

IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ



Installation of Dura Collection SPC Hybrid Flooring (14F Drop lock system)

Please read the installation instructions before installing your Dura Collection Hybrid float flooring.

- This is a float flooring system, so all care must be taken to ensure that the flooring is not restricted or pinched in any way and the correct expansion gaps are inserted. Following all the installation guidelines will prevent any issues that may arise due to restriction of the floating floor due to improper installation.
- Care and maintenance of your Hybrid flooring is also critical, so please read and follow the guidelines.

All data sheets and installation manuals (PDF) and videos can be
found on our site.

www.auslayindustries.com.au



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exceeds the previous
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AUSLAY INDUSTRIES PTY LTD – AUSLAY FLOORING

IMPORTANT INSTALLATION INFORMATION “FLOORING EXPANSION GAPS AND FLOAT MOVEMENT”

“Floating floor expansion gaps” Following some simple installation requirements can eliminate any issues of joint breaking, cupping and squeaking of your SPC hybrid flooring. SPC hybrid flooring installation is a floating floor system. Correct substrate preparation is the most important part.

IMPORTANT : SPC HYBRID FLOORING is a floating floor system. Although SPC hybrid has very little expansion or contraction , it is important to allow float movement. So it is very important not to “pinch” the floor down or restrict the float movement in any way. Substrate preparation is also very important , it must be no more than 2mm variation up or down over a 2.0m radius. Self level your substrate before installation if it is more than this.

Moisture : It is very important to check the amount of moisture in your substrate before installing hybrid. The moisture reading should be no greater than 2.5% for an older slab and no greater than 3.9% for a new slab. If moisture is greater than this, you run the risk of potential issues with your hybrid flooring (warping or twisting). If moisture is present, then we recommend installing a 200um black builders plastic to cover the substrate first before installing your hybrid flooring.

Free to Float : Another very important factor to watch out for is if there is a potential for the back padding attached to the hybrid flooring will stick to the substrate. This can be from the substrate having a tacky feel to the surface, or the actual substrate itself. (example is particle board or concrete) - over a period of time the attached back pad on the hybrid may bond itself to the surface of the substrate. This will ultimately stop the flooring from being a float floor and may cause issues. To prevent a potential problem, we recommend simply rolling out a layer of 200um black builders plastic or install one of the many approved flooring underlayments first. This will prevent any issues from occurring.

Expansion Joints : Hybrid flooring can be installed in a single raft up to 18m x 15m. Any room sizes that exceed this should have an expansion joint installed between rafts. This will prevent any expansion issues that may occur and allow for any expansion movement over such a large area.

Perimeter gaps : keep your hybrid a minimum 6mm away from any wall or hard fixed structure. The structural movement of the building and the general float movement of the hybrid flooring are the main factor to consider. Keeping the correct expansion gap will allow for the float movement to occur correctly. Extremely hot conditions , or direct sunlight hitting your hybrid flooring may cause expansion issues. Although the expansion of SPC hybrid is less than 0.2mm @ 80°C , over 10 planks for example , can move up to 2mm. This is why having the correct amount of expansion gap is critical. Install your skirtings or scotias over this gap. Never fill the expansion gap, it must be left clear to allow the correct float movement.

Skirtings and Scotias : When installing skirting and scotias , its is important to fix to the wall only and not to the floor. You must have a gap between the shirting and the flooring so the float effect can occur. If this is installed down hard , it will create a pinch effect, stopping the floating effect from happening and can cause issues with your flooring. Ensure a 1mm - 2mm gap between the skirting and the flooring for movement , and this gap must be left clear to allow float movement.

Kitchens and fixed structures : Finishing around kitchen can be completed in several ways, but the 6mm gap from the structure must be allowed . Island bench gables , slide door base channels , solid structures such as brick walls or tiled skirtings. 1. Install a scotia bead, end stop, or skirting as per the above installation. Fix to the vertical only , not to the flooring. 2. Install the kick boards , scotia , skirting or end stops on the top of the flooring, maintaining the gap between the cover strip and the flooring. This will allow the float movement to still expand if it requires. (this joint must be 6mm minimum). * Never install your kitchen on top of your hybrid.

Doorways and expansion joints (flooring to carpet, tiles etc.) : It is important to allow for movement at these areas. Do not solid fix the flooring. Float movement must still be able to occur without any pinching effect. Leave a 6mm - 10mm gap between the flooring and the fixing point of any trim, such as T moulds , End stops , Transitions and cover strips. The trim or transition will cover the required joint , while allowing a float movement to be maintained. This is the same procedure for expansion joints in flooring.

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Stairs : When installing the “going” (tread) of a step, fully notch trowel suitable adhesive allowing a full bond to the step. Repeat the same procedure with the riser also. Maintain a 1mm - 2mm gap between the bottom of the riser and the step tread. This will allow for any expansion if it does occur.

Concrete Substrates : Firstly ensure that the moisture content has been checked (previously stated). If moisture is present, a layer of 200um black plastic is essential under the hybrid flooring. Any dips and highs must not exceed the tolerance of 2mm over a 2.0m radius. Self level the slab to ensure this before installing.

