Enstyle™ Enduring Style

Enstyle – Kraus Luxury Vinyl Plank l Tile
Installation Instructions
Montalina

This information sheet provides general guidelines for the installation of Kraus Montalina 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 Montalina LVT.

Caution: 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

Montalina is an interior product only. The floor covering, room temperature and the subfloor temperature must be kept between 65° and 85° Fahrenheit (18° - 29° Celsius). The proper temperature must be maintained for 48 hours before, during and after installation. The building's heating and air-conditioning system should be turned on at least one week before installation. It must be installed in a temperature controlled environment and maintained between 65°F and 85°F (18°C - 29°C) at all times. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in an installation failure (i.e. flooring may expand or contract resulting in gapping).

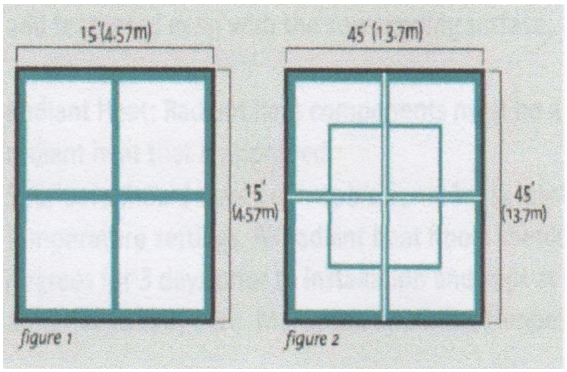
Do not open the cartons but spread them out. Stack no more than 4 high with at least 4" of airflow around cartons. Do not place next to heat or cooling ducts or in direct sunlight.

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

When installing Montalina LVT, be sure to keep dust, dirt or foreign particles away from the backing. The cleaner the backing remains, the better performance you will get.

Installation

Montalina LVT should be fitted next 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 KPA 501 (pressure sensitive adhesive) or 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 KPA 501 will NOT affect the ability to lift and change planks/tiles. You should also ensure a similar strip of adhesive is in place at transition points between Montalina LVT and other flooring materials in adjacent areas.



KRAUS® Floors with more.™

Heavy Traffic / Commercial / High Temperature Areas
Before installation, make sure that the subfloor is dry and dust free.

If a room has dimensions greater than 20' in any direction, then it is recommended that an additional band of adhesive be used on the planks and tiles closer to the center of the room (see **Figure 2**).

Ensure that each plank/tile is fitted tightly up against the adjoining plank/tile. In areas of high foot traffic, more volatile temperature variations, excessive rolling loads or if there are concerns with the condition of the subfloor, it is recommended that a full spread adhesive be used. Montalina LVT may be full spread glued down as an optional installation method. Kraus KPA 501 vinyl tile and plank adhesive is recommended. Any adhesive installed planks/tiles must be rolled with a 3 section 100-pound roller.

For 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 Montalina LVT only after the jobsite has been cleared of other trade apparatuses that may damage the finished installation. Always check the cartons to assure that the 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 Montalina LVT over residual asphalt-type (cutback) adhesive. It can bleed through the new floor covering. Residual asphalt-type adhesive must be covered with underlayment plywood.

Montalina LVT is 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 installation. 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 Subfloor
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 hours, 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.

Montalina LVT 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 Montalina LVT. Only hydronic radiant heat systems are approved for use with Montalina LVT. 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°F (18°C) for 3 days prior to installation and kept at 65°F (18°C) for at least 48 hours after installation. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F (29°C) at subfloor surface.

Wood Subfloors

General: All wood floors must be suspended at least 18" (450mm) above the ground and 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 Montalina LVT. 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; particleboard, 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 1/4" (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" (100mm) apart and 1/2" (10mm) 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 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 adhesives 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. KPA 505 is a high solid, solvent-free, acrylic primer that can be used over existing adhesive residue, including old cutback. 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 Montalina LVT 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.

Ceramic Tile

When installing Montalina LVT over existing ceramic tile, you must skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. If you install Montalina LVT 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.

Post Installation

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