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# NFIC *focus*



AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FOR THE  
NATURAL FIBER INDUSTRY.  
SERVING THE USA AND CANADA  
LEARN MORE AT [WWW.NFICNET.COM](http://WWW.NFICNET.COM)

## Who Is NFIC? by P.J. Arthur

NFIC provides a comprehensive, in depth study based on the Woven and Tufted wools. This is NFIC's main focus. We help sales people, installers and inspectors to understand the most misunderstood products in our industry.

There is a good reason that synthetic mills try to emulate wool carpet and some do a good job of it. But try as they may there is no fiber carpet that can compare with the most durable, long lasting yet gentle to the touch wool.

Understanding how to properly install Tufted & Woven wool carpet will no doubt put the installer at the top of his profession.



High end retailers, decorators, architects and mills seek out qualified installers who understand these products.

Don't misunderstand our vision, we know that there are a lot of qualified installers out there, but unfortunately many have not been trained on these products.



# Industry news

## WOOL CARPET AND INSTALLATIONS, by NFIC (Natural Fiber Installer Certification)

**What's new with wool ? Nothing.....wool carpet has been around for centuries.**

Before central air and heat, wool regulated air temperatures in homes and offices, in winter and summer.

Wool carpet, being a natural fiber wears differently and installs differently, than other fiber carpets. There are four different types of construction, generally speaking:

- One is tufted wool, which consists of wool fiber being tufted into a primary backing, with a secondary backing added to that for stability.
- The second type is a woven velvet. The term velvet refers to the construction of the components, rather than a smooth surface, which is what comes to mind for most people.
- The third is a Wilton. Wilton is generally manufactured with a five frame construction, making it a more durable carpet.
- The fourth type is Axminster.

Some people in the industry have a misconception that these products can be installed the same way. The three different ways of installation that are most used are; stretch in installation, direct glue down installation, and double stick installation. Not only are they installed differently, there is different equipment used for each installation. BUT every one of these products when using the stretch in method, should *always* be power stretched, using a power stretcher.

The direct glue method uses different trowel notch sizes, and different rollers. For example, if you are direct gluing a tufted product or woven product you would use a trowel size of 1/8"x1/8"x1/8" U notch. The roller that would be used would weigh no more and no less than 75 lbs.



For all these products on double stick installation, with a rough back carpet, i.e. some Velvets and Axminsters you would use a 1/16"x1/16"x1/16" Square notch trowel for pad to floor, for carpet to pad you would use 1/8"x3/16"x1/8" U notch trowel. For smooth back carpets you would use 1/8"x1/16"x1/8" U notch trowel. For all double stick installations the roller should be no more than 35 to 50 lbs. The carpet should be rolled in both directions, and then in 3 -4 hours it should be rolled again, in both directions. The glue that should be used for pad to floor, should be a pressure sensitive glue. Glue for carpet to pad (or even a direct glue) for these products should be a high solids multipurpose glue, about 67% solids.

With all types of carpet installation, carpet should be allowed to acclimate, for a minimum of 24 to 48 hours. Atmospheric conditions play a big part in all areas of installation. On glue down or double stick installations there should be no vacuuming for 72 hours, otherwise, it may cause the bond to be broken, because the glue has not yet cured. (do not use a vacuum with a beater bar, because this will cause fuzzing ).

There should be no moving of furniture on rollers for 72 hours after installation, if time constraints keep that from happening, then plywood should be laid on top of the carpet to distribute the weight.

For more information you can refer to NFIC's website, [www.nficnet.com](http://www.nficnet.com) under installation guidelines. Beside installation trainings NFIC also offers, sales trainings and inspector trainings.

It's one thing to hear or read this, but attending our trainings and experiencing hands on, puts all the knowledge into practice.

**NFIC will be conducting an installation training at Surfaces 2015—  
Make sure you stop by our booth #B3667**

# NFIC provides

## Installation Training courses on .....

### Woven & Tufted Wools.

The course consists of 3 days of training for skilled installers. Our instructors have over 35 years of experience each.

Day 1 of the course is a review of the study guide followed by a written test.

Day 2 “hands on training” consisting of pattern matching, double stick installation, preparation for Wilton seams, and much, much more...

