

Glue Down LVT Installation & Maintenance Guide

PLEASE READ COMPLETELY BEFORE INSTALLATION

Warranty Information: 10 Year Commercial - Limited Lifetime Residential

Ultimate Floors Light Commercial Luxury Vinyl Tile is recommended for a variety of light commercial applications. Ultimate Floors Light Commercial LVT can be installed over most properly prepared substrates, making it suitable for installation on all grade levels where moisture conditions do not exist. To confirm you have the most recent installation instructions, please visit our website www.ultimatefloors.net

Asbestos Warning:

WARNING! Previously installed resilient floor covering products and the cutback adhesives used to install them may contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of asbestos or crystalline dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Unless positively certain that the previously installed product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos.

Job Site Conditions:

It is the responsibility of the Installer and Owner to ensure that job site environmental, substrate and subsurface conditions involved meet or exceed all requirements as outlined in installation instructions prior to installation. Manufacturer declines all responsibility for product performance or installation failure due to structural, substrate or environmental deficiencies or jobsite conditions.

- Resilient flooring installation should be scheduled after all other trades have completed their work.
- The HVAC systems must be in operation for at least 7 days prior to flooring installation and thereafter to maintain a constant temperature. Portable heaters may not provide adequate heat. Never use kerosene heaters.
- Stack un-opened cartons of flooring on flat surface in the room where they will be installed during installation.
- When using flooring from two or more cartons, make sure pattern and run (lot) numbers are the same. It is recommended to blend products from multiple cartons during installation.
- Store in a protected climate-controlled environment on a flat surface for future repairs if necessary.

General Information:

It is important for the adhesive and jobsite to be maintained at proper temperature as specified by adhesive manufacturer before, during, and after installation to insure proper bond.

Ultimate Floors LVT requires no acclimation at jobsite if LVT is stored between 40- and 100-degrees Fahrenheit.

NOTE: This adhesive spread rate is appropriate over most smooth substrates to achieve adequate transfer. Extremely porous surfaces may need sealed with a latex primer prior to installation.

Tools

- 75 lb. 3 section roller
- Chalk line

- Carpenter square
- Utility knife
- Cutting board
- Tape measure
- pH test strips Distilled Water (follow manufacturer instructions)
- In Situ RH Moisture Meter or Calcium Chloride Test Kit (follow manufacturer's instructions)

Suitable Substrates and Surface Materials:

- Fully cured, dry concrete on all grade levels (Moisture vapor emissions should not exceed adhesive manufacturers moisture and PH limits)
- Approved wood underlayment. Underlayment must be underlayment grade warranted for installation of glue down resilient flooring.
- Portland cement-based self-levelling underlayment and patching compounds.
- Embedded radiant-heated substrates where the maximum surface temperature does not exceed 85F (29°C) in any area. Heated flooring system must be warranted by the manufacturer for installation of glue down Resilient flooring.
- Existing non cushioned vinyl sheet flooring-single layer fully adhered and well bonded.
- Existing vinyl composition tile (VCT) - single layer, well bonded over on or above grade level only.
- Installation over gypcrete, must apply a coat of latex primer and allow to dry prior to installation of flooring.

Jobsite temperature range, PH level, subfloor moisture level and humidity range must meet adhesive manufacturer's specification requirements.

Ultimate Floors LVT has a fiberglass core giving it a wider temperature range, however, adhesive manufacturers temperature range and working time for adhesive may vary and will supersede Ultimate Floors installation instructions and adhesive instructions must be followed.

Acclimation of material: No acclimation of Ultimate Floors LVT is need if material is stored for 48 hours on a flat surface between 40- and 100-degrees Fahrenheit. Adhesive may need to be acclimated and you must follow manufacturer's instructions.

Over Ceramic:

Remove any loose tiles and fill with appropriate Portland cement floor fill. Roughen surface of tile. Fill grout joints to the level of the surface of the ceramic tile with appropriate Portland Cement floor patch, carefully following the floor fill manufacturer's instructions for mixing, priming, and spreading material over ceramic tile.

INSTALLATIONS:

Follow the installation instructions and guidelines regarding adhesive application rate and method.

Porous substrates:

When installing LVT over a porous substrate, follow adhesive manufacturer's open time and temperature range prior to setting planks. Loss of adhesion can result if the flooring is not installed within the working time of the adhesive. Roll the installation in both directions with a 75 lb. 3-section roller immediately after the flooring is placed, insuring complete contact with the adhesive.

