

## NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring Installation Instructions

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLATION. Contact your dealer/distributor with any questions or visit <https://www.nexxacore.com/support/>

Flooring can be damaged by rough handling before installation. Store flooring boxes flat and fully supported during shipping and storage. Do not store flooring in garages, under patio covers, driveways, storage containers, vehicles, or environments without climate control.

Flooring can be heavy and bulky. Always use proper lifting techniques when handling. Whenever possible, make use of material handling equipment and/or get assistance.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project. DO NOT install cabinetry, kitchen island and countertops, vanities, tubs, showers, and heavy appliances directly on top of flooring.

Inspect ALL materials carefully for color, finish, sheen and defects BEFORE installation. Warranties DO NOT cover materials with visible defects once they are installed.

Samples are designed to be close representation of the actual product. The finished flooring may contain varying ratios of knots, saw marks, splits, cracks, streaks, color contrasts. Samples under varying light sources including sunlight and room colors may appear differently than the actual floor it represents.

To minimize shade variation, mix and install flooring from several cartons

**While NexxaCore Engineered Vinyl Flooring is waterproof, it's not a moisture barrier. It's good practice to test for moisture and action accordingly. Moisture can get in the walls and structure of a home**

This flooring is intended for indoor use only. Acclimate unopened flooring cartons 24 hrs. for residential installation, 48 hrs. for commercial installation.

DO NOT install in facilities where walkers and wheelchairs are used (i.e. Residential and/or extended care) or in facilities with point-load movement of heavy displays, racks, dentist chairs, etc. Installation in these situations may exert extreme stress on most floated floors and compromise the surface and locking system.

DO NOT install flooring in 3-season rooms.

DO NOT install flooring in high-humidity environments such as steam rooms or saunas.

Avoid direct sunlight exposure to minimize fading effects on flooring. Prolonged UV exposure has a uniform fading effect on virtually all materials.

**Should there be any doubts to the quality, dimensions and appearance, the installer should not install flooring. INSTALLATION IS ACCEPTANCE.**

### JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site subfloor and job site conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for floor installation. Installer/owner assumes responsibility for compliance with all building codes. Linco Enterprises, Inc. declines any responsibility for floor failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, subsurface, job site damage and/or deficiencies after flooring has been installed.

NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring is designed to be a floating floor installation on, above, or below grade. It features a patented Unilin Uniclic locking system without the use for any adhesives or others means of attachment. The flooring boards must NOT be glued nor mechanically fastened to subfloor.

Crawl spaces must be prepped to ensure environment is constantly dry independent of the seasons. Space must be a minimum of 18" from the ground to the underside of joists. Adequate cross ventilation (ie. vents) must be provided (1.5% of crawl space footage.) A ground cover of 6-20 mil polyethylene film must be provided to as a moisture barrier with 12" overlap at the joints

(sealed with moisture resistant tape). 100% of the crawl space earth is required to be covered. In addition to ensuring optimal performance of flooring, moisture prevention inhibits the potential growth of harmful bacteria and mold.

All installed areas must have a working heater & air conditioner to provide normal living conditions for minimum of one week prior to installation and for duration of the flooring use. Normal living conditions include indoor temperature of 65–80°F and relative humidity of 35-55%. Portable & kerosene heaters are NOT recommended.

### SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

**All subfloors must be dry, clean (swept of any debris), smooth, structurally sound and level within 3/16" per 10 foot radius or 1/8" in 6'.**

NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring can be installed over concrete/wood subfloors and some existing hard-surface floor coverings.

#### *Wood Subfloors*

DO NOT install flooring over wood, plywood, OSB, particle board, chip board, wafer board, etc. that lay directly on concrete.

Wood subfloors must be suspended minimum 18" above the ground. Check if well secured; nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland cement-based leveling compound.

DO NOT apply polyfilm or sheet plastic over wood subfloors.

#### *Concrete Subfloors*

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured for 60 days and tested for moisture. Concrete moisture vapor emissions should not exceed 5lbs (ASTM F1869) or 90%RH (ASTM F2170) with a pH limit of 9. For concrete outside of this range and/or as an recommended layer of protection, use minimum 6mil (0.15mm) polyethylene film as a vapor barrier for preventative unforeseen excessive moisture events. Be sure to overlap edges (min. 6") and seal with water-resistant tape. In addition to ensuring optimal flooring performance, subfloor moisture prevention limits the potential growth of harmful bacteria and mold. If not level, grind down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland cement-based leveling compound. Fill holes and cracks with a Portland cement-based patching compound.

#### *Existing Floor Coverings*

To install over existing flooring, check to see it's well bonded to subfloor, clean, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection. Apply cement based leveling compound to meet requirements. Ceramic, porcelain, or natural tile are suitable substrates provided grout joints are filled flat with a Portland cement-based compound/patch. Non-cushioned resilient floors (ie. sheet vinyl, VCT) must be firmly bonded using full spread adhesive and feather filled with suitable compound. Cushioned vinyl flooring or vinyl flooring consisting of multiple layers are NOT suitable substrates for installation. **DO NOT sand existing vinyl as it may contain asbestos. Take proper precautions and contact an asbestos abatement company to remove old vinyl.**

Additional substrates NOT suitable for installation include solid or engineered wood flooring, floating floors, cushioned flooring products, carpet, carpet pad.

This flooring can be installed over existing ceramic/porcelain tile products with up to 1/4" wide grout joint. If the grout exceeds 1/4", a cementitious patching compound must be used to fill the grout joint to make it smooth with surface of the tile.

