

UBRAN ESCAPES SPC: SPC INSTALLATION

ACCLIMATION:

To ensure problem-free installation, all areas where flooring will be installed should have a working heat and air conditioning source operational a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation and remain in operation during and after installation. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use (between 60-80 degrees Fahrenheit with a relative humidity no greater than 65%). Ensure subfloor and flooring are fully acclimated to these conditions for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. For best results, open the cartons at the beginning of the acclimation period.

Signature Flooring rigid core products are designed to require less acclimation time when compared to traditional PVC based floating floor. However, extreme differences in temperature and humidity between the flooring product and job site may result in gapping, buckling, or joints which are difficult to properly engage. Improper locking of the flooring may cause joints to be distressed resulting in a "peaked" appearance, delamination due to ledging, separation of joints from normal environmental changes, cupping, or side joints failures.

PRE-INSTALLATION JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS:

Signature Flooring cannot be held responsible for site conditions that do not conform to requirements as indicated in these instructions. Including but exclusive to vapor transmission, moisture permeation, contaminated or damaged subfloors, etc.

Floating vinyl floors should be protected from direct sunlight and not exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. Excessive temperature will cause the products to expand and buckle. Signature Flooring recommends blinds, drapes, window films, or suitable window coverings in areas where there is a large exposure to direct sunlight.

It is the installer's responsibility to examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish, sheen, and quality, to ensure that jobsite and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. If flooring is not deemed acceptable, contact your supplier immediately for a resolution. Signature Flooring cannot be held responsible for flooring installed with visible defects. Do not install fixed objects such as cabinets, islands, and wall units on top of flooring.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION:

Warning: If the existing resilient floor covering is being removed, see current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute publications recommended work practices for removal of resilient floor coverings for instructions on removing all resilient floor covering structures.

Note: All subfloors must be clean, smooth, and level within 1/8" in 6 ft. or 3/16" in 10 ft, and dry. Dust, scale, and loose particles must be removed. The surface must be free of solvents, paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing or curing compounds, and any other foreign material.

* Failure to properly level the subfloor to manufacturer specifications can cause additional stress on tongue and groove resulting in plank separation.

Signature Flooring click floating floors are designed to “float” over the subfloor. Although Signature rigid plank products are more forgiving when installed over uneven subfloors, proper preparation of the subfloor is a critical part of a successful installation.

Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through to the flooring product resulting in an unsightly surface and can cause excessive wear on high spots.

*This product has a pre-attached underlayment. Do not install over carpet or any additional underlayment. Doing so will void the warranty.

If installing over existing wood floors: Wood floors must be solid, flat, and smooth with little flexibility. All loose boards must be firmly fastened.

If installing over existing resilient floors: Existing resilient tile and sheet vinyl flooring must be in good condition and thoroughly bonded to the structural floor. The exception is that any tile or sheet that is of a soft cushion construction must be removed.

If installing over an existing ceramic tile: Grout lines must be skim coated with a floor leveler. If you install the flooring over an existing floor that has an embossing or grout line, we recommend that you skim coat with a floor leveler. Check for any dips or humps in the subfloor that can create a void or peak underneath the floor. If found, please fill in and level the subfloor with embossing leveler. For high spots, grind down the peak or simply knock them off with a hammer and chisel and fill in the holes.

Supporting floors must be rigid as too much deflection can result in a failed installation. Maximum deflection should not exceed 3/64” (1.1 mm).

WOOD SUBFLOORS:

Wood subfloors require no more than 14% moisture content when tested with pin type meter and must have a minimum 18” cross ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and ground. Exposed earth crawl spaces must be sealed with a polyethylene moisture barrier. Wood subfloors must be a minimum of 3/4” thick, APA approved grade tongue and groove plywood or 23/32” OSB, with a smooth finish, free from spring and deflection. If the wooden subfloor is not an APA approved flooring grade underlayment, a minimum of 1/4” approved wood underlayment must be fastened to the existing substrate.

- If this flooring is intended to be installed over an existing wood floor, it is recommended to repair any loose boards or squeaks before you begin the installation.
- Timber subfloors must have no more than 12% Mc (moisture vapor content).
- Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6 mil / 0.15 mm poly-film is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth.
- Lay the flooring crossways to the existing floorboards.

