SPECTRA CLICK RESILIENT VINYL PLANK
INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

About your New Spectra Luxury Vinyl:

- Spectra features new click/lock technology, resulting in a floating floor system that only requires minimal hand tools. A quiet, fast and clean installation process.
- Spectra is intended for interior installations only, suitable for below-grade, on- grade and above-grade installations, but should not be installed where the applications substrate is exposed to weather elements.
- As a floating floor, it should be allowed to expand and contract freely. Permanent fixtures must be installed prior to installation of Spectra.
- A minimum 8mm expansion space is required in all areas, at all vertical surfaces.
- Areas larger than 9m x 9m require a transition strip, as do doorways narrower 1m in width.
- Spectra must be acclimated for a minimum of 48 hours, a consistent room temperature of 18-21°C should ideally be maintained before, during and after all installations.
- Direct exposure to sunlight may cause fading and or joint separation.
- Spectra is not recommended for installation in sunrooms.
- Spectra is water resistant, however, constant/prolonged exposure to excessive moisture/humidity may affect the product. Moisture/humidity issues must be addressed and corrected prior to commencing installation.

Spectra undergo a strict quality control procedure that guarantees high-quality standards. If, contrary to all expectations, material problems should be identified on site, these are to be notified before cutting to size and laying.
Claims for obvious defects (e.g. colour variations, differences in thicknesses, surface defects, insufficient accuracy of fit etc.) cannot be accepted after installation.
If a number of packages of design flooring are being used the contents should be checked for batch-to-batch variation before cutting and laying. When ordering it is imperative that reference be made to the need for a delivery from one dye lot to insure colour consistency.

PRE-INSTALLATION PROCEDURES
Please refer to the British Standard BS 8203:2001 +A1:2009, code of practice for installation of resilient floor coverings.

Job site Evaluation

- ✓ The building should be closed in with all outside doors and windows in place.
- ✓ All concrete, masonry, framing members, drywall, paint and other “wet” work should be thoroughly dry.
- ✓ Basements and crawl spaces must be dry and well ventilated. (Crawl space must be a minimum of 24” (600mm) from the ground to underside of joists. A ground cover of 6-8 mil black polyethylene films is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped six inches and taped. The crawl space should have perimeter venting to a minimum of 1.5 % of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation).
- ✓ Permanent air conditioning and heating systems should be in place and operational

- ✓ The installation site should have a consistent room temperature of 15-21°C for 14 days prior, during and after installation for a for proper living environment.
- ✓ HVAC systems should be in place and working 10 days before installation
- ✓ Substrates must be checked for moisture content using the appropriate testing methods.

SUITABLE SURFACES

Lightly textured or porous surfaces, well-bonded sheet vinyl, vinyl or ceramic tile, embossed surfaces or grout lines may telegraph thru, so these must be filled with an appropriate Portland based levelling compound.
All structurally sound solid wood floors, plywood substrates etc. should be tested for moisture using a moisture meter and levels must not exceed 14% MC.
Dry, clean, well set concrete, cured for at least 90 days prior, should also be moisture tested and must not exceed 4% MC. If it is found to exceed this level, a suitable liquid damp proof membrane is recommended.
Spectra Resilient vinyl may be installed over radiant heated floors (Surface temperature must never exceed or sustain 27°C and never come into direct contact with the heat source)
Spectra resilient vinyl may be installed on all grade levels including basements. Although Spectra is water resistant, moisture issues must be identified and corrected prior to any installation to avoid mold or odour
In addition any traces of glue or residue from the previous flooring must be removed or a suitable levelling compound used to act as a membrane between the Spectra vinyl and the residue.

UNSUITABLE SURFACES

Rough, heavy textured or uneven surfaces may telegraph through the vinyl and distort the finished surface.
This product is not suitable in rooms that could potentially have damp concrete, such as saunas and wet rooms.
Do not install this product in areas, which are exposed to long-term direct sunlight and/or extreme temperature changes.
Do not use an underlay with this product unless it has been approved by the flooring manufacturer.

INSTALLATION IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE

PREPARATION

- The vinyl planks should be allowed to acclimatise at room temperature approx. 18-21°C for 48 hours prior to installation (Excessive cold or heat can affect the size of individual planks).
- It must be stored horizontally, flat.
- Check that all Batch number and item numbers are the same and that you have purchases sufficient material to complete the job.
- Carefully check planks for any defects before installation.

