

LUXURY VINYL (LVT) DRY BACK GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

For best results, LVT (where the adhesive is required) should be installed by a professional. For DIY customers, please consider click together floating LVT.

DISCLAIMER: CAREFULLY EXAMINE ALL OF THIS FLOORING FOR COLOR, FINISH, QUALITY, AND STYLE BEFORE INSTALLATION. IF THIS MATERIAL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE, STOP AND IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE PERSON FROM WHOM YOU PURCHASED IT. Materials installed with visible defects are not covered under warranty. Acceptance or rejection of material must be done only on full shipments, not carton by carton or plank by plank.

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 LVT Tile and Plank installation.

Existing resilient flooring: 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, asbestos-containing material can create asbestos dust. The inhalations of asbestos dust may cause serious bodily harm. Subfloors should be flat within 3/16" in 10 feet and should not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction.

PRE-INSTALLATION/CONDITIONING PERIOD

- LVT should be installed in indoor climate-controlled locations between 64°F - 85°F (18°C - 29°C). It should NEVER be installed outdoors.
- The flooring should be acclimated in the climate-controlled location for 48 hours before starting, during, and after installation.
- The flooring cartons should be off-loaded from the pallet and stacked no more than five high during the conditioning period
- The stacks should be arranged to allow air to circulate around the stacks on all sides.
- For installations where the floor will be exposed to direct sunlight, all precautions should be taken to ensure the windows are 'blackened out' 24 hours prior to installation, during installation, and 24 hours after installation. This is to prevent thermally induced dimensional changes to the floor. Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight may result in fading and discoloration of the floor so protective window coverings must be used.
- LVT should only be installed after the job site has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage a finished installation.
- IMPORTANT** During installation, mix and install planks/tiles from several different cartons to minimize shade variation.
- 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 flooring you are installing, stop the installation and contact your local dealer and/or distributor. Defective products that are installed are NOT covered under warranty.
- Allow a minimum of 5mm expansion space around the perimeter and at all vertical obstructions.
- The maximum square foot area without requiring the use of transitions is 1000 sq. ft. (roughly a 32' x 32' room)
- The Maximum run in any direction is 35 LF before requiring a transition molding and it is recommended to transition in all doorways.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

- All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.
- Never install 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.
- 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.
- Subfloors should be flat within 3/16" in 10 feet and should not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction.

- All concrete subfloors (new and old) be tested using Calcium Chloride Test ASTM F1869 or Relative Humidity Test ASTM F 2170. New concrete slabs must cure for a minimum of 90 days.

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

- Even existing concrete slabs can have moisture problems. Never install LVT 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 the 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.
- The Manufacturer 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.
- 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 components must be a minimum of 1/2" away from the Tile and Plank. Only hydronic radiant heat systems are approved for use with LVT Plank/Tile. 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°F (18°C) for 3 days prior to installation and kept at 65°F (18°C) for at least 48 hours after installation to allow the adhesive to fully cure. The maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F (29°C) at the 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 must be covered with a minimum 1/4" (6mm) or heavier underlayment-rated panel to assure a successfully finished flooring installation.

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" 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
- To achieve maximum product performance, LVT Tile and Plank should not be installed over the existing resilient floor covering.
- In the rare case where removal of the existing resilient floor

EXISTING RESILIENT FLOOR COVERINGS

- To achieve maximum product performance, LVT Tile and Plank should not be installed over the 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.
- Subfloors should be flat within 3/16" in 10 feet and should not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction.

CERAMIC TILE

- When installing LVT over existing ceramic tile, you must skim-coat the grout lines with a floor leveler.
- If you install LVT over an existing floor with an embossing or grout line, 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 the subfloor with an embossing leveler.
- Subfloors should be flat within 3/16" in 10 feet and should not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction.

TROWEL RECOMMENDATION:

- 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel (porous substrate) or
- 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U notch trowel (non-porous substrate).

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE: KPA-99 ADHESIVE:

- KPA-99 Approved Substrates: Concrete, flooring grade APA rated plywood, steel, marble, terrazzo, existing vinyl tile flooring (well-bonded; excludes self-stick). KPA-99 Adhesive can be used over these subfloors with a maximum moisture emission rate of 12lbs/1000 sq. ft. /24 hours [ASTM F1869], a pH of <10.0 [ASTM F710], and a maximum in situ RH of 99% [ASTM F2170]..

POST-INSTALLATION/MAINTENANCE

- Install wall trim around the entire perimeter to cover the expansion space. Place trim lightly over the floor and secure it to the wall or cabinets, not to the floor. Install doorway transition moldings. Do not pin the floor with the molding or drive fasteners through the floor.
- In wet areas, exterior doorways, and doorways adjoining wet areas, seal the edge with high-quality acrylic or silicone caulking to prevent water from seeping under the floor.
- Return appliances and furniture to the room by rolling or sliding them over strips of plywood or hardboard. Install protective felt pads on chairs and other movable furniture.
- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove grit and sand that can abrade, dull, or scratch your new floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater brush, because it may damage the floor's surface.
- Wipe up spills promptly with a damp cloth or mop.
- Place mats at outside entrances to prevent dirt, grit, and soil from being tracked onto your floor. Do not use rugs or mats with rubber backings. Rubber, oil, or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining.
- Never use bleach, wax, oil soaps, or other household cleaners (Old English, Pledge, etc.) as they can leave contaminants that cause problems in the future. When additional cleaning is needed, we recommend a no-wax hard surface floor cleaner like Bona Stone, Tile & Laminate Cleaner.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining.
- Use non-staining walk-off mats. Rubber can discolor resilient floor coverings.

OWNER / INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

The consumer and installer assume all responsibility for the final inspection of product quality. If the flooring is not acceptable, contact your dealer. ONCE INSTALLED, THE FLOORING IS CONSIDERED ACCEPTED BY THE INSTALLER AND THE OWNER. PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE INSTALLATION

General Installation Guidelines

1. Remove thresholds and baseboards. Your surface to cover will be the length times the width of the room plus the area of any nooks and closets. To this total surface, you will need to add 10 percent for trimming.
2. Remove any existing flooring if necessary. The floor surface is to be solid and smooth. Remove old adhesive without omitting corners and crevices.
3. Fill in any cracks and holes with a patching compound. Level it off for a smoother subfloor. A coat of primer is recommended to seal extremely porous subfloors.
4. Install planks parallel to the wall opposite to the room's main entrance. Measure to determine the center of the room so planks are evenly distributed on each side. Mark the straight centerline on the floor using a chalk line. Planks of the first and last rows may need to be cut to ensure an even layout throughout the room.
5. Spread the adhesive with the recommended notched trowel. Wait the appropriate time according to the manufacturer's directions before commencing to lay flooring.
6. Starting on your centerline, line up the first plank perfectly straight since all the remaining planks will lead off the first. Install all planks in the same direction. For this purpose, arrows have been printed on the back layer of the planks.
7. Cut a vinyl plank in half to begin your second row. Use a vinyl plank cutter (recommended) or a utility knife and square to cut the plank at a 90-degree angle to its length. Staggering the vinyl planks creates a more authentic appearance; commence subsequent rows using the cut-offs from previous rows, alternating them randomly. Pieces should be a minimum of 20 cm (8") in length, as should the stagger from one row to the next.
8. Use a floor roller to ensure all the planks are firmly bonded to the floor and install moldings. Locate any gaps between planks; if any, use a putty knife to fill gaps with wood putty and wipe away any excess.
9. Remove adhesive residue on the surface of the floor, use a clean white cloth dampened with water if the adhesive is wet and acetone or mineral spirits if it is dry to wipe it away.