Timber Flooring Substrates : Strip timber, particle board , chipboard or any other building board that is used for structural floors must be fixed securely. The sub floor must have a minimum crawl space of 460mm underneath to prevent any moisture issues. Level or sand any low and high areas to a tolerance of 2mm over 2.0m . When this preparation is complete you must then install a 200um black builders plastic over the floor before installing your hybrid flooring. This will prevent the hybrid flooring from sticking to the substrate. All expansion joint requirements are to be adhered to.

Existing Tiles : If installing over existing tiles, make sure they are all secure. Check for highs and lows in the substrate and adhere to the same tolerance 2mm over 2.0m. If the grout joints are greater than 2mm deep then they must be levelled. If the grout joint are wider than 2mm , they must be levelled. If the existing tiles are textures in any way, we recommend a layer of 200um builders plastic be install before the hybrid flooring is laid.

Installing over underlays: Cork or rubber matt underlays must be glued to the substate first. Then you must install a layer of 200um black builders plastic. This will prevent the hybrid flooring from sticking to the underlay and causing potential issues.

Never install hybrid over carpet or any types of foam.

**** Your SPC Hybrid floor must be a complete floating system - Do not allow it to be “Pinched” down or restricted anywhere. This may cause issues and void product warranties.**



SPC HYBRID FLOORING

www.auslayindustries.com.au

Stone Plastic Composite Rigid Core Click Plank Flooring known as hybrid flooring

DURA Collection - "IXPE BACK PADDING FITTED"

INSTALLATION OF SPC HYBRID FLOORING - Dura Collection (I4F)

Auslay Industries Pty Ltd recommend that all hybrid flooring be installed by a professional.

General Guidelines for Installation of your SPC Flooring with the I4F Drop locking system

1. Inspect product in good lighting conditions to ensure it is correct (colour, quality and quantity) as ordered. Open boxes cannot be returned. Auslay Industries Pty Ltd hybrid flooring is for interior use only.
2. Auslay Industries hybrid flooring needs to be acclimatized within the 12 hours prior to installation, unopened boxes should be acclimatized for a minimum of 12 hours at temperature between 18-27°C and a relative humidity between 30- 60%. This temperature and humidity range is to be maintained before, during and after installation.
3. Subfloor must be solid, flat (2mm over 2000mm), dry and clean. Auslay industries hybrid flooring can be installed over most existing floor coverings provided the floor is flat, dry and in the case of tiles in a residential installation, grout line tolerances are no more than 2mm wide and 2mm deep. Otherwise grout joints should be filled to the level of the tiles with a suitable leveler. Carpet, carpet underlay, vinyl plank/sheet and/or existing floating floors is not a suitable subfloor.
4. Minimum 6mm expansion gaps to be provided at all fixed vertical surfaces (including around cabinetry, island benches and all fixed furniture).
5. Check each board for visual defects and locking system integrity in optimal lighting before and during installation. Clean any debris out of locks before installation. Always use boards from several packs and inspect each board to get the best-balanced visual installation. Never install defective products.
6. Boards can be cut with the score-and-snap method for straight cuts, and with saws for complex cuts. If cutting boards using any type of saw, dust extraction and/or respiratory protection must be used as a minimum P2/N95 mask.
7. Skirting boards and/or end caps will be needed to cover the perimeter expansion gap. Fixings should be to the wall only, never directly to the floor. Silicone or caulking compound is not recommended between this gap and will void warranty.
8. Minimum width of boards for first and last rows is 50mm. End stagger of joins in rows should be minimum 300mm.
9. **Ensure that the first 3-4 rows are checked for straightness using a string line.** Continue to check for straightness at all stages of the installation.
10. Auslay Industries hybrid floors are stable and can be installed in individual rooms up to 18m long and 15m wide. In complex or multi room installation, internal expansion joints at doorways / thresholds are required.

Please note:

Although Auslay industries hybrid floors are waterproof, it should not be used as a moisture barrier, and should not be installed in areas that have a continual risk of excessive moisture/ flooding such as bathrooms, toilets, laundry.

Hybrid floors must be installed using a floating floor system – they need to be able to move. Ensure expansion gaps allow for movement, and furniture items exceeding 200 kg are not placed on the floor. Insufficient expansion gaps, including in doorways and under trims will cause a floor to potentially buckle, peak, cup, and/or separate, leading in most cases to floor failure.

Uneven subfloors can cause the locking system to break and/or the floor to sound drummy, or become noisy, and will cause early deterioration and/or failure of the floor.

When preparing wood floor boards or sheet-based subfloors, install rigid underlay sheet to achieve a smooth surface to install over. Common materials may include MDF, hardboard, plywood, or cement sheet. Any humps or dips need to be attended to before hand, ensuring a tolerance of 2mm over a 2.0m radius is achieved.

Floors should never be laid over subfloor spaces where there are moisture problems. Doing so can lead to deterioration of the floor coverings and damage to the subfloor structure. If minor subfloor space moisture concerns are present, the moisture level needs to be tested and be in accordance with the latest Australian Standard. **It is recommended to install 200µm plastic sheet (black builder's plastic) before the hybrid flooring is installed over any subfloors. Also, it's essential that a similar plastic sheet is used when installing planks directly over all particleboard or OSB sheet subfloors, as the coarse fibres have been known to catch on the integrated underlay, impeding natural movement of the floor.**



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Auslay industries hybrid floors are not recommended for hairdressing salons. Staining is the main factor.