Non-porous substrates:

Install LVT and LVT into adhesive as it becomes dry to the touch with little or no transfer to finger when touched. This will normally require 30–60 minutes of drying time at suggested installation temperature and humidity. Do not install flooring into wet adhesive on non-porous substrates. Roll the installation in both directions with a minimum 75 lb. 3-section roller immediately after flooring is set into adhesive to ensuring complete contact with adhesive.

TRAFFIC:

Light foot traffic only for 24 hours after installation, restrict heavy traffic, rolling loads, or furniture placement for 48 hours after installation. Additional time may be necessary if the installation is over a non-porous substrate. Allow at least five days following the installation before conducting wet cleaning procedures or initial maintenance.

CLEAN UP:

Use a clean wet cloth to clean up adhesive while still wet; dried adhesive may require the use Denatured Alcohol. Do not use acetone or other solvents that can damage surface finish.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION:

All substrate surfaces must be flat, clean, dry, smooth, and free of deflection movement. Certain requirements may apply to prepare these substrates for resilient flooring. All surface imperfections must be filled and sanded with a Portland cement-based latex patching compound. Substrates covered with existing flooring may also be acceptable for residential and light commercial applications.

Ensure that concrete substrates are sufficiently dry by conducting moisture and pH tests. The substrate, regardless of the type must be flat, smooth, clean, dry, structurally sound, and free of paint, old adhesive residue, wax, grease, oil, solvent, curing and parting compounds and other substances that could interfere with adhesion or the performance of the flooring. *Never use liquid adhesive remover or solvent cleaners for removing old adhesive residue or other substances on the substrate.* These substances must be mechanically removed prior to installation. Conduct bond tests to confirm suitable adhesion to the substrate.

Flat – Within 3/16” in 10’ radius and/or 1/8” in 6’ radius - sand high areas or joints - fill low areas with a high compressive strength Portland cement base compound. The flatness of the substrate is particularly important for keeping joints tight and in alignment when installing large format tiles. Deviations in the substrate should not exceed 3/16” in 10’ or 1/16” in 1’.

Correct Moisture Testing – Select the appropriate moisture indicator test specifically designed for use with wood or concrete subfloors. Test and record moisture content results. **DO NOT INSTALL FLOORING IF MOISTURE TEST RESULTS EXCEED RECOMMENDED LIMITS.**

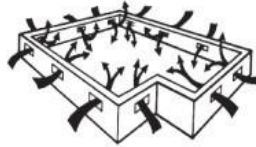
Concrete Substrates:

1. Concrete substrates must be dry, smooth, and free from oil, dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, and asphalt sealing compounds or other materials. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
2. New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry (at least six weeks) and completely cured. Curing agents, surface hardeners and other additives may cause adhesive bonding failure. These must be removed by sanding or grinding.

Wood Substrates:

NOTE: All wood underlayment must be underlayment grade and warranted by the manufacturer for installation of resilient glue down flooring. Single layer subfloors are not underlayment grade and are not suitable for glue down flooring installations.

1. Nail or screw any areas that are loose or squeak. Wood underlayment panels should be fastened according to underlayment manufacturers fastening pattern and glued/screwed or nailed as that system requires, using an acceptable nail pattern. Replace any water-damaged, swollen, or delaminated subflooring or underlayment.
2. Wood underlayment panels should be a minimum of 1” or thicker and free of vertical deflection. All fasteners must be flush with the underlayment panels.
3. Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6-mil black polyethylene membrane is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. Crawl space clearance from ground to underside of joist should be no less than 18” and perimeter vent spacing should be equal to 1.5% of the total square footage of the crawl space area to provide cross ventilation.



Floor Layout:

First determine the direction to install the planks. When directional arrows are printed on the back of a tile, that indicates all tiles should run in the same direction.

Place a mark in the center of the floor at each end of the room. Snap a chalk line between the marks.

**To avoid small narrow planks along the walls, divide the distance from the center line to the wall by the plank or tile width. If the remainder is less than 3 inches, adjust the center line one half width of a plank in either direction. This will provide a balanced layout with larger cut pieces at the wall.*

Finished Flooring Installation:

Using the recommended notched trowel spread the adhesive up to your use line. Do not apply more adhesive than

can be covered within adhesive manufacturer's open time. Follow instructions above regarding dry time for porous or non-porous substrates before installing the plank or tile.

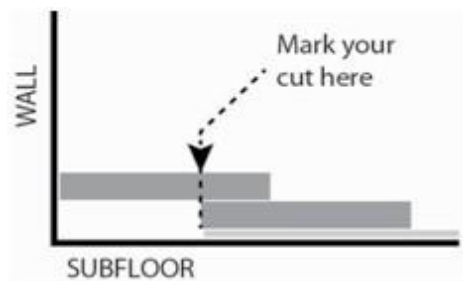
Start installing the plank along the center line. Complete rows, including cut pieces at the wall, before proceeding to the next rows. Offset end joints by at least 6 inches and position product in a random fashion for the best appearance.

