

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR VSPC 5G

Product Information - PLEASE READ BEFORE INSTALLATION!

Note: By installing flooring, you acknowledge that you have read through and understand all of the topics covered in this document, including the warranty information and care.

Storage and Handling:

- Remove flooring from your vehicle immediately after transporting it to the job site.
- VSPC must be acclimatized prior to installation. Store flat and fully supported during shipping and storage. Do not store or stack the boxes sideways or on the edge, this will compromise the locking system.
- Climatize package in the room where installation is to take place with a constant temperature of 65°F to 85°F (18° to 29°C) for a period of 48 hours prior to installation.

Installer Responsibilities:

- Inspect VSPC for possible defects prior to installation. Complaints can only be accepted before installation. Slight variations in color and texture are designed to enhance the finished product. Mixing the planks creates a more natural appearance. VSPC replicates the look of natural products, showing natural variation in color, texture, and gloss. For optimal visual effect, mix planks or tiles by working from several cartons. Blend tiles into the installation, avoiding the placement of similar decors next to one another.
- Ensure you have the correct quantity on hand.
- DO NOT install damaged flooring.
- Be aware that when exposed to excessive temperatures and direct sunlight the VSPC may expand and contract causing problems with the locking system using a floating installation. Window coverings should be installed to avoid prolonged sunlight exposure. Please consider sun/heat exposure when deciding if the site will require a glue down installation. VSPC is a floating floor installation only; therefore, a different product would need to be specified for glue down installations.
- If the VSPC is being installed in facilities where walkers, wheelchairs are present, or in facilities with movement of heavy displays, racks, dentist chairs patient beds, etc. These types of installations may exert extreme stress and compromise the locking system. Therefore, we do not recommend installation of our VSPC Click Vinyl in those areas.
- Determine if there is a need for noise reduction required above our tested STC and IIC sound ratings. Many residential applications such as condos and senior living facilities require noise suppression between floors. If the building requires extra sound ratings above our tested sound ratings, VSPC recommends using an approved acoustic underlay. Approved underlayments - 2 MM OR 3 MM IXPE foam underlayment or 2mm up to 6mm cork brands that warrant their underlay under IXPE attached VSPC Vinyl. However, the subfloor (Plywood and concrete) must be flat and between our installation guideline tolerance of 3/16" over 10 ft. Also, floor Joist space on 5/8" thickness subfloor- 16" on center, and 3/4" to 7/8" Plywood or OSB – 19" on center. We will not warrant any other products or thickness of underlay for our VSPC products.
- Ensure the jobsite is ready for installation prior to install. Check for signs of moisture or alkalinity and anything else that may prevent a proper installation.
- Do not begin preparation or installation of flooring before other trades have completed their work.
- All areas should be fully enclosed, weather tight with permanent HVAC in working operation at least 48 hours prior to installation.
- Radiant heating systems must be set to 15 °C (59 °F) **24 hours prior** to flooring installation.
- Following installation, the radiant heating system can slowly be increased in 5 °C increments, never exceeding 28 °C (82 °F).
- The owner and installer acknowledge that dramatic and sudden increases in temperature should never occur. It is recommended that a dedicated thermostat be installed to allow the temperature of the radiant heating system to be accurately controlled and maintained below 28°C.

Different production runs:

- VSPC floors can have slight color variations in between production runs. Before starting the installation, it is best to check the production run # which is indicated on the label on the box. If you find that you have boxes from different production runs, it is highly recommended that you open cartons and install a mix of planks from each different production run on your floor. This will result in a more natural-looking floor.

SITE PREPARATION

Subfloors:

- Although the VSPC is water-resistant for up to 12 hours, it is **not** to be used as a moisture barrier. Your subfloor should be completely dry prior to installation of the vinyl floor.
- Subfloors must be structurally sound, solid, stable, level, plumb and true to a tolerance in plane of 3/16" in 10 feet (6mm in 3.28m). Cracks and holes must be filled with a fast-setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound or equivalent. Any unevenness over 3/16" (5.7mm) must be sanded down or leveled. The surface must be clean of dirt, oil, glue residue etc. Carpet staples or adhesive residue should be removed prior to installation. Voids or humps in the subfloor will prevent the planks from locking properly.

