

VYTEC® Luxury Vinyl Flooring Installation Instructions

PRODUCT SUITABILITY

VYTEC® Luxury Vinyl Flooring is suitable for all interior floor surfaces, above, on or below grade, and over concrete or wood substrates. It is ideally suited for residential and commercial environments such as retail, leisure, health and education (see your distributor for product selection). **VYTEC®** Luxury Vinyl Flooring is SCS Floor Score certified, is 100% recyclable, is manufactured under ISO 9001:2000 Quality Management Systems, ISO 14001 Environmental Management System and is suitable for certain radiant heated floors.

TESTING AND ACCLIMATION

- Concrete substrates shall be cured for a minimum of 42 days and tested for moisture emission in accordance to ASTM F1869 with levels not to exceed 1.36 kg / 92.9m² / 24 hrs. (5lbs / 1000sf. / 24 hrs.) and/or ASTM F2170 with Relative Humidity (RH) levels not to exceed 80%, or as per the adhesive manufacturer's installation recommendations.
- A functional moisture vapor barrier must be in place under newly poured concrete slabs that are on or below grade, and must have declining RH values.
- If the concrete exceeds moisture limitations, the installation should not proceed until the problem is corrected; re-test to ensure that the problem has been corrected. It is important to note that a moisture test indicates conditions at the time of testing, manufacturer and/or flooring contractor cannot be held responsible if moisture appears in the future, causing adhesive failure. Please note that new concrete subfloors contain a high percentage of moisture and must be allowed to dry out. The drying time will depend on several conditions, such as the type of concrete used, average air temperature and thickness and location of the slab.
- **VYTEC®** Luxury Vinyl Flooring must be present onsite to allow an appropriate period for the product to acclimate. Remove the material from the packaging, spread out the material to acclimate in the area (room) where the installation is to take place. The material must be allowed to acclimate at a constant temperature of 18°- 24° and relative humidity of 45%-60% for a period of 72 hours prior to the installation and these values must be maintained during and after installation.

SUBSTRATES

- Substrate surfaces shall be sound, true and level to a tolerance of 6 mm in 3 m (¼" in 10 ft.) for floors and free of deflection of no more than 1/360 of span under live or dead load.
- Concrete substrates shall be cured for a minimum of 42 days and tested for moisture emission in accordance to ASTM F1869 with levels not to exceed 1.36 kg / 92.9m² / 24 hrs. (5lbs / 1000sf. / 24 hrs.) and/or ASTM F2170 with Relative Humidity (RH) levels not to exceed 80%, or as per the adhesive manufacturer's installation recommendations.
- A functional moisture vapor barrier must be in place under newly poured concrete slabs that are on or below grade, and must have declining RH values.
- Any repair to the concrete substrate shall be made using the proper surface preparation product, fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound and acrylic latex additive are recommended. Other types of levelers, such as calcium sulfate/plaster/gypsum based compounds are not recommended.
- Neutralize any traces of strong acid or alkali prior to application of the surface preparation product or the adhesive.
- Particleboard, strand board and flake board are not recommended underlayment's, therefore are not recommended for use as a substrate.
- Plywood substrate and underlayment shall be group 1, exterior grade plywood, CC plugged or better conforming to APA classification and PS 1-95 or a select or (SEL TF) COFI classified. The installation of wood underlayment shall comply with ASTM F499-84 standard.
- All new wood underlayment shall be acclimated for at least 72 hours to the job site condition prior to installation.
- When required, the wood underlayment shall be filled and patched to correct seams, cracks, indentations and other subfloor irregularities using the proper surface preparation products. Fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound and acrylic latex additive are recommended. Other types of levelers, such as calcium sulfate/plaster/gypsum based compounds are not recommended

OLD SUBSTRATES

- **VYTEC®** Luxury Vinyl Flooring can be installed over any hard and flat surface.
- Existing cement, terrazzo, ceramic tile, single layer non-cushioned mineral fibrous felt-back sheet vinyl shall be sound, solid, well adhered, flawless, stripped or sanded clean and free of dust, wax, grease, soap residue or any deleterious substance that may reduce or prevent adhesion.
- Can be installed over a single layer of non-cushioned resilient flooring provided the following conditions have been met; the existing flooring must be fully adhered and well-bonded; the sub floor or underlayment that is under the existing resilient floor must meet the requirements already noted.
- Any cuts, gouges, dents, grout joints or other irregularities in the existing floor and any existing embossing or texture must be leveled to prevent telegraphing; embossed vinyl flooring shall be properly leveled with the fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound and acrylic latex additive system and entire floor skim coated to ensure adhesion.
- Any waxes or finishes must be completely removed and rinsed with clean water. If the existing floor has been installed over concrete, a moisture test must be performed. The results of the test must meet the requirements as previously noted. Moisture tests should be conducted over an area where the existing floor and adhesive has been completely removed.

LOOSE LAY

- A 5mm expansion gap must be left against walls and other fixed components such as transitions, thresholds/doorways, doorframes, pipes, etc., all door jambs and casings must be undercut.
- Loose lay installations require a transition trim at all thresholds/doorways.
- Install a minimum of 15 cm wide strip of a premium transitional trowel on or roll on adhesive around the perimeter of the room.
- For areas greater than 3.66m in width or length, a grid formation method **must** be used by applying a 15 cm wide strip of a premium transitional trowel on or roll on adhesive at each intersecting 3.66m interval. *Alternatively, a full spread installation with a premium transitional trowel on or roll on adhesive is recommended.
- **Installations exceeding 7m in length or width must use a full spread installation with a premium transitional trowel on or roll on adhesive, and must have a 5mm expansion gap against walls and other fixed components, pipes, etc., all door jambs and recommendations. (*see care & maintenance for additional information).**
- Ensure that each plank fit "tightly" together, the planks should not be forced into place.
- Lay a complete row of planks and cut the last plank with the cut edge to fit against the opposite wall, allowing for a 5mm expansion gap, the planks should not be forced into place.
- For best visual effect, always stagger the planks from row to row with a minimum 20cm offset.
- The manufacturer or supplier will not be liable for any loss, damage or complaint of any kind if the specific laying procedures described in this guide are not followed.
- Installations must be from cartons with the same production lot numbers.