Position the product lightly against the previous one, by pressing it firmly into place without sliding it. Avoid small cuts of less than 3 inches at the ends of each row and place cut ends towards the wall. If it is necessary to adjust or remove a plank, use a heat gun to warm the plank first. Complete the opposite side of the room in the same fashion as the previous side.

Cutting a plank or tile to fit:

The last row of product will need to be cut to fit to walls and other vertical surfaces.

Straight Cuts: Place a loose plank or tile directly over the top of the last full installed plank or tile, making sure to line up all edges. Using a plank to measure the distance from the wall to the last installed plank or tile, position the edge against the wall and mark the loose piece with a pencil where it meets the installed piece at the opposite edge from the wall.



Next, place the marked piece on a cutting board. Using a straight edge as a guide, score the pencil line carefully with a sharp knife, then break/snap (or cut) the plank or tile along the score mark.

CAUTION: Keep fingers away from the knife blade to avoid injury. Install plank with the cut edge toward the wall.

Irregular cuts: Scribe plank to fit irregular shapes such as door trims, pipes, or any other vertical surface and cut with a utility knife.

Immediately after Installation:

Roll the entire floor with a minimum 75-pound 3 section roller. Restrict to light traffic for the first 24 hours. Replace the base moldings and return appliances and furniture to the room by rolling or sliding them over strips of hardboard. Seal all areas that may be exposed to surface spills (tubs, toilets, and showers) with silicone caulking.

Use protective mats at all exterior entrances. Do not use mats or area rug cushions constructed of rubber or PVC. Instead use urethane backed products.

- Spiked heels or shoes in need of repair can severely damage the floor.
- Use protective matting under rolling chair castors.

Tips & Warnings:

- Sweep regularly with a soft bristle broom or dry electrostatic cloth.
- Use felt protectors or 1” hard nylon glides under heavy pieces of furniture, fixtures, and chairs.
- The sun’s direct UV rays can change the color of the floor over time.
- Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture or appliances or heavy fixtures. Never slide or roll heavy objects across the floor.

**Exterior walk off mats should be routinely maintained to avoid becoming a soil source.*

Finishing the Job:

- Clean any adhesive smears on the face of the flooring immediately while wet with a clean cloth and dilute solution of neutral cleaner and water. Denatured Alcohol can be used to remove dried adhesive.
- Always use strips of hardwood or plywood when moving heavy objects such as furniture or equipment over the floor even when using carts or dollies with wheels.

Care & Maintenance:

With today’s advances in vinyl flooring stains and finishes, cleaning vinyl has never been easier. There are other steps you can take to minimize maintenance and maintain the beauty of your vinyl floors. Regular maintenance requires little more than sweeping with a soft bristle broom if your floor includes a beveled edge that could collect debris.

- Clean your floors periodically with a professional vinyl floor cleanser. Ultimate Floors recommends a P/H Neutral vinyl cleanser, such as Bona®.
- For moderately soiled areas, use a mild solution of isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and distilled water. Dilute the mixture by mixing one-part alcohol and 2 parts distilled water. For tougher spots, use a higher concentration of isopropyl alcohol and distilled water.
- Avoid using any cleaning agents containing wax, oil, or polish. Left over residue will form a dull film.
- Always spot test in an inconspicuous area.
- Do not use any wood care floor cleaning products on vinyl floors. Self-polishing acrylic waxes can cause the surface to become slippery and appear dull quickly.
- Do not use vinegar as a cleaning solution, its acidic properties will harm the finish.
- Use area rugs both inside and outside doorways to help prevent grit, dirt, and other debris from being tracked onto your floor. Please use a breathable rug pad underneath all throw rugs to prevent scratching.
- Place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink.
- Do not wet mop the floor. Standing water can dull the finish, damage the floor, and leave a discoloring residue.
- Do not use a steam mop of any kind. Damages associated with steam mop use will void warranty coverage.
- Wipe up spills immediately.
- Protect your floor with floor protectors that are made of non-staining felt under the legs of furniture to help prevent scuffing and scratching; Larger pads may be required on bigger objects. Scratching due to insufficient protection is not covered under by the warranty.
- Avoid walking on your vinyl floors with cleats, sports shoes, and high heels. o A 125-pound woman walking in high heels has an impact of 2,000 pounds per square inch. An exposed heel nail can exert up to 8,000 pounds per square inch. This kind of impact can dent any floor surface.
- When moving heavy furniture, do not slide it on the flooring. It is best to pick up the furniture completely to protect the floor from damage.