LayFree Collection

Installation Instructions

Thank you for choosing one of Timeless Designs luxury vinyl products. Properly installed and cared for, your new floor will be easy to maintain and will keep its great look for years. **For current warranty, installation and maintenance information please visit timelessdesignsflooring.com**

Glue Down Luxury Vinyl must be acclimated.

Acclimation of material before installation

To ensure a problem free installation, all areas where flooring will be installed should have a working heat and air conditioning source operational a minimum of forty-eight (48) hours prior to installation and remain in operation during and after installation. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use (between 65-85 degrees F with a relative humidity no greater than 65%). Ensure subfloor and flooring are fully acclimated to these conditions for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. For best results, open cartons at the beginning of the acclimation period.

IMPORTANT

Timeless Designs Dryback LVF should not be used for exterior applications, cleated areas, locker room, depicted wet areas, food processing facilities, or commercial kitchens, if you have application questions please reach out to us at **timelessdesignsflooring.com**

Pre-Installation Jobsite Requirements

Timeless Designs cannot be held responsible for site conditions that do not conform to requirements as indicated in these instructions including but not limited to vapor transmission, moisture permeation, contamination or damaged subfloors, etc.

Glue down vinyl flooring should be protected from direct sunlight and not exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. Excessive temperatures will cause the product to expand and buckle. Timeless Designs recommends blinds, drapes, window films or suitable window coverings in areas where there is a large exposure to direct sunlight.

It is the installer's responsibility to examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish, sheen and Quality, and to ensure that jobsite and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. Ensure adequate lighting for the proper inspection. If flooring is not deemed acceptable, contact your supplier immediately for resolution. Timeless Designs flooring cannot be held responsible for flooring installed with visible defects.

Subflooring Preparation

Warning: If the existing resilient flooring covering is being removed, see current edition of the Resilient Floor covering Instate publications recommended work practices for removal of resilient floor coverings for instructions on removing all resilient floor covering structures.

Note: All subfloors must be clean, smooth and **Flat** within 3/16" in a 10 ft radius and/or 1/8" in 6 ft Radius, and dry*. Dust, scale, and loose particles must be removed. The surface must be free of solvents, Paint, grease, oil, wax, alkali, sealing or curing compounds, and any other foreign material.

**Failure to properly level the subfloor to manufacturer specifications can cause additional stress on the luxury vinyl resulting in plank separation , or edge lifting.*

Proper preparation of the subfloor is a critical part of having a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through to the flooring product resulting in an unsightly surface and can cause excessive wear on high spots.

All wood subfloors shall have at least 18" of well-ventilated space below. The ground under crawl space must be covered with 6-mil polyethylene sheeting to reduce moisture vapor transmission. Wood floors must be a **minimum thickness of 3/4" with 16" on center floor joist**, such as APA underlayment grade plywood without voids, and with a fully sanded face. Wood floors must be solid and flat with no deflection. All loose boards must be firmly fastened.

Existing adhesive residue, paint, wax, oil grease, mold, mildew, and other foreign materials that might prevent adhesive bond, rubber, cork, or asphalt titles, "sleeper" floor systems, textured or cushion back resilient flooring, carpet, hardwood flooring, plywood floors installed directly over a concrete slab, any uneven or unstable substrates, underlayment made of pine or other soft woods, Masonite or other hardboard underlayment, CDX or other plywood are not approved substrates for the installation of direct-glue resilient flooring. OSB, particle or chipboard, CCA (pressure treated), Oil treated, or other coated plywood will require an additional layer of ¼" minimum resilient flooring underlayment to be considered as an approved substrate.

Concrete on, below or above grade must be free of moisture or high alkalinity. A concrete slab shall be cured a minimum of 90 days before preforming moisture tests prior to the installation of your new flooring. The concrete may require additional drying time dependent upon local environmental conditions. The PH level of the concrete should be between 7 and 9.

