



Powerbond® seam-sealed Carpet: A perfect fit for aged care

Project: Chirnside Views Residential
Aged Care, VIC

Product: Powerbond®

At Chirnside Views in Melbourne, the Powerbond® Gardenwalk Collection was picked for a durable Broadloom Carpet, giving aged care residents the comforts of home.

Flooring is one of the most important considerations for any aged care facility. It must create a home-like interior for residents and their families, while being incredibly practical from a hygiene and durability point of view. The new \$37 million Chirnside Views Residential Aged Care found this combination in Powerbond® Garden Walk Carpet from Tarkett.

Chirnside Views is a 144-room aged care facility in north-east Melbourne. Spanning three levels of hotel-style comfort and service, it offers a cinema, café, bar and activity room, along with multiple sitting areas and private dining spaces.

Its planning and spatial design encourages physical, cognitive and social interaction, while soothing tones and nature-inspired materials foster restorative living and wellness. Colours from the Powerbond® Broadloom Gardenwalk Collection are used throughout private and community spaces to support this design philosophy.

Seam-sealed, impervious carpet

'Our client Norsan selected Powerbond® at the design and development stage,' says Chris Morony, Project Manager at builders APM Group. 'Having used it previously in other facilities, they knew it performed well, and had a wide range of colours and patterns that would support the design.'

While Carpet Tiles are a common flooring choice in aged care interiors, Powerbond® offers all the benefits of resilient flooring, with the aesthetics and comfort of Broadloom Carpet. With a nylon pile fused to a closed-cell cushion backing, it is cold-welded to create an integrated, impermeable floor covering ideal for use in health and aged care environments.

'One of the big advantages is that it's seam-sealed, which means you don't need a Green Seal or urine barrier underneath, unlike other Broadlooms,' says Chris. 'Unfortunately, older people can sometimes have accidents, and with Powerbond® you prevent any leakage below the Carpet backing.'

A product proven by experience

In total, APM installed over 5,000 sqm of Powerbond® in four complementary colourways: Meadowsweet, Meadowsweet Stone Path, Early Bloom Stone Path and Summer Walk Lemon Balm.



With the project in design and documentation at the peak of COVID, there were some challenges in getting samples to the designer, particularly as they had requested a custom colour for the office spaces.

'We had to get samples and custom colours manufactured in a timely fashion, then liaise with the designer and the client to make selections,' says Heath Marshall, Commercial Sales Manager at Tarkett. 'We delivered samples to the designer's home during lockdown, then took samples to the client, building a strong relationship with both parties.'

Soothing colours for a timeless design

The flooring design brief was for patterns and colours that are modern yet timeless. It is essential that people in aged care feel at home, and the Powerbond® collections offer excellent colour choice for architects and designers to achieve their design outcomes and tie in with the wider material palette of a large-scale project like this.

'A number of feature areas, such as the foyer and the entertainment spaces, used Summer Walk Lemon Balm to create a more modern look,' says Heath. 'The designers chose Early Bloom for the bedrooms and two colourways of Meadowsweet, one for hallways and a custom design for the office spaces.'

Free training for installers

While providing aesthetics and comfort underfoot, the Carpet also had to stand up against spillage, accidents and the traffic of people and equipment, and be easily repaired when necessary.

'Another great benefit of Powerbond® is that if there is any damage, it can be cut out and replaced almost seamlessly,' says Chris, 'which just isn't possible in other Broadloom Carpets.'

With such a large area of carpet to lay throughout the project, APM found the training provided by Tarkett invaluable for their installers. 'Even though it is Broadloom, it's more like installing Vinyl than laying Carpet, in terms of stiffness,' says Chris. 'There's a particular process, and Tarkett offer free training to installers to ensure they get the fitting and the seams right.'

The choice of experience

The use of colour and texture in flooring played an important part in creating a home-like environment at Chirnside Views, which is one of the essentials for improving quality of life for elderly residents. As a family business with over 30 years' experience in aged care, Norsan knew that Tarkett Powerbond® would not only perform, but also create the right aesthetics.

'I know that a lot of aged care facilities use Carpet Tiles as standard,' says Chris, 'but once you see that it's Carpet Tiles you can't unsee it. Broadloom is simply more attractive – and when you combine that with the performance of Powerbond®, you have a really good solution.'