Auslay Industries hybrid floors are not recommended for installation in wet areas, and if done so, the warranty will be voided.

Cleaning and Care Instructions must be followed to maintain the product warranty. Please ensure these instructions are left with the client.

All Subfloors must adhere to AS 1184 2012 standards for resilient floorcoverings. Subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and rigid. Imperfections measuring greater than (2mm) should be repaired by grinding bumps or ridges or filling voids with Portland-based patching compounds suitable for your substrate.

Remove any existing base moulding and/or skirting and undercut door frames can slide under the jambs. Allow for the thickness of the underlayment also when doing this. A minimum of 1-2mm gap between the hybrid and skirting is required.

Concrete subfloors : It is important to adhere to AS 1184 2012 standards for resilient floorcoverings. Subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry and clean. Imperfections measuring greater than (2mm) should be repaired by grinding bumps or ridges or filling voids with Portland-based patching compounds suitable for your substrate. Acceptable moisture levels in concrete according to ASTM standard, when testing via ASTM F2170, the RH level of a concrete slab needs to be at or below 75%. The moisture reading should not read any more than 2.5% for an older slab , and no greater than 3.9% for a new slab.

***We recommend you install 200µm plastic sheet (black builder's plastic) before the hybrid flooring is installed over any subfloors.**

Existing floor coverings (tiles, vinyl, timber)

Subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and rigid. Do not install over any type of floating floor systems. Subfloor Imperfections measuring greater than (2mm over a 2.0m radius) should be repaired by sanding bumps or ridges or filling voids with Portland-based patching compounds. Install a 200um black plastic over the timber substrate before installing Hybrid flooring.

*Tile grout joints deeper than 2mm and wider than 2mm must be smoothed using a levelling compound.

Plywood , compressed sheeting, Masonite, chipboard sheeting

All substrates must comply with and not exceed the building codes maximum deflection limit : L/360 . Subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and rigid. Imperfections measuring greater than (2mm over 2.0m radius) should be repaired by sanding bumps or ridges or filling voids with Portland-based patching compounds. ***We recommend you install 200µm plastic sheet (black builder's plastic) before the hybrid flooring is installed over any subfloors.**

Wood / Timber Strip board Flooring

When preparing wood floor board subfloors, install rigid underlay sheet to achieve a smooth and stable surface to install over. Masonite, MDF, Compressed cement sheets or similar. Perform any floor preparation required to make level before installing the rigid sheeting. Always install sheeting according to the manufacturers guide lines. All Subfloors must comply with and not exceed the building codes maximum deflection limit : L/360 . Subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and rigid. Imperfections measuring greater than (2mm over 2.0m radius) should be repaired by sanding bumps or ridges or filling voids with Portland-based patching compounds.

Acoustic Underlayment Installation

Only use Auslay Industries recommended acoustic underlayments. Please contact us to confirm if you can use your choice of underlayment with our hybrid flooring.

Wet Area Installation

Auslay industries does not recommend using our SPC hybrid in wet areas. In Queensland , the QBCC does not recognize SPC hybrid as a form of flooring for wet areas.

Radiant underfloor heating

If underfloor heating is installed, make sure all is tested by an electrician and working correctly before installing your SPC flooring over it.

**** Radiant heated subfloors should not exceed (28°C)**



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DURA Collection - "IXPE BACK PADDING FITTED"

INSTALLATION OF SPC HYBRID FLOORING - Dura Collection (I4F)

Crawl spaces must be a minimum of (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 200um black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 15 cm and sealed with moisture resistant tape.

The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Local regulations prevail where necessary.

Most installations will need approximately a 3% cutting and waste allowance added to the square footage of the room.

Proper conditioning of the job site is necessary. Flooring planks should not be exposed to sudden changes in temperature.

Store, transport, and handle the flooring planks in a manner to prevent any distortions. Distortions will not disappear over time. Store cartons flat, never on edge. Ensure that the flooring planks are lying flat at the time of installation.

Installations of carpet, tiles, metal strips, and other transition mouldings should not push fully into the flooring and should allow for some slight movement wherever practical. For rooms, wider or longer than 50', the use of T-moldings is required to account for the normal movement or seasonal expansion/contraction of the floor. If the homeowner does experience gapping then we would suggest the contractor tap the planks back together since they may come apart for longer run lengths.

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

All substrates listed below must be properly prepared and meet certain requirements. There may be other exceptions and special conditions (as noted below) for these substrates to be suitable for the locking installation system.

