PREMIUM GLUE DOWN/LOOSE LAY VINYL TILE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

SUITABLE SURFACES

Any solid, hard, flat surface. Dry, clean, well-cured concrete. All surfaces must be dry, clean and free of substances that may prevent adhesive bonding. Wood plank floors must be covered with 6.35 mm (0.25") minimum or thicker APA rated underlay panels. All wood floors must be suspended at least 18" above the ground for ventilation.

UNSUITABLE SURFACES

Rough, uneven surfaces including particleboard, chipboard, OSB, pressure treated or coated plywood, carpet and underlay. Rough, heavily textured and/or uneven surfaces may telegraph through the vinyl and distort the finished surface. Do not install this product in areas that are exposed to long term direct sunlight, such as sunrooms or solariums.

WARNING: DO NOT REMOVE OLD RESILIENT FLOORING. THESE PRODUCTS MAY CONTAIN EITHER ASBESTOS FIBERS OR CRYSTALLINE SILICA, WHICH CAN BE HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.

RADIANT HEATED FLOORS

Can be installed using a permanent glue/adhesive over hydronic radiant heated floors or electric radiant heated floors that use embedded cables under the subfloor. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when installing radiant heated floors, including putting self-leveling compound or thinset mortar above and below the heating cables. The system must be switched off for 48 hours before, during and for 48 hours after installation of the vinyl flooring, then gradually increased by about 2 ºC (36 ºF) per hour until the desired temperature is reached. The temperature must be maintained between 18–29˚ C (65–85˚ F) at all times. A full spread adhesive for vinyl flooring must be used if installing over radiant heat.

PREPARATION

The vinyl tiles should be allowed to acclimatize at room temperature (18–29ºC/65–85ºF) for 48 hours prior to installation. Carefully check tiles for any defects before installation. Check that all ITEM NUMBERS are the same and that you have purchased sufficient material to complete the job.

New concrete floors need to dry out for at least 60 days prior to installation. All concrete slabs must be checked for moisture before installing product. Moisture emissions from the subfloor cannot exceed 3.6 kg per 93 m^2 (8 lbs per 1000 ft^2) per 24 hours, as measured with the calcium chloride test in accordance with the latest edition of ASTM F1869. Internal relative humidity must be tested in accordance with the latest edition of ASTM F2170. Humidity should not exceed 85%. Be sure to also observe the adhesive manufacturer's requirements. On or below grade concrete slabs must have an effective vapor barrier installed directly under the slabs. Excessive moisture in the subfloor could promote mold, mildew and other moisture related issues, which can contribute to an unhealthy indoor environment.

All nail heads must be driven down below the surface. Securely nail all loose boards. Scrape, plane or fill uneven boards, holes or cracks using floor-leveling compound. Make sure the floor is smooth, clean, and free of wax, grease, oil or dust and sealed as necessary before laying tiles. Remove any traces of glue or residue from the previous flooring. Sub floors must be flat within 3 mm over 1.82 m (1/8" over 6').

For ceramic, mosaic, terrazzo and quarry tile floors, fill grout lines with a proper leveling compound.

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Pressure sensitive adhesive* or double-sided tape specially formulated for vinyl, notched trowel (as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer), utility knife, pencil, tape measure, ruler and safety goggles. *Pressure sensitive spray adhesive may be used for grid (loose lay) installation.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

Planning Your Floor

Begin in the corner of the longest wall. Prior to applying the adhesive, lay a complete row of tiles to determine the length of the final tile. If the last tile is shorter than 300 mm (11.8"), then adjust the starting point accordingly; this is necessary in order to achieve the correct staggered effect. **Diagram 1.**

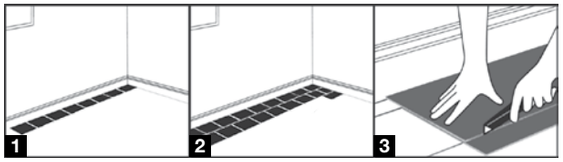
Laying your floor

Apply a high tack flooring adhesive as recommended by your flooring retailer at the corner of the longest wall, using a 1.6 mm (1/16") square notch trowel or as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. Avoid spreading more adhesive than needed, as the adhesive will lose its ability to fully stick to the back of the tiles.

Position the first tile at your starting point. Check that this position is correct and apply firm, all over pressure to achieve contact. Lay all tiles ensuring a close fit but do not force together. Ensure that the cut edge always faces the wall. We recommend that you stagger the joints a minimum of 300 mm (11.8") apart, but you may stagger them as little as 203.2 mm (8") apart. **Diagram 2.**

To fit air vents, doorframes etc. make a cardboard pattern as a guide and use this to draw an outline on the tile. Cut to shape and check that it fits. It should fit snugly and should not be forced into place.

Continued installing tiles in the same way as described above.



Final cutting last row

When you reach the last row, you may find that the gap is less than one full tile wide. To ensure accurate cutting of the final row, lay the tile to be cut exactly over the last full tile, lay another full tile against the wall and mark the cutting line where the tiles overlay. Before applying the adhesive, check that the cut tile fits correctly. The tile should not be forced into place. **Diagram 3.**

LOOSE LAY INSTALLATION

Planning Your Floor

Begin laying your floor at the corner of the longest wall. Lay a complete row of tiles to determine the length of the final tile. If the last tile is shorter than 300 mm (11.8"), then adjust the starting point accordingly. This is necessary in order to achieve the correct staggered effect. **Diagram 1**.