Day 3 testing for “hands on training” along with demonstrations of the Kool Glide Iron, and the Seamer Down Now.

These tools, we feel will enhance any carpet installation.



## Keep that Competitive Edge. Know your Products. Knowledge is POWER!

- Associate Memberships (which includes technical support)
  - Installation Training & Certification • Consulting
  - Inspection Training & Certification • Sales Seminars
  - Job Start Ups • Job Saves

## Inspector Courses

We do a yearly Inspectors course which includes a tour of a Woven mill to give the Inspector a first hand look at the product while being manufactured.

The Inspectors course consists of a 3 day course of all aspects of the industry, manufacturing, installation, and appearance retention, for Woven and Tufted Wools.

## Sales Training

### NFIC coming to your area.....

Increase your sales with a One Day Sales Seminar at your location.

NFIC has a comprehensive program that helps your sales personnel gain the confidence and understanding of selling woven and tufted wools.

The Sales seminar is a 4 – 5 hour seminar, with seaming demonstration, as well as question and answer time.

We encourage all questions.

Our goal is to instill confidence, the knowledge and understanding of these products.



## NFIC feels very fortunate to have as Trainers/Instructors, the following:

### Jon Namba-West Coast

Jon is the editorial director of Floor Covering Installer Magazine. He has been a trainer for NFIC since 2011. [Click here](#) to view Jon's profile.

### Nate Hall-Mid West

Nate is the proprietor of The Enchanted Floorist LLC. He has been a trainer for NFIC since 2011. [Click here](#) to view Nate's profile.

### Roland Thompson-East Coast

Roland is a manager at Kehne's Carpet One. He has been an instructor for NFIC since 2011. [Click here](#) to view Roland's Profile.

### P.J. Arthur-CEO/Founder

P.J. founded NFIC in 2006 after realizing a need for continuing education regarding natural fibers for installers and salespeople. [Click here](#) to view P.J.'s profile.

### Supporting Mills:

Bloomsburg Carpet  
Godfrey Hirst Carpets  
J Mish LLC  
Nourison Industries  
Design Materials Inc.  
Healthier Choice

### Other Supporters:

Seamer Down Now  
by Pro Tools  
Kool Glide by Traxx



## Installation Clinics and Schools

Atlanta, Ga.	Dec. 4th, 5th & 6th 2014
Las Vegas, NV, "Surfaces"	Jan. 22nd & 23rd 2015
Milwaukee, Wi.	Jan. 12th, 13th & 14th 2015
Toronto, Canada	Feb. 12th, 13th & 14th 2015
Calgary, Canada	April 2015

## Inspector Course

Bloomsburg, PA. - May 2015  
 Bloomsburg carpet mill tour

**CALL TO FIND OUT ABOUT  
 OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
 770-720-4537**

**Training and Testing for Woven & Tufted Wools**—All Classes will include Kool Glide Certification as well.

### Hands on Test

Hands on Training & Testing will include:  
 Kool Glide Iron – Training & Certification / Hand sewing on Wilton carpets / Seaming / Stretch in of pattern carpet / Stairs / Double- glue installation / Preparation

## VISIT US AT Surfaces 2015

**NFIC will be conducting an installation training at Surfaces 2015—For anyone attending Surfaces, make sure you stop by our booth—#B3667**

## One Day Seminar/Training for Sales People

### Understanding Natural Fiber Carpets

- Product Knowledge – Sales – Installation Information
- Training on Woven/Tufted Wools ( Axminster, Wilton & Velvet )

### General Knowledge

- Knowing your product
- How these products are different from regular carpet
- Do's & don'ts on where to install the product
- Measuring & seam placement
- Kool Glide Iron & it's importance on the product
- Understanding the right pad, for the right job
- Q & A Time – be prepared with written questions of your own

One day seminar for sales people, designers, decorators and installers – up to 30 people per session 9:00 – 1:00 Q & A to follow. Study/reference guide for each attendee to keep.

Find out more and to set up a one day seminar, contact [nfic2006@yahoo.com](mailto:nfic2006@yahoo.com) or call 770 720-4537.