- Concrete – dry and smooth on all grade levels
- Suspended wood sub-floors with approved preparation – must have a minimum of 46cm well-ventilated crawl space underneath
- Suspended hardwood flooring that is fully adhered, smooth, and square edge without texture
- Ceramic tile, Terrazzo, Marble
- Polymeric Poured (seamless) Floors
- Ply-Wood/OSB-3/4" , Particleboard 40lb. Density , fibre cement sheet

DO NOT INSTALL OVER

- Existing resilient tile floors that are below grade or drummy or not adhered properly
- Existing float cushion-backed vinyl flooring or vinyl plank / sheet flooring
- Carpet or carpet underlay
- Hardwood flooring that has been installed directly over concrete
- On uneven stairs or in rooms with sloping floors or floor drains
- On substrates must comply with and not exceed the building codes maximum deflection limit : L/360

Radiant Underfloor Heating approved

The underfloor heated must not exceed the maximum temperature of 28°C



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Maintenance and Care

- 1. Immediately** – clean up any liquid or water-based spills or any other potentially staining marks using a dry clean cloth. Though Homely Flooring hybrid floors are waterproof, don't leave liquid/water-based spills there just to test it. Homely Flooring hybrid floors are resistant to most spots and stains, however some materials or colourants (such as tar, grease, oil, dyes, waxes, ball point/marker pens, or foods/beverages containing strong dyes as mustard, curry, cordial, coffee, tea etc.) may under certain conditions migrate into the wear layer causing stains.
- 2. Daily** or as required – remove any loose dirt or grit which could damage the floor by sweeping with a soft dry broom or vacuum (preferably with an effective dust filter and suction nozzle for hard surfaces turning off a powerhead, if installed).
- 3. Weekly** – damp mop the floor using water and a pH neutral cleaner to remove any footprints, dirt and other stains or marks.
- 4. As required** – stubborn scuffs and stains can easily be removed using a damp cloth or sponge with a diluted solution of methylated spirits. Ensure the methylated spirits is completely rinsed from the flooring.
- 5. Never use a steam-mop or steam-cleaner.**
6. Never use abrasive cleaners, nylon scouring pads, steel wool, scouring powder or bleach as they may damage the floor.
7. Never use oil, soap, wax or polishes as these finishes may make the floor slippery and can leave a dull finish on the floor.
8. Place entrance mats (which must not have a rubber backing) at all external doors to trap dirt, sand, grit, moisture and other substances from shoes:
 - Double entrance mats are required for residential installations – 1 coarse external mat, and 1 medium internal mat.
 - Triple commercial mats with a minimum walk off zone of 3.5 metres are required for commercial installations – refer to mat manufacturer. Mats must be cleaned regularly.
9. Avoid placing any items with rubber backing on hybrid flooring, as over time, it may undergo a chemical reaction with the wear layer, potentially causing stains.
10. Use non-staining felt protectors under heavy pieces of furniture. Fit office chairs, filing trolleys, mobile containers and old hard- or sharp-edged castors on furniture with soft treads or castors. Chair pads should be used under desk chairs with castors.
11. Heavy objects and furniture such as large bookcases, full size billiard tables, freestanding bathtubs or kitchen units should not be situated on any floating installation. This can lead to the floor failing to respond to contraction and expansion, which can cause squeaking, gapping and possible failure.
12. Never drag, slide or roll furniture or appliances across your floor. Protect the surface if using a trolley to move heavy objects.
13. Floor to ceiling windows coupled with the Australian/New Zealand sun can create floor surface temperatures over 70°C. Auslay industries hybrid planks are manufactured to be stable in low and high temperatures (0-80°C). However, your floor should be protected from extreme temperatures and strong direct sunlight using interior temperature and humidity control (recommended temperatures 10-30°C and relative humidity levels between 30% and 70%), window tinting, awnings and/or curtains/ blinds. Dramatic temperature changes and/or extreme humidity can cause joints to lip/gap and prolonged direct sunlight will cause fading which will not be covered by the manufacturing warranty. To avoid fading and sun related issues you must use window coverings with UV protection. Hybrid flooring is not recommended for sun rooms.
14. Pet claws can scratch the flooring. Keep nails trimmed.
15. Spiked heels or shoes in need of repair can severely damage your floor. In areas of excessive traffic and wear, make use of runners or area rugs. Rugs should be cleaned regularly.



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****DO NOT USE STEAM MOPS as they can damage your hybrid flooring.**

Warranty – (PLEASE REFER TO OUR WARRANTY CONDITIONS PDF)

Auslay Industries does not warrant any fading caused by long term exposure to UV light sources. It is recommended that any areas subjected to this direct light exposure be protected by means of shade coverings to reduce ultra-violet light entering. Auslay Industries does not warrant warping or gapping caused by any structural and or subfloor movement, or any warping or gapping that may be caused by extreme changes in temperature. All planks leaving our manufacturers factory are subjected to vigorous batch controls, as well as checks for visual defects. Always check for any visible defects and discard any planks you may consider to be imperfect before installing. Auslay Industries will not be responsible for any SPC planks that have been installed with visual defects. Auslay Industries will not be responsible for scratching the surface or staining the surface of the SPC flooring as it is classed as resistant only. ** note : the use of steam mops are not recommended for any use on SPC flooring as it can damage or discolour the surface.

Installation Instructions - i4F

These installation instructions are for the I4F locking system only.

Attention! Read Before Installing!

