Installation Instruction
Rigid Core Technology

DIAMOND SPC Tile

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTION, CAREFULLY, BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION, IMPROPER INSTALLATION WILL VOID WARRANTY

INSTALLATION GUIDE:
Dear Customer, you have just purchased an SPC flooring product, produced with the latest technologies. Its exclusive hybrid composition guarantees you optimal performance in humid and temperate situations where other types of flooring are unadvisable.

PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS
All Subfloors must be:

- Dry
- Structurally sound
- Clean: Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- Level: Flat to 4.7mm per 3.3 meters radius

No depressions or high points in the sub-floor.

Wood sub-floors must be dry and well secured. Nailed or screwed every 150mm along joists to avoid squeaking, all screws to be counter sunk. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a leveling patch. Make sure all crawl spaces are open & have proper cross ventilation.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old. We would strongly recommend the use of 2mm Rubber Woodlay underlay, with vapour layer/plastic facing upwards to facilitate the float, the Woodlay plastic vapour barrier must overlap each other and be taped in its entire length. This is installed on the sub-strait.

Subfloor should be flat and level within 4.7mm per 3.3 meters.
N.B. Where necessary grind high spots down and level low spots with a leveling compound.

Any existing ceramic tile, resilient tile or sheet vinyl must be well bonded to subfloor, in good condition, clean and level. Do not sand existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos. Any cracked or broken ceramic tiles must be removed and the aperture filled with screed. Woodlay underlay must be used when installing over ceramic tiles.

INSTALLATION TOOLS

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Heel iron / pry bar / pull bar
- Crosscut power saw / Guillotine/Jig saw with down cut blade
- Rubber mallet

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION
Work from a number of open boxes of flooring (5 to 6) and "dry lay" the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colours and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. Remember, it is the installers' responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.

The floor tiles can be laid in 900/600/300mm stagger/brick bond or 900/450mm stagger/brick bond and do not require any glue.

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is not square. Always try to work left to right and out of the room/Building.

It is recommended to position a few rows (2 to 3) before starting the installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 300mm, the floor tiles can be laid in 900/600/300 stagger or 900/450 stagger and do not require any glue. When cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end

to begin the next row. If the cut-off is less than 300mm in length, discard it, cut a new plank and use it to start the next row. Always begin each row from the same side of the room. When near a wall, you can use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS
KEY INSTALLATION CONSIDERATIONS

	RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL APPPLICATIONS
Subfloor Flatness Tolerances	4.7mm per 3.300meter radius, no high low spots allowed
Vapor Barrier recommended	Painted in commercial/climate controlled areas
Is underlayment (pad) required	Yes - recommended to use 2mm Woodlay underlay
Acclimation Requirements	24 Hours recommended for climate controlled areas
Transition Requirements (T-Mold) for Large Spaces	Required when in excess of recommended floor coverage. N.B. Recommended coverage in an uncontrolled environment is 200m2 or 10 x 20lin.m
Transition Requirements (T-Mold) Doorways/Thresholds	Required if outside of recommended floor coverage of 20 x 10 lin.m
Installation over existing ceramic tile floor	Filling in grout lines wider than 5mm/deeper than 5mm is required
Glue Down Installation	Not recommended/Except for staircases.
Subfloor RH/MVER (Moisture vapour emission rate) recommendations	85% RH/8 lbs MVER (Moisture vapour emission rate)
Radiant Heat	Not to exceed 28° C
Perimeter Expansion requirements	Expansion gap must be 10mm within the total floor coverage. Expansion gap to be covered with a 1⁄4 round, skirting on perimeter walls, around heavy fixed objects & all vertical surfaces & "T" mold between floors in excess of recommended area and at all building expansion joints
Optimal Interior Environmental Conditions	18°– 30°C 60% - 80% RH
Fitted cabinets	Do not install cabinets on floor planks/panels
Extreme temperature	Should be maintained between 3°C and 50°C
Definition of "Waterproof"	Structural integrity of flooring will not degrade due to contact with moisture/water

Inspection: Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage. Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied do not install and contact your supplier.