- All other subfloors - Plywood, OSB, particleboard, chipboard, wafer board, etc. must be structurally sound and must be installed following their manufacturer's recommendations.
- Double-layered APA rated plywood subfloors should be a minimum 1" / 25 mm total thickness, with at least 18" / 45 cm well-ventilated air space beneath.

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS:

- Existing concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 90 days old, smooth, permanently dry, clean, and free of all foreign material such as dust, wax, solvents, paint, grease, oils, and old adhesive residue.
- The subfloor must be dry. Comply with Mc requirements and tested as per one of below methods:
 1. Concrete moisture vapor emissions should not exceed 5 lb./3.63 kg MVER (moisture vapor emission rate) per 1000 ft² / 100 m² per 24 hours. This can be measured with the calcium chloride test (ASTM F1869).
 2. 80 % RH (ASTM F2170) with a PH limit of 9.
 3. Max. 2.5 % moisture content (CM method / ASTM F2659).
- A minimum 6 mil / 0.15 mm plastic poly sheeting should be used as a moisture barrier between the concrete subfloor and the flooring.

IN-FLOOR RADIANT HEAT:

Flooring can be installed over 1/2" (12mm) embedded radiant heat. Radiant heat systems must have a minimum of 1/2" (12mm) separation from the product. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F (30°C). Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating.

- Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system. Before starting the installation, turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during, and 24 hours after installation.
- Make sure that the temperature in the room is between 60°F (15°C) and 80°F (25°C) during installation.
- Once the installation has been completed, the heating system should be turned on and increased gradually (5-degree increments) until returning to normal operating conditions.
- Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

**Signature Flooring cannot be held responsible for failure of the subfloor.*

INSTALLATION:

Tools: Tape Measure, Utility Knife, Jigsaw, Tapping Block or Rubber Mallet, Pull bar, Spacers, T-Square, Safety Glasses, Broom, or Vacuum, and if necessary, tools for subfloor preparation.

For best results, make sure to always work from 2 to 3 cartons at a time mixing the planks during the installation.

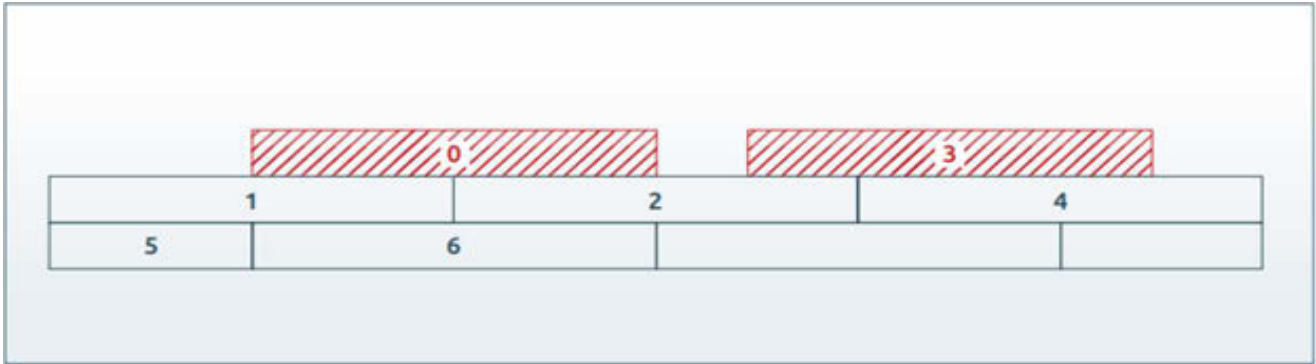
Do not secure individual planks to the flooring to the subfloor as it is designed to be a floating floor. All doorjambes should be undercut, and cabinets cannot be installed on top of the flooring. Wall moldings and transition strips should be installed at any exposed plank edges but should not be fastened through the planks.

The maximum room size suggested is limited to 30 linear feet with perimeter expansion of 5mm / 0.2". For installations larger than 900 square feet or runs longer than 30 linear feet, control joints must be installed with a minimum of 5mm / 0.2" gap between the installed molding.