FOR BEST VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF YOUR FLOOR

This flooring replicates the look of a natural product which has natural variations in color and texture. For best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons and do not install similar boards next to one another.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Subfloor should be dry and level to 2mm over 2m radius for best installation results. Vinyl flooring should only be used indoors.

FLOORING MATERIAL SHOULD BE INSPECTED BEFORE INSTALLATION

Responsibility for the suitability of Manufacturer flooring and accompanying products for each installation cannot be assumed by the Manufacturer, since Manufacturer has no control over the installer's proper application. Should an individual plank or tile be doubtful as to appearance or dimension the installer should not use this piece. Once a plank is installed it is deemed acceptable by a Homeowner/Installer.

NOTE: Manufacturer flooring with attached underlayment CANNOT be installed with a glue-down method.

READ BEFORE INSTALLING

While flooring is waterproof, it's not a moisture barrier. Make sure concrete is cured and tested for moisture and that a moisture barrier is installed in the crawl space and even under a floor over a concrete sub-floor. To validate the warranty we recommend using a Vapor/Moisture Barrier.

Please refer below for further guidance.

Please check for defects, squeaky noises, sub-floor issues, or finish issues by installing 100 sq. ft. of flooring.

Moisture won't damage flooring, but it can get in the walls and structure of the home. A couple of extra dollars and a few minutes is a small investment for the added protection and peace of mind. Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, the Manufacturer recommends leaving a 3mm expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor. Do not install floors where it will be exposed to temperatures greater than 60 Degrees C. Use good common-sense installation practices, and you'll have a successful installation that results in a beautiful floor.

Check that all BATCH NUMBERS AND ITEM NUMBERS are the same and that you have purchased sufficient packs to complete the job.

KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL LOCKING INSTALLATION

All tiles and planks should be checked before and during installation for clearly visible faults; this will reduce problems when assembling and identify any color differences. The inspection should be performed in daylight, or under good artificial lighting, in the room in which the products are to be installed. If the flooring is not acceptable, contact your supplier

immediately and arrange for a replacement. The manufacturer cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Before installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the job site and sub-floor meet the requirements of these instructions. The manufacturer is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory job-site and/or sub-floor conditions.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project.

Crawl spaces must be a minimum of (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6-20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Local regulations prevail where necessary.

Most installations will need approximately a 3% cutting and waste allowance added to the square footage of the room.

Proper conditioning of the job site is necessary. Flooring planks should not be exposed to sudden changes in temperature. Store, transport, and handle the flooring planks in a manner to prevent any distortions. Distortions will not disappear over time. Store cartons flat, never on edge. Ensure that the flooring planks are lying flat at the time of installation.

Installations of carpet, tiles, metal strips, and other transition moldings should not push fully into the flooring and should allow for some slight movement wherever practical. For rooms, wider or longer than 50', the use of T-moldings is required to account for the normal movement or seasonal expansion/contraction of the floor. If the homeowner does experience gapping then we would suggest the contractor tap the planks back together since they may come apart for longer run lengths.

Protect the floor from heavy-rolling loads, other trades, and movement of appliances by using sheets of plywood or similar.

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

All substrates listed below must be properly prepared and meet certain requirements. There may be other exceptions and special conditions (as noted below) for these substrates to be suitable for the locking installation system.

- Concrete – dry and smooth on all grade levels
- Suspended wood sub-floors with approved wood underlayments – must have a minimum of 18" well-ventilated crawl space underneath
- Suspended hardwood flooring that is fully adhered, smooth, and square edge without texture
- Single-layer, fully-adhered, existing resilient floors – must not be foam-backed or cushion backed
- Ceramic tile, Terrazzo, Marble
- Polymeric Poured (seamless) Floors
- Use Ply-Wood/OSB-3/4"
- Particleboard 40lb. density or wafer board

DO NOT INSTALL OVER

- Existing resilient tile floors that are below grade
- Existing cushion-backed vinyl flooring
- Carpet
- Hardwood flooring that has been installed directly over concrete
- On uneven stairs or in rooms with sloping floors or floor drains

SUCCESSFUL WAYS TO AVOID MOVEMENT OR NOISE

Squeaking and clicking noises can be a result of many causes putting stress on the locking system;

- The locking system is not engaged completely on both short and long joints. (To avoid this make sure to use a rubber mallet to engage each plank together and test each row).
- Do NOT use improper underlayment. (Please contact Auslay Industries to confirm underlayment).
- Joist/sub-floors moving which causes squeaky noises.
- Do NOT use any end joints that are broken (during transit or installation).
- Provide a minimum .3mm on each wall space for expansion. (Lack of proper expansion space can cause peaking/ tenting on the end joints).
- Confirming that the floor is flat before installation. (Sub-floor deflection is not within manufacturer tolerance and the floor is not flat).
- Do NOT install floors in an extreme environment.

Sometimes, it is impossible to eliminate the noise completely. Minor squeaking or clicking noises are to be accepted as normal flooring phenomena.

TRANSITIONS

When installing next to other types of flooring use a transitions strip/molding. Installations of carpet, tiles, metal strips and other transition moldings should not push fully into the flooring and should allow for some slight movement wherever practical.