Before laying: Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks. For best visual effect, planks in the final row should be at least 100mm wide (minimum), or half the width of a plank. For this purpose, planks in the first row can be cut to smaller size. Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades. Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend Installing on wooden floors crossways (ensure there is sufficient cross ventilation running under the existing wooden floor) to the existing floorboard. Planks must not be nailed or screwed to the subfloor. Baseboards and molding must not be fixed in a way which restricts the movement of the floor.

INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW:
1. Starting from the left with the tongue facing the wall, carefully place the first board in place. (Figure 1)
2. Place 10mm spacers between the short and long side of the planks and the wall.
3. Always position one spacer between the wall and where the planks join.
4. The end/header joints of the planks in the first row are assembled by inserting the tongue side into the groove side of the previous plank at a low angle. Gradually lower the plank down flat until the end joint closes, insuring that the planks are perfectly aligned. Install the remaining full planks in the first row.
5. Cut the final board piece to length, never less than 300mm. (Figure 2)
6. The remaining piece cut off from the last plank in the first row may serve as the first plank in the second row provided it is at least 300mm long. Always stagger the end joints from row to row to a minimum of 300mm, or install using stagger of 900/600/300 or 900/450 to create the tile effect.

CONTINUING THE INSTALLATION:

1. Begin the second row with the cut piece from the first row. (Figure 3) If the cut piece is shorter than 300mm, do not use it. Instead, begin with a new board that is at least 300mm in length and allows 300mm between the end joints on the adjacent planks or in the tile pattern of 900/600/300 or 900/450mm.

2. Position the long side of the first board in place overlapping the groove of the planks in the previous row by approximately 3mm. Then angle the end/header joint into the previous plank. Angle the plank up and gently push forward until the plank locks into the previous row. (Figure 2) Slide the board to the left/right as necessary to align the edges of the end joint.

3. Carefully push the board down until the tongue & groove lock together on the side and ends.

4. It is important to make sure that the first three rows are straight and square as they can affect the entire installation.

5. Install the remaining boards and rows in the same manner. (Figure 3 and 4)

6. Cut the last board to size. If necessary, complete the tight fit by tapping the board into place with a pull bar.

7. Whenever practical, use cut pieces from previous rows as the starter board to reduce waste. (Figure 2)

8. Maintain 300mm spacing between end joints or in the tile pattern of 900/600/300 or 900/450mm. (Figure 2)

9. When coming to the end or in the event that it is required for the tile to slide under a door frame, it is recommended to shave off the lip of the groove, put some adhesive/PVC pipe weld into the groove and top of the tongue, slide the tongue into the groove. (Figure 5).
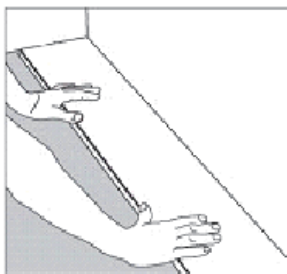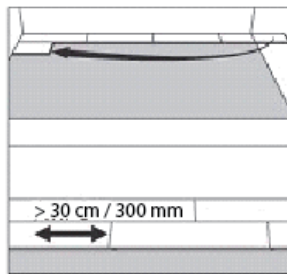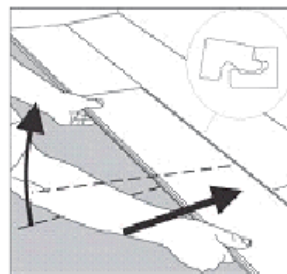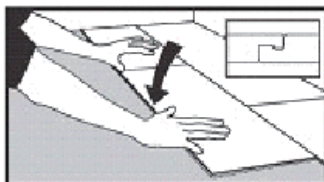
Figure 1

