



SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank

Installation Guide

Floating Click-Lock Installation

Quality You Can See. Performance You Can Trust.

Read Before Installation

Proper installation is essential to the appearance, performance, and longevity of your DuraFloors™ SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring. This guide outlines the requirements and recommended procedures for jobsite preparation, subfloor evaluation, installation planning, click-lock installation, and finishing.

Read these instructions in their entirety before beginning installation.

Failure to follow applicable DuraFloors installation requirements may result in installation-related damage or product performance issues and may affect warranty coverage.

IMPORTANT - INSPECT BEFORE YOU INSTALL

Inspect all flooring before and during installation for visible damage, manufacturing defects, colour or shade concerns, locking-system damage, and other noticeable irregularities. Do not install flooring with visible defects. Installation of a plank constitutes acceptance of its visible appearance and condition.

Professional Installation Recommended

DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring is designed for floating click-lock installation. Professional installation is recommended where the installer is unfamiliar with floating SPC flooring, subfloor preparation, moisture evaluation, or site-condition requirements.

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Before You Begin

A successful installation begins before the first plank is installed. Review the flooring, jobsite conditions, subfloor, room layout, and installation requirements before beginning work. All DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring covered by this guide is intended for floating click-lock installation.

Recommended Tools & Materials

- Tape measure and pencil
- Utility knife and straight edge or square
- Spacers
- Rubber mallet
- Appropriate tapping block
- Pull bar or flat bar
- Safety glasses and knee protection
- Broom and/or vacuum
- Appropriate tools and materials for subfloor preparation

PROTECT THE LOCKING SYSTEM

When using a tapping block or rubber mallet, use care to avoid damaging plank edges or the locking system. Never strike the locking profile directly with a hammer or other hard object.

Product Storage & Jobsite Conditions

Prior to installation, flooring should be stored in the area where it will be installed or in an environment representative of normal occupied conditions.

Maintain the installation area between 55°F and 85°F (13°C and 30°C).

Allow the flooring to become appropriately conditioned to the installation environment before installation, particularly when the product has been transported or stored in conditions significantly different from the installation area. Do not install flooring that is excessively hot or cold from transportation or storage.

Inspect & Mix Flooring

- Inspect cartons and planks for visible shipping or handling damage.
- Inspect locking edges for damage.
- Confirm the product and colour are correct for the project.
- Set aside any plank with an obvious defect or damaged locking profile.
- For a natural finished appearance, work from multiple cartons and vary plank visuals where appropriate.

Plan the Installation

Measure the installation area and establish the plank direction, starting point, doorways, transitions, fixed objects, and expected first- and final-row widths. Do not assume any wall is perfectly straight or square; establish an appropriate reference line before beginning.

- Overall room dimensions and plank direction
- Starting point and first-row width
- Expected final-row width
- Doorways, transitions, and fixed obstructions
- Required perimeter expansion space
- Visual appearance of the finished layout

FLOATING FLOOR SYSTEM

DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank is installed as a floating floor. The flooring must be able to move as a complete assembly in response to normal environmental changes. Do not permanently fasten the flooring to the subfloor.

Subfloor Requirements & Preparation

Proper subfloor preparation is essential to the performance of your DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring. Before installation begins, the entire subfloor must be evaluated and properly prepared.

All Subfloors Must Be

- Clean - free of dirt, dust, debris, and materials that may interfere with installation.
- Flat and level - correct uneven areas before installation begins.
- Dry - evaluate the subfloor for moisture before installation.
- Structurally sound - provide a stable and suitable surface for the floating flooring system.
- Free from excessive movement - correct loose or unstable areas before installation.

IMPORTANT

Do not use the flooring installation itself to compensate for an improperly prepared subfloor. High spots, low spots, abrupt changes in elevation, and other irregularities that prevent proper plank support must be corrected before installation.

Concrete Subfloors

Concrete must be clean, dry, structurally sound, appropriately prepared, and evaluated for moisture before installation. Evidence of active moisture intrusion, excessive moisture, or unresolved moisture conditions must be investigated and corrected before flooring installation begins.

SPC FLOORING IS WATER RESISTANT - THE BUILDING IS NOT

The water-resistant characteristics of SPC flooring do not eliminate the need to evaluate and manage moisture conditions within the subfloor and building assembly.

Wood Subfloors

Wood subfloors must be structurally sound, stable, properly secured, clean, dry, and sufficiently flat to support the flooring and locking system. Repair loose, damaged, unstable, or uneven areas before installation.

Existing Hard-Surface Flooring

DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank may be installed over most existing hard-surface flooring provided the existing surface is clean, flat, dry, structurally sound, firmly secured, and suitable to support a floating click-lock floor.

- Tile: grout lines and significant surface irregularities must be appropriately filled and levelled.
- Sheet vinyl: must not be heavily cushioned or excessively soft. Soft or compressible substrates may negatively affect the click-lock system.

DO NOT INSTALL OVER CARPET

DuraFloors SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank must not be installed over any type of carpet. Remove carpet and evaluate and prepare the underlying subfloor before installation.

Before Installing the First Plank

- ☐ Subfloor has been evaluated for moisture.
- ☐ Surface is clean and free of debris.
- ☐ Uneven areas have been corrected.
- ☐ Subfloor is dry and structurally sound.
- ☐ Existing flooring is suitable to remain in place.
- ☐ Carpet and unsuitable soft substrates have been removed.
- ☐ Tile grout lines and significant irregularities have been filled where necessary.

Installation Planning & Expansion Requirements

Establish a Straight Starting Line

Measure the installation area and establish a straight reference line for the first row. A properly aligned first row is important because subsequent rows will follow its position. Check alignment periodically as installation progresses.