Pre-Installation

Sub-Floor REQUIREMENTS

All Sub-floors must be:

- Dry
- Structurally sound
- Clean: Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- Level: Flat to 2.0mm per 2.0meters radius

Wood sub-floors must be dry and well secured. Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland Based leveling patch.

Concrete sub-floors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, and should have a minimum 6-mil poly-film between concrete and ground. Sub-floor should be flat and level within 2mm per 2m radius. If necessary grind high spots down and level low spots with a Portland leveling compound.

Ceramic Tile, resilient tile, and sheet vinyl must be well-bonded to the sub-floor, in good condition, clean and level. Do not sand existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos.

Resilient flooring should only be installed in temperature-controlled environments. It is necessary to maintain a constant temperature before, during, and after the installation. Therefore, the permanent or temporary HVAC system must be in operation before the installation of resilient flooring. Portable heaters are not recommended as they may not heat the room and sub-floor sufficiently. Kerosene heaters should never be used.

All substrates must be structurally sound, dry, clean, flat, and smooth with minimal deflection. Substrates must be free from excessive moisture or alkali. Remove dirt, paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents, other foreign matter, and contaminants.

High spots on the substrate should be leveled and low areas filled with appropriate underlayments.

Do not use products containing petroleum, solvents, or citrus oils to prepare substrates as they can cause staining and expansion of the new flooring.

For renovation or remodel work, remove any existing adhesive residue so that 100% of the overall area of the original substrate is exposed.

Embossed existing resilient floors, ceramic tile floors, ceramic and marble grout joints, and irregularities in concrete should be filled.

For concrete substrates, conduct moisture testing (moisture vapor emission rate {MVER}) not to exceed 5lbs and/or percent relative humidity 85% (in-situ probe). Bond tests must also be conducted for compatibility with the substrate.

Please refer to Sub-floors and Underlayments

- Radiant heated substrates must not exceed a maximum surface temperature of (27 °C).
- The sub-floor panels must have a smooth, sanded face and show no swelling of edges or surfaces due to exposure to weather conditions or construction traffic.
- There are numerous products available for use as floor fills, patches, self-leveling underlayments, and trowelable underlayments. They include proprietary blends of compounds such as Portland cement, calcium aluminates, and gypsum-based products. These are recommended for smoothing rough or uneven sub-floors, enhancing acoustical and fire characteristics of structures, or as substrates to receive floor covering for otherwise unsuitable sub-floor conditions.

INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods:

- Tape measure
- Tapping block (a trimmed piece of flooring)
- Pencil
- Leveler
- Rubber Mallet
- 3mm Spacers
- Pry bar or pull bar
- Chalk line
- Crosscut power saw

Acceptable sub-floor types:

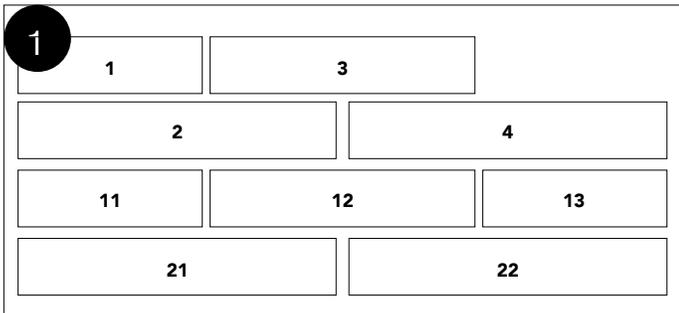
- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least 1/2" thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- OSB (at least 3/4" thick)
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood floor
- Ceramic tile, Resilient tile & sheet vinyl
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

Work from several open boxes of flooring and "dry lay" the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colors and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. Remember, it is the installer's responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end-user first and then cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks to match the wall to make a straight working line if the wall is out of straight.

You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 8". When cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. If the cut-off end is 8" in length or less, discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length and use it to start the next row. Always begin each row from the same side of the room. When near a wall, you can use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints.



ESTABLISH STAGGER AND ALIGN TOOLS

Products should be staggered in bricklaid pattern, stagger equal to half of a plank. Tools needed: planks, underlayment, spacers, rubber mallet, cutter.



PREPARE FLOOR

In case of an uneven floor, place underlayment. Set spacers of equal thickness, appropriately distanced, for the required expansion gap.



INSTALL 1ST PLANK

It is very important that the first row is installed straightly. To realize this, installation alternates back and forth between rows one and two, for the first two rows only. Start with a small plank (1) and position this plank close to the wall.



INSTALL 2ND PLANK

Now select a long plank (2). Using the i4F (Click4U) angle system, angle the long side of plank 2 on to the long side of plank 1. Drop plank 2 to lock. Make sure there are no gaps.



ENGAGE 3RD PLANK ON LONG SIDE

Take another long plank (3). Repeating the previous step, insert the long side of plank 3 into the long side of plank 2. Then slide plank 3 to your left until the short side is in contact with the short side of plank 1.



ENGAGE 3RD PLANK ON SHORT SIDE (Part I)

Using the i4F (Click4U) one piece drop-lock system, drop the short side of plank 3 onto the short side of plank 1.



