

LVT PLANKS

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

IMPORTANT

- Read all instructions before proceeding.
- This flooring is only suitable for indoor use.
- Check for any visual defects or damage before and during installation and return any damaged product to the place of purchase. Gerflor will not be responsible for material installed with obvious defects.
- Subfloors must be clean, smooth, flat and dry.
- Installation temperature should be between 15 and 28°C, ideally at room temperature of 22°C. The flooring should be maintained in this temperature range thereafter.
- Protect your floor from excessive direct heat and temperature variation. Avoid direct sunlight using curtains, blinds and temperature controls.
- If the product is laid from different batches, it is essential these batches be well blended to ensure a uniform visual.
- Gerflor does not warrant for fading caused by long term exposure to UV light sources. Any areas subjected to this direct exposure must be protected by curtains, blinds or tinting to reduce the intensity of the ultraviolet light. Gerflor also does not warrant gapping caused by structural or subfloor movement, or any gapping that may be caused by extreme changes in temperature.

SITE CONDITIONS

For best results assess the site and building conditions carefully. Installation must comply with Australian Standard AS1884-2021 for Floor coverings - Resilient sheet and planks - Installation practices.

The ambient temperature must be between 15 and 28°C. This temperature range must be maintained 24 hours before, during and at least 24 hours after the installation is complete. The boxes of planks must be stored flat in these conditions for at least 24 hours prior to installation. The planks must not be bonded if the temperature of the subfloor is less than 10°C.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

General Subfloor Requirements

All subfloors must adhere to AS 1884-2021 standards for resilient floorcoverings which state that a floor must be flat, clean, dry, solid and free from cracks and holes.

A level subfloor is defined as:

- Planeness - When a straightedge, 2000mm long, is placed at rest at two points 2000mm apart on the surface, no part of the surface shall be more than 4mm below the straightedge
- Smoothness - When a straightedge, 150mm long, is placed at any position at rest at two points of the surface, no part of the surface shall be more than 1mm below the straightedge.

- Soundness - The surface shall be without cracks, crazing, dusting, rain damage, spalling, efflorescence or blistering.

Concrete Subfloors

Concrete should be constructed using good building practices and have an intact vapour barrier. Concrete should be flat and level to a minimum deviation of 4mm over a 2m length at any point. If repair is required, use a suitable levelling compound. Any holes or deviations should be filled with a suitable patching compound. Any lumps or old adhesives should be removed. Concrete should be dry to a minimum of 75% using an in-situ moisture test ASTM F2170, as specified in Australian Standard 1884-2021. If the dampness exceeds 75%, a waterproof system is suggested before installation begins.

Timber Subfloors

Timber subfloors should be overlaid with hardboard or MDF as per the Australian Standard AS1884-2021. Prior to this the wood subfloor should be solid and flat with no nails protruding. Cupped or warped boards should be sanded flat. Wood floor should be flat and level to a deviation of no greater than 4mm in a length of 2m at any point.

Existing Floor Coverings

This flooring should not be installed over existing vinyl, rubber, linoleum, textile flooring, including carpet and any type of old underlay must be removed. Existing solid floors including ceramic planks and terrazzo can be installed over, provided an appropriate levelling compound is used.

Installation on Heated Subfloors

This flooring can be installed on heated slabs provided the following precautions are taken.

- The heating must be switched on for at least 48 hours and then turned off again for at least 48 hours prior to installation. This is to remove any residual moisture created when the heating system was installed.
- The heating should remain off during installation and for at least 72 hours after completion.
- The heating should be turned on again and increased at the maximum of 2 degrees per day from ambient temperature to a maximum of 28°C.
- At no time should the maximum of 28°C be exceeded.

INSTALLATION IN AREAS OF HIGH HEAT OR DIRECT SUNLIGHT

All precautions must be taken to avoid the flooring being exposed to prolonged periods of direct sunlight. As required under Australian Standards, the flooring needs to be protected with the use of blinds or curtains. If this is not practical, use window tints or films that block harmful UV rays.

ADHESIVES

Gerflor recommends the use of its hard-set acrylic adhesive, such as Mapei V4 Evolution, Mapei Eco 4 LVT, Uzin KE66, Nexus 870 and Ardex AF175. Suitable alternatives to Hardset HT, high temperature resistant adhesive are MAPEI VS90 PLUS, MAPEI MS 4 LVT WALL and UZIN KE49 HT. Spray, contact or pressure sensitive adhesives are not suitable for this flooring. Adhesives should be applied with a trowel (shown in picture) and allowed to set prior to the plank placement.

