5000, Mat-in-a-Box 6000 & Mat-in-a-Box 5000	Esplanade 9000, Esplanade 8500, Topguard & Tyreguard
Medium	Esplanade 9000, Esplanade 8500, Topguard, Tyreguard, Esplanade 1500, Esplanade 1000 & Mat-in-a-Box 1550	-

Note:
Plain / pvc wipers provide a scraping action only.

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Step 3

Select the correct amount

Width and length of matting

Width - matting should cover the entire entrance of a building, including side entrances so that traffic cannot enter without passing over the mat.

Length (Going) - critical to the function of the mat the length will vary dependent on the volume of traffic crossing the mat along with consideration to peak times of traffic flow.

HSL (Health & Safety Laboratory) and EFSA (Entrance Flooring Systems Association) have provided the following guidance based on peak flow rates per hour.

Applications	People per hour	Minimum length
Low	78	3-4 metres
Medium	400	6-7 metres
High	800	8-10 metres

Note:
It is not always possible to fit the correct amount of primary barrier matting - in these circumstances extending the amount of matting by using a secondary barrier mat will provide an ideal solution.

For more information on specifying the correct entrance barrier mat and for information on the guidance contained in Building Standards and British Standards.

Gradus are able to provide a full consultation and advice service on selecting the correct barrier matting system - please call Technical Support on 01625 428922 to arrange a face to face meeting with a specification expert.

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