. Concrete/Screeds: All cracks and joints should be filled. Prepare concrete subfloors according To ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparation of Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring. The surface of the concrete must be dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. Concrete subfloors require moisture testing conducted in accordance with ASTM F1869 Calcium chloride test or ASTM F2179 Relative Humidity in concrete Slabs. Calcium Chloride emissions should not exceed 5lbs per 1000sf. Relative Humidity In-Situ Probes should not exceed 75% RH. Testing should be performed and documented prior to beginning installation.

. It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor to determine if a concrete substrate is within the proper moisture levels. For concrete substrates with excess moisture results, a moisture mitigation system is recommended. Timeless Designs does not warrant nor is responsible for damage to floor coverings due to or caused by moisture related issues.

. All surface patching and leveling is to be in accordance with the latest versions of ASTM F2678 Standard Practice for Preparing Panel Underlayments, Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments, Thick Poured lightweight Cellular Concrete Underlayments, and Concrete Subfloors with Underlayment Patching Compounds to Receive Resilient Flooring.

. To prevent moisture problems, concrete slab construction shall be in accordance to industry standards for specification related to concrete mix design, curing methods and drying times.

. On-grade and below-grade slabs should be installed with a suitable vapor retarder directly underneath concrete slab.

. New concrete shall be properly cured and dried prior to the installation of floor covering. Curing agents, surface hardeners, and other membranes or compounds shall be mechanically removed immediately after initial cure to allow the slab to properly dry prior to flooring installation. (Standard cure time is approximately 30-days per 1" of slab thickness)

. To ensure manufacturer warranty, all concrete substrates, regardless of grade or age of slab, Must be properly tested using one or more of the methods out lined below:

.Acceptable test method is ASTM F 2170 In Situ Relative Humidity. Testing shall conducted According to the test method and instructions of the manufacturer of the testing equipment Standards – maximum 75% RF.

.Anhydrous Calcium Chloride per ASTM F1869 standards – maximum 5lbs./1000sf.

.Non-destructive CMM electronic meter method per ASTM F2659 standards for moisture Content equivalent showing a maximum of 5% or less with a standard minimum of 8 tests To be performed. CCM moisture test method is an alternative method for qualifying moisture Levels for *residential installations only.*

. Concrete Alkalinity / pH Test shall be performed when the test site is at the same temperature and humidity expected during normal use; or at a temperature of 65* - 85*F or 18* - 29*C and 30% - 65% humidity for a minimum 48-hours prior to testing. Using distilled water, place drops of water to form a small puddle approximately 1-inch diameter. Wait 60-seconds, and then dip a portion of the pH paper into the water. Acceptable concrete pH level is within the ranges of 5-10 as compared to the color chart provided within the pH test kit. Light sanding and rinsing the substrate with a damp mop with clean water may help lower alkalinity levels.

. Concrete Surface Porosity Test shall be conducted prior to the application of adhesive to Evaluate bonding capacity.

Concrete Slab Preparation

- Concrete slabs shall be well-cleaned prior to the installing any floor coverings.

- Remove all sealers, curing agents and compounds, grease, oil, adhesive removers, existing adhesive residue, dirt, paint, etc. to ensure a clean bond surface for the adhesives.

- Concrete floors shall be smooth and flat to prevent irregularities, roughness or other defects from telegraphing through the new resilient flooring.

- The surface of the slab shall be flat to within 3/16" in 10 feet. Slopes shall be less than 1 inch In 6 feet. Uneven areas should be mechanically ground to smoothness.

- Cracks, depressions or other similar irregularities should be level using a suitable cement based patching compound (Always follow the patch manufacturer's instructions regarding mixing and applications.)

- Overly porous, dusty, flaky or soft concrete surfaces are not suitable for resilient floor Coverings. It may be necessary to mechanically remove the top layer concrete in such cases and/or these surfaces may need to be primed and covered with a cement-based underlayment compound. (Follow the patching or leveling compound manufacturers instructions regarding preparation of the concrete surfaces, priming , mixing, of the product, thickness of application and drying time for resilient floor covering installation)

- Expansion joints, isolation joints, or other moving joints in the concrete slab must be honored and shall not be filled with patching compound or covered over with resilient flooring. Expansion joints covers designed for use with resilient flooring should be used. Control joints (saw cuts) may be patched and covered with resilient flooring once the Concrete is thoroughly cured dry and acclimated.