Adhesive manufacturer's recommendations should be followed regarding coverage, set up and working time.



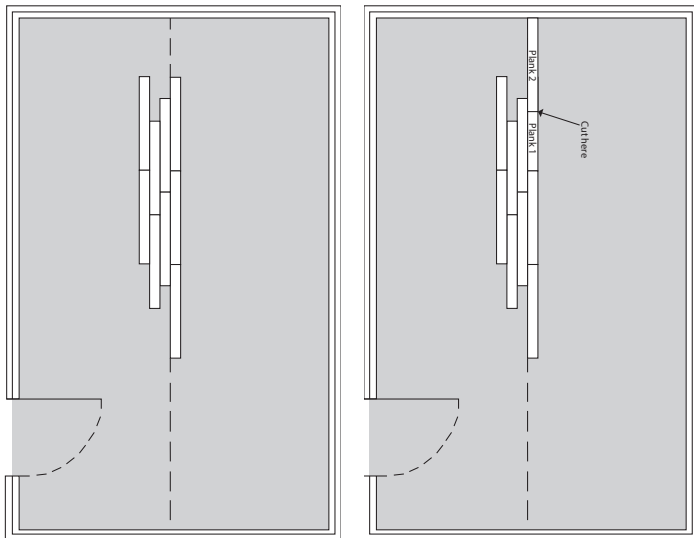
TOOLS AND PRODUCTS

Required tools are tape measure, pencil, sharp utility knife, broom, suitable flooring adhesive, adhesive trowel, heavy roller or hand roller.

GETTING STARTED

Ensure room temperature is maintained between 15 and 28°C before, during and after installation. The planks should be installed in the direction of the traffic flow in your room. It is recommended to lay the planks parallel to the longest room dimension.

Carefully measure the width of the room and mark the centre line, determine the width of the last row of the planks. If the width of the last row is less than 50mm, the width of the first row should be adjusted to allow a larger cut.



INSTALLATION

Planks should be drawn from three boxes to manage shade variation. Position the first row of planks along the centre line. Once you reach the end, ensure the cut piece will be longer than 150mm, if not, adjust your starting position. To find the exact size of the final plank in the row, position a full plank (plank 2) against the skirting board and the last plank (plank 1).

Score a line on the last plank, then deep cut along the line. Continue this way until you have at least three rows complete. Mark a pencil line along the last row and remove the planks keeping them in the correct order for placement.

Ensure the area is clean and dust free, then trowel the adhesive between the lines. Allow adequate time for the adhesive to set and place the planks in the same order as previously planned. Once all planks are placed, roll over with a heavy roller or hand roller.

COMPLETION

Do not place heavy furniture on the planks for at least 72 hours. After 48 hours of the installation the floor can be cleaned. Use a brush, dry cloth or vacuum for cleaning. Where water/cleaning fluid is required, ensure the minimum is used and the water is not allowed to pool for an extended period of time.

MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will not only keep the floor clean but can reduce the frequency of more extensive maintenance.

We recommend daily sweeping, mopping, or vacuuming to remove dust and other particles from your floor, then spot clean any marks. For weekly maintenance we recommend sweeping, mopping, or vacuuming to remove dust and other loose particles from your floor. Then wash your floor with cool to lukewarm water using a cleaner that is specifically designed for vinyl flooring.

GENERAL TIPS

- Never slide furniture or fittings over an unprotected floor and ensure flooring protectors are used under the feet of furniture and appliances.
- Be aware that bitumen and rubber can permanently mark your floor, leaving a yellowish stain. This includes rubber used in rubber-backed mats, rubber wheels on trolleys, rubber feet on stools, other furniture and rubber soles on low-cost shoes or slippers. Rubber used on wheelchairs and the like is medical grade rubber and can be used.
- Keep floor surface clear of dirt, grit, sand and other abrasive materials, which can be walked into your home by use of appropriate entrance matting. Avoid entrance matting that is rubber backed as it can stain your floor.
- All spillages should be removed immediately with a damp cloth or sponge.
- Do not use any kind of steam or heat mop when cleaning your floors.
- Do not use general household cleaners unless they are specifically for vinyl floors. Avoid using abrasive pads or cleaners, strong alkaline detergents, ammonia, chlorine detergents or any form of bleach.

For Queensland wet room installations, please scan this QR code to see our recommended Wet Room Installation Guide.

