

It's A Snap

TURN YOUR GARAGE INTO A SHOWROOM

BY TRICIA SZULEWSKI

MY CEMENT GARAGE FLOOR TENDS TO GET very damp, cold, and slippery, especially in the summer. And because my condo is located on wetlands, I sometimes find small puddles in certain areas. So, I was tossing around the idea of putting concrete epoxy sealer down, when I found the answer to my dilemma.

RaceDeck is a modular, interlocking flooring system that offers great slip resistance. Available in a number of colors and patterns, it can be installed in an afternoon without any chemicals, and comes with a 15-year warranty. You can even use RaceDeck as display flooring; just order edging to fit around a custom-sized island for your bike. The material is strong enough to handle the weight of cars, and I don't expect to see any dents or scratches from kickstands, either.

For my garage, I chose Alloy Diamond flooring with Graphite Diamond for the border. The design options are endless, but I wanted something simple. Using the RaceDeck web site, I mapped out a design for my floor, chose the colors, and figured out exactly how many tiles I'd need for the job (they're 12 x 12" each).

The tiles arrived already snapped together in groups of four, which made the installation even faster. The entire job took me about eight hours. Of course, that included cleaning out the garage, taking down a door to trim the bottom, and cutting a number of tiles to fit into odd-shaped areas.

All the work paid off — my garage looks spectacular. And walking around or standing on the floor is much easier on my legs and feet, which used to get fatigued from the hard concrete. Plus, I expect the garage will stay a bit warmer in the cold winter months, too. But the best part about the RaceDeck flooring, besides how good it looks, is that I can unsnap it and take it with me to my next home.

SOURCES

RaceDeck \$3-4 per sq-ft.
SNAPLOCK INDUSTRIES
 1735 S. 900 West
 Dept. RB
 Salt Lake City, UT 84104
 800/457-0174
 www.racedeck.com



1

Here's my garage before getting started. More than just a place to store motorcycles, it's also my workout room and workshop.



2

Once you've cleared the floor, sweeping and vacuuming is the only prep work to do.

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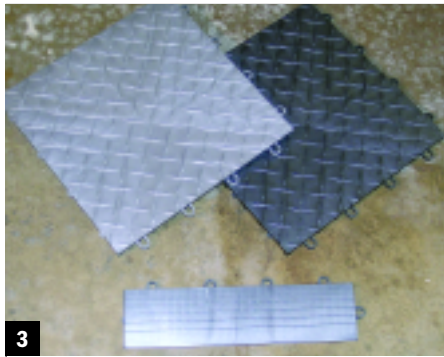
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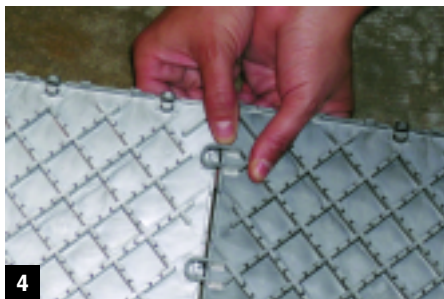
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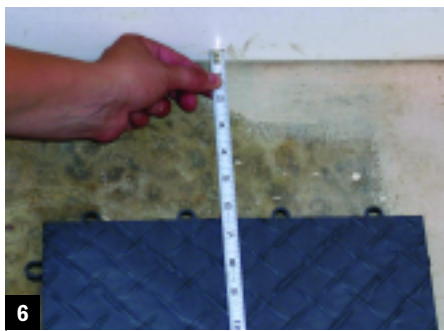
3 The RaceDeck tiles I chose look a lot like metal, not plastic. The edging for the garage door opening is beveled, but I ended up not needing it after all.



4 The tiles have two sides with female loops and two sides with male pegs. I found the easiest way to connect the tiles was to line them up and step on the edges until I heard them snap together.



5 You should start in a corner and work from left to right and top to bottom, because of the way the tiles connect.



6 When I came to a small section of the garage that needed a specially sized tile, I took the measurements...



7 ...and cut the tile with a small saw. I later used a circular saw, which was much quicker and easier.



8 I filed the edges smooth...



9 ...and popped the custom-cut tiles into place.



10 My garage looks great!



11 And my bike looks like it's in a showroom. RB