Concrete:

- It is essential to perform moisture testing per ASTM F2170 (internal relative humidity) on all concrete floors. Results are not to exceed <92% IRH for loose lay click tiles. pH testing must be performed per ASTM F710, results not to exceed 9.9.
- Concrete shall be constructed per the guidelines contained in the ACI (American Concrete Institute) 302.2R-06: Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials

Wood:

- Subfloor must be clean, dry, level and firm.
- Must be structurally sound with minimal movement and deflection. Minimum allowable subfloor thickness is 5/8" with 16", or 3/4" with 19" on center floor joists.
- Moisture content should not exceed 13%.
- Wood subfloors over a crawlspace must have a minimum of 18" of ventilated air space below. Crawlspace floors must be covered with a suitable vapor barrier.
- Wood underlayment can be used that is clean and dry with a minimum thickness of 1/4" (6.35mm) and a moisture content not exceeding 13%.

Other Substrates:

- VSPC can be installed on existing firm floors (Linoleum, PVC...), but all textile floors must be removed. When laying the floor over existing ceramic tiles first level with a fast-setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound.

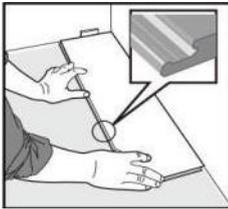
IMPORTANT:

Neither the manufacturer, distributor, or dealer is responsible for any floor installation failures associated with unaddressed site conditions such as, but not limited to vapor transmission, moisture permeation, improper pH levels, and contaminated concrete or damaged subfloors. VSPC is water-resistant but is not a vapor barrier. **VSPC is not warranted against damage caused by standing water.** The ultimate responsibility for subfloor acceptability and compatibility resides with the architect, designer, contractor, and installer. Note that tests done prior to installation of flooring do not guarantee the long-term performance of the substrate. Avoid long term exposure to moisture by installing proper vapor barriers, concrete sealers, and channeling water away from buildings.

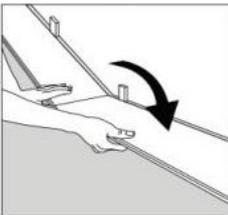
Measurements:

- It is recommended for a floating floor to install the VSPC at a 90° angle to the floor joists.
- Pre-plan the floor by measuring the room first. If the width of the last row is less than 2 inches (5cm), lay out the room to ensure that the first and the last planks are equal in width.
- Snap lines on the substrate to identify the layout reference points, planks should be set using this reference to ensure planks are aligned and will lock together correctly.
- In large areas where flooring will span an excess of 40' long, an expansion gap should be used. Otherwise place expansion space in and under the door thresholds. Cover the expansion space with suitable coverings.
- Do not tight-fit the planks to door casings, walls, or other abutments. Undercut door casings for the planks to fit underneath and leave a minimum 5/16" inch space at all other abutments that cannot be undercut or placed on top of the planks.

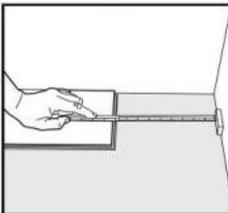
INSTALLATION



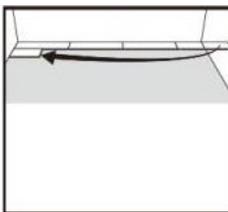
1. From the top left corner of the room put the first plank in place so both the end and side seam grooves are exposed. Planks are to be installed from left to right.



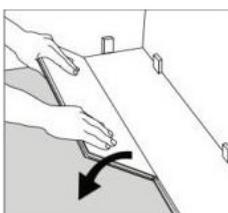
2. Install the second piece in the first row by laying the short-end tongue onto the previously installed piece short-end groove. Fasten the piece together by firmly pressing down with your thumb along the seam to lock the planks together. This will engage the 5G locking clip into the piece you just placed; you will hear and feel the pieces lock together as the locking tab engages in the joint. Use of a soft, white No. 2 rubber mallet is also recommended to vertically engage the joint.



