



Installation Guide

WPC Click Flooring

## Before you Start

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Below are guidelines for installing Vinyl Flooring

- All areas where the product will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source operational for a minimum of one week before installation and remain in operation during and after installation.
- Before installation, clean and clear the area of all debris.
- Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use (between 65 – 85 degrees F with relative humidity no greater than 65%).
- Installation area must be free of dampness.
- Calculate the total square meters of the space being covered and add 5% for cutting and waste.
- 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.
- 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.
- Check each plank for any manufacturing defects before installation. Any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate refund or replacement before the flooring being installed.
- 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.

## Product Handling

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1. Store cartons of tile and/or plank with cartons stacked one on top of the other. Do not store on end or sides, or allow cartons to bend during storage or transportation.
2. Deliver and acclimate all material including maintenance products to the job site at 65° - 85° for 24 – 48 hours before installation.
3. Loose lay vinyl floors should be protected from direct sunlight and not exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. MAXX Flooring recommends that blinds, drapes or suitable window coverings be in use in areas of large amounts of direct sunlight exposure. MAXX Flooring also recommends the use of full-pattern of adhesive in these areas of installation.
4. To prevent problems staining of finished flooring and the general movement of a free-floating floor, areas to receive resilient flooring shall be permanently dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. They shall be free of all contaminants, including but not limited to: dust, solvents, paint, wax, oil, grease, residual adhesive, adhesive removers, curing, sealing, hardening or parting compounds, alkaline salts, excessive carbonation or laitance, mold, mildew.
5. To prevent damage to the newly installed flooring the installation of flooring products should be after all other trades have completed their work. To further prevent damage after install until space is occupied, use of a reinforced fiber-based temporary floor protector product is strongly recommended

## INSTALLATION TOOLS

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Tape measure • Pencil • Chalk Line • Crosscut Power Saw • Hammer • • 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square-Notch • Tapping Block

### TROWEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Flooring Product Trowel Size\* and Notch Coverage Sheet goods and cushion to floor double stick  
1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square-Notch 1.6 mm x 1.6 mm x 1.6 mm Up to 250 sq. ft./gal Up to 6.1 sq. meters/liter \*Trowel dimensions are width x depth x spacing. Coverage is approximate and may vary depending on porosity of substrate and the angle at which the trowel is held.

## General Information

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Below are guidelines for installing Vinyl Flooring- Dry back. Please follow these instructions carefully to assure a successful installation of this product.

All moisture tests must be performed and recorded prior to installation with results not to exceed the adhesive manufacturer's specifications. A significant number of installation failures in the market today are due to moisture related issues.

This product should be stored at the jobsite free from all the elements. This product should be acclimated to the conditioned temperature inside and must be kept between 70-80 degrees before, during and after the installation for at least 48 hours. The jobsite must be cleaned and prepared prior to starting the installation. All patch work and preparation to the subfloor must be done and allowed to dry prior to starting the installation.

Thoroughly inspect all material. Installed flooring found to be defective will not be covered by warranty nor labor costs associated with removal & reinstallation.

Check cartons and confirm that the product is correct and has the same batch and lot number. If a different batch or lot number, to minimize shade variation mix product from several boxes. If the product looks incorrect stop the installation immediately and call MAXX Flooring™.

## Subfloor Requirements-Substrate Preparation

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Proper subfloor preparation and suitable underlayment installation are essential for a trouble-free job. Uneven or rough subfloor surfaces will show through (or telegraph) to the surface of this product resulting in an unsightly surface and can make high spots more susceptible to excessive wear. Correct the subfloor imperfections before you begin installing this product.

1. Proper preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor.
2. All subfloors should be smooth, flat and dust free with the tolerance not exceeding more than 1/8" in a 10' span. All subfloor and underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.
3. Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and 85% free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds and other extraneous materials. MAXX Loose Lay must only be installed on dry floors. The floor must have a moisture reading of less than 95% RH. If any sub floor shows moisture readings above 95% RH then an acceptable damp proof membrane/moisture suppression system must be applied. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
4. New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry and completely cured. The final

responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.

5. Concrete underlayment's with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit at any point. The system should be covered with a self-leveling underlayment separating the flooring from the heat source by at least 1/2".
6. Expansion joints, grooves, holes, and other depressions must be filled with a Portland cement-based

### Subfloor Preparation by Floor Type

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#### Concrete Floors:

NOTE: If contaminants have thoroughly penetrated the concrete, and cannot be removed, then we do not recommend installing MAXX Flooring.

Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt, sealing compounds, and other extraneous materials, the surface must be hard and dense and free from powder or flaking. The only structurally sound concrete of proper density (90 lbs/cubic foot) and compressive density (3,500 psi) should be used as a sub-floor for MAXX™ Loose Lay Flooring. Any large cracks or voids must be filled with a cementitious patching compound. Concrete should be flat within 3/16" in 10FT.

