

This product when installed according to the following guidelines will provide the consumer with a beautiful floor that has a long useful life. It is important to follow these steps correctly.

### General Installation Guidelines

- Glue down LVT/LVP flooring is suitable for indoor use only.
- All products must be acclimated properly to a stable condition prior to all installations.
- Traffic on the flooring should be minimal for the 24 hours following the installation.
- A temperature range of 65° - 85° F should be maintained at all times.
- It is imperative to follow adhesive manufacturer's guidelines precisely especially focusing on moisture tolerance and working time for their products.
- All installations must be rolled with a minimum 75 lb. roller.
- Material must be inspected closely upon delivery to insure first quality material has been received. Any discrepancies must be reported to CPI immediately. Failure to do so is deemed acknowledgement that what has been received is first quality material.
- Achieving the proper bond between the adhesive and the substrate and the flooring is the responsibility of the installation company.
- Do not stack the product during acclimation that will negate the proper exposure to the installation environment.
- Avoid direct sunlight during acclimation.
- If the substrate is going to be exposed to exterior elements directly this must be considered in the adhesive choice. In these situations it is unlikely the floor will be able to be maintained in the requisite range of 65° - 85° F.
- Moisture testing needs to be conducted and addressed in the adhesive selection. Although the product itself is waterproof, excessive moisture can affect the adhesives used to install the product. It is the responsibility of the installation company to make these assessments prior to installing the product. All issues pertaining to this must be resolved prior to the onset of the installation.

### Inspection

It is the responsibility of the installation company to inspect the product and report any defects to CPI. Installation of the product is deemed acceptance and confirmation that it is first quality material.

Specifically confirm the correct product has been received by cross referencing the order with the labeling on the boxes. If the wrong product has been shipped and it is subsequently installed, that is the responsibility of the installation company not CPI.

Inspect all material prior to installing. All installation of clearly defective material is the responsibility of the installation company. Any and all issues need to be reported to CPI immediately upon the determine of any potential issues.

Ensure no damage to the material has occurred during transport.

Remove all packaging materials, shrink wrap and the like, prior to setting the product aside to acclimate.

All material must be acclimated for 48 hours in a temperature range of 65° - 85° F. During acclimation the material cannot be stacked more than 6 boxes high and there should be a minimum of 4 inches in between rows.

### Substrate

Avalon Wood + Stone LVT/LVP flooring may be installed over a variety of substrates. We can make broad recommendations as to the suitability of them but it is the responsibility of the installation company to determine if the proper adhesive bonding to the substrate and then to the flooring is sufficient for a successful installation.

### Concrete

All concrete floors must be properly cured according to industry standards, or a minimum of 120 days whichever is greater. They must also be tested for relative humidity and pH. The readings of these numbers need to be 85 or less and < 9 respectively. If either of these readings do not fall within those parameters they must be brought to those levels prior to installation with the appropriate treatment. There are a variety of solutions available to bring readings into the proper levels, It is **NOT** the responsibility of CPI to bring the readings in line with the requirements. This **IS** the responsibility of the installation company. Any adhesives used to accomplish this need to be installed following their respective guidelines strictly.

If any curing agents are used in the concrete a bonding test needs to be conducted to verify that the correct bonding between the adhesive and the concrete will be achieved.

Any cracks, joints or other irregularities must be less than 1/8" and if greater filled with an appropriate premium quality patching compound. If this is not done properly they can telegraph through to the surface compromising the installation.

Concrete substrates should be prepared in accordance with ASTM 710 guidelines. They must be flat within 3/16" in a 10 foot radius and not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction. All irregularities need to be properly eliminated via prep prior to the onset of installation.

The surface must be free of any debris, dust, foreign materials, old adhesives, or any other material that would make the floor uneven or react or interfere in any way with the correct bonding of the new adhesive to both the floor and the product. Floors need to be vacuumed and mopped. A broom alone will not suffice in getting the surface correctly prepared. Any trowel marks from prior installations need to be ground down or scraped to a flat condition.

If any curing agents are used in the concrete a bonding test needs to be conducted to verify that the correct bonding between the adhesive and the concrete will be achieved. If cutback adhesive has been used it needs to either be removed or properly sealed using an appropriate primer.

