

# LVP & LVT Glue down Installation & Maintenance 5/10/22

## **INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE GUIDE:**

### **Tools needed**

Measuring tape, Utility Knife, Straight edge, **100 lb. Roller, Hand roller.**  
- Shears for cutting around irregular shaped objects

### **Planks needed to complete your project**

Measure the length and width of your room. If the room has alcoves or offsets, measure these separately. This will give you the square footage of the room. Purchase a minimum of 10% extra to cover mistakes, trimming and for future needs or replacement. Most installations require about 10% overage. However, this can vary depending upon the room size and layout.

### **Prior to Installation**

**Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. Check cartons to ensure that the color name, item#, and lot number are for the same material to be installed.** Color, shade or texture variations between samples, print color photography & the actual material are not warranted. Mix & install planks from several different cartons to minimize shade variations.

The Manufacturer will not warrant that different dye lots will match each other. We maintain strict quality control at the factory, but it is a good idea to check each plank for blemishes or flaws. **Planks installed with a defect will not be warranted.**

**Acclimate flooring (in carton) for minimum of 24 - 48 hours prior to installation in area where it is to be installed.** Floorcovering should be installed in a **climate-controlled environment** with an ambient temperature range **between 55F – 85°F or average temperature of 70°F and a humidity range of 35%-55% during installation and life of floor.** It is necessary to maintain a constant temperature before, during, and after the installation. All cartons must be stored on dry, flat level surface.

**Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolong periods.** During peak sunlight hours, the use of curtains, drapes, blinds, or solar film is required. Excessive temperatures due to sun light through windows can reach over 140°F and result in thermal dimensional changes, Gapping, UV fading, and damage your floor. Do not install in sunrooms, solariums, or saunas.

### **Subfloor preparation**

The subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean, and solid. The surface must be free of all dust, loose particles, solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, sealing/curing compounds, old adhesive, and any other foreign material. Permanent and non-permanent markers, pens, crayons, paint, or similar marking tools used to mark the substrate, or the back of the resilient flooring material will cause migratory staining. Subfloor contamination or markings that bleed through the flooring causing discoloration are excluded from warranty. Note do not use liquid solvents or adhesive removers.

Subfloors should be flat within a **tolerance of 3/16" per 10' or 1/8" in 6'.** Any unevenness over 3/16" must be sanded down or filled with a floor leveler. Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 18" from the ground to the underside of the joists. A 6-mil black polyurethane is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth with joints lapped 6" and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. Wood subfloors nailed or screwed every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. Subfloors must be carefully checked for moisture problems. Any moisture problems need to be addressed prior to installation. New concrete floors need to cure for a minimum of 60 days. **Not recommend installing over existing resilient flooring.**

**HELPFUL NOTICE:** If laying the flooring over existing ceramic tile or existing embossed sheet vinyl with grout line greater than 1/16"/1.5mm, it will be necessary to skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler.

Do not install the flooring over expansion 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.

Adhesive bond test must be performed using the actual flooring materials and adhesive to be installed. The test area must be minimum of 36" x 36" and remain for at least 72 hours and then evaluated for bond strength to the concrete.

### **Moisture**

*It is the contractor's as well as the installer's responsibility to test all concrete substrates, both new and old, for moisture content to determine if it is sufficiently dry to install flooring. Maximum level per CaC1 test method is **5 lbs. per 1000 in 24 hours.** Maximum level for ASTM2170 i-SITU Relative humidity test method is 85%. **Relative humidity levels should never exceed 85%. Moisture and Hydrostatic pressure can create issue with flooring and can get in walls & structure of the home and create an unhealthy environment.***

*NOTE: Glue down Flooring is not warrant or guarantee unsatisfactory installations due to the presence of excessive alkali, moisture, or hydrostatic pressure in subfloors.*

### **Over Hydronic Radiant Heat**

*Flooring can be installed over Hydronic radiant heat only if the following guidelines are followed. Complete system must be operational for a minimum of one week. System should be turned off 72 hours prior to installation of flooring and remain off 72 hours after installation is complete. Turn system back on to its normal room temperature setting. The subfloor surface must never exceed 80F degrees Fahrenheit throughout the life of the floor. Flooring and adhesive should never come in direct contact with heating system. All other standard installation instructions apply.*

## Installation

When planks are installed over concrete or wood, use **Mapei ECO 399 or ECO 373** adhesives following the manufactures recommended Instructions. Spread rate will vary depending on subfloor and trowel size used.