With a floating floor, you must always ensure you leave a 5mm / 0.2" expansion gap between walls and fixtures, such as pipes and pillars, stairs, etc. These gaps will be covered with trim moldings after the floor is installed. Tip: When installing around pipes, drill the holes 1/2" (12mm) larger than the diameter of the pipes.

**This product is also not to be installed in areas that have a risk of flooding such as saunas or outdoor areas.*

**Do not install Signature flooring over expansion joints.*



Installation pattern

The installation process outlined here includes the use of 2 planks as an alignment guide (planks 0 & 3 shown above). Make sure plank 0 is centered across planks 1 and 2. Planks should be staggered in a brick layering pattern. The length of a plank must be at least 30cAlign installation



Align installation

It is very important that the first 2 rows are aligned. Use a full plank (0) as an alignment guide and place it against the wall. No need for spacers yet.



Install plank 1

Next, take another full length plank, angle it into the middle of the long side of plank 0 and drop. Ensure there are no gaps.



Install plank 2

Take another full length plank and angle it to plank 0. Then slide plank 2 until the short side makes contact with the short side of plank 1.



Engage the short sides

Drop the short side of plank 2 onto the short side plank 1. Drop & Lock by pushing down firmly, if necessary use a hard PVC mallet to **tap the joints slightly on the short side** to secure. This ensures 3-fold locking.



Align installation

Use a full plank (3) as an alignment guide by placing it against the wall. Angle plank 3 into plank 2.



Install plank 4

Take another full length plank and angle it into plank 3. Then slide plank 4 until the short side makes contact with the short side of plank 2. Drop & Lock by pushing down firmly, if necessary use a hard PVC mallet to **tap the joints slightly on the short side** to secure. Ensure there are no gaps or height differences.



Finish rows 1 and 2

Start your second row by using half a plank (5) and angle in with plank 1. Make sure the short sides are aligned. Repeat the same steps as above to finish the second row. Ensure there are no gaps or height differences.



Remove alignment planks (planks 0 & 3)

Remove planks 0 and 3 by angling them out.



Use spacers & slide rows towards spacers

Place the spacers along the walls to create an expansion space of 5mm/0.2 inches. Proceed by gently sliding rows 1 and 2 towards the spacers.



Finalize installation

From row 3 onwards, installation does not require a specific laying pattern. To finish the last row, measure the distance from the wall to the last installed row minus 5mm/0.2 inches. Remove spacers when installation is complete. Finish up the room by placing any plinths, molding and trim.



Disassembling the long side

Lift up the entire row with the same angle as you did during installation, then slide the rows apart.



Disassembling the short side

Disassemble the row by sliding apart the planks on the short side. Ensure the planks are laying completely flat. If you cannot slide the panels apart, the short side is not fully engaged. Tape with the mallet to engage then slide out.

REPAIRS:

In the unlikely event that a plank is damaged for whatever reason, the simplest method is to disconnect the planks carefully (protecting the tongue and groove edges) until the damaged plank can be removed. Then place the damaged plank with a new one and reassemble the disconnected planks. This typically works for planks that are closest to the two long walls of a room. For damaged planks that are not close to the perimeter, you may have to remove the damaged planks and insert new pieces without the short and long end grooves.

- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways. Never drag furniture or appliances over this flooring.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects on the floor covering.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
- Caster wheeled chairs should have wide, rubber casters. Protective mats are required under office chairs.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
- Signature Flooring is scratch and dent resistant. Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface, non-staining, and suitable for resilient floors. Do not use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.
- Use floor protectors under furniture.
- Use walk-off mats at entrances to prevent dirt, grit, asphalt, oil, etc. from being tracked on to the floor.
- Sweep, vacuum, or dust mop the floor daily to remove loose dirt and grit. Do not use vacuums that use a beater bar.
- Do not use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Damp mop (Do not flood floor) as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner suitable for Luxury Vinyl. Do not use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor. Do not use abrasive scrubbing tools. Do not use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products. Any additional floor finishes are not required and not approved. The application of any additional floor finishes will void all warranties.
- Vinyl flooring like other types of smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for floor to dry after cleaning. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances, or wet feet.