

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

### LUXURY VINYL PLANK

**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.

**Appropriate Settings:** Residential settings and light 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.
- Installation area must be free of dampness.
- Calculate the total square meters of the space being covered and add 5% for cutting and waste.
- The product must be stored, installed and maintained in a protected and dry place with room **temperature between 14°C – 28°C**. Importantly, rapid and significant temperature fluctuations must be avoided.
- 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.
- 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.
- Where the flooring is going to be in direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time it is recommended that the use of curtains, blinds or UV resistant film on windows be utilised.
- 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.
- Luxury 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 lengthways towards the main incoming light source and, where possible, down the length of the room. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways.

#### SUBFLOORS

For a subfloor to be considered suitable and appropriate for installation of this product, the subfloor must meet all of the below requirements:

- **Structurally Sound:** This product can be installed onto concrete/screed 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 levelling 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/screed subfloors and 15% 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 OR SCREED 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.

## 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 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 may not be sufficient for this purpose.

# INSTALLATION

## LOOSE-LAID INSTALLATION

**This Installation method is only recommended in spaces equal to or less than 5m<sup>2</sup>.** Spaces greater than this must be adhered using pressure sensitive adhesive (see next section: Glue Down Installation).

**Tools Required** (not supplied): knee pads, square, tape measure, pencil/marker, Chalk line, utility knife.

- 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.
- Do not install your luxury vinyl plank over soft surfaces like carpet or foam underlay greater than 1mm in thickness. Should an underlay be required for acoustic reasons or improved comfort underfoot, we recommend Dunlop Advantage 3.
- 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.
- Draw your planks from 3 boxes at a time to ensure there are no shading or pattern repeat issues.
- **Do not leave an expansion gap** when installing these vinyl planks; they must be butted up against perimeter walls on all sides.
- 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 larger than 1mm.
- Always use cut edges against the walls and the factory-machined edge against the adjacent planks.

## GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

This Installation method is recommended and required for spaces greater than 5m<sup>2</sup>.

**Tools Required** (not supplied): knee pads, square, tape measure, pencil/marker, utility knife, pressure sensitive adhesive and V1 Notch trowel.

- Ensure you have read and understood all of the subfloor requirements detailed in the previous section.
- Do not install your luxury vinyl plank over soft surfaces like carpet or foam underlay greater than 1mm in thickness. 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.
- For a glue down installation, 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.
- If undertaking a glued down installation where the floor is expected to remain dry and unaffected by fluctuating humidity levels, you may use a pressure sensitive adhesive.
- **Do not leave an expansion gap** when installing these vinyl planks; they must be butted up against perimeter walls on all sides.
- If undertaking a glued down installation 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 install following the instructions detailed in the previous installation method, with the added component of adhesive.
- Adhesive should be applied using a V1 Notch trowel and by following the manufacturers recommendations with regard to set up, working and drying time.
- Upon completion, roll the entire installation in both directions using a 45kg, three sectioned, steel roller.

## INSTALLING ON STAIRS AND IN AREAS OF SIGNIFICANT DIRECT SUNLIGHT

- Flooring should be installed on stairs with a hard-set, acrylic sheet vinyl or vinyl plank adhesive following the manufacturer's recommendations.
- It is strongly recommended that flooring be protected at all times from direct sunlight however if there is a chance that it may be exposed occasionally the flooring must be installed with a two-part heat and moisture proof adhesive following manufacturer's recommendations.

## FINISHING OFF

- The perimeter of the floor can either be finished by re-fitting any pre-existing trims that were removed for installation, by filling any visible joints/gaps with a non-silicon based filler (e.g. Fuller Caulk In Colours).
- 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 [heartridge.com.au](http://heartridge.com.au)