Square the area and establish reference points on the substrate based on the recommended layout. Figure 1.

For best results, planks/tiles should be installed starting from the center of the room. Measure and mark the center of each end wall. Connect center points with a chalk line. Locate the center and establish a second chalk line at a right angle to the existing line. (Figure 1) Planks/Tile should be installed in a pyramid fashion. Carefully place the first tile at the junction of the chalk lines. Continue laying the planks/tiles, making sure each one is flush against the chalk line and tight against adjoining tile. (Figure 2) (Figure 3).

Apply the adhesive to the substrate and allow proper open time. Open and working times are dependent on the ambient temperature, humidity, substrate porosity, temperature, and air movement. It is the installer's responsibility to modify the open time and working time for jobsite conditions.

Use established reference points and install the flooring.

Install planks in the same direction, in pattern, and offset the planks end joints by a minimum 6". To achieve a more aesthetic, natural appearance, avoid stair-step and H-pattern layouts by using random sizing 6" and larger to start row. Figure 1 & 2.

Planks/Tiles should be lightly butted together when placing the flooring in the adhesive. Do not force planks/tiles together creating a ledge condition at the seams and corners. Sliding Planks/tiles will force the adhesive out between the seams.

Periodically, lift the corner of an installed plank/tile to ensure proper transfer of adhesive.

Inspect the floor surface, especially seams, and remove any adhesive on the surface.

**Be sure to leave a minimum of 1/8"– 1/4" expansion space** around all fixed objects, floor vents, door jambs and doorframes.

To fit partial tiles, lay the piece to be cut exactly over the last full piece, place another full piece against the wall and make the cutting line where they overlap (Figure 3) (Adjust cut for expansion). Make sure the cut edge of the flooring is against the wall to ensure the factory-finished edges are next to each other. To fit the floor around the door jambs, pipe or other protrusions, cut a paper pattern to fit, and trace it on the face of a piece. Cut the piece and try fitting it into place before installing.

When installation is complete, **roll flooring in both directions using a 100 lb. (45-50 kg) sectional floor roller**. Install trim to cover any exposed space or uneven cuts at walls or vertical obstructions. Do not affix trim to the floor. Use small hand roller in areas that cannot be reached with larger roller.

## Post Installation Floor Protection

We recommend that the installation of the new flooring material not be performed until all other trades have completed their work. Proper precautions must be taken during and after installation process to avoid damage to the newly installed floor.

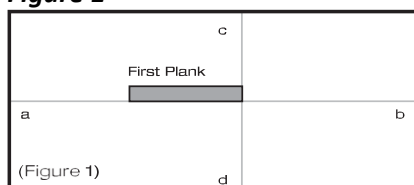
### Immediately after Installation

All Traffic must be restricted for a minimum of 24 hours after installation.

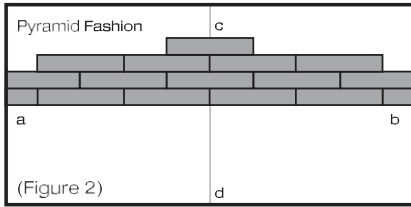
All Heavy traffic, rolling loads, pallets jacks, furniture, and appliance placement must be restricted for a minimum of 72 hours after installation.

Flooring must be swept or vacuumed to remove loose dirt and grit prior to the application of proper floor protection.

