

Installation Guides

Luxury Vinyl (LVT)

Tools needed

Sharp Utility knife, Tape Measure, Pencil, Straight Edge, Small Flat Handsaw

Subfloor preparation

For a successful installation, with many different substrates available from concrete through to wood panel, as long as they are clean and level, your installation will be a successful. As with all types of floor covering, the ideal is to attain a clean and level surface, free from lumps, bumps and hollows. All high spots will need to be planed or sanded with hollows and gaps filled with a non-shrinking water-resistant levelling compound. Should your floor undulate a little too much, we would recommend a coating of a suitable levelling compound or on wood substrates a fixing of 6mm plywood. Please also make sure your floor is free of any past possible contaminants such as solvents, grease wax, paint bitumen compounds etc.

Note: Any new concrete slabs must be toughly dry, allowing a minimum 1 week for each 25mm in depth.

Acclimatisation conditions

Your new LVT will require a comfortable 18-30°C temperature, before and after installation, with a minimum 48-hour acclimatisation period. This will enable easy locking and comfortable handling. In addition to this, LVT is suitable for under floor heating applications with a maximum subfloor temperature of 27°C.

Installation

On commencement of your project, to minimise pattern repeat, it is recommended you work from a minimum three packs at any one time; this will help to attain the best possible random mix. Remember to allow for an expansion gap of 8mm around all the perimeter of the room, undercutting at door frames using your Small Flat Handsaw. Using a board turned upside down next to the frame as a height guide, with the saw flat on the board cut the frame to the desired depth clearing the waste.

Start installation, working left to right. Place you first board in the left corner of the room. Taking you second board, offer it up the first at a slight angle and drop down. Then, using a suitable LVT roller, apply pressure on the short edge to make sure the planks are locked together properly. Repeat this process until you get to the final board. Measure the gap and transfer the measurement to the last board using your pencil and scribe a straight cut with your utility knife, using a straight edge and snap the board at this mark, (There is no need to cut all the

way through the board in one cut) continue the same on your next row, but this time you will need to insert each subsequent board into the previous row, ensuring you use the LVT roller on joints to make sure planks are locked together properly. (Full manufactures instructions are supplied with your flooring) The last row will be the same but may require trimming to the desired width. When complete all you will need to do is cover the expansion gap with the appropriate finishing Scotia and door profiles.

This is a brief guide on installing LVT flooring. Always refer to the manufacturer's installation guides in the packs of flooring, or visit our Flooring Manufacturers Installation Guides.

If you require any further advice on installation then please call our technical department on 02476 012 840, e-mail us on technical@ukflooringdirect.co.uk or click the Live Help Button at the top of the page.