



Installation Instructions - HERITAGE LUXURY VINYL PLANK

PREPARATION

HERITAGE LVP installation instructions are to be read and understood by installers prior to installation. They provide details concerning the product and correct installation practices that affect both the performance and appearance of the floor. Not complying to these instructions may affect HERITAGE LVP warranties. Should there be any queries regarding the installation instructions, please contact your retailer or Complete Floors Australia representative. HERITAGE LVP floors must be installed in a temperature regulated internal environment with the planks adhesive fixed to the subfloor using a hard set adhesive or polyurethane made for this application. The flooring is to be installed around fixed cabinets and island benches.

HERITAGE LVP TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS

In the 24 hours before installation, HERITAGE LVP is to be within the temperature range of 18°C to 29°C. During installation, the internal temperature is to remain within this range and also for 48 hours after installation. If the flooring is at a lower or higher temperature, it needs to be brought within this temperature range before installation. This can be achieved by placing the boxes of flooring, three high and 200mm apart in an 18°C to 29°C environment for at least 12 hours. Also, ensure the boxes are not exposed to direct sunlight or vented cold or hot air from air-conditioners. If heating of the subfloor has occurred, it needs to be turned off 3 hours before installation.

CHECKS DURING INSTALLATION

It is the installer's responsibility prior to installation to verify that the product supplied is correct and that there is sufficient quantity. It is also preferable to install from a single batch and if from different batches check that there are no significant colour differences. During installation, each plank should be checked under good light for any damage or inconsistencies in appearance. Never install planks that may detrimentally affect floor performance or the expected appearance of the floor. Should the product be incorrect, damaged or not of the expected appearance, it is important that you contact the retailer. Complete Floors Australia will not be responsible for any uplift or reinstallation when such problems would have been apparent at installation.

SUBFLOOR TYPES AND REQUIREMENTS

Regarding subfloors, the resilient flooring standard AS/NZ1884:2021 states that subfloors need to be prepared prior to floor installation. It is the quality of the subfloor that dictates how flat and even the HERITAGE LVP will appear, noting that subfloor irregularities can show in the finished floor.

Typical subfloors that can be installed over include concrete, ceramic tiles, plywood, particleboard and solid timber. Floated and other floor surfaces must be removed and note that AS 1884 does not permit installation over cement screeds. The subfloor must be dry, flat, sound and clean. Subfloor preparation is therefore needed and often an underlay (e.g. plywood, hardboard, fibre cement sheet or MDF) or underlayment (e.g. smoothing and cementitious leveling compounds), is to be provided. Regarding subfloor flatness no more than 3mm beneath a 3m straight edge is required.

Timber based subfloors: With these subfloors, ensure fixing to joists are sound, no squeaks and any broken boards or damaged sheet sections are repaired or replaced. The subfloor moisture content is to be below 14% but note that meter readings in plywood and particleboard are not overly accurate. If the subfloor is high in moisture content, then the cause of the high moisture levels needs to be investigated, corrected and then made compliant before proceeding.

Over these subfloors, other than for compliant plywood, an underlay is needed and installed to the underlay manufacturer's instructions. With a flat and clean (vacuumed) subfloor, underlay sheets are installed staggered, offset to joints in the subfloor and at 90 degrees to the subfloor direction. A 3 mm clearance is to be provided to vertical surfaces. Staple and underlay nail fixings are to be driven to sufficient depth to prevent nail head show through. The joints between sheets are then sanded smooth. Fibre cement sheet requires adhesive in addition to staple or nail fixing.

The required flatness can be achieved through sanding and the application of leveling compounds. Ensure the levelling compound is suitable for adhesive fixed flooring. Sanding is also an applicable method to remove contaminants on timber based products.

Ceramic tile subfloors: Tile surfaces may need to be ground to remove height inconsistencies before the application of a levelling compound to fill grout lines and achieve a smooth surface. Grout lines of any size need to be filled and a 3mm to 5mm engineered screed may be used to provide a complete, smooth surface for the planks to adhere to.

Concrete slab subfloors: With concrete slab subfloors, moisture levels are tested by in-slab relative humidity. Readings below 80% are required or if above this level and below 85% (concrete impedance meter readings of about 4%) a moisture vapour retarding barrier would be expected to mitigate possible slab moisture. In-slab RH with ongoing readings above 90% (concrete impedance meter readings of about 5%) are not suitable for installation. It should also be considered that old slabs are not necessarily dry slabs.

Slab flatness is achieved through grinding and the application of leveling compounds. Powery concrete slabs or where the surface can be gouged with a coin will need to be mechanically ground and an engineered levelling compound applied. Open cracks require the application of cementitious compounds to address surface unevenness. Do not use epoxy fillers as they can cause plank discolouration.

The surface being adhered to must be clean to the adhesive manufacturer's requirements including removal of past adhesive residues. If a water bead on a concrete slab does not start absorbing into the slab within 5-10 minutes there could be non-observable contaminants, that can affect adhesion. Slabs will often be mechanically ground to remove contaminants.

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WET AREAS

Although HERITAGE LVP planks are waterproof, this does not necessarily prevent water from penetrating through joints and beneath the planks. If intended to be used in designated wet areas such as bathrooms and laundries some states may have specific compliance requirements that need to be met or may preclude use of this flooring. Check with your state's building regulator. Its acceptability may also depend on the adhesive's resistance to degrade from moisture. Silicone sealant at the junction of the wall and floor is permitted.

