

Aquarius WPC Hybrid Flooring by Medallion 5/22/17

INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE & WARRANTY GUIDE

Aquarius WPC Hybrid Flooring by Medallion offers a Limited Lifetime Residential and 10 year Limited Light Commercial warranty against manufacturing defects.

Tools needed Utility knife and straight edge

- Measuring tape
- Shears for cutting around irregular shaped objects
- 1/8" spacers

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. CAUTION: Do not install Aquarius over Carpet or Carpet Pad. This product is not suitable for any outside use, sunrooms, solariums or saunas. Exposure to long-term direct sunlight can cause damage to your floor.

Prior to Installation

CHECK THE PLANKS BEFORE INSTALLING THEM TO BE SURE OF APPEARANCE:

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.

Planks should always be inspected for any dye lot 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.

ACCLIMATE Aquarius Floors BEFORE INSTALLATION: You must place vinyl horizontally in the room where it will be installed for 48 hours prior to installation. Maintaining an optimum temperature between 65°F to 85°F and a humidity range of 30-50% is recommended during installation and life of floor. Do not remove the planks from the case during this acclimation period!

Subfloor preparation

The subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and solid. Carpet staples or adhesive residue must be removed to ensure proper installation. Subfloors should be flat within a tolerance of 3/16" per 10'. Any unevenness over 1/16" must be sanded down or filled with a floor leveler. Voids or humps in the subfloor will prevent vinyl from locking properly. Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 18" from the ground. Use of a 6-mil black polyurethane is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. 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.

HELPFUL NOTICE: If laying Aquarius over existing ceramic tile, it will be necessary to skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. If you install vinyl over an existing floor that has an embossing or grout line on it, you must skim coat with a floor leveler if the embossing or grout line is greater than 1/16" (1.5 mm).

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 Aquarius flooring. Maximum level per CaC1 test method is 5 lbs. per 1000 in 24 hour. Maximum level for ASTM2170 i-SITU Relative humidity test method is 85%. Relative humidity levels should never exceed 85%. We also recommend a 6 mil polyfilm moisture barrier for floating installations, to help prevent the growth of mold and mildew. When installing below grade, a 6 mil polyfilm is required.

NOTE: Aquarius Floors does not warrant or guarantee unsatisfactory installations due to the presence of excessive alkali, moisture or hydrostatic pressure in subfloors.

Aquarius Floors - Over Hydronic Radiant Heat

Aquarius Flooring can be installed over Hydronic radiant heat 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 Aquarius 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 80 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.

Aquarius Floors - Underlayment's

Aquarius Flooring can be installed over approved dense sound underlayments such as Deciblock, Deciblock MC, dBarrier, Cork Plus 250, & Aquarius Acoustical Underlayment. Must tape seams moisture control underlayments with water proof duct tape.

Aquarius Plus with EVA Underlayment already has attached underlayment. Do not use any additional Underlayment with Aquarius Plus.

Installation

1. Start in a corner by placing the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall. Use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion space of 3/8"-1/2" between the wall and the flooring.

NOTE: This spacing must also be maintained between the floor and all vertical surfaces including cabinets, posts, partitions, door jambs and door tracks. You will also need to use transition strips in doorways and between rooms. Failure to do so may cause buckling or gapping.

2. To attach your second plank, lower and lock the end tongue of the second plank into the end groove of the first plank. Line up edges carefully to ensure a close and tight fit. Using a rubber mallet lightly tap the top of the end joints where the first and second planks lock together. The planks should lay flat to the floor.

WARNING: FAILURE TO PROPERLY LINE UP THE END JOINT AND ATTEMPTING TO FORCE IT IN WHILE OUT OF ALIGNMENT COULD RESULT IN PERMANENT DAMAGE TO THE END JOINT.

Repeat this procedure for each subsequent plank in the first row. Continue connecting the first row until you reach the last full plank.

Fit the last plank by rotating the plank 180° with the pattern side upward and placing it beside the first row of planks with its end up against the far wall. Line a ruler up across the end of the last full plank and across this new plank. Draw a line across the new plank with a pencil and cut with a saw.

Rotate the plank 180° so that it is back to its original orientation. Lower and lock its end tongue into the end groove of the last full plank. Lightly tap the top of the end joints with a rubber mallet until the planks are flat on the floor.

3. You will begin the next row with the off-cut piece from the previous row to stagger the pattern. Pieces should be a minimum of 8" long and joint offset should be at least 16". Cut pieces should be no less than 3" in width. Adjust layout for a balanced look.

4. To start your second row, tilt and push the new plank's side tongue into the side groove of the very first plank. When lowered the plank will click into place. Using a tapping block and rubber mallet lightly tap the long side of the new plank to lock it with the planks of the first row. The planks should lay flat to the floor.

5. Attach the second plank of the new row first on the long side. Tilt and push plank into place making sure edges are lined up. Lower plank to the floor. Using a tapping block and rubber mallet lightly tap the long side of the new plank to lock it into place. Next, lightly tap down on the top of the end joints with a rubber mallet to lock them together. Continue laying remaining planks in this manner.

6. To fit the last row, lay a plank on the top of the previous row with its tongue to the wall. Lay a ruler across the plank so that it is lined up with the side of the planks of the previous row and draw a line across the new plank with a pencil. Don't forget to allow room for spacers. Cut the plank with a saw and attach into position.