Figure 2

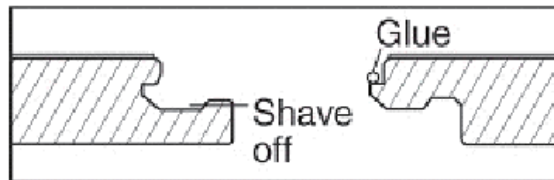> 30 cm / 300 mm

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Glue

Shave off

WARNING:
Avoid direct sunlight and temperatures 3-50°C

FINISHING THE INSTALLATION:

- After all the planks have been installed, remove all the spacers from the perimeter of the room.
- Install transition/reducer/end moldings. Do not fasten any floor finishing moldings through/to/on the floor.
- Predrill and install quarter round or skirting. Moldings must be sufficient to cover the 10mm expansion gap. Always fasten these to the wall and not the floor planks.

Installation Instruction
Rigid Core Technology

DIAMOND SPC Tile

Warning: Heating mats work very well under carpet, tile and stone; however, we do not recommend placing them directly underneath the Diamond Core vinyl floor. It is best to install Diamond Core vinyl flooring over embedded floor heating systems. Refer to manufacturer/distributor for installation & operating instructions.

Protection and Maintenance of Your Floor

Lasting beauty can be achieved through purchasing a quality floor covering and providing proper on-going maintenance. Please follow the recommendations in this guide to retain the fresh look and protect the floor finish.
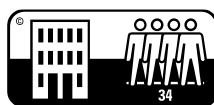
- After installation, we recommend a first cleaning to remove any loose dirt or debris that may have been caused during installation. Also, in order to protect the floor surface from walked in abrasive dirt and debris we recommend the use of an effective barrier system to limit the amount of moisture, dirt and grit that may enter the area, by using a good walk on/off mat.
- Check any new cleaning agent on a small test patch of the floor in an inconspicuous area, however, a normal good vacuum/floor cleaner using a little water will clean the floor without any problems, due to the non-porous surface of the flooring system.
- Avoid using harsh cleaners or any cleaner with an ammonia base.
- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways, or pulled on towels/blankets into position and be fitted with felt pads to protect your flooring surface.
- *Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to protect the floor.*
- Natural ventilation or intermittent air conditioning in vacant/holiday homes should be used, to prevent the "hot house" effect happening.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile-oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering, should this happen clean the problem up immediately.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber will discolour the floor or cause it to turn yellow.
- Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. Do NOT use ball type castors as they can damage the floor. For office chairs soft-wheeled castors must be used.
- Use felt floor protectors under furniture.
- Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to damage your flooring. It may result in severe scratching to the surface. The same is true for any high/stiletto heeled shoes that do not have proper tips on the heels.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Do NOT use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off.
- Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Micro mop (damp) as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. Do NOT use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor. Do NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools. Do NOT use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products.
- Vinyl Flooring, like other smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for floor to dry after washing. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances or wet feet.
- If your floor has been exposed to excessive amounts of water due to flooding, do not panic, Diamond SPC vinyl tile is waterproof. Simply remove the water as quickly as possible. A Dehumidifier should be promptly turned on in the room to reduce the moisture levels back to normal. Do not dry the room to below the normal moisture level that existed previously.
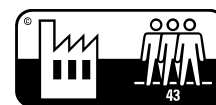
LEVEL OF USE CLASSIFICATION

EN ISO 10582

Domestic - Heavy (Class 23)
Wear Layer (Nominal): ≥0.30mm
Thickness (Nominal): ≥1.5mm
Passes Requirements (Nominal)

Commercial - Very Heavy (Class 34)
Wear Layer (Nominal): ≥0.70mm
Thickness (Nominal): ≥2.0mm
Passes Requirements (Nominal)

Light Industrial - Heavy (Class 43)
Wear Layer (Nominal): ≥0.70mm
Thickness (Nominal): ≥2.0mm
Passes Requirements (Nominal)