The Perimeter

Apply 101.6 mm (4") of pressure sensitive adhesive or double-sided tape around the perimeter of the room to adhere the tiles to the subfloor. Apply adhesive or tape to your first tile and position at your starting point. Check that the position is correct and firmly apply pressure to achieve complete contact. Continue laying the first row this way, ensuring a close fit but do not force together. When you reach the end of the row, cut the last tile to fit. The cut edge should always face the wall.

NOTE: For heavy-duty commercial applications, or areas with excess moisture (bathrooms, laundry rooms, restaurants, etc.), the tiles must be glued down using the full spread method.

Continue Laying the Floor

Apply 101.6 mm (4") of pressure sensitive adhesive or double-sided tape to the first and last tile in every row, as well as a single row of tiles every 1524 mm (5') in a grid pattern.

If the off-cut piece from your last row is longer than 300 mm (11.8"), you can use this to start your second row. Ensure that the cut edge always faces the wall. We recommend that you stagger the joints a minimum of 300 mm (11.8") apart, but you may stagger them as little as 203.2 mm (8") apart. **Diagram 2**.

Continued installing tiles in the same way as described above.

To fit air vents, door frames etc., make a cardboard pattern as a guide and use this to draw an outline on the tile. Cut to shape and check that it fits. It should fit snugly and should not be forced into place.

Final Row Of Tiles

When you reach the last row, you may find that the gap is less than one full tile width. To ensure accurate cutting of the final row, lay the tile to be cut exactly over the last full tile. Lay another full tile against the wall and mark the cutting line where the tiles overlay. Check that the cut tile fits correctly. Then apply 101.6 mm (4") of pressure sensitive adhesive or double-sided tape to all of the tiles in the last row and press into place. The tiles should not be forced into place. **Diagram 3**.

STAIRS

For installation on stairs and landings, use a permanent adhesive (recommended by your flooring dealer or manufacturer). Stair nosings should be metal or rubber.

FINISHING AND MAINTENANCE

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. Use drapes or blinds to minimize direct sunlight during peak sunlight hours. Surface temperature should never exceed 19 ˚ C (84 ˚ F).

When you have finished laying your floor, clean up any remaining or spilled adhesive with a damp cloth. Allow 5 to 7 days before cleaning the floor to allow the perimeter tiles to adhere to the sub floor.

If an edge or corner of the flooring happens to lift slightly in specific areas, use double sided floor tape to adhere the floor flush to the subfloor.

Sweep regularly to remove surface grit and dust. Use a damp cloth or mop to clean up any dirt and footprints. Avoid using excessive amounts of moisture, as this may cause bond failure for the adhesive. All spills should be cleaned up immediately. **CAUTION:** Tiles are slippery when wet.

Never use wax, polish, abrasive cleaners or scouring agents as they may dull or distort the finish.

High heels can damage floors.

Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to scratch or damage the floor.

Use protective pads under furniture.

Use doormats at entrance ways to protect the floor from discoloring. Avoid using rubber-backed rugs, as they may stain or discolour the vinyl flooring. If you have an asphalt driveway, use a heavy-duty doormat at your main door, as chemicals in asphalt can cause vinyl flooring to yellow.

It's a good idea to save a few tiles in case of accidental damage. Tiles can be replaced or repaired by a flooring professional.

Installation of flooring should begin after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of other trades.

CAUTION: Some types of nails, such as common steel nails, cement coated or some resin-coated nails, may cause a discoloration of the vinyl floor covering. Use only non-staining fasteners with underlayment panels. The procedure of gluing and screwing underlayment panels is not recommended. Solvent-based construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by fastener staining or the use of construction adhesive rests with the underlayment installer/consumer.

WARRANTY

This guarantee is for replacement or refund of the vinyl tile flooring only, not labor (including the cost of labor for installation of the replacement floor) or costs incurred with loss of time, incidental expenses or any other damage. It does not cover damage from improper installation or maintenance (including side or end gapping), burns, tears, indentations, stains or reduction in gloss level due to normal use and/or exterior applications. Gapping, shrinkage, squeaks, fading or structural sub floor related issues are not covered under this warranty. **Temperature variations – excessive heat (29ºC/84ºF) or below freezing (-4ºC/25ºF and below) – may cause cause expansion or contraction of the product.**

Lifetime Limited Residential Warranty

Our Lifetime Limited Residential Warranty for vinyl tile means that, for the duration of your life in your home, from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through or permanently stain from common household stains when installed and maintained according to instructions supplied with each carton. *Lifetime means 35 years.

17-Year Limited Commercial Warranty

Our 17 Year Limited Commercial Warranty for vinyl tile means that for 17 years, from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through when installed and maintained according to instructions supplied with each carton. Improper installation or workmanship should be directed to the contractor who installed the floor.

Claims

This guarantee applies only to the original purchaser and proof of purchase is required for all claims. Claims for wear must show a minimum dime size area. This guarantee is pro-rated based on the amount of time the floor has been installed. If you wish to file a claim under warranty, contact the authorized dealer where the flooring was purchased.