

Dean's Tip's & Trick's
WC90™ HexTile Installation

Hi, I'm Dean Green, **Wear-Concepts Project Maintenance Manager** and **Field Crew Supervisor**. I've been inside of hundreds of plants and repaired thousands of wear problems in facilities just like yours. Along the way I have picked up and developed some great methods for installing a variety of different wear solutions. I'd like to share some of my tips & tricks with you.

WC90™ HexTile can be a great solution to wear problems on curved, concave, or even convex surfaces. Yet, installing **WC90™ HexTile** can be intimidating. Patience and preparation will get you most of the way there. A little extra know-how should help you over the top. Here's how it's done:

1. Evaluation.

- a. How big is the area to be tiled?
- b. How thick do you want the tile to be?
- c. What are you using for the adhesive?
- d. Do you have the right tools?
- e. Do you have the time?

2. Determine what you need.

- a. **WC90™ HexTile** come in 6" x 6" sheets of 56 tiles. Figure approximately 4+ sheets per square foot. (See figure 1)
- b. **WC90™ HexTiles** come in four thicknesses: 1/8", 1/4", 3/8", and 1/2". The thickness you use is determined by the abrasiveness of the material being

handled and the flow rate. Constriction is something to be considered. (Give us a call to help you on this.)

- c. Flat-to-Flats and Point-to-Points. These are the little filler pieces that go in where the **WC90™ HexTiles** start, stop and join. I hope you didn't think that you would have to cut those little tiny guys out of a whole **WC90™ HexTiles**! The work's been done for you already! (See figure 2)
- d. We use our **Wear-Con Cerami-Bond™**, two-part epoxy tile adhesive 8 times out of 10 over our **Wear-Con 100% RTV Silicone** when we install **WC90™ HexTile**. Why? Because it holds better! All those spaces between the tiles need a stronger bond than Silicone can provide. **Cerami-Bond™** locks them in.
- e. Get yourself some good fitting rubber or nitrile gloves. Don't go cheap or you'll be sorry.
- f. Find a piece of **UHMW** approximately 12" x 18" for your work surface. This is what you'll be mixing your **Cerami-Bond™** on. The slick surface makes it easy to mix and easy to clean.
- g. Plastic throw away putty knives.
- h. A utility knife.
- i. A smooth diamond ceramic cutting blade for your hand grinder.
- j. **Wear-Con's Triple Bead 90™ (TB90™) Ceramic Wear Compound**.

3. Installation.

- a. Do a mock layout of your **WC90™ HexTiles** to determine how every thing is going to fit. A nudge this way or that while it's dry can make a big difference in your end results.
- b. Determine where the breaks and seams are going to be.
- c. Be patient. This is like putting a big puzzle together. The goal is to get as much uncut tile on as possible in a uniform method.
- d. Start small. This is no time to get overwhelmed.

4. Be Safe!

- a. Read the directions!



Figure 1

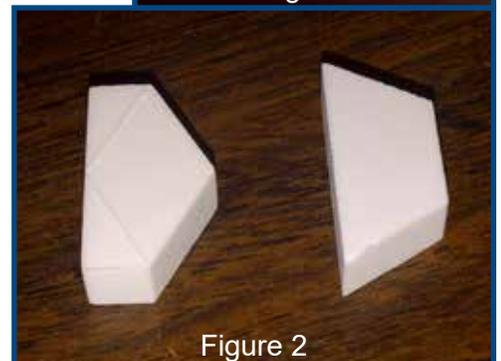


Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

5. Apply.

- a. Mix **Wear-Con's Cerami-Bond™ Epoxy Tile Adhesive** according to directions in small batches one- to-one on your **UHMW** work surface with your disposable putty knife. Mesh out (up) or mesh in (down)? Flat or concave – mesh out. Convex – mesh in. This allows for more flexibility.
- b. Adhesive is applied directly to the **WC90™ HexTile**. This gives you more control than if you put it on the surface. Keep in mind how thick your tile is. You'll want enough adhesive coming up through the gaps between the **WC90™ HexTiles** to act as a grout. This is a "feel" that you will pick up as you go along.
- c. Cut the mesh by bending the mat back on itself along the line you need separated. This will expose the mesh and make for an easier cut with your utility knife. (See figures #5 & 6)
- d. Time for the Flat-to-Flats and Point-to-Points. Install the little filler pieces where the **WC90™ HexTile** start, stop, and join. (See figures #3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, & 11)
- e. Once a section has been laid, the adhesive that has pushed up through the gaps needs to be smoothed out. If adhesive has not oozed up through the gaps, more needs to be applied. It is then smoothed by a properly gloved hand! (You may feel some heat. This is normal. It's the chemicals in the epoxy reacting with each other while they cure.) If the adhesive is in excess, tear off a flap of cardboard from one of the **WC90™ HexTile** boxes. That also makes for a cheap disposable trowel.
- f. Dig out with a putty knife any extra **Cerami-Bond™ Tile Adhesive**, (before it sets up) that is in the larger gaps that are too small to get a Flat-to-Flat or a Point-to-Point into.
- g. Now it's time for the filler. **TB90™** should be mixed in small batches by a properly gloved hand! I like to pull out equal parts of resin and hardener about the size of ping pong balls. Once kneaded together, the **TB90™** that is ready to be used is about the size of a tennis ball. That's handy! Now work the **TB90™** into all of the gaps (by hand and by trowel), making a monolithic surface. (FYI: **Cerami-Bond™** and **TB90™** are both epoxy based. They are totally compatible so you don't have to wait until the **Cerami-Bond™** fully cures before you start applying the **TB90™**!)