Gypsum or lightweight cellular concrete substrates

- Gypsum or lightweight concrete subfloors or substrates shall have a minimum compressive strength of 2000 psi and/or a dry density of 90lbs per cubic foot or greater and be properly prepared in accordance with appropriate ASTM specifications.
- Unprimed gypsum surfaces often have a dusty surface and an open, porous surface, which will lead to an adhesion bound failure, if not properly sealed and treated. It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to obtain written verification from the general contractor, architect, owner, or responsible party that the gypsum was properly sealed with the gypsum manufacturer's recommended sealer. If this data is not available, conduct testing in according with the appropriate ASTM Test Method for Gypsum Surfaces.

- Conduct a Surface Porosity Test to ensure that the surface is properly sealed. If the water is quickly absorbed, do not proceed with installation before contacting the manufacturer's technical services for assistance.

. Check moisture content of the gypsum substrate, via the appropriate method according to the ASTM standards listed above. Moisture content of the subfloor/substrate shall not exceed the adhesive requirements or 75% RH.

. All patching compounds shall be suitable for use with gypsum, or lightweight cellular concrete surfaces as outlined by the patching compound manufacturer. (Follow the manufacturers instructions regarding mixing, use, and application.)

Radiant heat systems

. Radiant heated floors where heat does not exceed 85*F / 29*C

. Contact the Manufacturer of your radiant heating system to ensure that the system is Compatible with vinyl flooring and for specific recommendations.

. Installation directly over electric heat mat system is not approved.

. The heating system components must have a minimum of ½“ / 13mm separation from flooring product.

. Radiant heat systems must be turned on and in operation for several days before flooring installation to calibrate temperature settings and to reduce residual moisture within the concrete.

. The system must be turned down to 65*F / 18*C 72 hrs. prior to and during the flooring Installation.

. Twenty-four hrs. after installation, slowly bring heating system up back to normal operating Temperature in increments of 5*F / -15*C maximum per day to avoid over heating.

. Floor should never be heated over 85*F / 30* C

. Rugs placed over radiant heat systems can increase the systems surface temperature.

Installation

. The correct starting point for setting out a floor is traditionally the center of the area, although this may be the final starting point when tile laying begins. Some adjustment of the starting point may be required, for example, to avoid small perimeter cuts. In corridors and small spaces, it may be simpler to work lengthwise from one end, using the centerline as a guide.

. To square the layout of the room, find the center of one end of the room. Locate the same point at the other end-wall. Snap a chalk line between these points to mark the centerline on the floor. Then measure along this center line to find the middle of the room. At center point, mark off a line across the room at precise right to the first line. This can be achieved by using the 3-4-5 triangle method. A laser square can also be used for accurate layouts.

. Starting from the center point, make a mark measuring 4 feet vertically and 3 feet horizontally. Connect the marks with a diagonal to complete the triangle. If the diagonal line does not measure exactly 5 feet, then the center crossing lines are not at a true right line.

Plank installation

. Plank install is typically preformed with the starting point at the longest straight wall of the installation area. Ensure the first run of planks is started in a straight line against the wall by using a chalk line or laser. Cut-to-fit planks to back fill against the wall if necessary. Plank stagger should maintain an overlap of 6”- 8” minimum between the end-joints of the previous row.

. Unless a specific specified visual or pattern is called for, install planks in a random pattern avoiding continuous end joint stair stepping and H patterns for the best natural visual representation of your floor.
. When installing products you should mix tile/planks from several cartons to blend minor shade variations.

. Glue down LVT/LVP must be rolled with a minimum 100 lb. steel roller both directions shortly after placing material into fresh adhesive bed. Areas that cannot be rolled with with the large roller such as door frames or skirting boards should be rolled with a hand roller or pressed into the adhesive with a rubbing hammer.