TAKE EXTRA CARE WITH THE FIRST ROWS

An improperly aligned starting row can affect the appearance and engagement of the flooring throughout the installation.

¼" (6 mm) Perimeter Expansion Space

Maintain a minimum ¼" (6 mm) expansion gap between the flooring and walls and other fixed vertical obstructions. Use appropriate spacers during installation.

- Perimeter walls
- Door frames and jambs
- Columns and posts
- Pipes
- Fireplace surrounds
- Other fixed vertical obstructions

Baseboards, quarter round, or other appropriate trim may cover the perimeter expansion space after installation. Do not fasten trim through the flooring itself or otherwise pin the floating floor in place.

Minimum 6" (152 mm) Random Stagger

Adjacent rows must maintain a minimum 6" (152 mm) end-joint stagger.

Use a random installation pattern throughout the floor. Avoid repeating end-joint locations, intentional stair-step patterns, H-joints, or other visually aligned joint patterns.

✓ CORRECT - RANDOM



✗ AVOID - REPEATING



Starting & Finishing Rows

Before beginning installation, calculate the approximate width of the final row. Where practical, adjust the first-row width to avoid an excessively narrow final row. Cut edges along walls must maintain the required ¼" (6 mm) expansion clearance.

Doorways & Fixed Obstructions

Plan doorway areas before reaching them. Where appropriate, door casings may be undercut so flooring can fit neatly beneath the casing while maintaining necessary movement space. Maintain expansion clearance around all fixed structures.

TRANSITIONS & LARGE AREAS

Transition requirements and maximum continuous installation dimensions may vary by product and site condition. Where a condition is not addressed by this guide, contact DuraFloors or your authorized DuraFloors retailer before proceeding.

Step-by-Step Installation

Once the jobsite, subfloor, and layout have been properly prepared, installation can begin. Take care throughout installation to fully engage each joint without damaging the locking profile.

1	Install the First Row Position the first plank while maintaining the ¼" (6 mm) perimeter expansion gap. Use spacers and connect subsequent planks end-to-end until the entire first row is complete.
2	Begin the Second Row Use an appropriately sized starter plank to establish a random staggered pattern. Maintain at least 6" (152 mm) between adjacent end joints.
3	Connect the Short End Position the next plank and connect its short end joint to the previously installed plank. Ensure the end joint is properly positioned before engaging the long side.
4	Engage the Long Side Slightly lift the opposite end and engage the long side into the groove of the previous row. Lower carefully while maintaining joint engagement. A suitable tapping block or rubber mallet may be used where necessary.
5	Continue Across the Floor Continue row by row while maintaining the expansion gap, minimum stagger, and random end-joint placement. Check periodically that rows remain straight and joints are fully engaged.
6	Door Casings & Tight Areas A flat bar or pull bar may be used where normal plank engagement is difficult. Use care to avoid damaging plank edges or the locking profile and maintain required expansion clearance.
7	Install the Final Row Measure the remaining space, allowing for the ¼" (6 mm) expansion gap. Cut the final-row planks to width and install carefully using a pull bar where necessary. Do not force the final row tightly against the wall.

PROTECT THE LOCKING PROFILE

Never strike the exposed locking profile directly with a hammer or other hard object. If tapping is required, protect the plank and locking system with an appropriate tapping block.

Inspect as You Go

- ☐ Joints are fully engaged.
- ☐ Rows remain properly aligned.
- ☐ End-joint placement remains random.
- ☐ Minimum 6" stagger is maintained.
- ☐ ¼" perimeter clearance is maintained.
- ☐ No visible defective planks have been installed.

Completing the Installation

Once all flooring has been installed, inspect the completed floor before installing mouldings or returning the room to normal use. Confirm that all joints are fully engaged and the required perimeter expansion space has been maintained.

Remove Spacers & Install Mouldings

Remove all temporary installation spacers. Install baseboards, quarter round, or other appropriate trim to cover the perimeter expansion space. Secure mouldings to the wall or appropriate supporting surface - not through the floating flooring.

DO NOT PIN THE FLOOR

The finished trim should conceal the expansion space without restricting normal movement of the floating floor.

Transitions, Doorways & Fixed Objects

Install appropriate transition mouldings where required by the project or applicable product specifications. Maintain required expansion clearance at door frames, jambs, thresholds, pipes, posts, columns, and other fixed vertical objects.

Final Installation Inspection

- ☐ All plank joints are fully engaged.
- ☐ End joints maintain a minimum 6" (152 mm) stagger between adjacent rows.
- ☐ Plank end joints remain randomly distributed throughout the installation.
- ☐ No H-joints, repeating patterns, or intentional stair-step patterns are present.
- ☐ The required ¼" (6 mm) expansion space has been maintained.
- ☐ Installation spacers have been removed.
- ☐ Baseboards and mouldings do not restrict movement of the floor.
- ☐ The finished floor is clean and free from installation debris.

Protect the Finished Floor

- Protect flooring from ongoing construction, tools, appliances, and other trades.
- Do not drag heavy furniture or appliances directly across the flooring.
- Use suitable floor and furniture protection when moving or placing heavy objects.

Initial Cleaning & Interior Conditions

Remove loose installation debris, sweep or vacuum using an appropriate hard-surface setting, and clean using products and methods suitable for SPC Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring. Do not use abrasive cleaning products or methods that could damage the flooring surface.

Following installation, maintain normal interior conditions between 55°F and 85°F (13°C and 30°C).

Protect Your Warranty

Proper installation is an important condition of DuraFloors warranty coverage. Retain your proof of purchase, product and colour information, installation date, installer information (if applicable), and a copy of these instructions.

NEED ASSISTANCE?

If an installation condition is unclear or you encounter a situation not addressed by this guide, stop the installation and contact DuraFloors or your authorized DuraFloors retailer before proceeding.



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