

CONTRACTOR'S CHOICE®

3mm Residential/Commercial Glue Down/Dryback Planks

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

IMPORTANT: The following are general instructions for installation. Please follow these instructions in conjunction with the manufacturer's instructions printed on the label of the adhesive you use for installation.

MATERIALS YOU MAY NEED:

- . Portland based patch/underlayment/embossing leveler – to repair cracks and level surface
- . Latex floor preparation - to seal subfloor and prevent bond failure (do not use paint primer/sealers)
- . Measuring tape and chalk line
- . Sharp utility knife and straight edge
- . Shears or tin snips for cutting around irregular or circular shaped objects
- . Adhesive - check with retailer for recommended adhesives
- . Trowel that is notched based on the subfloor and adhesive manufacturer's recommendations
- . Luxury Vinyl Planks
- . 100 lb. 3 section Roller

IMPORTANT: Purchase all planks at the same time and check to make sure all lot numbers match before leaving the store. Purchase at least 10% extra to cover mistakes or for possible future replacements and repairs.

SUITABLE AREAS:

Excellent for all areas of your home including kitchens, bathrooms, entryways, rec rooms, laundry rooms and commercial installations such as shops, salons, professional and business offices, entryways, and break rooms. All grade levels.

IMPORTANT: Planks should only be installed in a temperature controlled environment. Permanent or temporary HVAC must be operating before, during, and after installation for the life of the floor.

UNSUITABLE AREAS:

- Unheated dwellings such as cottages or unheated porches
- Any room where the floor will receive long term exposure to direct sunlight
- Over crawl spaces unless they are a minimum of 18" from the ground, properly insulated, and well ventilated. Also, the ground must be covered with a 6-20 Mil black polyethylene film vapor barrier.
- Mobile homes or recreational vehicles
- Outdoors

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES:

- Check adhesive label for their recommendations
- Smooth surfaces that are dry, flat, level, structurally sound and rigid
- Clean surfaces that are free of dust, dirt, grease, paint, varnish, oils, solvents, old adhesive residue, carpet staples, and moisture.

UNSUITABLE SUBSTRATES:

The following may not be suitable sub surfaces. Check adhesive label for subfloor recommendations.

- Carpet or cushioned floors
- Concrete surfaces below grade where concrete moisture or PH may be a problem. (see concrete hydrostatic moisture test below). Always refer to adhesive manufacturer's recommendations regarding moisture and PH levels of the concrete subfloor.
- Heavily embossed floors, unless the embossed surface is filled with a suitable patch, underlayment, or embossing leveler
- Any type of particle board, chipboard, flakeboard, or strand board subfloors
- Over crawl spaces unless they are a minimum of 18" from the ground, properly insulated, and well ventilated. Also, the ground must be covered with a 6-20 Mil black polyethylene film vapor barrier.

CONCRETE SUBFLOOR MOISTURE TESTING PROCEDURE:

If you are unsure whether moisture (hydrostatic pressure) is a problem, cut a few 2 sq. ft. squares of polyethylene film and duct tape them to several areas of the concrete subfloor. Wait about 72 hours and then lift up the corner of each test square. If the plastic is dry, then moisture is within the acceptable levels. If there is condensation on the underside of the plastic, or if the floor beneath is damp, then the moisture level may not be acceptable.

IMPORTANT: Store planks horizontally in the room where it will be installed for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Make sure the room temperature is between 65 degrees and 85 degrees Fahrenheit for at least 48 hours prior to installation, during installation and for the life of the floor.

PREPARING THE SUBFLOOR:**CONCRETE FLOORS:**

Concrete must be smooth, clean, flat and free of moisture and any additives that might prevent proper bonding. Remove all dirt, grease, and adhesive residue. Sweep and vacuum floor thoroughly. Fill all cracks and holes with a suitable Portland based patching compound per manufacturer's instructions then apply latex floor preparation. Check adhesive recommendations regarding moisture and PH recommendations. Failure to use a latex floor preparation over unsealed concrete may void your adhesive warranty. Old cutback or black emulsion adhesives should be scraped smooth then encapsulated with a Portland based patching compound. Never use chemicals to abate old adhesives. Always remove them by mechanical means then encapsulate the area with a Portland based patching compound.