ENGAGE 3RD PLANK ON SHORT SIDE (Part II)

Using a rubber mallet slightly tap the joints on the short side to secure. This ensures 3x locking.



FINISH ROWS 1 AND 2

Continue alternating planks on rows 1 and 2 to avoid misalignment. From row 3 onwards, installation does not require alternating rows. Install one row after the other by starting with angling on the long side, sliding until the short sides are in contact and then locking the short side.



SECURING PLANKS

As you go, don't forget to use a rubber mallet on the short sides to secure the locking.



FINALIZE FLOOR

Finished? Remove spacers and cover gaps with a trim.



DISASSEMBLING THE LONG SIDE

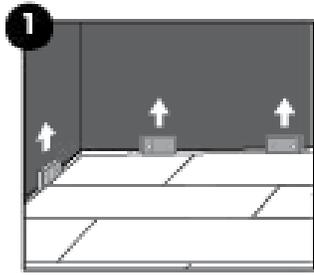
Lift up the entire row in the same angle as you did during installation, then slide the rows apart.



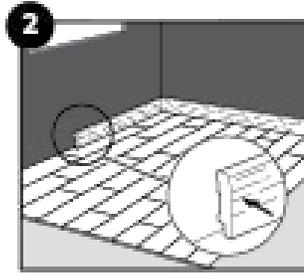
DISASSEMBLING THE SHORT SIDE

Disassemble the row by sliding apart the planks on the short side.

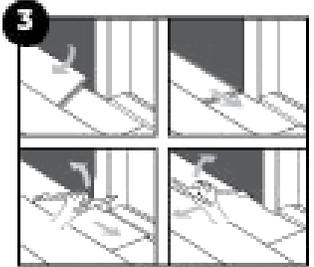
FINISHING



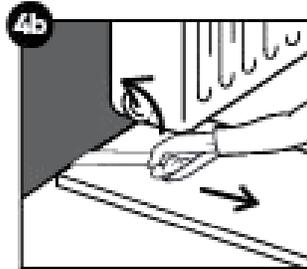
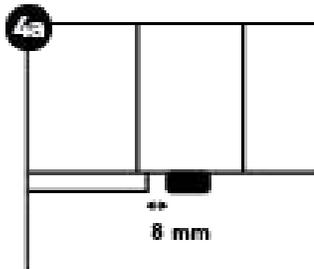
1 Remove all spacers.



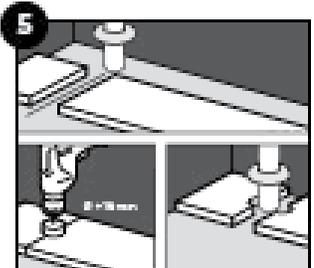
2 Inspect the final surface of the installed floor. Install vinyl skirtings against the wall but never attach the skirting to the floor itself. This method allows the floor to expand and/or contract under the skirting-board. Do not fill or cover the expansion joints with silicone or other kit.



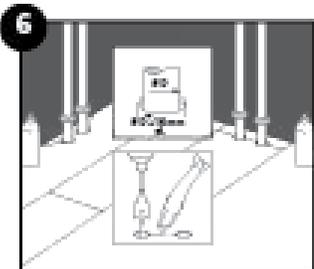
3 When the new flooring meets a threshold or a doorway, we recommend undercutting the door frames or moldings. To secure the correct cut, turn a plank upside down with the underlay below, and place it on the floor up to the door frame. This ensures that the cut will be made at the correct height. Then place a hand saw flat against the plank and simply cut through the frame. Remove the cut out piece and vacuum away any debris. Install the plank on the long side, keeping the short side close to the undercut molding. Then slide the plank underneath the undercut towards the already installed plank in order to close the short end joint. Use the pull bar and/or tapping block to secure absolute tightness in the long and short joint.



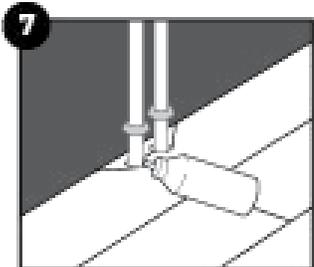
4a When sawing the panels make sure that the expansion gap under the door is 8mm. If you cannot lift the panel (e.g. under radiators), use the tapping block or pull-bar to tap the planks together.



5 In rows where there is a pipe, make sure the pipe falls exactly in line with the short side of two planks. Take a drill bit with the same diameter as the pipe plus 16mm. Click the planks together on the short side and drill a hole centered on the joint between the two planks. Now you can install the planks.



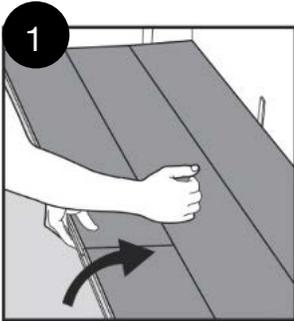
6 In case of a double pipe, drill a hole at each of the marked points that is equivalent to the diameter of the pipes plus 16mm. If located on the long side of the plank, make a 45 degree cut from each hole to the edge of the plank.