All new concrete floors need to dry out for at least 90 days prior to installation. Wood plank floors require a suitable thickness plywood surface and all nail heads or fasteners must be adjusted below the subfloor surface (beware of pipes under the subfloor). Securely fasten all loose subfloors to remove squeaks and deflection. If the sub-floor is uneven 3mm +/- within a span of 1.2m, plane, sand, or fill uneven boards, holes or cracks using floor-leveling compound. If installing over existing tiles, use a floor-leveling compound to skim coat grout lines. Make sure the floor is smooth, clean and free of wax, grease, oil or dust and sealed as necessary before laying planks.

TOOLS REQUIERED

Utility knife, spacers, pencil, tape measure, set square, handsaw, knee pads and safety goggles.

GETTING STARTED

Determine the direction that the flooring will be installed. Installation parallel to the longest wall is recommended for best visual effects.
Undercut all door jams by turning a plank upside down and using a handsaw to cut away the necessary height so that planks slide easily under the frames.
Remove any existing base, quarter round, shoe molding and door thresholds. Sweeping and vacuuming to remove any debris as you go.
Floor should be installed from alternate cartons at the same time to insure a good color and shade balance.
Before starting determine the width of the last row of planks, if less than 50mm, trim the width of your starting row of planks to center the boards in the room.
Be attentive to staggering the ends of the vinyl planks a minimum of 400 mm for a more favorable overall appearance of the floor.

INSTALLATION

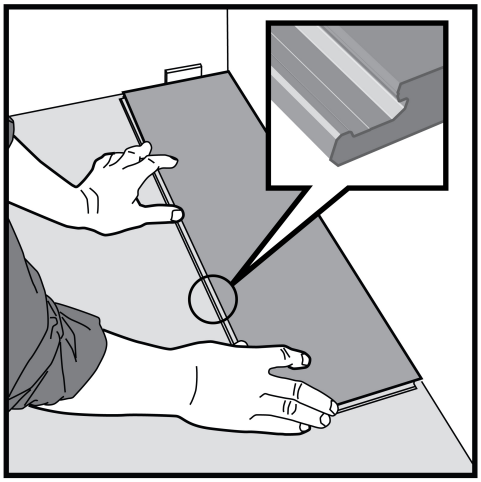

Fig 1.
First plank, first row.
Place a distance 8 mm thickness to the left
and position the plank against the wall.

Later, after 3 rows, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with distances 8 mm.

Prior to installation, measure the width of the room to check if the first row should preferably be cut length wise to get more equal width of the first and last rows planks. See also fig 12.

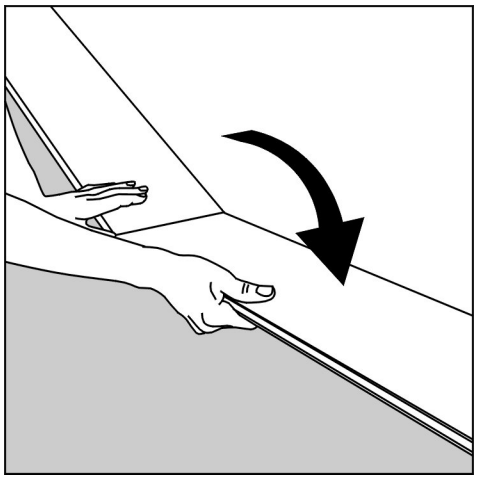

Fig 2.
Second plank, first row
Press the short end of the next floorboard at an angle to the first one, and then lay down.

Complete the first row in the same way.

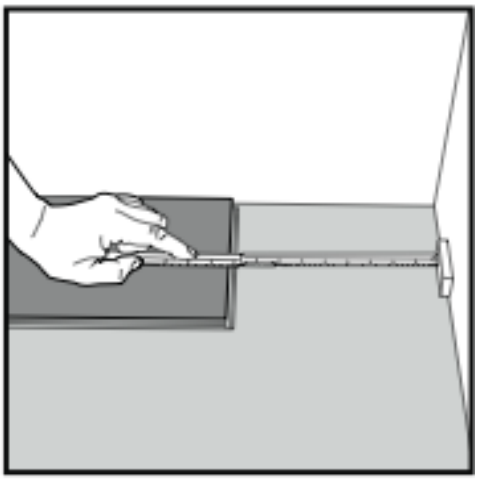

Fig 3.
At the end of the first row, put a distance 8 mm, to the wall and measure the length of the last plank to fit.

Cut the last panel to correct length, recommended min length is two times the width of the plank

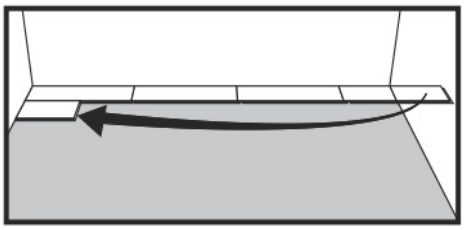

Fig 4.
Second row. Position the remaining part of the first row's last plank as first plank of second row. Keep again two times the width as min length. Put a distance against the wall.