New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry (at least six weeks) and completely cured. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.

Concrete underlayment's with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit at any point. The system should be covered with a self-leveling underlayment separating the flooring from the heat source by at least 1/2"

#### Wood/OSB Subfloors:

All wood and wood composition panels – including OSB, flake board, plywood and particle boards can be used, providing they are smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection.

NOTE: If contaminants have thoroughly penetrated the concrete, and cannot be removed, then we do not recommend installing MAXX™ Flooring.

## Heated Subfloors:

It is not recommended to install vinyl plank flooring over an electric radiant heating system. 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 is applied gradually after installing the flooring. Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

## Mosaic/Terrazo/Ceramics/Quarry Tiles

Level any grout lines with a suitable smoothing compound and make the floor

sound. Linoleum Floors

Make sure these floors are solid; fix any loose tiles and remove any surface polish/sealer.

## Standard Floorboards/Tongue & Groove Floor Boards

These should be well secured, loose boards firmly fastened, worn/broken boards replaced. Plywood joints can be smoothed over using a skim coat, or a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound. Or, you can use a sander to skim/sand the Boards leaving no gaps, intentions, and a smooth surface. These should be solid with minimal flexibility. All loose boards must be firmly fastened, gaps filled, and undulations removed.

## Ceramic Tile

When installing Easy Fix over existing ceramic tile, you must skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. If you install Easy Fix Loose Layover an existing floor that has an embossing or grout line on it, we recommend you skim coat with a floor leveler. Check for any dips in the subfloor that can create a void underneath the floor that will cause stress on the plank seams when walking on it. If so, please fill in and level subfloor with embossing leveler.

## Installation

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### Pre-installation inspection:

It is the duty of the person installing the floor to inspect all flooring before installation. If during inspection the installer or buyer feels the floors is the wrong color, improperly manufactured, is off-grade or is the wrong gloss level, he/she should NOT install the flooring. Please immediately contact the retailer from which the flooring was purchased.

1. Determine how you want the flooring to run. Typically for plank products, the flooring runs the length of the room. There may be exceptions since it is all a matter of preference.

2. To avoid narrow plank widths or short plank lengths near the walls/doors, it is important to do some pre-planning. Using the width of the room, calculate how many full boards will fit into the area and how much space remains that will need to be covered by partial planks.
3. Start with a whole plank in the left-hand corner of the room with the tongue side and end toward the wall. Lay the first row of planks along a chalk line and trim to fit to the wall allowing a 1/4-inch (6.35mm) expansion space. If starting the first row with a whole width plank it will be necessary to trim the tongues next to the wall, then place the cut ends next to the wall. To trim the planks, use a utility knife and a straight edge to score the top surface of the plank, and then bend it downward to separate the pieces, you can also use a VCT (Vinyl Composition Tile) cutter for end cuts only; a table saw also works well for both end and length cuts.
4. Align and attach the end joints of the planks in the first row. Insert the tongue into the groove while holding the plank at a 20° to 30° angle to the floor. Apply pressure inward and down until the planks lock together (Diagrams 1a & 1b). Use spacers between the long edge and end of the planks next to the wall to maintain the expansion space.

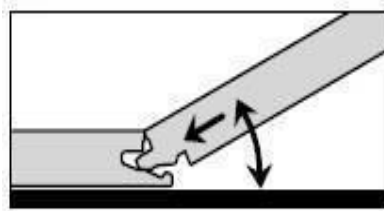


Diagram 1a

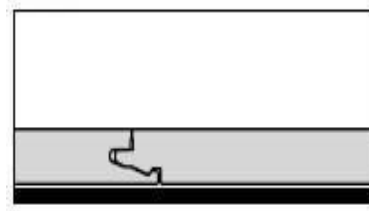


Diagram 1b

5. Start the second row using 1/3rd of a plank. Place the cut end against the wall. Insert the tongue on the long side of the plank into the groove of the plank in the first row. Hold the plank in a 20° to 30° angle while applying pressure inward and down until they lock together. To complete the second and all successive rows, it will be necessary to lock the short end into the previous plank first before locking the long side of the plank. Angle the plank and push the tongue into the groove and adjust it until the tongue locks into place. It may be necessary to lift both planks slightly to lock the joint together. Complete the second row allowing 1/4-inch (6.35mm) expansion space at the start and end of the row.
6. Start the third row using a 2/3rd length of a plank with the cut end against the wall. Complete each row thereafter using a random layout with end joints off-set by at least 8". Plan the layout to avoid using small planks (less than 6") at the walls. The cut piece at the end of the row can often be used to start the next row provided it achieves a random layout. Always place the cut end against the wall and allow for the expansion space.
7. SPC planks are unique in that they can also be installed with a pull bar or tapping block and rubber mallet or hammer in difficult areas, such as the last row, and when fitting under door trim. Use a pull bar and rubber mallet or hammer to lock the joints together in the last row. Always use a pull bar on the cut edge of the plank. Factory edges can be damaged if the pull bar is used directly against them.
8. When fitting around door trim it will be necessary to slide the plank under the trim. This can be accomplished easily by starting the row on the side of the room with the door trim and

then sliding the plank into place once it is attached. The row can be completed by inserting the tongue into the groove or the groove into the tongue depending on the direction. A tapping block and pull bar (Diagrams 2a & 2b) can also be used to lock the joints together while the planks are in a flat position. Use a series of light taps until the joint is gradually locked together.

