

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

These installation specifications are for **Fusionlvt**. All recommendations are based on the most recent information available.

The information on this sheet provides general guidelines. All instructions and recommendations must be followed for a satisfactory installation.

1. The floor covering should be stored and installed in climate-controlled, indoor locations between 18° - 30°C.
2. Install **Fusionlvt** only after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of other trade apparatus that may damage a finished plank installation.
3. To minimize shade variation, mix and install planks from several different cartons.
4. All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.

II. SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

Although the **Fusionlvt** is installed as a “floating” floor, correct preparation of the subfloor is still a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor covering, resulting in an unsightly surface and excessive wear on high spots.

A. Wood Subfloors

1. All wood floors must be suspended at least 450mm above the ground. Adequate cross-ventilation must be provided, and the ground surface of a crawl space must be covered with a suitable vapor barrier.
2. Wood subfloors directly on concrete or installed over sleeper construction are not satisfactory for the installation of **Fusionlvt**.
3. All wood and wood composition panels are suitable for use under **Fusionlvt** providing that they are smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection. This includes plywood, particle board, oriented strand board (OSB), flake board and wafer board.
4. If the surface of the wood subfloor is not smooth, a 6mm underlayment panel should be installed over the subfloor.

B. Concrete Subfloors

1. Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds and other extraneous 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. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer. Although **Fusionlvt** is not susceptible to damage from moisture, excessive subfloor moisture is an ideal breeding ground for mould, mildew and fungus. The limited warranties do not cover discoloration from mould or from flooding, leaking plumbing or appliances, water entering through sliding glass doors or similar conditions.
3. Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions must be filled with a latex underlayment, and trowelled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.
4. Concrete floors with a radiant heating system are satisfactory, provided the temperature of the floor does not exceed 32°C at any point. Before installing the flooring, the heating system should be turned on to eliminate residual moisture.

C. Existing Floor Coverings

1. **Fusionlvt** can also be installed over most existing hard-surface floor coverings provided that the existing floor surface can be made smooth.
2. Ceramic tile should be made smooth by applying a cementitious overlay such as patching or levelling compound.
3. When the removal of the existing resilient floor covering is not an option, the existing flooring must be covered with an embossing leveller or equivalent. Existing sheet vinyl floors should not be heavily cushioned and consist of one layer only.

III. INSTALLATION

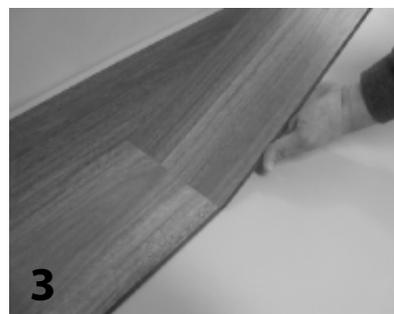
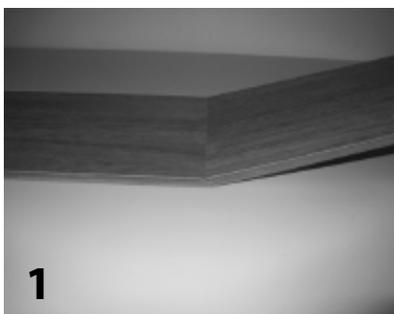
*****Important: When cutting FusionLVT planks - You must cleanly cut through the fiberglass reinforcing layer before bending.**

*****Important: Fusionlvt planks have different colour variations throughout the packs. To minimize shade variation, mix and install planks from several different cartons. Please mix to achieve a realistic looking floor.**

Plank Layout

Fusionlvt is designed to be installed as a “floating” floor. Do not secure the planks to the subfloor. Always undercut all doorjamb. Do not install cabinets or kitchen islands on top of **Fusionlvt**. Use care when installing wall moldings and transition strips to not fasten through planks.