HEATED SUBFLOORS

HERITAGE LVP flooring can be installed over hydronic underfloor radiant heating systems. In new construction, operate the subfloor heating system at maximum capacity for a minimum of 7 days to force any residual moisture from the concrete. Shut down the floor heating at least 48 hours before floor installation. Ensure the room and subfloor temperature is above 18°C when installing and have the heating system turned off 3 hours before commencing installation. The subfloor temperature is not to exceed 27°C and when increasing or decreasing the temperature, do so at no more than 2°C per day.

ADHESIVES

Generally, a hard set adhesive is used for general installation and a polyurethane adhesive is used in areas that are exposed to more prolonged periods of intense direct sunlight or in wet areas. Some adhesives that may be used include:

·Hard set adhesives: HB Fuller TEC 540 Mapei Ultrabond ECO 4LVT Bostik STIX A800

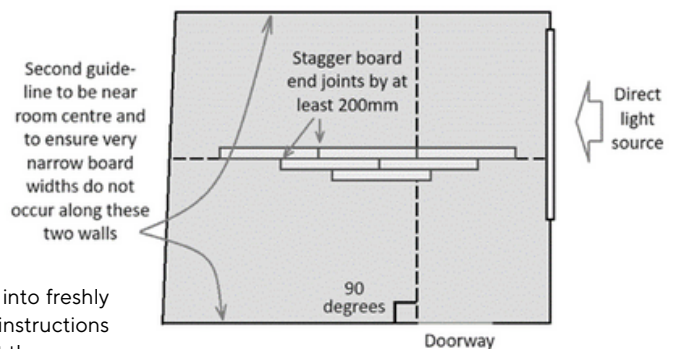
·Polyurethane adhesive: HB Fuller TEC 147 Mapei Adesilex G19 Bostik STIX P956

These adhesives, when cured, will sufficiently restrain plank movement enabling the planks to be cut close up to abutments, and then silicone sealant can be applied.

INSTALLATION

HERITAGE LVP is to be installed in accordance with AS 1884 Floor coverings - Resilient sheet and tiles - Installation practices. Aspects to also be considered with the installation are provided below:

1. Preparation of the subfloor should not begin until other trades have completed their work. Prepare the product and applicable subfloor as outlined above. Ensure there is no debris on the subfloor.
2. Consider the installation direction with a better visual appearance usually obtained when the planks are oriented toward direct light (e.g. patio glass) and also the direction of traffic (e.g. down hallways).
3. One method of installation is outlined as follows. In a room, two guidelines at 90° are marked on the subfloor. The first line may be from a doorway as shown and the second line, at 90° to the first located near the centre of the room, ensuring that there will not be narrow board widths at the opposing walls. When boards are installed, the end joints are to be staggered at least 200mm apart. The shortest plank abutting a wall should, where possible, also be a minimum of 200mm.
4. Consider the adhesive type to be used, noting that heat from sun exposure on a floor area may make it preferable to use a polyurethane based adhesive. Check with your adhesive supplier.
5. Where the two guidelines on the subfloor cross, install the first HERITAGE plank into freshly spread adhesive without allowing it to tack off, and follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions including trowel type, spread rate and achieving an even adhesive distribution. Note that there are arrows on back of the boards and all flooring is to be installed in the same direction. Press the planks firmly into place for maximum bonding, and particularly at the edges to lessen the risk of gapping and peaking at joints. Wipe up any excess adhesive on the board surface with a damp cloth as the installation progresses.
6. Continue in this way to lay the remainder of the planks. At walls or other vertical surfaces cut the planks 1mm short before fitting. Offcuts of sufficient length may be used to start the next row but with the cut end facing the wall. Some starting planks may need to be cut to achieve appropriate end joint separation.
7. On completion of the floor area, immediately roll the installed flooring in both directions with a 45kg or 50kg roller. A hand roller is to be used in confined spaces paying attention to plank joints. The floor may also be re-rolled in both directions two or so hours after the first rolling to further improve contact.



POST INSTALLATION

The floor is to be maintained within an 18°C to 29°C temperature range for 48 hours after installation. Foot traffic is permitted 24 hours after installation, however, furniture should not be installed, and heating and cooling system should not be operated until complete adhesive curing, which is 72 hours after installation.

Clean up may be by vacuum cleaner or broom. The installed floor may be temporarily protected from other trades with MDF sheets. Heavy rolling loads directly on the planks can also cause damage and the MDF will also help distribute loads. The customer is to be provided with care and maintenance instructions.

PRECAUTIONS

- Asbestos Warning - Prior to any take-up or removal of floorcoverings, adhesives or underlay, you should be certain these do not contain asbestos. If it is known or suspected the previous flooring, adhesive or underlay contains asbestos, the previous flooring and or components may only be removed by an appropriately licenced asbestos removal contractor, and avoid activities that create dust.
- Exposure of the product to direct sunlight or allowing it to remain wet may cause discoloration.
- Some household chemicals such as bleach can penetrate the plank surface and cause stains and discoloration if not cleaned off. Staining can occur from other substances including food items such as red wine. Attending to the cleanup quickly is the key to not needing more intense stain removal practices.
- Disposal of offcuts etc. in to be in accordance with local government requirements. Do not dispose of by burning.