

PART 3: Examination

3.1.1 EXAMINATION

- A. Floor Inspections prior to installation is required; perform a moisture test.
- B. Do not begin installation until substrates have been properly cleaned & prepared prior to installation.
- C. If substrate preparation is the responsibility of another installer, notify Architect & General Contractor of unsatisfactory conditions due to lack of preparation before proceeding.
- D. The installation of the resilient flooring shall not begin until the work of all other trades has been completed, particularly wet and overhead trades.

3.2 PREPARATION

- A. Clean surfaces thoroughly prior to installation.
- B. Using Portland based cementitious base leveler or patch fill and cover all nail heads, seams, voids, expansion joints, and cracks.
 - 1. Use of a premium latex primer/sealer is required. We recommend use of the primer/sealer recommended by gypsum manufacturer.
 - 2. Cement slabs can be floated or repaired using Portland cement based compound. Follow patch manufacturers' instructions.

** NOTE TO SPECIFIER ** Delete if substrate is within manufacturer's tolerances for moisture and sealer is not required.

- C. Prepare surfaces using the methods recommended by the manufacturer for achieving the best result for the substrate under the project conditions.
- D. Concrete Substrates: All substrate testing shall be documented and submitted to the Owner and Architect before starting the flooring installation.
 - 1. Verify that substrates are dry, free of debris, and that all surfaces have properly cured.
 - 2. Remove substances that are incompatible with adhesives and that contain soap, wax, oil, or silicone, using mechanical methods recommended by manufacturer. Do not use solvents.
 - 3. Perform Alkalinity and Adhesion tests recommended by manufacturer. Proceed with installation only after substrates pass testing.
 - 4. Moisture Testing: Perform ASTM 1869 Calcium Chloride or ASTM 2170 In-Situ RH test and record results. Choose proper adhesive or moisture mitigation systems

to meet manufacturers' specifications for moisture content. Proceed with installation only after substrates meet specifications.

3.3 INSTALLING RESILIENT TILES AND PLANKS

A. General:

1. Permanent HVAC system should be set to a minimum of 65 degrees F (20 degrees C) for a minimum of 48 hours prior to, during and 48 hours after installation. After the installations, the maximum temperature should not exceed 95 degrees F (32 degrees C).
2. All products shall be allowed to acclimate at least 24 hours before installation. This means product shall be placed in the same room as exact location of the installation and removed from its factory packaging.
3. Materials should be inspected before installation occurs
4. Ensure that all recommendations jobsite and subfloor conditions are met before beginning the installation. Once the installation is started, Contractor and installer have accepted those conditions.
5. Install in accordance with manufacturer's installation instructions for each product type and application specified.

B. Installation:

1. Planks or tiles should be installed from one corner of the room working your way toward the outer wall. Planks, or tiles, should have a 1/4" Gap to the edge of the wall to allow for expansion/contraction
2. It is Important to do some pre-planning. Using the width of the room, calculate how many full boards/tiles will fit into the area and how much space remains that will need to be covered by partial planks. Divide the remaining space by two to calculate the width of the partial planks/tiles. Try where possible to plan for at least a half of a plank/tile to be on the perimeter. Do the same for the length of the room.
3. Center tiles or planks in rooms and hallways so borders are not less than 1/3rd or plank when possible.
4. Install using tile and plank installation techniques recommended by manufacturer.
5. Install tiles, planks, borders and feature strips in locations and configurations indicated on the Drawings.
6. For LooseLay installations only, spread a 4 inch (100 mm) wide band of adhesive around the perimeter of the area designated as an extreme condition area; an additional 4-inch (100 mm).

7. All surfaces need to be smooth, dust free, and level. to within 1/8 inch in 10 feet (3 mm in 3m).

** NOTE TO SPECIFIER ** Delete the following paragraph if not specifying plank shaped simulated wood resilient tile flooring.

C. Product Application:

1. Install in accordance with adhesive recommendations on the label or data sheet.
2. Refer to manufacturer's literature for selection criteria for applicator, type.
3. For transitional areas, from LooseLay to another floor covering of a different height, a 4-inch (100 mm) band of adhesive should be spread across the length of the transition.
4. Concrete subfloors must have moisture testing and any above 75% RH must have a DPM, damp proof membrane, or moisture mitigation installed.

3.4 CLEANING

- A. The simplest way to remove stains from LVT is to use a damp cloth or mop with warm water and neutral pH detergent. If the stain persists, use a soft-bristled brush with warm water and neutral pH detergent to gently rub the stain and remove the dirt without damaging the tile.
- B. Wipe off any adhesive on floor as installation proceeds. Wait 48 hours before applying the cleaning and maintenance products.
- C. Prior to installation of permanent fixtures or furniture, remove all dirt, debris, or residual adhesive and clean the floor. If desired, a protective covering may be applied at this time. Specific products and instructions are available from the manufacturer.

3.5 PROTECTION

- A. Protect installed products until completion of project.
- B. Touch-up, repair or replace damaged products before Substantial Completion.

3.6 MAINTENANCE

- A. Comply with manufacturer's instructions for proper cleaning and maintenance of the products.

END OF SECTION