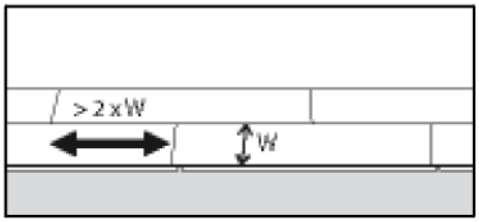

Fig 5.
General. Distances between short ends.
Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows shall not be less than about two times the width of the plank.

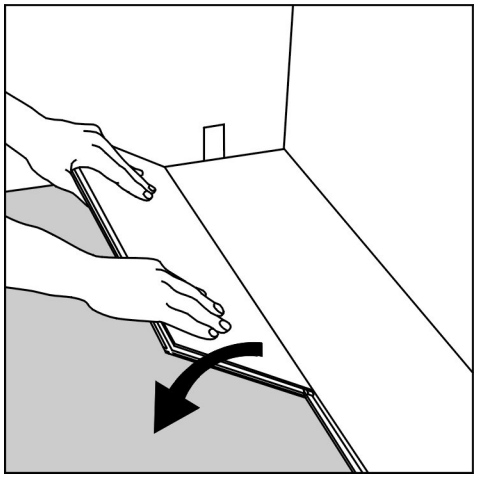

Fig 6.
Place the floorboard an angle against the floorboard in the previous row, press forward and fold down at the same time. Leave the panel in a somewhat up angled position where the panels start to loc. To make this further easier, a wedge with the suitable angle can be placed under the plank near the short side joint as support.

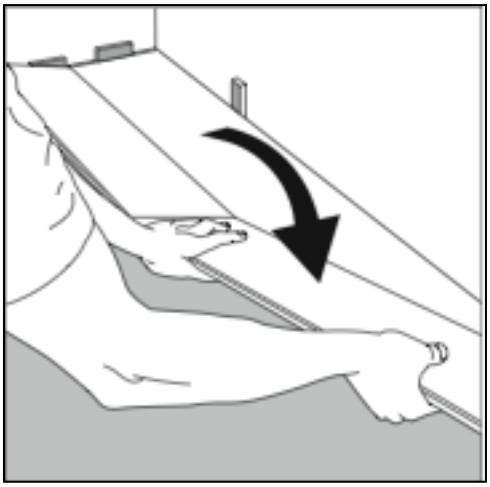

Fig 7.
Second plank second row.
Place the short end of the floorboard at an angle against the previous installed floorboard and fold down all the way.

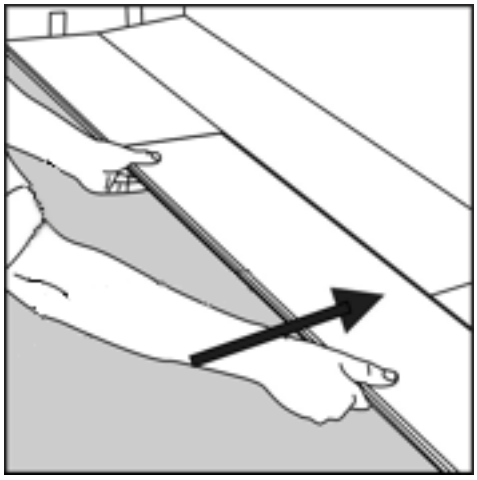

Fig 8.
Push to slide the plank against the row in front so it aligns with the first plank. Put it down like with the first plank when the floorboards are positioned tightly together. The first/previous plank can now be folded completely down to horizontal position and if a wedge is used it can be moved to the next short end joint.

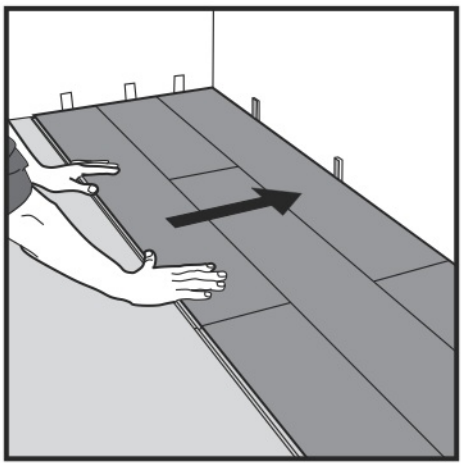

Fig 11.
After 2-3 rows.
Adjust the distance to the front wall by placing distances 8 mm. Keep the distances in position during the entire time of installation and remove once the installation is completed.