GLUE DOWN

- A 5mm expansion gap must be left against walls and other fixed components such as transitions, thresholds/doorways, doorframes, pipes, etc. all door jambs and casings must be undercut.
- Use the full spread installation method with a premium transitional trowel on or roll on adhesive, follow the manufacture installation recommendations.
- **Areas exposed to direct sunlight must be glued down, follow the adhesive manufacture specific installation recommendations. (*see care & maintenance for additional information).**
- Use the notched trowel recommended by the adhesive manufacturer to achieve full transfer of the adhesive to the backing of the floor covering. Work in small enough area to ensure that the planks or tiles are laid into adhesive according to the adhesive manufacture's installation methods.
- Position the plank in the adhesive without sliding and pressing firmly down, paying special attention to the edges and corners.
- Ensure that each plank fit "tightly" together, the planks should not be forced into place.
- Lay a complete row of planks and cut the last plank with the cut edge to fit against the opposite wall, allowing for a 5mm expansion gap, the planks should not be forced into place.
- For the best visual effect, always stagger the planks from row to row with a minimum 20cm offset, installing the planks in a random pattern.
- Periodically check by lifting a plank to ensure full transfer of the adhesive to the backing of the floor covering.
- Immediately after installing the flooring, roll each section in both directions with a minimum 100 pound three section roller, following the adhesive manufacture installation recommendations; re-roll the entire area after one hour. Promptly remove adhesive smudges with a clean cloth dampened with water while adhesive is still fresh and mineral spirits when dried.
- Ensure that the flooring is free from general traffic for 24 hours after installation.
- Installations must be from cartons with the same production lot numbers.
- The manufacturer or supplier will not be liable for any loss, damage or complaint of any kind if the specific installation procedures described in this guide are not followed.

RADIANT HEATED FLOORS

Installations over approved radiant heated floor systems must be installed in a wet set method with an adhesive that is approved over radiant heated floors, please consult your representative for your particular application.

- Concrete subfloors must be cured for a minimum of 90 days before beginning the installation.
- In floor heating pipes must be covered with a minimum of 1" of concrete.
- Maximum allowable ambient temperature is 25° C.
- The heating system must be fully operational at normal temperature for a minimum of 21 days prior to the flooring installation.
- The heating system must be turned off 24 hours prior to the flooring installation and must remain off for 12 hours after the flooring installation.
- Starting 12 hours after the completion of the flooring installation, gradually increase the temperature over a 7 day period at 2° C increments to the normal operating level.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

VYTEC® Luxury Vinyl Flooring UV cured polyurethane finish will protect your floor for many years, follow the precautions below for keeping your floor looking good for years to come.

- Temperature of 18°- 24° and relative humidity between 45-65% must be maintained during and after the installation.
- Do not allow traffic on the installation before 24hrs after completion or as recommended by the adhesive manufacture.
- Do not thoroughly wash the floor covering with water before 30 days, wipe with a damp mop during the first month to allow adhesive to cure.
- Sweep, vacuum and damp mop floor regularly.
- **Do not allow exposure to direct sunlight for prolong periods of time, will cause discoloration and expansion. The use of suitable drapes and blinds to avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods are required.**
- Use non-staining, flat surface Teflon/Felt protectors not less than 2 inches in diameter for legs of heavy appliances and furniture. Use proper floor protectors on all chairs, remove all small diameter buttons from legs of straight chairs and replace with Teflon/Felt glides no smaller than 1inch in diameter. Examine your protectors periodically, check for burs, debris or wear and make sure the surface is smooth.
- Do not drag items across your floor.
- Use only rolling type casters approved for use on hard surface flooring, such as neoprene or urethane castor wheels, these precautions may reduce scratches and indentations from appearing on your floor.
- Do not expose floor to frequent standing water and wipe up all spills quickly.
- Use walk off mats at all room entrances, do not use rubber or latex back mats, certain chemicals in backing can stain vinyl, use non-staining vinyl mats or woven rugs that are colorfast.
- For routine cleaning thoroughly sweep, vacuum and damp mop the floor before washing. Use 4 ml/l or as recommended by the manufacturer of a neutral floor cleaner to 4 liters of warm water, damp mop the floor using a clean sponge or damp mop for best results, continue to rinse the mop or sponge throughout the cleaning process.
- For deep cleaning add 8 ml/l or as recommended by the manufacturer of a neutral floor cleaner to 4 liters of warm water. Damp mop the floor using a clean sponge or mop for best results, continue to rinse the mop or sponge throughout the cleaning process.
- For heavily soiled floors add 50 ml/l or as recommended by the manufacturer of a neutral floor cleaner to 4 liters of warm water. Damp mop the floor using a clean sponge or mop for best results, use a white scrub brush or a white nylon pad may be used to loosen dirt. For best results, continue to rinse the brush or pad throughout the cleaning process.
- **VYTEC**® Luxury Vinyl Flooring UV cured polyurethane finish does not require coatings, however if an extra coating is desired they must be applied according to the manufactures recommended procedures. Once a coating is applied, a regular maintenance program will be required to strip and re-coat the flooring according the coating manufactures recommendations.