



Installation Guide

LooseLay Flooring

Before you Start – Things to Consider

The following are guidelines for installing MAXX Floors™ LooseLay Vinyl Flooring.

1. All areas where the product will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source operational and remain in operation during and after installation. Humidity should be no greater than 65%
2. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use of the conditioned space. Acclimation of flooring for at least 48 hours, between a temperature of 65 and 85 degrees is required. If you install outside of these temperature ranges, then depending whether you installed it hot or cold, you may experience expansion or contraction of the flooring and adjustments may be required. If for example, you install in a cold environment and later the space is heated, you may experience buckling of some planks in places. If for example, you install in a hot environment and later the space is cooled, you may experience gapping or contraction of your flooring in places. It is imperative that you install MAXX Floors after proper acclimation.
3. It is recommended that installation take place at a temperature that represents the coolest conditions that the installation environment will experience. This aids in reducing the risk of gapping.
4. The floor surface should must be free of dampness.
5. Calculate the total square meters of the space being covered and add 5% for cutting and waste.
6. Luxury Vinyl Planks are all the same length but should be laid randomly across the floor to create the best color effect. We recommend that you install the planks using a mix from several different cartons to ensure a random appearance. This will result in a more natural-looking floor.
7. Check each plank for any manufacturing defects before installation. Any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate refund or replacement before the flooring being installed.
8. The planks should be fitted lengthways towards the main incoming light source and, where possible, down the length of the room. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways.
9. Store cartons of planks with cartons stacked one on top of the other, but spread them out during the acclimation. Do not store on end or sides, or allow cartons to bend during storage or transportation

Before you Start – Things to Consider

10. In kitchens and bathrooms where MAXX Flooring is going to be installed, it is highly recommended that the planks in these wet areas are glued down and not loosely laid.
11. LooseLay vinyl floors should be protected from direct sunlight and not exposed to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. Davati recommends that blinds, drapes or suitable window coverings be in use in areas of large amounts of direct sunlight exposure. Davati also recommends the use of full-pattern of adhesive in these areas of installation.
12. To prevent problems staining of finished flooring and the general movement of a free-floating floor, areas to receive resilient flooring shall be permanently dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. They shall be free of all contaminants, including but not limited to: dust, solvents, paint, wax, oil, grease, residual adhesive, adhesive removers, curing, sealing, hardening or parting compounds, alkaline salts, excessive carbonation or laitance, mold, mildew.
13. To prevent damage to the newly installed flooring the installation of flooring products should be installed after all other trades have completed their work. Although MAXX Floors is designed to be highly scratch resistant, it is not scratch proof. So after installation, while the space is under construction, the use of a reinforced fiber-based temporary floor protector product is strongly recommended.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- Safety Glasses
- Measuring Tape
- Straight Edge Chalk Line
- Trowel (As per adhesive manufacturer's recommendation)
- Primer
- Vinyl Plank/Tile Cutter (Optional)
- Portland Cement Based Compound
- Carpenter's Square or Straight Edge
- Utility Knife.

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE

100% Silicone Urethane Releasable Urethane Adhesive.

Subfloor Requirements

Proper subfloor preparation and suitable underlayment installation are essential for a trouble-free job. Uneven or rough subfloor surfaces will show through (or telegraph) to the surface of this product resulting in an unsightly surface and can make high spots more susceptible to excessive wear. Correct the subfloor imperfections before you begin installing this product.

1. Proper preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor.
2. All subfloors should be smooth, flat and dust free with the tolerance not exceeding more than 1/8" in a 10' span. Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions must be filled with a Portland-based underlayment and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface. << Adam: Please show me where you go this from. Portland cement will crack over time.
3. Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and 85% free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds and other extraneous materials. MAXX LooseLay must only be installed on dry floors. The floor must have a moisture reading of less than 95% RH. If any sub floor shows moisture readings above 95% RH then an acceptable damp proof membrane/moisture suppression system must be applied. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
4. New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry and completely cured. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.
5. Concrete underlayment's with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit at any point. The system should be covered with a self-leveling underlayment separating the flooring from the heat source by at least 1/2".
6. Expansion joints, grooves, holes, and other depressions must be filled with a Portland cement-based compound

Subfloor Preparation by Floor Type

Concrete Floors:

NOTE: If contaminants have thoroughly penetrated the concrete, and cannot be removed, then we do not recommend installing MAXX Flooring.

Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt, sealing compounds, and other extraneous materials, the surface must be hard and dense and free from powder or flaking. The only structurally sound concrete of proper density (90 lbs/cubic foot) and compressive density (3,500 psi) should be used as a sub-floor for MAXX™ LooseLay Flooring. Any large cracks or voids must be filled with a cementitious patching compound. Concrete should be flat within 3/16" in 10FT.

New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry (at least six weeks) and completely cured before LooseLay flooring is installed on the slab. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the flooring installer. Installing LooseLay on a damp floor, although it won't damage the waterproof LooseLay flooring, and can allow the growth of mold that may cause health risks to the occupants. Where moisture from the concrete slab is a concern, installing 6-mil poly sheets as a vapor barrier is highly recommended.

Concrete underlayment's with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit at any point. The system should be covered with a self-leveling underlayment separating the flooring from the heat source by at least 1/2"

Wood/OSB Subfloors:

MAXX Floors LooseLay can be installed on wood and wood composition panels – including OSB, flake board, plywood and particle boards, providing they are smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection. On jobs that have endured a lot of rain or snow, sanding the subfloors before the installation of your LooseLay may be required.

Sand joints down and make them nice and smooth. Use a diamond grinder across all surface of the subfloor, take out all imperfections, and then lay the LooseLay.

NOTE: If contaminants have thoroughly penetrated the wood, and cannot be removed, then we do not recommend installing MAXX™ Flooring without a vapor barrier or sealing the subfloors.

Subfloor Preparation by Floor Type

Heated Subfloors:

It is not recommended to install vinyl plank flooring over an electric radiant heating system. Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the subfloor. Once this has been completed, switch off your radiant heating system for installation of the flooring. It is recommended that the radiant heat is applied gradually after installing the flooring. Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Mosaic/Terrazzo/Ceramics/Quarry Tiles

Level any grout lines with a suitable smoothing compound to make the floor smooth.

We recommend using a diamond grinder to remove all the high points. Then run a flood coat, which is a thicker layer of self-leveling compound to fill up all the grout lines to make the floor perfectly smooth. Wait for the flooring to dry and then lay the LooseLay after the subfloor has dried.

Ceramic Tile

When installing MAXX Floors LooseLay flooring over existing ceramic tile, you must skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. If you are installing Loose Lay over an existing floor that has an embossing or grout line on it, we recommend you skim coat with a floor leveler. Check for any dips in the subfloor that can create a void underneath the floor that will cause stress on the plank seams when walking on it. If so, please fill in and level subfloor with embossing leveler.

How to Install MAXX Floors™ LooseLay

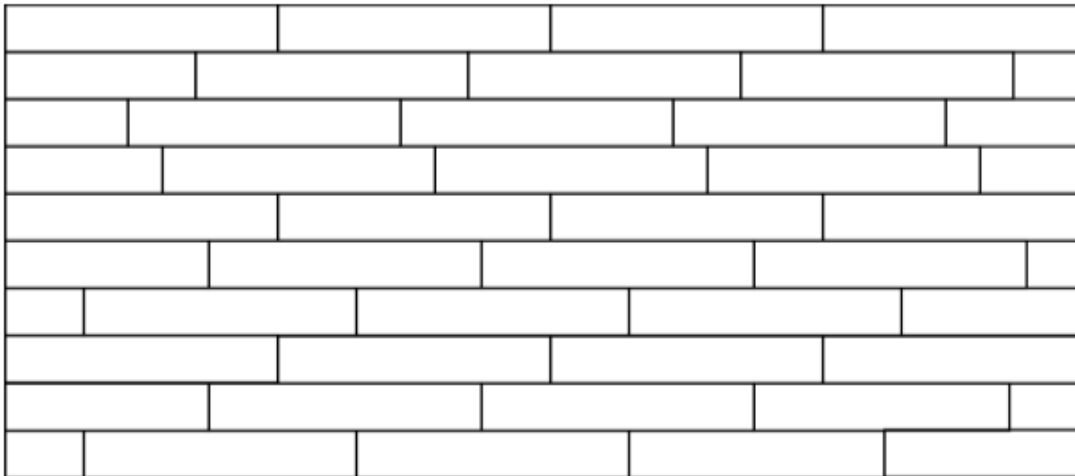
1. First, determine how you want the flooring to run. Typically for Planks Products, the flooring runs the length of the room. There may be exceptions; it is all a matter of your preference.
2. Planks or tiles should be installed from one corner of the room working your way toward the outer wall. Planks, or tiles, should be tight against the wall.
3. Place the planks 1/8" away from the edge of the walls surface and glue the first 2 rows for the first 4"-8" across. For large room areas apply a band of glue every 10'.
4. To avoid narrow plank/tiles widths or short plank/tiles lengths near the walls/doors, 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.
5. It is imperative that you glue the perimeter- (first two rows) of each wall section. The tape needs to be applied to the first four rows every 36" by tightly pulling the pieces together. This creates a bridging effect, and you're the result is that all rows will now be tight.
6. The planks or tiles should be installed from one corner of the room working your way out toward the other wall.
7. Using a utility knife, score the top surface of the planks or tile and snap downward for any fill pieces needed. You can also use a guillotine cutter, or a sharp carbide blade saw to cut your pieces.
8. Cut Around Cabinets, do not install underneath cabinets or appliances.

