

Gluedown Luxury Vinyl Tile & Plank 10/01/18

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Gluedown Luxury Vinyl Tile & Plank offers Lifetime Residential and 20 year Commercial limited Warranties against manufacturing defects.

Tools Needed

Utility knife, straight edge, measuring tape, shears for cutting around irregular shaped objects, 100 lb. sectional roller.

Acclimation

All areas where flooring will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source operational a minimum of one week prior to installation and remain in operation during and after installation. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use (between 65F-85F/ 18-29o C with a relative humidity no greater than 65%). Maintaining an optimum temperature between 65F – 85F and humidity range of 30-50 is recommended during installation and for life of floor. Ensure substrate, flooring and adhesive are fully acclimated to these conditions for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. For best results, remove flooring from the carton and separate into small piles.

Subfloor Requirements

All subfloors should be inspected prior to installation. All subfloors must be smooth, clean dry, structurally sound, and free of dust, dirt, oil, wax, paint or any other contaminant that would inhibit a good bond. Use a good quality Portland-Cement based patching compound to fill or smooth any irregularities that could show thru the new flooring. Subfloors should be flat within tolerance of 3/16" per 10' radius.. Any unevenness over 3/16" must be sanded down or filled with floor leveler.

Concrete on or above grade must be free of moisture or high alkalinity and be protected by a moisture barrier installed at the time of construction. A concrete slab shall be cured a minimum of 90 days before performing moisture tests prior to the installation of your new flooring. These time periods are absolute minimum and the concrete may require additional drying time dependent upon local environmental conditions.

Concrete subfloors with a pH of 9 or greater will not be acceptable to install your new Vinyl Floor. The subfloor must be brought to a neutral pH level before beginning your installation.

If you are installing tiles over gypcrete, the subfloor must first be sealed using sealant supplied by manufacturer of gypcrete, or other approved latex sealer.

All wood subfloors shall have at least 18" (45.72 cm) of well –ventilated space below. Subfloor should be nailed or screwed every 6" to avoid squeaking. The ground under crawl spaces must be covered with 6-mil (1.25 mm) polyethylene sheeting to reduce moisture vapor transmission. Wood floors must be double construction or equivalent, with a minimum thickness of 1" (2.54 cm), such as APA Underlayment Grade Plywood without voids, and with a fully sanded face.

If you are installing flooring over one layer of existing non-cushioned floor covering, it should be well adhered to the subfloor, or scraped off before installing your new Vinyl Planks. The use of a good quality embossing leveler to fill in the surface texture of the existing floor is required. Otherwise, the profile of the existing floor will telegraph thru the new flooring and adhesive may not cure correctly.

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 Vinyl flooring. Moisture in a concrete substrate should be tested according to ASTM F 1869-98 (Calcium Chloride Moisture Test using the Quantitative Method) Moisture levels should never exceed 5lbs per 1000 s.f. per 24 hour period or ASTM F 2170-2 (Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes) Relative humidity levels should never exceed 75%

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

Over Radiant Heat

Flooring can be installed over 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 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.

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.

Installing your Flooring

Best results are obtained by installing the flooring from the center of the room. Measure and mark at the center of each end wall. Connect these center points with a chalk line. Locate the center and establish a line at a right angle to the existing line.

*When planks are installed over concrete, wood, or pre-existing resilient floors apply **Mapei 360 or 373 adhesives** using a **1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square –notched trowel**. Spread rate will vary depending on subfloor (see Manufacture guideline). Allow adhesive open time so it can dry t the consistency of contact cement. Tack time will vary depending upon temperature and humidity, and you will also observe the color change from white to yellow. Observing this open time is very important to ensure proper bonding and to prevent possible bleed through. At that point, you can apply Planks.*

*Carefully place 1st Plank at the junction of the chalk lines. Continue laying the planks, making sure each one is flush against the chalk line & tight against the adjoining plank. Be sure they are well seated into the adhesive and continue laying in either pyramid fashion or row by row. Randomly stagger the end joints. Make sure cut planks are against wall. Leave ¼" expansion along wall and all edges. Roll flooring in both directions using **100 lb. sectional floor roller**.*

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

Do not use soap-based detergents, caustic cleaners or abrasive cleaners.

Preventive Maintenance

To ensure the full benefit of warranties and to extend the beauty of your new floor, we recommend the following preventive maintenance steps:

- ❖ Use floor mats at all entrances to help keep dirt and moisture from being tracked in (Figure 2.1). 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 as they stain vinyl.
- ❖ To help guard against scratches and dents, install felt floor protectors under furniture legs and equipment (Figure 2.2). Never slide furniture or fitting over unprotected floor, severe scratching may result.
- ❖ Use wide soft Vinyl castors for rolling furniture (Figure 2.2).
- ❖ 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 humidity range at 35%- 55%, which could require either a humidifier or a dehumidifier.
- ❖ Quickly wipe spills floor to protect from excess liquid. Never wet or damp mop your floors.
- ❖ Regularly swept or vacuumed floors 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 cleaner. Cleaning products should be sprayed on to the sponge mop or hand towel never on to the floor itself. Do not use wax or other house hold cleaning agents on your floor.
- ❖ Never use steam cleaners on your floor.
- ❖ The Sun’s UV rays can change the color of your floor. Use protective window coverings to protect your floors from excessive heat during periods of 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

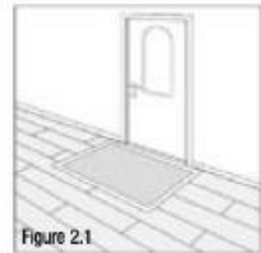


Figure 2.1

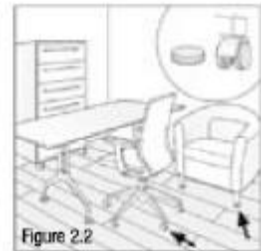


Figure 2.2

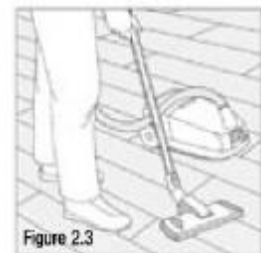


Figure 2.3