

Installation Instructions

Elementary Dryback Vinyl Plank & Tile

Appropriate Settings:

Residential settings and commercial settings: areas with light to moderate traffic, such as hotels, conference rooms, classrooms, small offices, small department stores, boutiques and lobbies. This product is designed for internal installation only – it is NOT to be installed in areas that have a potential for flooding, such as saunas or outdoor areas. This product is not suitable for installation in garages, as discolouration of the surface of the planks can occur as a result of prolonged contact with rubber. Strong, direct sunlight can influence the dimensional stability of the planks so this should be considered when choosing installation method.

Before You Start

- Installation should comply with Australian Standard AS1884:2012.
- Calculate the total square meters of the space being covered and add 5% for cutting and waste.
- The product should be placed in the room in which it is to be fitted for **48 hours prior to installation**, to acclimatise, and should be carefully stacked in its packaging, to allow air to circulate.
- The product must be stored, installed and maintained in a protected and dry place, with room **temperature between 14°C – 28°C**, and **relative humidity between 40 – 65%**. Rapid and significant temperature fluctuation must be avoided.
- Your flooring should be protected from direct sunlight by use of curtains, blinds or UV resistant film on windows.
- Check each plank for any manufacturing defects prior to installation. Any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate refund or replacement prior to the flooring being installed.
- Vinyl Planks are all the same length but should be laid randomly across the floor to create the best effect. We recommend that you install the planks using a mix from several different cartons to ensure a random appearance. This will result in a more natural looking floor.
- The boards should be fitted so as to run the length of the longest, straightest wall. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways.

Important Notice Regarding Warranty:

This product is covered for a very competitive warranty period. In order to enjoy the peace of mind that this warranty affords and ensure the optimum performance of your floor, you must comply with all instructions relating to preparation, subfloor, installation environment, installation method, and ongoing care and maintenance. Any faults that occur as a result of failure to comply with the above, will not be covered by the warranty.

Subfloors

The below requirements apply to all subfloor options detailed throughout this document, and must be paid careful attention in order to minimise the risk of problems occurring with your flooring post-installation.

All substrates must be structurally sound, flat/even, clean and dry:

- **Structurally Sound:** This product can be installed onto concrete subfloors and existing wood, vinyl or tile floors provided they are not cushioned and are dimensionally stable. Existing engineered wood or laminate floors are not suitable.
- **Flat/Even:** Deviations in any subfloor level must not exceed 4mm under a 2 lineal metre straight edge. Raised points must be sanded/ground down and depressions filled using leveling compound. Please engage a professional installer's services for these tasks.
- **Clean:** Ensure the subfloor is clean and free from all contaminants and loose material by vacuuming prior to installation.
- **Dry:** It is essential that the moisture content of any subfloor complies with the relevant Australian standard: a maximum of **75% relative humidity for concrete subfloors** and **10 – 15% moisture content for wood subfloors**. All potential sources of moisture (e.g. walls, drains, damp proof courses, plumbing, fridges, washing machines etc.) must be thoroughly checked and rectified if found to be an issue. The final responsibility for determining if the subfloor is adequately dry for installation of the flooring lies with the installer of the product.

Concrete subfloor

- In order to avoid moisture related problems with your floor, the concrete must have been installed using good building practices and must be cured, dry and have a damp proof membrane installed.
- Relative humidity of the concrete must not exceed 75% when tested to ASTM2170.
- Existing concrete subfloor's moisture content can be checked using a moisture meter. Your floor must not be fitted until the problem has been rectified.