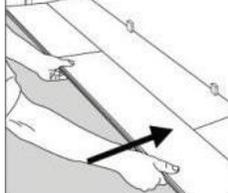
3. Continue in this manner for the rest of the first row. The last piece in the row should be cut to length while maintaining the 5/16" (8mm) expansion space along the perimeter of the room.



4. Cut a plank in half of the length to start the second row or use the cutoff from the previous row, keeping in mind the length requirements above. Install the first piece in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the piece in the first row at a low angle (25°) to the installed piece. Then firmly lower the plank while maintaining a slight pressure toward the installed piece. The pieces should fit snugly together and lay flat. Ensure that expansion space is kept along this wall.



5. To install the remaining planks in the second row, first align the long edge tongue into the groove of the previous row at a shallow angle. Slide the piece to the left until the piece meets the previously installed piece.



6. Firmly lower the piece while maintaining a slight pressure towards the installed piece. The pieces should fit snugly together and lay flat.



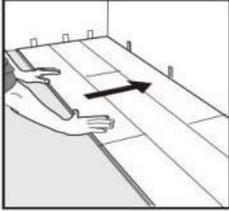
7. Work across the length of the room installing pieces in the second row. It is critical to keep these first two rows straight and square, as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the installation. Check often for squareness and straightness while installing the floor.

8. Use of several 5/16" (8mm) spacer blocks along the first wall will ensure the proper spacing is achieved and that floor does not 'walk' back towards the wall during installation.

9. Continue installing flooring, being certain to maintain a random appearance (planks) of the pattern and offset end seams by at least 8". Maintain a 5/16" (8mm) expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces. Check to be certain all planks are fully engaged; if slight gapping is noticed or the pieces will not lay flat, simply disengage the long/top side joint and then carefully slide the short/end joint apart.

10. Install wall moldings and door transition moldings last. Be sure that all moldings are

fastened directly to the wall studs or directly into the flooring; do not place any fasteners through the floating vinyl flooring.



Note: The 5G drop lock joints cannot be “lifted” or angled apart when removing or re-positioning a plank. To remove a plank, first disengage the long joint by lifting at a slight angle while pulling the complete rows away from each other. Then simply “slide” the drop joint apart along the floor. Failure to slide this joint will damage the drop lock mechanism and prevent proper re- installation of the affected plank.

Installation over radiant heated subfloors

VSPC can also be installed on a radiant heated subfloor. **However, installers and homeowners must adhere to the following directions:**

- Radiant heating systems must be set to 15 °C (59 °F) **24 hours prior** to flooring installation.
- Following installation, the radiant heating system can slowly be increased in 5 °C increments, never exceeding 28 °C (82 °F).
- The owner and installer acknowledge that dramatic and sudden increases in temperature should never occur. It is recommended that a dedicated thermostat be installed to allow the temperature of the radiant heating system to be accurately controlled and maintained below 28°C.

Failure to follow these instructions may cause damage to the floor and will void the warranty.

Installation in direct sunlight of heavy load areas:

- For application in direct sunlight or exposure to excessive heat or in areas with heavy rolling traffic i.e., Dentists chairs, wheelchairs or dollies it is NOT recommended to use the VSPC 5G Click system.

After Installation:

- In bathrooms or other areas where moisture could reach the subfloor by migrating to the perimeter of the installation: caulk around the perimeter of the installation with silicone (or equivalent) caulking. Be careful not to caulk above the flooring height as it may impede the installation of wall base.
- Install specified transition strips where applicable.
- Never slide appliances or other heavy items across the floor. Use plywood and a hand dolly or an approved air-ride moving device.
- To control grit, use walk-off mats with backings that will not stain the floor.
- Use furniture glides and protectors to prevent scratching and indentations.
- Read and understand all maintenance and warranty information.

