

Enstyle – Kraus Luxury Plank | Tile Install Instructions

EASY FIX

This information sheet provides general guidelines for the installations of Tile and Plank LVT. All recommendations in this guide are based on the most up-to-date information as of the date this guide was produced. Please follow these instructions and recommendations for a satisfactory installation of LVT Tile and Plank.

Do not sand, dry scrape, bead blast or mechanically pulverize existing resilient flooring. These products may contain asbestos fibers that are not identifiable. Using the above non-recommended procedures, an asbestos-containing material can create asbestos dust. The inhalations of asbestos dust may cause serious bodily harm.

PRE-INSTALLATION/CONDITIONING PERIOD

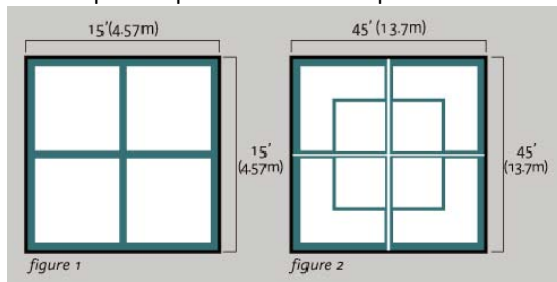
The floor covering, room temperature and the subfloor temperature must be kept between 65° and 85° Fahrenheit. Maintain proper temperature for 48 hours before (conditioning period), during and after installation. The building's heating and air-conditioning system should be turned on at least one week before installation. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in an installation failure (i.e. flooring may expand or contract resulting in gapping) Easy Fix is an interior product only, and must be installed in a temperature controlled environment, maintained at 65° and 85° Fahrenheit.

Do not open the cartons but spread them out. Stack no more than 4 high with at least 4" of airflow around cartons. Do not place next to heat or cooling ducts or in direct sunlight.

Do not install permanent cabinets, vanities, fixtures, etc. on top of Easy Fix. Do not screw or nail moldings, floor vents, door swings etc. through the floor. Install all heavy cabinetry or island counters first, and then install the flooring around them.

When installing Easy Fix be sure to keep dust, dirt or foreign particles away from the backing. The cleaner the backing remains, the better performance you will get. A protective sheet of paper has been placed between each plank insuring the plank remains clean and ready to use.

Easy Fix should be fitted net to perimeter walls and internal permanent structures. There is no requirement to allow for expansion and contraction. We recommend that you spread a strip of double sided tape, 4" (10cm) around the perimeter of the room. This should be repeated across the middle of the room as well in order to anchor the planks/tiles in place (see Figure 1). For larger installations please refer to Figure 2. The use of this double sided tape will NOT affect the ability to uplift and change planks/tiles. You should also ensure a double sided tape is in place at transition points between Easy Fix and other flooring materials in adjacent areas.



Installations where sunlight will be directly exposed to the substance all precautions should be taken to ensure the windows are "blacked out" 24 hours prior to installing, during installations and 24 hours after installation. This is to prevent thermally inclined dimensional changes of the product Install LVT Tile and Plank only after the jobsite has been cleared of other trade apparatuses that may damage finished installation. Always check the cartons to assure

that pattern number is correct on all cartons. To minimize shade variation, mix and install tiles from several different cartons. All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking water resistant Portland cement patching compound. Never install LVT tile and Plank over residual asphalt-type (cutback) adhesive. It can bleed through the new floor covering. Residual asphalt type adhesive must be covered with underlayment plywood.

LVT Tile and Plank are manufactured to high quality standards and is carefully inspected prior to leaving our facility. Occasionally, however, defects are not detected. If you notice a visible defect with the tiles you are installing, stop the installation and contact your local dealer and/or distributor. Defective products that are installed are NOT covered under warranty.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

Careful and correct preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a satisfactory floor covering installations. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor will telegraph through the new floor covering, resulting in an unsightly surface and excessive wear on high spots. Proper subfloor preparation and suitable underlayment installation are essential for a trouble-free job.

All subfloors must be sound, solid and have little flexibility

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

Kraus recommends all concrete subfloors (new and old) be tested using Calcium Chloride Test ASTM F1869 or Relative Humidity Test ASTM F 2170-11. New concrete slabs must cure for a minimum of 90 days. Even existing concrete slabs can have moisture problems. Never install Kraus Luxury Resilient Flooring where surface or subfloor moisture is present. Excessive moisture will cause failure. The installer is responsible for conducting a moisture test several days prior to installation to be sure that moisture is at recommended levels per Calcium Chloride Test of 3 lb. / 1,000 sq.ft. per 24 hrs., since moisture will directly affect the cure, set and bond of adhesives. Moisture content of the concrete cannot exceed 2.5% when using a Protimeter Concertmaster Tester. Kraus will not assume responsibility for floor covering failure due to hydrostatic pressure or moisture. Electronic meter testing is not considered a replacement for a Calcium Chloride Test or Relative Humidity Test. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.

Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt, sealing compounds, and other extraneous materials, the surface must be hard and dense and free from powder or flaking. Any large cracks or voids must be filled with a cementitious patching compound. Concrete should be flat within 3/16" in 10FT.

Tile and Plank must never be installed where moisture emissions may exist. Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions in wood subfloors, must be filled with a latex underlayment compound, and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.

Radiant Heat: Radiant heat components must be a minimum of 1/2" away from Easy Fix. This is the only type of radiant heat that is approved.

Subfloors should have been operational for at least 3 weeks prior to installation to drive out moisture and calibrate temperature settings. All radiant heat floors should be turned down so subfloor temperature is maintained at 65 degrees for 3 days prior to installation and kept at 65 degrees for at least 48 hours after installation to allow the adhesive to fully cure. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F at subfloor surface.