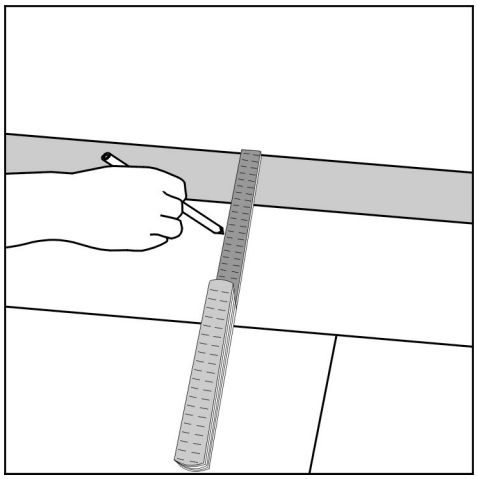

Fig 12.
If the wall is uneven, the floorboards must be adapted to its contours. Mark the floorboards with the contour of the wall. Do not forget to leave ca 8 mm space to the wall.

This procedure shall be used also for the first row if necessary.

Horizontal installation

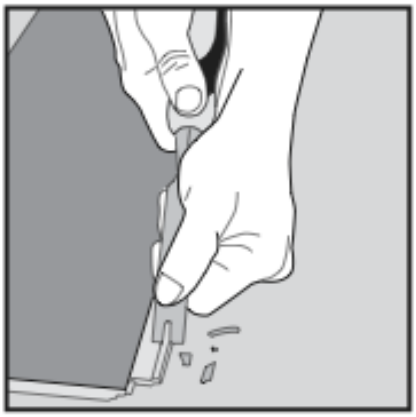

Fig 13.

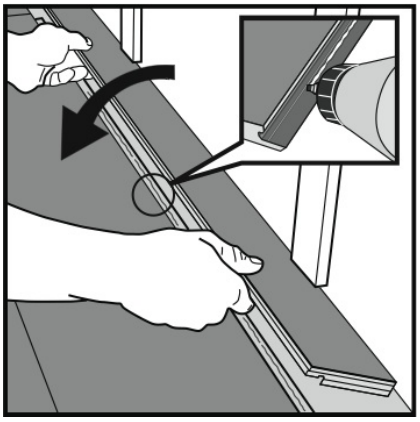

Fig 14.

Cut off the locking element with a chisel, apply applicable glue on the adjusted strip and push the planks horizontally together. If necessary place some spacers between last board and the wall during the hardening time of the glue. The method can also be applied to the short ends.

Radiator pipes – Principle cut out

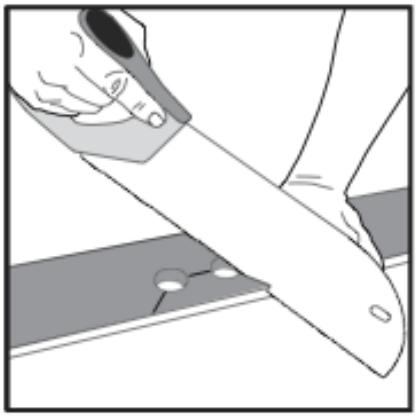

Fig 15.

Fig 16.

Installation at for example radiator pipes.
Mark the centre of the holes and drill the hole with a diameter about 16 mm bigger than the pipe diameter (= 8 mm gap around), cut as shown with a saw or with a sharp utility knife. Install the floor plank. If necessary, put glue on the cut piece and replace.

Completing the job:
Remove all spacers, install baseboards or quarter round/ scotia, to cover expansion joint. Install door transition moldings, (do not fix any molding or transitions thru the resilient vinyl flooring). Sweep or vac up any remaining debris. Clean as necessary with a quality resilient vinyl floor cleaner.

To prevent surface damage avoid rolling heavy appliances and furniture directly on the floor, use plywood or hardboard if necessary.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Sweep, dust mop and vacuum regularly to remove surface grit and dust. Use a damp cloth or mop with a quality resilient vinyl floor cleaner to clean up dirt and footprints, (be careful to avoid using excessive moisture).

CAUTION: Planks are slippery when wet. All spills should be cleaned up immediately.

- Do not use wet spray micro fiber mops.
- Never use wax, polish, vinegar, abrasive cleaners or scouring agents as they may dull or distort the finish.
- High heels can damage floors.
- Use protective pads under all furniture.
- Use exterior doormats at all entrance ways to keep dirt and moisture from being tracked in. Avoid the use of interior rubber, foam or plastic back mats as they may discolor the floor. To prevent slippage or area rugs use an approved rug underlay from a reputable manufacturer.
- Do not allow pets with unclipped mails to scratch or damage the floor.

Note: Steam cleaners are not recommended.

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. Use drapes or blinds to minimize direct sunlight during peak sunlight hours.

TIP: It is a good idea to save a few planks in case of accidental damage. Planks can easily be replaced or repaired by a qualified professional.

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