1. It is important to balance the layout of the plank format. Proper planning and layout will prevent narrow plank widths at wall junctures. Determine layout to prevent having less than a half plank width or very short length pieces.
2. As with all plank products, lay the long dimension of the plank parallel to the long dimension of the work area.
3. Accurately measure the room to determine the centerline, adjust this established line to accommodate a balanced layout and then transpose this line to a comfortable width away from the starting wall. Determine if the starter row will need to cut. If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in the width, it will be necessary to cut off the unsupported tongue so that a clean, solid edge is toward the wall.
4. Position the first plank so that both the head and side seam groove is exposed. This requires installing the product from left to right in the room.
5. Install the second plank in the row by angling the end tongue into the end groove of the first plank (figure1) Be careful not to bend the corner of the plank. Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 10mm from the wall. Then cut a plank to length to start the second row; stagger the end seam at least 300mm from the first plank.
6. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. This is best done with a low angle of the plank. (figure 2)
Install the second plank in the second row by inserting the short end tongue into the previously installed plank groove.(figure3) Align the plank so the long side tongue tip is positioned just over the groove lip of the plank in the first row. Working from the end seam, at a low angle, insert the long tongue into the groove of the adjoining plank. Very little force is required to seat the tongue into the groove. You should feel the tongue lock into the groove (figure 4).
8. Work across the length of the room installing planks along the wall in the first row and then aligning the planks in the second row. It is critical to keep these two rows straight and square, as they are the “foundation” for the rest of the installation. Check squareness and straightness often.
9. Cut the last plank in the first row to fit approximately 10mm short of the end wall. Planks may be cut with a utility knife. Make sure you cut through the fiberglass layer before snapping off.
Oftentimes the remainder of this plank may be used to start the third row.
10. Continue installing planks, being certain to maintain a random appearance and offset end seams by at least 300mm . Maintain a 10mm expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces. Check to be certain all planks are fully engaged; if slight gapping is noticed, the gap can be tapped closed using a scrap of flooring and a tapping block.
11. When fitting under door casings, etc, the flexibility and low angle of connection of **Fusionlvt** becomes evident. If necessary, a flat pull bar or “last board puller” may be used to assist in locking the planks..
12. When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, **Fusionlvt** can be cut easily and cleanly using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer this pattern to the plank.
13. Protect all exposed edges of the **Fusionlvt** by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Use caution to prevent the fasteners from securing the planks to the subfloor.



IV. REPAIRS

Fusionlvt is tough and durable; however, if a plank becomes damaged, it can be replaced. If the damaged plank is along the perimeter of the room, the easiest technique is to disconnect the planks until the damaged plank is removed. Replace the plank and reassemble the planks. If it's impractical to disconnect and reassemble the flooring, the following procedure should be used:

- Using a straight edge and a sharp utility knife, cut out and remove the centre of the damaged plank, leaving approximately a strip attached to the surrounding planks on all sides.
- Carefully cut back from the corners of the plank to the inside edge.
- Remove the plank edges by wiggling the cut plank out from the tongue and groove of the surrounding planks.
- Prepare the replacement plank by placing the plank face down and folding back and removing the groove strip on both the long and end profile. Using the decorative surface of the tongue end as a guide, cut away this overhanging profile using a sharp utility knife.
- Place some double sided carpet tape onto the subfloor covering sufficient area of the removed plank.
- Position the replacement plank by engaging the tongue of the long side into the groove of the adjoining plank. "Hinge" the prepared replacement plank into position.
- Use a hand roller to assist in aligning the plank edges into position.

CAUTION:

Some types of nails, such as common steel nails, cement coated or some resin- or rosin-coated nails, may cause a discoloration of the vinyl floor covering.

Use only non-staining fasteners with underlayment panels. The procedure of glueing and screwing underlayment panels is not recommended. Solvent based construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by fastener staining or the use of construction adhesives rests with underlayment installer.

RECOMMENDED WORK PRACTICES FOR REMOVAL OF RESILIENT FLOOR COVERINGS.

WARNING: Do not sand, dry scrape, bead blast or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphaltic "cutback" adhesive or other adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibres and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibres greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. RFCI's Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings are a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures.

FUSIONLVT Care & Maintenance

Here are a few tips that will help you extend the life of your LVT floors.

Spills should be removed immediately.

Floors should never be flooded with water or be allowed to have standing water. This can loosen the adhesive.

Be careful when moving furniture.

Care should be taken with heavy furniture and appliances. Furniture protectors should be used that are at least 2" in diameter. The hard and small buttons sometimes found on the bottom of chairs and other pieces of furniture should be removed. High heeled shoes also apply here.

Use entrance mats.

Protect the floors from dirt and grit that can be tracked in by using walk off mats at every entrance. However, do not use rubber backed mats. Certain rubber compounds can permanently stain vinyl.

Avoid certain cleaners.

Never use vinegar, acetone or lacquer thinner to clean these floors. Stubborn rubber heel marks can be removed with a soft cloth dampened with mineral spirits.

Clean your floors regularly.

The floor should be swept, dust mopped or vacuumed on a regular basis.