WOOD FLOORS:

Wood floors must be clean and free of dirt, dust, varnish, paint, grease, and waxes. Screw down any loose boards in preparation for plywood underlayment. Cover subfloor with flooring grade minimum ¼" thick plywood sanded on one side. Countersink staple or nail heads and fill holes and joints with Portland based latex crack filler. Sweep and vacuum the floor thoroughly, then apply latex floor preparation per manufacturer's instructions.

OLD RESILIENT FLOORS:

Planks may be installed directly over any well-bonded, smooth surface resilient floors after removing all wax or any other coatings. Planks should not be installed over cushioned floor materials. Planks should not be installed over heavily embossed tiles unless the embossing has been filled in with a suitable Portland based leveler.

WARNING: NEVER SAND EXISTING RESILIENT FLOOR, AS THE DUST MAY CONTAIN HARMFUL ASBESTOS FIBERS.

IMPORTANT: When in doubt, it is always best to test install several planks first before proceeding with the installation of the entire floor. If these planks do not stay down, then do not install any additional planks and contact your retailer.

PATCHING OR LEVELING:

Patch, fill, level and smooth any holes, cracks, or surface irregularities. Make sure that the floor is smooth, flat, clean and completely free of wax, grease, oil or dust before laying the planks. Any roughness or unevenness in the subfloor may eventually show through, detracting from the genuine appearance of your floor as well as causing excessive wearing in those areas.

BEFORE INSTALLING PLANKS:

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any remodeling or new construction project. Planks should only be installed in a temperature controlled environment. HVAC must be operating before, during, and after installation for the life of the floor. Planks, adhesive, and the room where the planks are being installed must be maintained at a stable temperature of around 65°F-85°F for at least 48 hours prior to, during and after installation. Installed planks must always be maintained at a stable, controlled temperature of between 65°F and 85°F year round for the life of the product. Please bear in mind, in the winter a concrete floor can be up to 10°F colder than the room temperature.

FOR BEST VISUAL RESULTS:

- Check to see that all pattern and lot numbers are the same.
- Always mix planks from several different boxes to avoid installing planks with similar patterns/colors next to each other. A little time spent carefully selecting planks from several different boxes will significantly reduce the effect of any shade variations as well as increase the authenticity and beauty of your floor.
- Before installation, carefully inspect each plank for damage, blemishes, and visual defects. Always inspect planks for visible faults/damage in the daylight or in a well-lit room prior to installation.

For visual defects: installation constitutes acceptance.

INSTALLING PLANKS:

IMPORTANT: Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions on the adhesive label for the brand of adhesive you have chosen. The installation procedure may vary according to the type of adhesive you are using. The following is one popular method of installation:

1. Remove wood moldings around the perimeter of the floor.
2. We suggest laying the long dimension of the planks parallel to the long dimensions of the room.
3. Always plan your layout to avoid an unbalanced installation with narrow plank widths or short end lengths at the walls. Always plan your layout to prevent having less than half plank width at the side walls and no less than 12" lengths at the end walls.
4. Always stagger the end joints in a random manner by at least 6" from row to row, and always avoid the clustering of end joints. If the layout of the room permits, you may use the cut piece from the end of first row to start the next row.

WHERE TO START

- A. Find the center of the room by snapping a chalk line from center points of opposite walls. The center of your room will be where the chalk lines intersect (see Illustration #1). Use chalk lines as a guide for laying the planks.
- B. Lay a loose row of planks along each chalk line starting at the center and working toward the wall. If the space between the last plank and wall is less than half a plank, adjust your chalk line over (see Illustration #2). This will eliminate small cuts around the edges and also leave a uniform border.

SETTING THE PLANKS

Starting at your center points (or your adjusted center points), spread the adhesive over the subfloor with the recommended trowel one section at a time. Complete one section at a time working out from the center (see Illustration #3). Press planks firmly, accurately, and tightly into place against the previous plank. **Do not slide planks into place, and do not install cut planks around the edges of the room until the entire main floor has been covered.**

Trimmed border tiles may be installed after the rest of the floor has been completed.

CUTTING TRIM

For straight cuts, mark the plank, score it with a straight edge and **sharp** utility knife, and break it at your scoring line. For irregular or circular cuts, we suggest cutting the planks with shears or tin snips.

- To fit planks around circular or irregular obstacles, make a pattern of the area on paper or cardboard, trace the pattern onto the plank and cut the plank using shears or tin snips.

- To fit a partial plank in the last row, first place a loose plank (B) directly over the last whole plank (A) closest to the wall. Then butt another plank (C) against the wall overlapping plank (B) and mark plank (B) where it is to be cut (see Illustration #4). Do not cut on floor, as you may cut through and damage new planks. Check to see if the fit is acceptable, then glue the plank (B) into place.