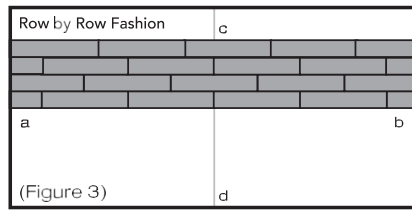
**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



**Basic Cleaning & Maintenance**

Sweep or vacuum to remove all dust and loose debris. Damp mop as needed using clean water and diluted Ph. Neutral cleaner in cool water or ready to use spray cleaner that will not leave a residue such as Bona Hard Surface Cleaner or Professional Series Stone Tile, Vinyl & Laminate cleaner in pre-mixed spray bottle. Cleaning products should be sprayed on to the sponge mop or hand towel never on to the floor itself. After 5-10 minutes, all dirt and residue of the cleaning agent should be removed; the floor should be rinsed with a damp mop and allowed to dry.

Always remove excess water. It not only can cause slip and fall hazards, but water can attack the adhesive, break the bond, and cause the flooring to release from the substrate. Always remove any spillage immediately.

Regular light maintenance is more cost effective then periodic heavy maintenance and more beneficial to floorcovering.

Always sweep, mop or dry vacuum (beater bar off) the floor regularly. Do not use treated dust mops.

Always use clean equipment – dirty equipment only redistributes the dirt.

Follow manufacturer’s recommended dilution rates. Do not mix cleaning products from different manufacturers.

**Never use a steam mop on Vinyl flooring.** Use of steam cleaners & steam mops may cause damage to your floor.

Do not use Wax, harsh cleaners, chemicals, abrasive cleaners & scrubbing tools, detergents, caustic cleaners, other household cleaning agents or “mop and shine” products on floor.

**Spot Protection & Removal**

Most domestic agents will not harm the floor. However, all residue of cleaning agents should be removed to avoid discoloration.

The following substances can cause discoloration: Tar, Nail Polish, Varnish, Spices, Shoe Polish, Paints containing acetone, Lipstick, Solvent-based Paints, Rubber Mats, Coco-Fiber Mats, Asphalt, Permanent Marker Pens, Hair Dye, Crayons Action:

1. Wipe immediately with a paper towel or cloth.
2. Spots, which have already dried, might be removed using a plastic scraper
3. The area should then be washed with diluted cleaning agent using a damp cloth or sponge.
4. Obstinate spots might be removed with a firm nylon sponge.

**Preventative Measure & Tips on Care**

The easiest way to reduce maintenance costs is to reduce the amount of dirt, grit and moisture brought into a building with an effective barrier mat. This should be cleaned regularly.

To help guard against scratches and dents, install felt floor protectors under furniture legs and equipment. Never slide furniture or equipment over unprotected floor, severe scratching and indentations may result.

Use soft vinyl castors for rolling furniture. **Protective mats are required for office use.**

Use floor mats at all entrances to help keep dirt and moisture from being tracked in. Area rugs are recommended in high traffic areas and all sinks. Mats and area rugs should be slip resistant with backing that will not discolor the floor. Do not use Rubber mats or coco-fiber mats. Rubber products stain vinyl floors.

Do not wear high heel shoes or shoes that need repair while walking on your floor. Some types of high heel shoes can severely damage the surface of any floor covering.

Maintain a healthy temperature range between 55F – 85°F or average temperature of 70°F and a humidity range of 35%-55%, which could require either a humidifier or a dehumidifier.

Regularly swept or vacuumed floors (no beater bars) will almost eliminate any need to “clean”, the floor with cleaning product. But when a cleaning product is needed, we suggest only “Vinyl specific, non-oil non-soap based neutral PH cleaner.

Furniture polish and window cleaning agents should be applied to a cloth to avoid spillage onto the floor. Contact with some cleaning agents, such as silicone, will make the floor surface extremely slippery, which may result in accidents.

Retain several planks for repairs in case of accidental damage.

The Sun’s UV rays can damage your floor. Use curtains, drapes, blinds, or solar film to protect your floor against thermal dimensional changes and discoloration from exposure to direct sunlight.

Occasionally move furniture and carpets around & reduce intense light source to minimize color contrast.

**Contact your dealer for recommended maintenance and floor care products**