

General Installation Guidelines

DRYBACK LVT FLOORING

RIVIO[MC]

Storage & Transportation

Cartons should be stored and transported on a flat surface in neat stacks, always store the cartons flat and never put them on-end. Do not store the cartons in very cold (less than 2˚C) or very warm (more than 40˚C) or humid places.







Prior to Installation

VISAL INSPECTION



Please inspect the product prior to installation. Check that the colours correspond to those ordered, the quantities are correct and there is no visible damage to the boxes. Check the vinyl planks or tiles during installation for any visible defects. Do not install any planks or tiles that display any imperfections.

We recommend that you always use materials from a single production batch for each installation, as we cannot guarantee a shade match between different batches.

SUITABILITY

- Dryback LVT products can be laid on concrete, cementitious screed, anhydrite (calcium sulphate), timber and ceramic tiles, which have been suitably prepared (see Floor Preparation).
- Dryback LVT products can be used with traditional water based underfloor heating and cooling systems. Electric wire systems are not recommended unless the system is encased in a minimum of 9mm of suitable levelling compound. Direct contact with wired heating systems must be avoided. If in doubt seek further advice.
- Dryback LVT products are only suitable for indoor installation.
- In areas that may be subject to excessive or uncontrolled heat 35˚C or above (e.g. unprotected sun facing glass) the floor must be installed with an approved High Temperature (HT) Adhesive. It is particularly necessary to keep the temperature in conservatories at a constant temperature between 18˚C and 27˚C prior to, during, and for 72 hours after installation. It would also be advisable to shade windows to avoid direct intense sunlight. This should help to provide a constant temperature during the acclimatisation period, the installation and 72 hours after the installation.

COMPOSITION, CONSTRUCTION AND QUALITY OF THE SUBFLOOR

Knowledge of the composition and construction provides valuable information that allows you to correctly check the acceptable humidity, compressive and tensile strength of the subfloor. In addition, it tells you what type of floor preparation, levelling compound and possible moisture barrier you may need during the installation process.



When there is ambiguity or doubt about the quality or composition of your subfloor check with your floor preparation, levelling compound manufacturer/supplier.

National Regulations: Site and installation conditions must always comply with current NHBC standards & BS8203 – The installation of resilient floor coverings.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

IRREGULARITIES IN THE SUBFLOOR

Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation. It is vital for an excellent LVT floor finish. The appearance of LVT floors will only be as good as the quality of the base over which it is installed. Any irregularities in the subfloor will show through the finished floor and must be suitably prepared before installation.



The subfloor must be hard, smooth, clean and dry, as well as being free from defects and fit for purpose. When required, scrape off and remove old adhesives and loose laying levelling compound. Make sure the subfloor is flat and free from dust, debris and other contamination.

As recommended by BS8203 section 6.2.3 when using thin flooring the unevenness of the subfloor should be of the highest standard (SR1) and not be greater than 3mm measured over a width of 200cm. Avoid high spots and steps.

A suitable plywood/levelling compound should be selected to ensure that no irregularities show through to the surface of the finished floor. However, the selection of suitable materials, including plywood, smoothing/ levelling compounds and any ancillary products, is dependent upon the occupational use of the area and must be agreed by the supplier of the preparative materials and the flooring contractor.

All floor preparation materials used must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with the national standards for resilient floor coverings.

THE MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE SUBFLOOR

The moisture content of the subfloor must be taken prior to installation in accordance with Annex B of BS8203, The Installation of resilient floor coverings.

- Unheated cementitious screeds less than 2.0CM% - 75% RH (UK)
- Underfloor heated cementitious screeds less than 1.8CM% - 75% RH (UK)
- Unheated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) screeds less than 0.5CM% - 75% RH (UK)
- Underfloor heated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) less than 0.3CM% - 75% RH (UK)

Direct-to-earth concrete and stone subfloors must have an effective damp proof membrane (DPM) in accordance with BS8203 for the installation of resilient floorcoverings. Follow the screed manufacturer's detailed instructions for the installation of a surface applied DPM and the use of levelling compound. An overview of recommended manufacturers and suppliers can be provided by Furlong Flooring.



Important:
Floor installation should not begin until the installer has assessed and approved the subfloor and installation conditions



ACCLIMATISATION

LVT floor products must acclimatise in the room of installation, or an equivalent area for at least 24 hours prior to installation, or until the product has achieved an ambient temperature. Again, this is a minimum temperature of 18˚C and a maximum of 27˚C.



- Unpack the LVT floor product and check all planks or tiles in daylight for possible defects or discrepancies in colour.
- Stack the plank or tiles in straight piles away from heating, cooling or windows with direct intense sunlight. This is to achieve a gradual acclimatisation.

TEMPERATURE CONDITION BEFORE INSTALLATION

LVT floor products should be installed with a room temperature of between 18˚C and 27˚C and a subfloor temperature of above 15˚C.

Installations in areas colder than recommended will influence the installation properties of the product. The planks or tiles will be less flexible, cutting will be harder and small pieces difficult to cut out. The lower the temperature, the more difficult the installation. Other installation products will also be influenced by the installation temperature.

For installation in areas warmer than recommended, we advise consultation with your local retailer/installer on how to create the appropriate installation conditions.

Starting Installation

TEMPERATURE CONDITION DURING INSTALLATION



A constant temperature, fluctuating no more than 5˚C per day, not below the required 18˚C room temperature and 15˚C subfloor temperature, should be maintained 24 hours before, during and 72 hours after installation.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

LVT floor products can be used with traditional water based underfloor heating systems provided that the guidance laid out in section 7.7.1 of BS8203 is followed. There must be a constant ambient room temperature of 18 to 27˚C for the acclimatisation period, installation and for 72 hours after installation. 24 hours after installation the underfloor heating must be re-commissioned, the system temperature is gradually increased by increments of 3 to 5˚C per day, until it reaches the standard operating temperature. For the suitability of the system please check the manufacturer's instructions.

UNDERFLOOR COOLING

LVT floor products can also be installed over floor cooling systems. However, the supply temperature of the cooling water must not be reduced below the dew point temperature. Temperatures below this point will produce condensation and can therefore damage the floor covering. Thermostats in the room must never be set at a temperature, which is more than 5˚C lower than the room temperature.





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