. When installing over non-porous substrates such as existing flooring, terrazzo, etc. A short open time may be appropriate, but under no circumstances should the adhesive be allowed to dry before placing the tile into the adhesive.

. Make sure to dry fit all perimeter pieces before spreading adhesive bed. Unless net fit is net fit is required, allow for a minimum of 1/8 expansion gap between the edge of the flooring material and the vertical surfaces.

. Draw centerlines across the installation site so that the entire site is divided into Quadrants. Then determine which of the four areas to begin with and begin placing products from the center.

Adhesive information

. Timeless Designs recommends usage of respectful adhesives for health and safety rules for workers and which are eco-friendly. Solvents-based adhesives are prohibited. Using these adhesives can have a negative effects on the floor covering. Timeless Designs cannot be considered as responsible for damage on floor covering due to unsuitable adhesive use. Timeless Designs recommends usage of acrylic adhesive.

. Unless adhesive manufactures state otherwise due to specified wet-set application or possible non-porous substrate criteria, install floorcovering into semi-wet adhesive only (Permanent bond). An 80% or greater adhesive ridge transfer upon the back of material is optimal after rolling material. Adhesive coverage rate, flash time, working time and cure time may vary according to jobsite temperature, humidity, and substrate porosity. It is recommended after any substrate preparations, a bound test be conducted before beginning the installation. A bond test is a mock-up to ensure whether the adhesive will bond satisfactorily to the substrate and attached floor covering.

Accessories and finishing

. Timeless Designs recommends protecting the new flooring from heavy traffic for 24 hours Minimum to have proper stabilization time. Light foot traffic is allowed.

. LVT products need to be protected for long periods of direct sunlight exposure. Windows and glass doors need to be covered properly to protect the nearby floor coverings. maintain controlled ambient temperature and humidly within the installed area.

. Allow at least 5 days following the installation before conducting wet cleaning procedures on the new flooring.

Regular Maintenance

. Vacuum (without beater bar) and sweep often to prevent dirt build up or scratches.

. Wash the floor with non-abrasive neutral PH cleaning solution according to the water Dilution ratio if needed as recommended by the cleaning liquid manufacture.

. Damp mop the floor with a micro fiber pad or clean string mop / sponge.

. Additional cleaning and rinsing may be necessary for hard to clean or stubborn areas.

. Avoid spills of paints, dyes, harsh chemicals, acid products, etc.

. Promptly remove any spills, standing water, pet urine or other liquids.

. Use a melamine pad to remove stubborn scuffs.

. Do not use a steam mop

. Do not use a bucket and water to soak the floor.

. Do not use top coats or wax to maintain the floor.

. The improper use of cleaning chemicals may cause damage and/or discoloration. Overuse or inadequate rinsing of cleaning chemicals may compromise the performance of the floor.

. Abrasive powders or cleanser should not be used. Do not use highly alkaline products (ammonia, soda) bleach or strong solvents such as acetone as they can be harmful to Both people and your floor.

Protection

. Protect installed flooring until the project is complete.

. Use temporary hard board covering over the flooring for the rolling of furniture Or moving appliances.

. Furniture, fixtures, equipment, appliances, and other items contacting the floor should use footing, castor, glide or fitting designed for resilient floors, with at least a 1" flat surface area.

. The use of non-staining walk-off mats areas of building's exterior doorways will greatly enhance the appearance of a floor by reducing the amount of soil, dirt, sand, salt, grit, and other abrasive or soiling substances.

Warranty

Our guarantee is for replacement or refund of the vinyl plank flooring only, not labor. Labor cost will be covered only when professionally installed. It does not cover costs incurred with loss of time, incidental expenses or any other damage from improper installation or maintenance (including side or end gapping), burns, tears, indentations stains or reduction in gloss level due to normal use and/or exterior applications. Gapping, shrinkage, squeaks, fading or structural and sub floor related issues are not covered under this warranty.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THE LIMITED WARRANTY, MANUFACTURER WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTIAL OR OTHER DAMAGES OF ANY KIND NO MATTER WHAT THE CAUSE.