INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

GLUE DOWN LVT FLOORS ARE INTENDED FOR INSTALLATION IN CLIMATE-CONTROLLED DRY INTERIOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL APPLICATIONS.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION. IN ADDITION TO THESE INSTRUCTIONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE INSTALLER FOLLOW ALL INSTALLATION GUIDELINES AS SET FORTH BY THE NATIONAL WOOD FLOORING ASSOCIATION (NWFA).
If the following instructions leave any unanswered questions or if additional information is required, please contact manufacturer through your dealers.

FLOORING MATERIAL SHOULD BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO INSTALLATION
Responsibility for the suitability of Manufacturer and accompanying products for each individual installation cannot be assumed by Manufacturer, since Manufacturer has no control over the installer's proper application. **Should an individual plank be doubtful as to appearance or dimension, the installer should not use this piece.**

ACCLIMATION

Glue Down LVT flooring requires a minimum of 24 hours to acclimate to the conditions of the installation area. Room temperature during acclimation should be between 65°F (18°C) and 80°F (27°C).

PRE-INSTALLATION JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS

- Permanent HVAC system should be in continuous operation for three weeks prior to installing Glue Down LVT planks.
- Job-site temperature should be between 65°F (18°C) and 80°F (27°C).
- Job-site relative atmospheric humidity should be kept between 40% to 60%.
- Refer to adhesive manufacturer's guidelines for additional temperature and humidity requirements.
- Direct sunlight is not recommended during installation.

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FOUNDATION COLLECTION INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL SUBFLOOR

- Structural subfloor systems are comprised of either concrete, cement-like materials or wood.
- It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure the subfloor meets the required national, standard local codes and specifications prior to installing Glue Down LVT floors.
- All subfloors must be permanently dry, clean, smooth, and structurally sound. The surface must be free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing/curing compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material that could affect the installation.
- Solvents and other abrasive chemicals used to clean or remove subfloor contaminants can damage the product.
- Subfloors should be made flat to within 3/16" per 10' in length. If necessary, an extra leveling surface may be applied on top of the existing floor. Failure to properly level subfloors can result in telegraphing and damage to the product.
- Removal of an existing resilient floor covering that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos must comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
- Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, shot-blast or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphalt "cutback" adhesive or other adhesives.

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS

- Unless otherwise stated, follow the specific requirements of ASTM F710 (Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring). For copies of any of the ASTM standards, practices or test methods, please visit www.astm.org.
- Do not install Glue Down LVT floors over expansion joints, control joints, or other moving joints in the substrate. These joints must be respected and should not be filled with products that are not intended for that purpose. Contact an expansion joint cover manufacturer to meet specific flooring conditions.
- Inspect concrete subfloor for visible defects such as cracks, bumps, rough areas or flatness.
- Patch and repair all cracks, voids and imperfections with levelling compound.
- All concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture and pH (alkalinity) on every grade level.
- Moisture testing must be conducted in accordance with ASTM F2170 (Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using In Situ Probes) or ASTM F1869 (Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride).
- Following ASTM F2659 (Preliminary Evaluation of Comparative Moisture Condition of Concrete, Gypsum Cement and Other Floor Slabs and Screeds Using a Non-destructive Electronic Moisture Meter) is highly recommended and can provide qualitative information prior to performing ASTM F2170 or ASTM F1869.
- If gluing Glue Down LVT to your subfloor, acceptable moisture limits can generally be found in the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, on the adhesive's label, and in the adhesive manufacturer's specifications.

CONCRETE SUBFLOOR (CONTINUED)

- Test results must not exceed the limits stated by adhesive manufacturers and installations should not proceed until problems are corrected.
- Substrate surfaces should not read over 4% on electronic moisture meters for any adhesive application.
- Concrete subfloor moisture should not exceed 5-lbs per 1,000 s/f per 24 hours per ASTM F1869.
- Concrete internal relative humidity should not exceed 85% per ASTM F2170.
- For glue down applications acceptable pH range can generally be found in the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, on the adhesive's label, and in the adhesive manufacturer's specifications. Test results must not exceed the limits stated by the adhesive manufacturer and installations should not proceed until problems are corrected.
- Concrete subfloor PH level should not exceed 9 and must be fully cured for a minimum of 30 days.
- Concrete subfloor temperature should be kept between 65ºF (18ºC) and 80ºF (27ºC) for 48 hours prior, during and for 48 hours after installation.
- All testing must be formally documented and should be performed just prior to installation.