### RADIANT HEAT

Concrete subfloor with in-floor (embedded) hydronic radiant heating system allowed. The heating system must be 1 1/2" below the surface layer of the concrete slab. Before installation of flooring, heating system must be operated at normal living temperature for 14 days. 24 hours before, during, and after installation, turn off heating unit. Radiant Heat systems must have failsafe capability to ensure surface temperatures do not exceed 80°F.

**Use of electric heating mats and other heating units directly will void warranty. Exercise caution when placing area rugs over flooring with radiant heating. Rugs may increase flooring temperatures beyond recommended levels and void warranty.**

## PRE-INSTALLTION

Tools Needed: Tape Measure, spacers, rubber mallet, tapping block (optional) pencil, straight edge, power saw, eye protection, dust mask

BEFORE installation inspect material in proper light source for defects.

Under cut doorjamb and wall base. Verify clearance for flooring and leave perimeter expansion per requirements.

To minimize shade variation, mix and install flooring from several cartons

Wall moldings and transition cannot be fastened to the flooring planks

NexxaCore™ Water-Resistant Laminate Flooring features an attached impact & acoustic-grade underlayment, **DO NOT use any additional underlayment beneath the flooring.**

**DO NOT use tape or adhesive products of any kind onto the surface. Doing so may discolor and/or damage finish.**

## EXPANSION REQUIREMENTS

NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring is a floating floor. Required perimeter expansion spacing is as follows:

Rooms up to 25 ft in length or width require a perimeter expansion space of 3/8" around the flooring and all fixed vertical objects.

Rooms greater than 25ft and up to 50ft in length or width requires a perimeter expansion space of 1/2" around the flooring and all fixed vertical objects.

Installation requires the use of T-molding in doorways less than 32" or if the installation changes directions through the doorway (regardless of door size) and in rooms 50 feet or larger in length or width. Ensure transition and wall moldings are not fastened to the flooring.

## INSTALLATION

NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring features a patented Unilin Uniclic locking system (angle/angle or angle/tap.) Please refer to following installation instruction and video links below:

[https://mcusercontent.com/910966983b23ff88a76ea7643/files/c8cb2158-d8dd-a8d1-964e-a5958b3a2005/Unilin\\_Installation\\_instructions\\_Uniclic.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/910966983b23ff88a76ea7643/files/c8cb2158-d8dd-a8d1-964e-a5958b3a2005/Unilin_Installation_instructions_Uniclic.pdf)



Decide direction to lay flooring. Measure width/length of room and calculate plank width of the last row. Avoid being too narrow. For best visual effects, we don't recommend width smaller than 2.5 inches

Large spans in excess of 50' require expansion breaks.

1. **Using spacers, leave a expansion gap between wall and edges of the flooring. See Expansion Requirements above.**
2. **Installing first row :**  
From left to right with the tongue-side facing the wall, place the first board. Note if the first row does not need to be trimmed in width, cut off the tongue (ripped) so a solid edge is along wall. Align and angle the second board, end joint tongue into end joint groove of first board. To ensure tight fit, tap joint with rubber mallet in a downward angle motion towards adjoining board. Continue installing additional boards in this manner until reaching final board in the first row. Measure and cut final board to length

**3. Installing second row and beyond:**

You may use left-over board from first row if greater than 8" in length. If not, cut a new board at least 8" in length and allowing 8" between end joints. Position first board in place by angling and interlocking the side tongue (long end) into first row. Check for snug fit and fold down gently into place. Position 2<sup>nd</sup> board using same angling, interlocking motion on side tongue (long end) fold down gently and leave 1mm gap on adjoining board. Tap the joint with rubber mallet in a downward angle motion towards adjoining board until tongue and groove lock. Continue installing additional boards in each row in this manner. When you reach final board in each row, measure and cut final board to length.

CONTINUALLY CHECK FOR GAPPING AFTER EVERY BOARD BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE NEXT

**4. Installing final Row:**

The final row and all corresponding boards may need to be cut lengthwise (ripped)

**5. Finishing the Installation:**

Replace molding or wall base, allowing slight clearance between the molding and the planks. Nail the molding to the wall surface not through the flooring. At doorways and at other areas where the flooring planks may meet other flooring surfaces, it is preferable to use a 't-molding', or similar to cover exposed edge. Check for clearance, do not pinch planks

### POST INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

Use rosin paper and cover installed flooring area to prevent damage from other trade works.

**DO NOT use plastic film or other non-breathing covers on top of flooring.**

There are simple steps to keep NexxaCore™ Engineered Vinyl Flooring looking it's best.

**Clean** up spills immediately. Routinely vacuum, sweep and/or dust floors. Do NOT use treated dust mops. For heavier cleaning use a damp mop using clean water or neutral pH-based cleaner. Do NOT use harsh cleaners nor chemicals on the floor. Oil and petroleum based products can result in surface staining. Do NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools nor vacuums with beater bar. Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.

**Protect** flooring surface. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Excessive heat and light will subject flooring to thermal degradation and potential fading effects. Place mats at all entrances to keep dirt and debris off floor. Use non-staining, breathable mats. Rubber mats may discolor the floor. Use floor protectors for furniture. Non-staining felt pads can be used provided they are changed on a regular basis to prevent dirt, debris and sand buildup. Wide, non-staining casters at least 2" in diameter or floor protectors should be used on rolling furniture such as office chairs. To prevent point loads on heavy furniture, use large non-staining surface floor protectors. Do NOT use ball type castors as they can damage floors.

**Moving** - When moving heavy furniture or appliances, place a sheet of masonite or plywood under the piece being moved to distribute the weight and reduce denting or scratching. For light pieces use a clean blanket or a piece of carpet face down under the piece to be moved.

**Be Aware** of any sharp edges as they can scratch and gouge your floor's surface.

For complete maintenance guidelines visit [www.nexxacore.com/support](http://www.nexxacore.com/support)