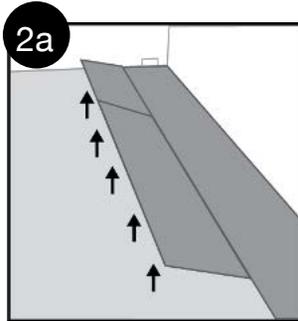
7 Then, using an appropriate PVC glue along the cut edges of the piece you cut out, glue the piece in place. Be sure no glue comes between the cut out piece and the subfloor. For a perfect finish around pipes, use pipe covers.

REPLACEMENT

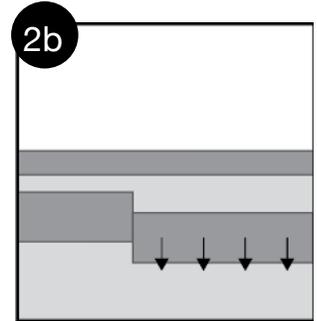
DISASSEMBLING PANELS NEAR WALLS



1
Separate the whole row by carefully lifting up and release the whole row.



2a
Disassemble the panels by lifting the short ends upward and disengage from the rest.



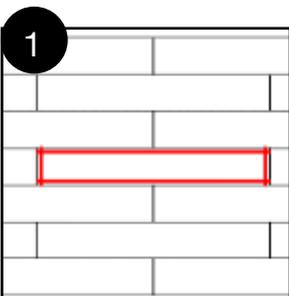
2b
Slide one panel forward. Never fold up a panel, as this damage the profile.

HOW NOT TO DISASSEMBLE A PANEL

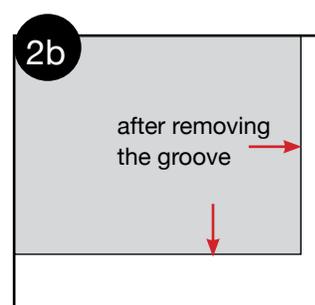
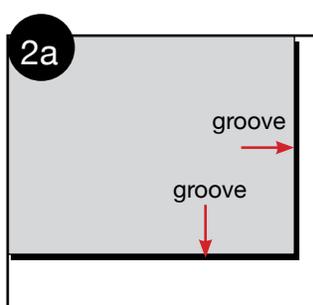
DO NOT lift planks from the center. This will cause damage the groove. Please use the slide method or lift planks from the end joint as shown on the step above.



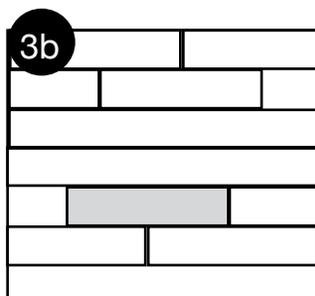
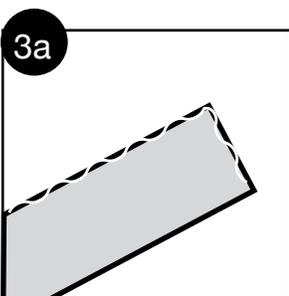
REPLACEMENT OF A PANEL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM



1
Please cut the panel along the red lines as indicated below.

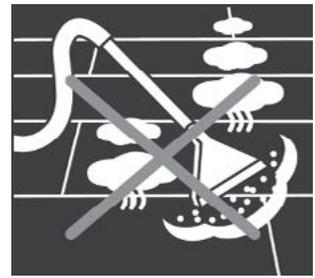
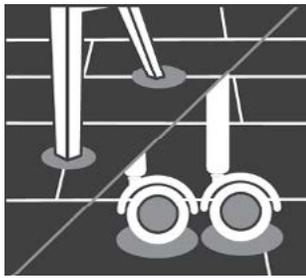


2a
2b
Remove the groove on both sides as indicated in the above pictures.



3a
3b
Apply glue on the cut groove side to adhere to the adjacent planks.

MAINTENANCE



- If the floor experiences expansion/ this can be caused by being exposed to direct sunlight.
- Squeaking noises from the floor are typically caused by a lack of expansion around the perimeter or improper subfloor deflection. The lack of expansion will cause the planks to peak on the short ends, therefore, creating tension. The improper subfloor deflection will create movement/tension on the locking system.
- Lasting beauty can be achieved through purchasing a quality floor covering and providing proper ongoing maintenance.
- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. The floor should not be exposed to direct sunlight for prolonged periods or temperature change to prevent the planks from peaking/bowing. 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.
- Do not expose floors to temperatures exceeding 60° C for up to 6 hours.
- 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.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
- Caster wheeled chairs should have wide, rubber casters. Protective mats are required under office chairs.
- 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 and grit from being tracked onto the floor.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Do NOT use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn the beater bar off.
- Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Damp-mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. 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.
- Vinyl Flooring, like other types of smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for the floor to dry after washing.
- Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances, or wet feet.

Use protective pads under furniture or equipment to reduce risk of surface damage. Please do not use rugs with rubber backing or carpets with vinyl floor.

RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Newly Installed Floor Care

- Always use plywood or other boards when moving heavy objects across the floor.

- Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor to remove all loose dirt and grit.
- Lightly damp mop with a well-wrung mop.

Initial & Routine Maintenance (Daily Or As Needed)

- Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor to remove all loose dirt and grit. Do not use treated dust mops.