WOODEN SUBFLOOR

- This section refers specifically to wood subfloors made of plywood or similar underlayment material. It does not refer to a finished wood floor (e.g. solid hardwood or engineered wood floors).
- It is recommended that wood subfloors must have a minimum 18" (47 cm) of cross-ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces must be sealed with a suit-able polyethylene moisture barrier.
- Subfloors must meet local and national building codes.
- Wood subfloor must be structurally sound and dry.
- If installing over crawl-spaces, ensure crawl space moisture abatement system meets local building codes.
- Inspect subfloor for protruding nails/screws and/or loose panels and fix accordingly. Countersink nail heads and fill depressions, joints, cracks, gouges, and chipped edges with a good quality approved patching compound designed for this purpose.
- Panel joints should be smoothed and filled using a leveling compound.

CERAMIC TILE, TERRAZZO SUBFLOOR

- Terrazzo and Ceramic floor surfaces must be thoroughly sanded to remove all glaze and waxes.
- Remove or replace all loose tiles and clean grout lines.
- Use a good quality leveling compound to fill all grout lines and other depressions.
- Allow leveling compound to dry fully.
- Clean thoroughly to remove dust and debris prior to installation of Glue Down LVT flooring.

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CARPET, LINOLEUM, VINYL, HARDWOOD, LAMINATE SUBFLOOR

- The responsibility of determining if the existing flooring (linoleum, vinyl, hardwood, laminate) is suitable to be installed over rests solely with installer/flooring contractor on site. If there is any doubt as to its suitability, the existing flooring should be removed. Installations over existing resilient flooring may be more susceptible to indentation.
- Glue Down LVT cannot be installed over any type of carpet. Carpet, carpet pad and carpet tack should be removed prior to installation of Glue Down LVT.
- Any glues or residues left after removal of existing floors should also be removed. Contaminants should be mechanically removed; DO NOT use chemicals or solvents to remove them.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS

- Please follow the following guidelines if installing Glue Down LVT flooring over subfloors with radiant heating systems.
- Glue Down LVT can only be installed over hydronic-type systems; heating mat-based systems are not acceptable.
- Heating systems must be fully embedded in concrete slab or in well-bonded and appropriate leveling compound (in the case of electrical systems).
- Concrete slabs must be fully cured prior to installation of Glue Down LVT flooring.
- The heating system must be commissioned and in operation for a minimum 30 days before the floor planks are installed to ensure that the sub-floor is stable and the heating system is working as required with no leaks or cable breaks.
- Subfloor temperature should never exceed 85ºF (27ºC).
- Temperature must be kept at the maximum 85ºF (27ºC) for 7 days prior to installation of planks.
- Radiant heating system should be turned off for 48 hours prior to installation of planks BUT room temperature must never be less than 65ºF (18ºC) during this period.
- Radiant heating system should remain off for 72 hours after installation of planks BUT room temperature must never be less than 65ºF (18ºC) during this period.
- After 72 hours, turn the system on gradually (3 to 5 degrees per day) to avoid a sudden change in temperature.

ADHESIVE RECOMMENDATION

The following adhesives are examples that some of our customers have successfully used for installations:

- Mapei: ECO 811, ECO 373
- Sika: Dritac 5900 MegaBond, Dritac 5800 ToughBond
- Taylor: Taylor Pinnacle, Taylor Dynamic, Taylor Resolute

DISCLAIMER: These products are provided as suggestions only. Adhesive selection is based on installer preference and specific jobsite conditions. It is the responsibility of the installer to confirm compatibility with our flooring and follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. We do not assume liability for adhesive choice or performance.

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INSTALLATION OF PLANKS

Inspect all planks carefully to confirm color, pattern and to ensure they have not been damaged during transportation/handling.
DO NOT INSTALL PLANKS WITH VISIBLE DEFECTS.

STARTING

- Choose starting wall.
- Draw a guideline with chalk or pencil.
- For an even, consistent look the flooring should be installed square to the room.
- Creating a guideline will make sure your installation looks professionally finished and square.
- Determine how many planks are needed length and width wise from wall to wall.

CUTTING

- To cut a plank, simply measure and mark the plank with a pencil.
- Then, use a straight edge and utility knife to score and snap.
- If cutting irregular shapes, it is recommended to use a paper template and superimpose it on planks.

CHOOSE A PATTERN

- Determine an installation pattern.
- Prepare the subfloor according to the guidelines stated in the appropriate sections of this guide.
- Glue Down LVT flooring is intended for a full coverage adhesive.
- Follow adhesive manufacturer's instructions.
- Apply adhesive across the installation area in sections that are workable within the allowed open time per the adhesive manufacturer.
- Spread adhesive in such a way that you can reach the guideline to install the first row.