WOOD SUBFLOORS

GENERAL: All wood floors must be suspended at least 18" (450mm) above the ground, must be sturdy, and flat within 3/16" in 10FT. Adequate cross-ventilation must be provided. The ground surface of a crawl space must be covered with a

Suitable vapor barrier, Wood subfloors directly on concrete or installed over sleeper construction are not

satisfactory for the installation of LVT Tile and Plank. Wood subfloors under these conditions must be covered with a minimum 6mm or heavier underlayment rated panel to assure a successful finished flooring installation

UNDERLAYMENT:

Many times wood panel subfloors are damaged during the construction process or are not underlayment grade. These panels must be covered with an approved underlayment. Underlayment panels are intended to be used to provide a smooth surface on which to adhere the finished floor covering. It must be understood that underlayment panels cannot correct structural deficiencies. Particle board, chipboard and construction grade plywood, any hardboard and flake board are not recommended as underlayment. All have inadequate uniformity, poor dimensional suitability and variable surface porosity. Kraus will not accept responsibility for adhered installation over these subfloors. In all cases the underlayment manufacturer or underlayment installer is responsible for all underlayment warranties.

UNDERLAYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Panels intended to be used as underlayment should be specifically designed for this purpose. These panels should have a minimum thickness of ¼" (6mm) exterior grade WBP (weather and bolt proof) standard. Any panels selected as an underlayment must meet the following Criteria:

- Be dimensionally stable
- Have a smooth, fully sanded face so the graining or texturing will not show through
- Be resistant to both stain and impact indentation
- Be free of any surface components that may cause staining such as plastic filters, marking inks, etc.
- Be of uniform density, porosity and thickness
- Have a written warranty for suitability and performance from the panel manufacturer or have a history of proven performance.

UNDERLAYMENT INSTALLATIONS: Underlayment panels must be laid with the face grain turning across the joists. Panels should not be forced together, but lightly butted and installed with end joints offset at least 16" (400mm). Place underlayment panels so that joints do not line up with subfloor joints or fall directly under where a seam in the floor covering will be located. Fastening of each panel should start at one corner and work diagonally across the face of the panel. Fasteners throughout the field areas of the panel should be staggered no more than 6" (150mm) apart. Fasteners around the perimeter should be no more than 4" (100 mm) apart and ½" (10 mm) in from the edge of the panel. Appropriate fasteners should be used, and must be flush or set slightly below the surface of the underlayment. Any unevenness at joints between panels must be sanded to a level surface. Gaps between panels, hammer indentations and all other surface irregularities must be patched with latex underlayment compound and have a feathered finish. Some types of nails, such as a common steel nails, cement coated or some resin or rosin coated nails may cause a discoloration of the vinyl floor covering. Use only non-staining fasteners with underlayment panels. Construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by fastener staining or the use of construction adhesive rests with the underlayment installer

USE OF KPA-505 PRIMER (RECOMMENDED): KPA-505 Primer is specially formulated as a primer coat over common sub-floors; concrete, APA approved plywood underlayment, floor patch, self-levels gypsum cement, and lightweight concrete. This primer will improve spread rates and enhance the performance of the new adhesive. KPA-505 is a high solids, solvent free, acrylic primer that can be used over existing adhesive residue, including old cutback, and when properly applied, effectively creates a chemical barrier between existing adhesive residue and new adhesives used to install most floor covering products. KPA-505 is highly resistant to alkali and helps to protect the new adhesive from the negative effects of elevated pH. KPA-505 is not recommended for outdoor use.

KPA-505 Primer is protected by the CleanGuard® two-stage antimicrobial. CleanGuard® is a specifically formulated broad-spectrum anti-microbial agent that protects our adhesives and primers from microorganisms, such as mold or mildew, in both wet and dry state.

EXISTING RESILIENT FLOOR COVERINGS: To achieve maximum product performance Easy Fix Tile and plank should

not be installed over existing resilient floor covering. In the rare case where removal of the existing resilient floor covering is not an option, the existing flooring must be in good condition and fully bonded to the structural floor. The exception is that any tile or sheet that is of a soft cushion construction must be removed.

Ceramic Tile:

When installing Easy Fix over existing ceramic tile, you must skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. If you install Easy Fix over an existing floor that has an embossing or grout line on it, we recommend you skim coat with a floor leveler. Check for any dips in the subfloor that can create a void underneath the floor that will cause stress on the plank seams when walking on it. If so please fill in and level subfloor with embossing leveler.

In standard condition, if the product itself is not broken and the adhesive is not contaminated with dirt and dust, the Easy Fix adhesive can be reactivated. You can reheat with heat gun to loosen plank completely and then use Easy Fix adhesive to reinforce bond. In the winter time the adhesive is freeze thaw stable so if areas of the Easy Fix are dull and not sticky then reactivate with a heat gun.

After Installation:

After installation activate the adhesive firmly to the floor by applying pressure to the tile or plank by rolling over the floor with a 100 lb. flooring roller.

POST INSTALLATION

1. Do not drag furniture over newly installed floor.
2. Do not place heavy items on newly installed floor covering for at least 24 hours after completion of the installation.
3. Heavy furniture should be equipped with suitable non-staining, wide-bearing caster.
4. Excessive heat and direct sunlight light exposure can cause thermal degradation. To minimize potential effects on the floor covering please use all necessary precautions to block out direct sunlight exposure.
5. Oil or petroleum based products can result in surface staining.
6. Use a non-staining walk off mats. Rubber can discolor resilient floor coverings.