WARRANTY

10 Year Light Commercial Warranty/Lifetime Residential Warranty:

- Our limited light commercial warranty for VSPC means that for ten years (light commercial) or lifetime (residential), from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through when installed and maintained according to these instructions. This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims. The guarantee is for replacement or refund of the material only, no labor. Claims for wear must show a minimum dime size area.
- High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are not covered by this warranty.
- Gloss reduction is not considered surface wear-through. Gloss changes are not considered surface wear. Excessive wear along the edges and bevels of individual boards (within 1/8" or 3mm of the edge of the panel) is not covered by this warranty. Scratches, indentations, marks, stains or other damage caused by negligent or accidental exposure to pebbles, grit, sand or other abrasives, pets, insects, high heeled or cleated shoes, fire, product spills, excessive moisture, heat or dryness are not considered normal wear and tear and are not covered by the warranty.
- The installation and warranty guide can be viewed and downloaded from our website.
- VSPC is water resistant, not waterproof, for up to 12 hours. The warranty listed here covers minor water exposure such as spills for up to 12 hours. Exposure of VSPC to standing water, flooding, and exterior conditions such as rain and snow that results in damage or changes to the product are not covered by the warranty.
- Use of steam cleaners, steam mops, floor scrubbers, or chemical cleaners that are not safe for hardwood floors is not recommended and will void the warranty of the VSPC flooring.

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

INITIAL CLEANING

- Remove all traces of adhesive or dirt on the floor by dry vacuuming. Then, use a damp mop or recommended hardwood floor cleaners to wash floor.
- Never use a steam mop, steam cleaner or floor scrubbers to wash or clean the floors. Doing so will void the warranty.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

- The easiest way to reduce maintenance costs is to reduce the amount of dirt, grit and moisture brought into a building with an effective barrier mat. Mats should be cleaned regularly. The use of either rubber-backed mats or coco-fiber mats is not recommended as they are known to cause yellow stains in vinyl floors.
- Never slide heavy furniture or appliances over an unprotected floor. Severe scratching may result. Move heavy furniture or appliances over the flooring using casters or dollies. The manufacturer recommends that felt pads are used on any furniture that is placed on the floor. If other on-site trade work continues after installation of flooring, consider using a protective covering such as Anti-Skid Hard Surface Protection to guard against damage to the new floor.
- Clean the floorcovering regularly, as this is more cost-effective and hygienic than occasional heavy-duty cleaning.

SPOT PROTECTION AND REMOVAL:

- Wipe immediately with a paper towel or cloth.
- The area should be washed with diluted cleaning agent, using a damp cloth.

The following substances can cause discoloration:

- Tar • Lipstick • Coco-Fiber Mats
- Nail Polish • Solvent-based paints • Asphalt • Cooking Oil
- Shoe Polish • Rubber Mats • Permanent Markers

NOTE: Most domestic cleaning agents will not harm the floor, however all residue of cleaning agents should be removed to avoid discoloration. We recommend the top temperature should not exceed 85°F (29°C). As such, steam cleaners are not recommended. Damage due to the use of steam cleaners will void the warranty.

BASIC TIPS ON CARE:

- Regular light maintenance is more cost effective and beneficial than periodic heavy maintenance.
- Do not use soap-based detergents, caustic cleaners, or abrasive cleaners.
- Never use boiling water or steam to clean floors.
- Never use cleaners which are not made for floors, such as dishwasher tabs or toilet cleaners. These products are not formulated or tested for cleaning floors and can result in damage and will void the warranty of the floor.
- Sweep, mop, or dry vacuum the floor regularly.
- Always use a clean mop – dirty mops only redistribute the dirt.
- Furniture polish and window cleaning sprays should be applied directly to a cloth to avoid spillage onto the floor.
- Always remove any spills immediately.
- Always remove excess water.
- Always take precautions to prevent dark rubber from contacting the floor.
- Always use the manufacturer's recommended dilution rates.
- Wet floors are slippery; always use warning signs to advise that cleaning is in progress.