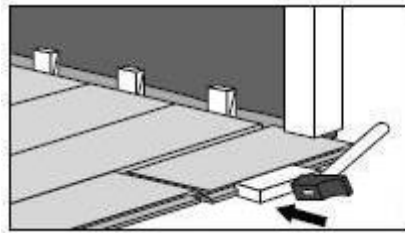


Diagram 2a

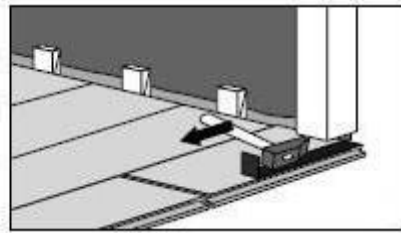
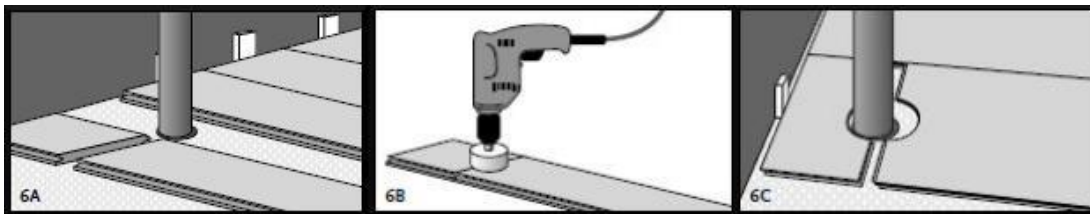


Diagram 2b

9. Bathrooms: When SPC planks are installed in a bathroom the flooring can be laid under the toilet only if the floor is separated from adjacent rooms with a doorway threshold, and padding is not used. Otherwise the flooring should be installed around the toilet leaving a 1/8-inch (3.175mm) expansion space. Use 100% silicone caulking to fill the expansion space at the tub, shower and all wet areas to help prevent surface water seepage under the floor.
10. Pipes: In rows where there is a pipe or other vertical object through the subfloor, make sure the object lines up exactly where two boards will meet on the short ends. Take care to measure carefully before cutting, so the two boards end at the middle of the object. Use a drill or hole bit that is the diameter of the pipe or object, plus 1/2 inch (12.7mm) for expansion/contraction. Click the two short sides of the boards together, then drill the hole centered on the joint between the boards as shown. Now you can separate the two boards and install as normal. See Diagrams 6A – 6C.



Transitions, moldings, and wall base:

All transition pieces should be attached to the subfloor with a high-quality construction adhesive, available at most Home Centers and Hardware stores. Place a generous bead of adhesive under the part of the transition that will sit directly on the subfloor, and then press the transition firmly in place. Be sure the transition sits firmly in the adhesive, and take care not to get any adhesive on the flooring. Remove any adhesive from the surface immediately with mineral spirits and buff off any residue with a dry soft cloth. It may be necessary to place heavy weights on the transition until the adhesive dries to ensure it will lay flat. Never attach the transitions directly to the flooring.



### Finishing the Job:

Inspect your work, as it will cost you more if you must come back to do a repair later. Replace original baseboards, or install matching hardwood baseboard. Install matching transitions as needed or recommended by your dealer or installer. It is not recommended or necessary to seal this floor after installation. Protect your floor from scratches by using felt pads on chair legs or furniture feet. Plastic rollers/castors can damage your flooring; if necessary try to replace with softer rubber wheels/castors. When moving heavy items like refrigerators, use at least two sheets of 1/4" Masonite or plywood while moving (sliding the appliance from one sheet to the next) to protect the flooring against scratching and denting.

### Floor Care

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Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. Do not use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.

- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours.
- Use walk off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked on to the floor.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Avoid using a vacuum with a beater bar.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Damp mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. Do not use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor.  
Asbestos

### After Installation

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Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. To protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use rosin paper and only use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor (other blue tapes may damage the finish). Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the rosin paper to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. DO NOT USE plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.

- Dust-mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.
- It is suggested that you clean the floor using a recommended pH neutral cleaner
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, etc.).
- Permit light foot traffic on the new floor after 3-4 hours giving the adhesive time to set up.
- Keep furniture, fixtures and rolling traffic off the new floor for 48 hours.
- Wait 72 hours (3 days) before wet cleaning the new floor. This will allow the adhesive to fully cure.
- The floor must be allowed to set overnight for 24 hours before resuming normal usage of the room