#### Lightweight Concrete

Any gypsum based material must be encapsulated with an appropriate primer. All the other parameters listed above from the Concrete category apply.

#### Radiant Heat

All radiant heating systems need to be operating for a minimum of two weeks prior to any installation and at a temperature not to exceed 68 degrees. The temperature can never exceed the 85° parameter that exists for all installation types.

#### Wood Surfaces

Similar to any surface the product is to be installed over, all wood surfaces need to be flat, free of surface debris or dust, and have any joint, nail holes, or any other areas that are not flat filled with an appropriate filler to create a level surface free of irregularities that could telegraph through to the surface of the product.

If there is a plywood substrate an appropriate APA or equivalent agency certified underlayment must be used. It is the installers responsibility to select the correct product, then perform a bonding test to ensure proper adherence can be achieved. Any gaps or otherwise non-flat areas must be filled with a high quality quick setting filler. Once applied any uneven areas must be sanded to make the floor level.

#### Other Surfaces

The product may be installed over other surfaces such as raised floor, stone, terrazzo or ceramic. Regardless of the surface the same parameters apply. The surface needs to be level, free of any

debris or other adhesives that may react with any new adhesive. All cracks or non-level areas need to be brought to a level condition with a leveling compound or filler.

It is incumbent on the installation company to test for proper bonding to any of these substrates. Some surfaces may need to be abraded in order to achieve the correct bond with the adhesive. Follow adhesive manufacturers guidelines for all such matters.

If installed over any tile, all loose tiles need to be secured and all grout joints filled, resulting in a stable and level surface.

If any surface is deemed unstable for any reason the product should not be installed.

### Underlayments

Following proper installation instructions from the underlayment provider is mandatory and if not done will void the warranty. All underlayment materials must be flush to each other to ensure no gaps or cracks. All installations over underlayment must cure for either a minimum of 24 hours or the adhesive manufacturers required minimum, whichever is greater.

### Transitions and Edges

It is the responsibility of the installation company to ensure that all transitions to other surfaces are installed properly. This includes using the proper transition strips and protective edge strips as well as all floor preparation required to make the proper height transitions to other surfaces.

### Site Preparation

- Test the substrate for moisture and pH to ensure compliance within the parameters of the adhesive manufacturer. If the tests determine the site is outside the recommended parameters correct accordingly before beginning.
- Ensure floor complies with the parameters of ASTM 710. They must be flat within 3/16" in a 10 foot radius and not slope more than 1 inch per 6 feet in any direction. All irregularities need to be properly eliminated via prep prior to the onset of installation.
- Fill all cracks or irregularities 1/8" or greater, and level all uneven surfaces.
- Fill any grout lines in the substrate to create a flat and level surface.
- Remove or encapsulate any old adhesive.
- Scrape and sand any existing ridges or irregularities to create a flat surface.
- Turn on HVAC and maintain a temperature between 65° - 85° F for at least 48 hours prior to installation.

## Installation

Select an appropriate starting point. The only difference between a tile and plank installation is the staggering of the pieces with planks. With tiles you line up the edges and install monolithically.

- Locate the center point of the room by snapping chalk lines.
- Use a trowel with an appropriate notch size.
- Use the correct trowel recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. Replace trowel every 600 feet or less. Worn trowels will compromise the bonding with the adhesive.
- Dry lay one row to determine if the end pieces by the walls are too small, and if one side or the other is, adjust the center point accordingly to balance the installation.
- Keep in mind the working time of the adhesive being used and plan the installation accordingly.
- Begin at the center point and work outward toward the walls.
- Use a random stagger method ensuring the overlap is a minimum of 6 inches.
- It is critical that the first row is placed precisely centered on a chalk line for the entire row. Make sure each plank is flush against the chalk line and the butt joints are tight.
- Lay the planks row by row making sure they are tight end to end and side to side with the adjoining row.
- Make sure as you proceed that each row stays square with the original row on the chalk line. If there is any deviation re-lay the rows to get them back into line.
- Wipe any adhesive residue as you progress through the installation.
- Randomly check pieces for proper bonding and if not achieved scrape the adhesive and re-apply.
- Plan the layout to minimize any walking on installed planks, use kneeling or walk boards if necessary.
- Roll the completed installation with a minimum 100 lb. roller in both directions.

For maintenance instructions, refer to the Maintenance Guidelines.