

## SPC INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Your new SPC flooring is the newest generation of high-quality resilient flooring. It has a unique interlocking-edge design for easy installation. Simply follow the steps and you will experience how easily this product is installed. Our factory-finished wear layer makes a very durable and resistant flooring option.

### Both the installer and final user must read the following instructions

**Foreword:** The installer has a responsibility to properly inspect the following conditions before installing. If your flooring has issues with any of the following inspection points, they must be reported to the seller immediately, failure to do so before installing or within 30 days of purchase will void any warranty pertaining to the found issue.

- **Quality:** Ensure that the quality of the material is as you requested.
- **Quantity:** Ensure you have ordered and received the proper flooring and accessories to complete your project.
- **Color/Finish:** Ensure that the material has the correct color, finish, texture, and gloss level that you're expecting.

### Tools and materials needed

- Utility knife & straight edge
- Measuring tape
- Shears for cutting around irregularly shaped objects
- 3mm-10mm (1/8-3/8") spacers
- Transition moldings and baseboards

### Tricks for measuring

Measure the length and width to determine the square footage of the room. Alcoves or offsets should be measured separately. Purchase at least 10% extra to cover waste, trimming, and future replacement needs.

### CAUTION:

This flooring can be installed over existing smooth, single-layered flooring that has a density greater than 500kg/ m<sup>3</sup> (similar to plywood) and that is fastened by nails or glue to its substrate. This product is not suitable for outdoor use, sunrooms, solariums, or saunas. This flooring will warp if subjected to excessive heat and will shrink if exposed to excessive cold. Do not install in rooms or homes in which the temperature is not controlled. Exposure to long-term direct sunlight can cause expansion damage to your floor. After installation, the ambient temperature must remain between

45 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

### Before installation

Place the flooring flat in the room where it will be installed. The room should remain between 65 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit for 48 hours before installation, during installation, and 48 hours after installation.

Do not remove the flooring from the box during this acclimatization period. The hydronic heating floor requires this acclimatization period to be 72 hours with the same temperature conditions. Check all panels under lighting before and during installation. Defective panels should never be installed. Once a defective panel is installed, it will be deemed accepted.

### Subfloor preparation and installation

The subfloor surface must be smooth, flat, level, dry, clean, and solid. Any adhesive residue must be removed to ensure proper installation. The subfloor should be flat within a tolerance of 3/16" (5mm) over a span of 10' (3m) or 1/8" (3mm) over a span of 6' (2m). Any unevenness past these tolerances must be sanded or filled with a floor leveler. Voids or humps in the subfloor will cause telegraphing and might prevent the flooring from locking properly. New concrete floors need to cure and dry for a minimum of 90 days before installation of flooring.

When installing on cement, applying 6 mil polyethylene sheeting as a vapor barrier is necessary. Overlap the edges of the polyethylene by a minimum of 8" (20cm) and seal the junction with moisture-proof self-adhesive tape to prevent moisture from seeping through, which could create residue and swelling on your flooring surface.

**Radiant Heat Flooring:** Please also follow the 2 above points ('Before installation' and 'Subfloor preparation')

For Electric or Hydronic heating, systems must be activated and run at 68 Fahrenheit degrees for 1 week before installing the flooring. Heating levels must never exceed 80 Fahrenheit degrees after the flooring is installed. When changing temperature, a maximum increase or decrease of 5 Fahrenheit degrees must be ensured.

**Moldings:** Moldings must be used in the below-indicated cases.

**Reducer:** Used to make the transition from this flooring to linoleum or other types of surfaces that are thinner.

**Stair Nose (where available):** Used at the edge of each step in a staircase and landing. (Optional for floating installation)

**T-molding:** Used when joining floors of the same thickness or when installing in a span of more than 80' In. ft.(25m) or an area of more than 4000 sq. ft. (370m<sup>2</sup>)

## Installation

**Note: mix planks from multiple boxes to limit shade variations.**

- Installation should begin with a corner and proceed from the wall with the tongue facing the wall. Allow a minimum gap of 3/8" (10 mm) for product expansion. Transition moldings or baseboards will cover the gap.
- The temperature of a room can vary due to differences between the seasons. Therefore, your flooring must be able to expand and contract in all directions. The greater the surface area, the greater the room for expansion required. Please allow a 3/8" (10mm) expansion gap around the perimeter and at all vertical obstructions. This gap must be provided around pipes or at thresholds or obstacles. Do not install continuous flooring that is greater than 80 In.ft.(25m) or 4000 ft<sup>2</sup>. (370m<sup>2</sup>) and over. Expansion joints are also required in doorways and between adjoining rooms or areas where adjacent flooring is installed. Use a T-molding to cover the expansion joint. NEVER fasten your SPC flooring directly to the substrate.
- For ease of installation, we recommend that you work in a manner that you will be pushing on the pieces while installing versus pulling on them. This will also enable you to see any pieces that have come unclipped.
- When laying the first row in a straight line, position the starting plank against the left corner of the starting wall so that the long tongue side runs parallel against the wall. To install the second plank in the row, angle the short side tongue of the second plank into the short side groove of the first and push them together while pressing and rotating the plank downward. As you do this, be sure that the two planks are aligned. The planks should fit together tightly and all edges should be even. No separation or gaps should be visible after the planks are locked together. Follow the same procedure to finish the row.
- To begin the second row, install the leftover plank from the first row (if the leftover portion is shorter than 8 inches, cut a new plank in half and use this instead). Insert the long side tongue of the first plank into the long side groove of the

previous row (remember to install from left to right and use the spacer set against the wall). To do this, slide the plank of the new row as close as possible to the previous row. Lift the plank at an angle, applying pressure, until the two rows click together. Then, rest the plank back on the floor.

- Continue by inserting the short tongue of a new plank into the short groove of the previously installed plank by lifting the plank at an angle. Slide the new plank as close as possible to the previous row then rotate the plank downward. Putting your hands as close to the short side joint as possible, lift the planks at an angle and apply pressure inserting the long tongue into the long groove of the previously installed row until it clicks into place. To ensure the entire plank is connected, repeat this procedure at the other end of the plank. Repeat this process to complete the row and all rows until the final row. There should be no gaps.

When installing the last row, cut the pieces lengthwise while ensuring to keep proper expansion space from the wall as mentioned above. Complete the installation by installing your baseboard moldings covering the flooring's expansion gaps. To install transition moldings glue the molding to its track or subfloor but never to the flooring itself.

## Cleaning and Maintenance

- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove grit and sand that can abrade, dull, or scratch your new floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater brush, because it may damage the floor's surface.
- Wipe up spills promptly with a damp cloth or mop.
- Place mats at outside entrances to prevent dirt, grit, and soil from being tracked onto your floor. Do not use rugs or mats with rubber backings. Rubber, oil, or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining.
- Never use bleach, wax, oil soaps, or other household cleaners (Old English, Pledge, etc.) as they can leave contaminants that cause problems in the future. When additional cleaning is needed, we recommend a no-wax hard surface floor cleaner like Bona Stone, Tile & Laminate Cleaner.
- Do not drag or slide heavy objects across the floor. Return appliances and furniture to the room by rolling or sliding them over strips of plywood or hardboard. Install protective felt pads on chairs and other movable furniture.