Illustration #1

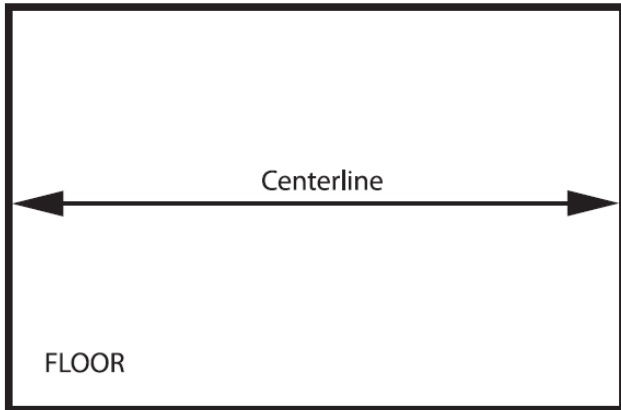
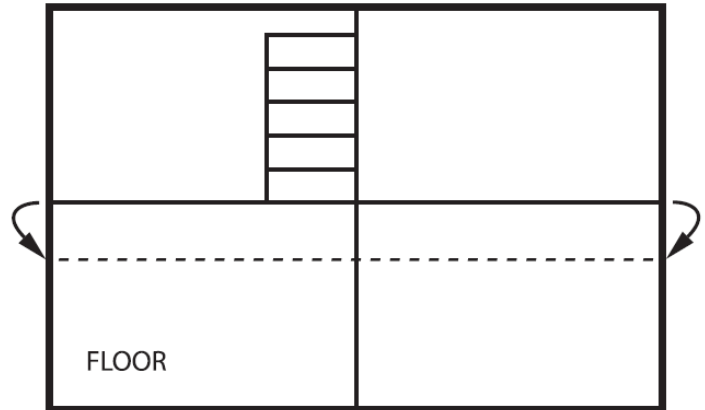


Illustration #2



Measurement Check

Illustration #3

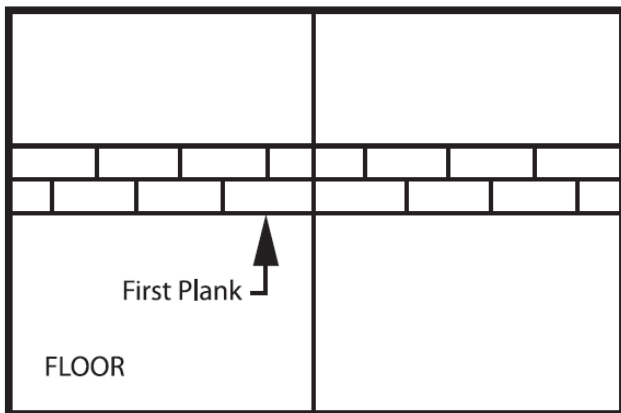
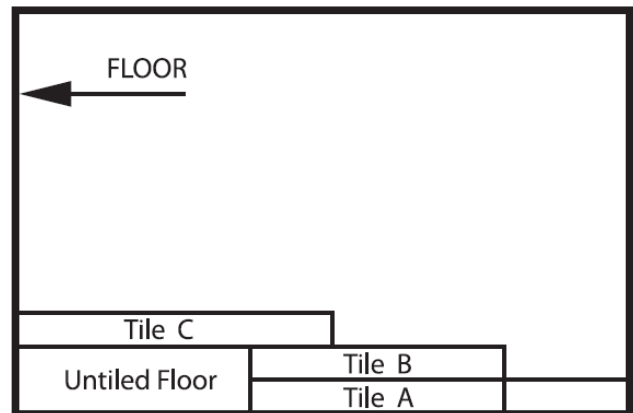


Illustration #4



Trim Side View

IMPORTANT: For best results, we strongly recommend pressure rolling the entire floor in both directions (90 degrees) within 30 minutes after installation using a 3 section 100 lb. roller. Please refer to the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for their recommendations.

Please also refer to the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for curing times required before walking on the floor. We recommend waiting at least 72 hours before washing the floor. This allows the planks to conform to the subfloor. Also, do not expose planks to heavy rolling loads for at least 72 hours after installation.

When you are done, install moldings over the planks. **When installing the moldings, always fasten them to the wall, not to the plank.**

