

FIRM-STEP® HEAVY DUTY GRP ANTI SLIP STEP COVERS & SHEETS

Superior slip resistance for both interior and exterior use

AREAS OF USE

- Ramps, walkways, fire escapes, all staircases, mezzanine floors, train track crossings and areas of heavy foot traffic
- Internal ramps and staircases



FEATURES

- Highly durable anti slip step surface for heavy stair use
- DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) and Building Regulations compliant
- Cut to size up to 3m wide free of charge
- 10 year guarantee against breakage
- Large UK stocks with custom sizes available
- Available in a variety of sizes and colours

DESCRIPTION

Watco Firm-Step® Heavy Duty Anti Slip Step Covers offer superior slip resistance for both interior and exterior use. Made from durable and lightweight GRP, and with our own superior grit, they are twice as hard wearing as the industry standard quartz. They are also chemical resistant, providing the perfect solution for potentially hazardous areas.

The low profile GRP construction is produced by the pultrusion method, which protects from bending, warping or splitting over time. The contrasting yellow or white nosings at 55mm x 55mm comply with UK Building Regulations and the Disability Discrimination Act.

Watco Firm-Step® Heavy Duty Flat Sheets comprise a high quality composite of glass woven matting impregnated with isophthalic polyester resin.

SPECIFICATION

Standard lengths for step covers	600mm 1000mm 1500mm 2000mm 3000mm	Service temperature	-20°C to 80°C.
Step cover profiles	220mm x 55mm or 345mm x 55mm	Impact resistant	Yes
Standard sizes for sheets	800mm x 1200mm 1200mm x 1200mm 2400mm x 1200mm	Corrosion resistant	Yes
Cut to size service	Yes	Chemical resistant	Yes
Suitable For	Wood, concrete, stone and metal.	Lightweight.	Yes
Grade	Fine and coarse	Non sparking	Yes
Thickness	5/6mm with grit.	Non metallic	Yes
		Fixing	Please refer to the Watco Firm-Step® installation guide overleaf for full details.

COLOURS



* Indicates the nosing colour



Samples are available on request. While great care is taken with the colour samples shown, no guarantee can be given that they represent exactly the colours offered.

SLIP RESISTANCE TEST RESULTS

Watco Firm-Step® Heavy Duty GRP slip resistance levels measured using the Pendulum Test method (WF rubber slider) – certificate available on request:

Top Surface	Dry Reading	Wet Reading
Coarse grit	76	70
Fine grit	71	63

The UK Slip Resistance Group guide to slip resistance of a floor for able bodied pedestrians:

Four S Pendulum Value	Potential for Slip
Above 65	Extremely Low
35 to 65	Low
25 to 35	Moderate
25 and Below	High

To ensure that the above slip resistant levels are maintained the panels should be kept clean in accordance with the information overleaf.

INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

HANDLING & STORAGE

Safe handling practices should always be employed and the appropriate Personal Protection Equipment is to be worn. Store the covers flat and upside down.

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

It is recommended that the following Personal Protection Equipment is worn for installation of Firm-Step® GRP sheet and step covers and further protective measures may be necessary but this will depend on the installation environment:

Bonding

- Eye Goggles
- Protective Gloves
- Safety Boots

Cutting & Mechanical Fixing

- Ear Defenders
- Eye Goggles
- Dust Mask (available from Watco)
- Protective Gloves
- Safety Boots

MEASURING

Width – Measure from left to right across the tread substrate. Then deduct 5mm (2.5mm either side) to ensure they easily fit and to allow for any expansion.

Depth – Measure from the front (nosing) to the back of the tread substrate. Then deduct 5 mm. E.g. 300mm measured depth minus 5mm = 295mm.

CUTTING

Firm-Step® anti slip sheets and step covers can be cut to size using orbital cutting equipment with a diamond blade. Cutting should be carried out externally or where there is dust extraction or suitable ventilation and the appropriate protective equipment detailed above should be worn. A jigsaw can be used for trimming or for occasions where only a small amount of cutting is required.

Cut to Size service – Watco offers a free cut to size service for all Firm-Step® products except Firm-Step® Precision. When you place your order, advise the technical advisor that you intend to install the product yourself and they will tailor the order to meet your requirements.

PREPARATION

Any damage or undulations to the substrate should be remedied to ensure that the stair tread or flat sheet will be on a reasonably flat and even surface.

FIXING

Offer up the step cover or sheet to determine if any cutting or trimming is necessary.

Lay the item onto the substrate and drill through it and into the substrate. If applying it to concrete or brick, etc. insert a rawlplug suitable for screw fixing. Fixings are generally recommended at approximately 70mm from the front, 50mm from the back and sides at up to 250mm apart. There is no need to counter sink the screws.

Apply a bead of Watco Adhesive Mastic in an 'S' shape on the underside of the step cover or sheet. This allows the product to 'bed' into place and prevent rocking or drumming on uneven surfaces. Lay the item into place and push down to bed into the adhesive. Fix into place using screws. Tighten the screws so that the screw head binds into the gritted surface. The top of the screw head should finish flush with the surrounding surface – if fitting to metal use self-tapping screws.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Use of a stiff brush will usually be sufficient when cleaning Firm-Step® Standard GRP to remove everyday dirt. For more stubborn contamination, it is recommended that a mild detergent is used and then rinsed with cold water. It is important to remove any excess water from the step covers prior to being put back into use with suitable absorbent materials. Where circumstances allow, Firm-Step® Standard GRP can be power washed on a low setting.

The security of the fixings/adhesive should be checked on a regular basis. Circumstances will vary, based upon the volume of foot traffic etc, but, as a guide, monthly inspections would be advisable.

SAFETY

Material Safety Data Sheets are available.



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