6. Clean up.

- a. If you catch **Cerami-Bond™** before it sets up, you can clean it with soap and water.
- b. Once the residue sets up on the **UHMW**, just flex the work surface and the hardened epoxy will pop right off. (I can't say the same for clothing.)

I hope this inspires you. Remember to start small, gain confidence, become the expert, and then train others. If you need help, ask for it. Call **Wear-Con** at **1-888-4WEARCON** or email us at info@wearcon.com. I can also come out as a **Project Manager** to train, direct, and supervise your people to do it right. Another option is to have **Wear-Concepts Field Crew** do the job for you. Whatever you choose, we're here to help you in your fight against wear!



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Figure 10

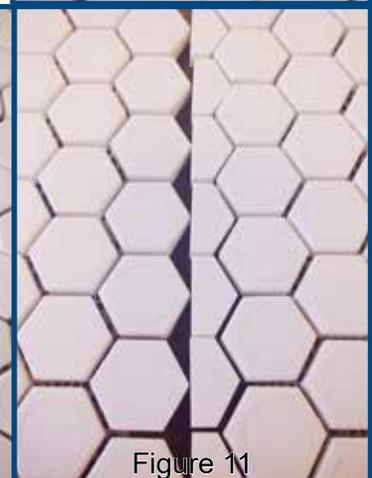
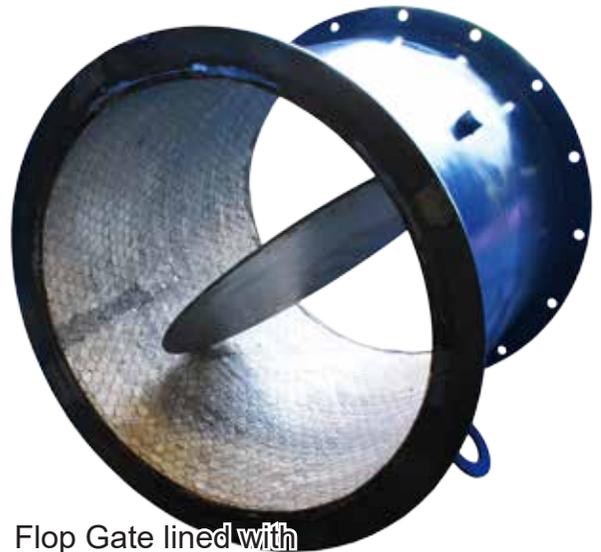


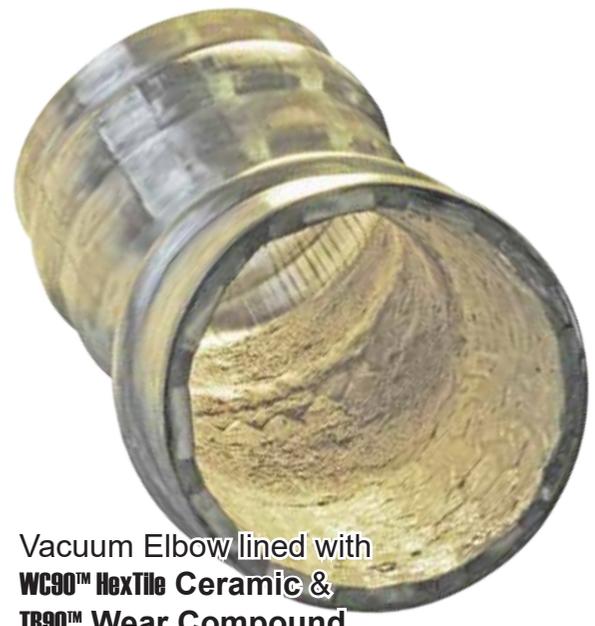
Figure 11



Flop Gate lined with **WC90™ HexTile Ceramic**



Transition Spool lined with **WC90™ HexTile** & **WC90™ Plain Ceramic**



Vacuum Elbow lined with **WC90™ HexTile Ceramic** & **TB90™ Wear Compound**



"Your Blue Line of Defense"

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