Floor Layout

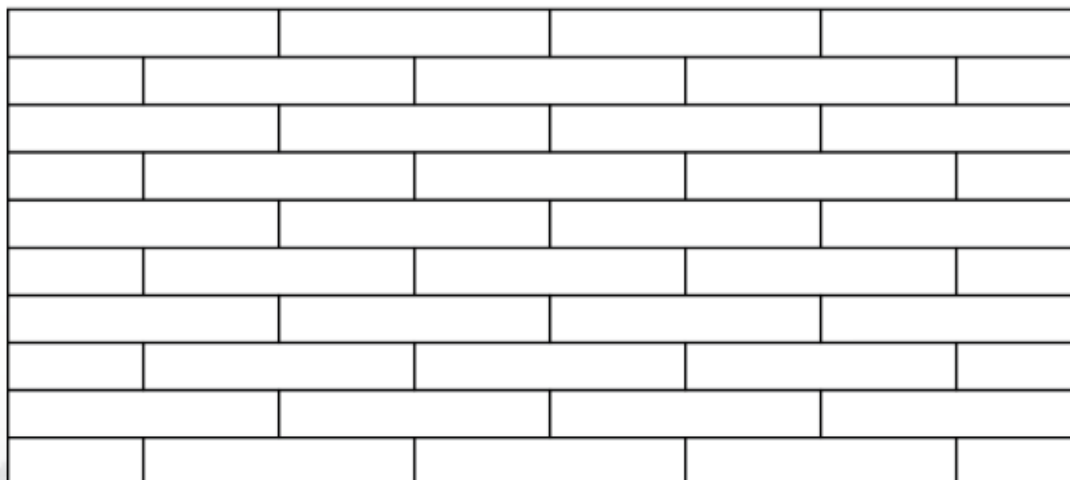
First determine the direction to install the planks. As a rule, planks are normally installed running in the long direction of the main room. Rectangular tiles may be installed in ashlar or herring bone configurations. When directional marks are printed on the back of a tile, that indicates all tiles should run in the same direction. Place a mark in the center of the floor at each end of the room. Snap a chalk line between the marks

To avoid small narrow planks along the walls, divide the distance from the center line to the wall by the plank or tile width (6", 7.25", 18", or 19.7"). If the remainder is less than 3 inches, adjust the center line one half width of a plank in either direction. This will provide a balanced layout with larger cut pieces at the wall.

Random:



Uniform:



Floor Care

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.

- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours.
- Use walk off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked on to the floor.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Avoid using a vacuum with a beater bar.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Damp mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. Do not use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor.

Asbestos

After Installation

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. To protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use rosin paper and only use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor (other blue tapes may damage the finish). Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the rosin paper to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. DO NOT USE plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups. Dust-mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.

- It is suggested that you clean the floor using a recommended pH neutral cleaner
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, etc.).
- Permit light foot traffic on the new floor after 3-4 hours giving the adhesive time to set up.
- Keep furniture, fixtures and rolling traffic off the new floor for 48 hours.
- Wait 72 hours (3 days) before wet cleaning the new floor. This will allow the adhesive to fully cure.
- The floor must be allowed to set overnight for 24 hours before resuming normal usage of the room