7. Fitting around irregular objects is not a problem. Simply make a pattern out of heavy paper to fit around pipes or irregular objects. Place the pattern upon the plank and trace. Cut along trace lines using a utility knife or heavy-duty scissors, and lay plank. Be sure to leave a minimum of 1/8" (2-3 mm) expansion space around all fixed objects, floor vents and doorframes... Remove the spacers once the floor is completely installed

Gluedown Instructions

On, above, or below grade. Aquarius is approved for gluedown installations over wood & concrete subfloors.

Recommended adhesive Apac 564/584 for California and Mapei 350/36 for Hawaii. Use 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" sq. notched trowel. Follow above subfloor, moisture instructions. Follow adhesive label instructions including temperature for the adhesive.

Basic Cleaning

Once all traces of adhesive have been removed, the floor should be dry vacuumed to remove all dust and loose debris. Damp mop as needed using clean water and diluted Ph Neutral cleaner (Bona Stone Tile & Laminate cleaner, Hilway Direct HD pH Neutral cleaner, etc.) Do not use harsh cleaners or chemicals on floor. Do not use abrasive scrubbing tools, detergents, caustic cleaners, abrasive cleaners or “mop and shine” products. 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.

Maintenance

Always remove excess water. It not only can cause slip and fall hazards, but on unwelded tile floors, the water can attack the adhesive, break the bond, and cause the flooring to release from the substrate.

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

Always sweep, mop or dry vacuum the floor regularly

Always use clean equipment – dirty equipment only redistributes the dirt

Do not mix cleaning products from different manufacturers – they may not be compatible

Always remove any spillage immediately

Always remove excess water

Always take precaution to prevent dark rubber from coming into contact with the floor

Never deviate from the manufacturer’s recommended dilution rates

Wet floors are slippery; always use warning signs to advise that cleaning is in progress

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.

The use of either rubber-backed mats or coco-fiber mats is not acceptable since they are known to cause yellow stains in vinyl floors.

Never slide heavy furniture or fittings over an unprotected floor or severe scratching may result. The floor should be protected from the wheels or feet of fittings, avoiding rubber products, which may stain.

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

Regular cleaning is more beneficial to the floorcovering and more cost effective then occasional heavy cleaning.

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY

Aquarius Floors by Medallion warrants that its flooring will be free from manufacturing defects and, under normal use and maintenance, will not wear resulting in loss of original pattern.

PRE-INSTALLATION LIMITED WARRANTY Aquarius Flooring warrants that this product is free of visual defects. You and/or your installer should carefully inspect each piece before installation. Any pieces that appear to have defects should not be installed. Aquarius Floors will not be responsible for any claim for product installed with visual defects.

WEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

Aquarius Flooring is protected with a wear layer. Aquarius warrants that there will be no wear-through of the wear layer for the amount of years indicated for the specific product from normal traffic or maintenance. “Wear-through” refers to complete loss of the wear layer so that the printed design layer is changed or affected.

- This Limited Warranty only applies provided the recommended installation instructions and maintenance procedures are followed. This warranty is not transferable by the purchaser of the floor.
- If product is found to be defective Aquarius floors will supply new Aquarius products of the same or similar style, size, color, grade and gauge for replacement of the defective area and will pay reasonable labor cost if it was professionally installed or will repair the defects.
- If Aquarius Floors repairs or replaces as result of warranty claim, you will be required to clear, at your own expense, any items placed over affected areas subsequent to the original installation.
- Labor must be provided by a certified professional flooring installer, using the guidelines put forth by Aquarius Floors in the Installation and Maintenance instructions. The cost of replacement/repair labor by a professional installer must be approved by the Aquarius Floors by Medallion claims department.
- Multifamily use of Wear Limited Warranty will be covered for units and common areas under the specific Commercial Warranty associated with the product.

EXCLUSIONS TO LIMITED WARRANTY

- *Dissatisfaction due to improper installation or maintenance.*
- *For products sold as "Do It Yourself" no labor cost will be provided as part of this warranty.*
- *Damages resulting from misuse or abuse including, but not limited to, scratches, scuffs, cuts, burns, stains, fading, warping, cracking, indentations, urine, feces, or vomit stains, improper or insufficient maintenance, use of steam cleaners, vacuum cleaner beater bars, improper rolling loads, caster wheels, chairs or other furniture without proper floor protector. Protective mats are required for office use.*
- *Direct sunlight baking floor. The floor needs protection from extended sunlight. The Sun coming directly thru a window will add to the heat on the surface of the floor. We recommend blinds, shears or solar film to help disperse the sunlight.*
- *Damages or failure of floor to adhere to subfloor resulting from excessive moisture, alkali and/or hydrostatic pressure.*
- *Floor products sold as irregulars or second quality which is sold as is.*
- *Flooring installed outdoors.*
- *Damage to surrounding structure, walls subfloors, fixtures, furniture, underlayments, moldings, trims, subfloor heating elements, or anything that is not the floor or plank.*
- *Color variations between samples or printed illustrations and the actual production runs.*
- *Discoloration due to use of rubber-backed mats, coco-fiber mats, solvent –based polishes, oil or petroleum based products or cleaners or asphalt tracked in from driveways or parking lots.*
- *Reduction of gloss from use.*
- *Installation over plywood, gypcrete or other similar materials that have not been first sealed with a product expressly approved by Aquarius Floors Medallion in writing prior to installation.*
- *Residential or Commercial installation with heavy wheeled vehicle traffic that permanently indents or damages the flooring.*
- *This warranty is made solely to the original purchaser of Aquarius Floors by Medallion and is not transferable under any circumstance. This limited warranty is expressly in lieu of any other express warranty whether oral or written.*

5/1/17