Heated subfloors

- It is not recommended to install vinyl plank flooring over an electrical radiant heating system. Hydronic radiant heating systems are acceptable provided the following instructions are complied with: ensure the surface temperature never exceeds **28°C**. Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the subfloor. Once this has been completed, switch off your radiant heating system for installation of the flooring. It is recommended that the radiant heat be applied in a gradual manner after installing the flooring. Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Wood, Vinyl or Tile Subfloor

- In order to avoid moisture related problems with your floor, the moisture vapour content of a wood subfloor must not exceed **10 – 15%**.
- Due to environmentally influenced dimensional stability, vinyl planks **should not be installed on particleboard** or strip timber subfloors. You will need to overlay such subfloors with plywood, Masonite or MDF/HDF flooring underlay.
- All existing floorcoverings must be securely fixed to the subfloor, to minimise the risk of squeaking. Where poor adhesion between the subfloor and existing boards, planks or tiles exist, secure if possible, otherwise remove existing floor entirely.
- Due to the risk of 'telegraphing', tiled subfloors must be screeded. Please note that Feather Finish® alone will not be sufficient for this purpose.

Installation

Glue Down

Tools Required (not supplied): knee pads, square, tape measure, pencil/marker, utility knife, hard-set vinyl adhesive and V1 Notch trowel.

- Ensure you have read and understood all of the subfloor requirements detailed in the previous section.
- Ensure you have an adequate quantity of material to finish and that it is from one dye lot.
- It is recommended that installation take place at a temperature that represents the coolest conditions that the installation environment will experience. This aids in reducing the risk of gapping.
- Do not install your vinyl plank over soft surfaces like carpet or foam underlay. Should an underlay be required for acoustic reasons or improved comfort underfoot, we recommend Dunlop Advantage 3, which can be adhered to both the subfloor and the vinyl planks.
- It is very important that your subfloor conforms to the moisture content standards detailed in the Subfloors section. If it does not, you will need to apply a suitable moisture barrier prior to the installation of your vinyl flooring. Follow moisture barrier manufacturer's instructions for installation.
- **Do not leave an expansion gap** when installing these vinyl planks; they must be butted up against perimeter walls on all sides. Caulking is not to be used around the perimeter of the installed area. This is not considered to be cut in tight if butted against soft materials.
- Where the floor is expected to be exposed to moisture or high levels of humidity, you will need to use a two-part, polyurethane adhesive.
- Once you are satisfied that your subfloor is clean, flat and dry you are ready to commence installation.
- Adhesive should be applied using a V1 Notch trowel and by following the manufacturers recommendations with regard to set up, working and drying time.
- Draw your planks from 3 boxes at a time to ensure there are no shading or pattern repeat issues.
- Starting with the longest, straightest wall measure and mark a distance 3.5 planks wide at each end.
- Strike a chalk line between the two marks and measure to the opposite wall. If the cut piece that you will have is greater than half of one plank your chalk line can be used for your installation.
- Starting from the left wall lay the planks along the line in one row, once you reach the end butt a plank against the wall and lay it over the last plank in the row. Score along the end of the overlapped plank with a sharp knife, marking the plank underneath.
- Snap the plank by gently bending it in your hands and carefully trim any excess material.
- This cut plank should now fill the space between the last plank and the wall.
- Keep the offcut and use it to start your next row moving in the opposite direction. This will give you a natural staggered pattern which is recommended for the best visual effect.
- Continue this way until you reach the front or rear wall and then lay a spare plank tight along the wall and mark the length of the plank underneath. Continue doing the same as needed throughout, ensuring there are no gaps against any perimeter walls or permanent fixtures.
- Always use cut edges against the walls and the factory-machined edge against the adjacent planks.
- Upon completion, **roll the entire installation** in both directions using a **45kg, three sectioned, steel roller**.

Installing In Direct Sunlight

- It is strongly recommended that flooring be protected at all times from direct sunlight however if the vinyl planks will be exposed they must be installed with a two-part heat and moisture proof adhesive following manufacturer's recommendations.

Finishing Off

- The perimeter of the floor can be finished by refitting any pre-existing trims that were removed for installation.
- At doorways, a door threshold strip should be used to protect the edges of the floor and provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another.



For more information contact Dunlop Flooring on
1800 622 293 or visit **frontierdesignflooring.com.au**