

### Correcting Bow, Skew, Pattern Elongation and Trueness of Edge

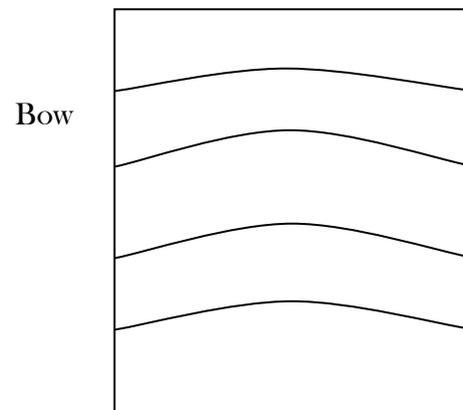
Because of the non-rigid nature of carpet, minor variations such as bowing, skewing, pattern elongation and trueness of edge can occur. In most but not all cases, bowing and skewing is more apparent with pattern carpet. Each of these variations can be adjusted using the fundamental installation procedures found in the examples given here. Installers are responsible to adjust for bowing, skewing and pattern elongation up to 1.5 inches in 12 ft. wide carpet. When installing printed pattern carpet you **MUST** cut on the pattern! When installing tufted patterns you **MUST** cut along the pattern on the row! **Note:** Before installation, installers should check each roll for these variations by dry fitting. Roll sequencing and installation must be done by roll according to the pattern count measurement, starting with the largest pattern measurement and sequencing each roll to the next longest pattern measurement until you reach the roll with the smallest pattern measurement.

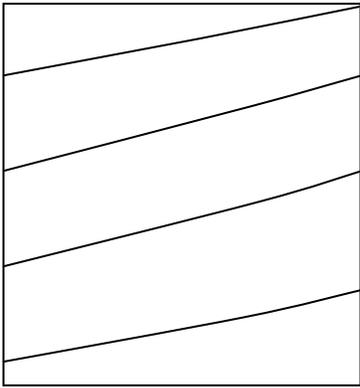
**Bowing:** Remove selvage edge by cutting on pattern. When cutting end seams or cutting to a wall you must cut on the pattern and then adjust for bowing by working from end to end. When installing stretch-in, make side seams first, being certain to match the pattern. After side seams are completed, cut both ends of the roll on pattern. Always pre-stretch the carpet to help adjust for bowing before seaming. Stretch the short edges to the wall to align the pattern. Continue to stretch the carpet as needed to align the pattern to each wall. If installing direct glue, spread adhesive within 6 inches of both carpet edges so seams can be made after the bow is straightened. Push the corners of the carpet to the wall and stay nail, leaving the nails in for 24 hours. This will tend to create a ripple in the center of the carpet that can be worked through the adhesive using a power stretcher and stay nails. Finish by spreading the adhesive at the carpet edges and applying seam sealer. Match the pattern.

**Skewing:** Use the same fundamental procedures used to correct bowing, being sure to pre-stretch the carpet before seaming to adjust for skewing. When installing stretch-in, make side seams first. Stretch the short, lagging side of the carpet onto the tackstrip. This will tend to create a ripple on the long side. Attach the long side to the tackstrip and stretch across the room. This will force the wrinkle into the short side on the opposite side of the room that can be removed when doing the final trim. When installing direct glue, spread the adhesive within 6 inches of both carpet edges so pattern carpets can be matched at the seam after the skew is straightened. Cut the ends on pattern and push the short, lagging edge to the wall. This will create a ripple on the longer edge that is removed by pushing the carpet through the adhesive as you work to the other end. Stay nail when needed, leaving the nails in for 24 hours. Finish by spreading the adhesive at the carpet edges and applying seam sealer. Match the pattern.

**Pattern Elongation:** Remove selvage, pre-stretch the carpet prior to seaming to help adjust for pattern elongation. Match the pattern in the center of the room at the seam and then work towards the carpet ends. Obtain the pattern match by stretching and stay nailing the shorter length pattern match to meet the elongated pattern. Power stretching in short intervals off a dead man or mini stretcher is recommended. It may be necessary to alternate stretching and stay nailing from one side of the seam to the other. When installing stretch-in, stretch the carpet and place stay nails as needed within 6 inches of the seam in order to allow room for the hot melt seam tape. Once the seams have been completed, remove all stay nails and stretch the carpet as if it were one large carpet. When installing direct-glue, after applying align the pattern at the center of room and secure the carpet with stay nails. From this point, continue to maintain the pattern match as previously instructed.

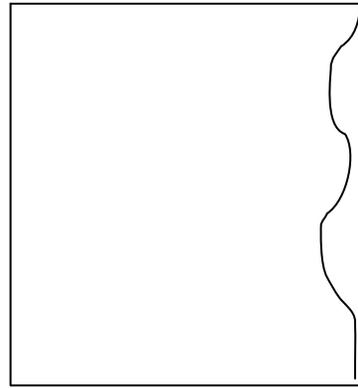
**Trueness of Edge:** This condition occurs due to uneven carpet tension during manufacturing, resulting in S shaped variations along the carpet edge that are typically easy to correct. Edges to be seamed must be cut on pattern. When installing stretch-in, make seams as indicated previously, matching the pattern. Stretch each side of the carpet to form a straight line along the walls to remove the S shaped edges. When installing direct glue, snap a chalk line on the floor where the first seam is to be made and then spread the adhesive for half of the carpet's width. Align the most extended carpet edge to the chalk line. Power stretch the valley edges to the chalk line and stay nail, leaving the nails in for 24 hours. Repeat these steps on the second half of the carpet width and as needed elsewhere.



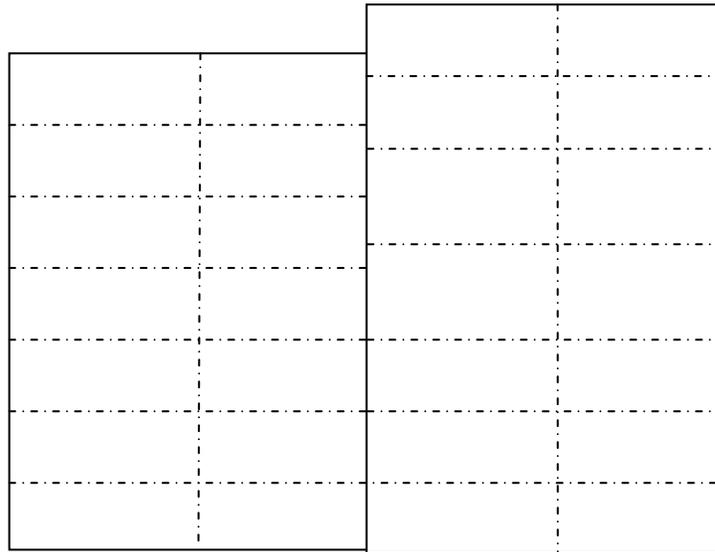


Skew

“S” Edge



Pattern Elongation



For further assistance contact our Technical Services Department at 800-944-2840

Technical Services  
Mark Johnston  
Tonya Monk  
Tammy Smith  
Bobby Reed