

MULTIPANEL®

FLOORS

CLICK RANGE

Recommended Tools

Tape measure ■
Straight edge ■
3mm spacers ■
Masking tape ■
Utility knife ■
Pencil ■
Iron ■

Prior to installation please view video clip via the web page below:
<http://www.multipanel.co.uk/products/floors/click-floor-range>

Pre-installation check-list

- ✓ Flooring must be checked for flaws, defects or damage*
- ✓ Check colour and sheen levels between all planks/tiles**
- ✓ Flooring should be stored horizontally at a room temperature of 18-30°C for at least 48 hours to acclimatise prior to installation. This temperature should be maintained during installation.
- ✓ Ensure that each carton is from the same batch by referring to the batch number on the pack – *this is to avoid colour variation which can occur between different batches.*
- ✓ If panels are being fitted by a tradesman, colours should be approved by end user.
- ✓ Read installation guidelines.

* Once installation has commenced, the flooring is deemed to have arrived in perfect condition – any of the above reported after installation will not be covered by your warranty.

** By design, most planks and tiles will vary in pattern and colour to ensure a random effect across the installation – see section 2b.

1. Sub-floor preparation

- a. Multipanel® Click flooring **CAN** be installed over most existing floors including wood, vinyl, linoleum, concrete and ceramic tile, providing the sub-floor is firm and without any give or cushioning.
- b. Multipanel® Click flooring **CAN NOT** be fitted over carpet or over flooring underlay. Multipanel® Click flooring **IS NOT** suitable for outside use, sunrooms / solariums, saunas, seasonal porches, camping trailers, Recreational Vehicles (RVs), boats, conservatories or wet rooms or any areas with the potential to flood. Wet areas, such as bathrooms and shower rooms are suitable for Multipanel® Click flooring. It is not recommended to use Multipanel® Click flooring for rooms that are not temperature controlled.
- c. To ensure engagement of the locking profile the sub-floor **MUST** be flat, smooth with no bumps, sound and must be of sufficient strength to ensure it does not break up during installation. Any remaining carpet staples or adhesives from previous installations must be removed. If laying over ceramic tiles with grout lines greater than 3mm, it may be necessary to fill the void with a floor leveller.
- d. Strip wood floors, particle board, chipboard, wafer board, knotty plywood, etc. should be flat, or covered with a plywood underlay (minimum 6mm thickness), to create a flat, smooth sub-floor before installation. It is recommended that crawl spaces should be insulated and protected by a barrier. Multipanel® Click flooring should **NOT** be installed over a sleeper type sub-floor.
- e. Other existing 'smooth' floor types: vinyl, tile, linoleum, cork, etc. must be flat and sound without bumps. Uneven concrete floors must be screeded with a minimum 3mm of smoothing compound prior to installation.
- f. Sub-floors must be carefully checked for moisture problems. Multipanel® Click flooring is waterproof. It is **NOT** a waterproofer. Any moisture problems must be addressed before installation. New concrete floors need to dry up to a moisture content of max. 3%.

2. Pre-installation

- a. During the 48 hour acclimatisation period, the flooring should remain in the box. When installing Multipanel® Click flooring, be sure to keep dust, dirt or foreign particles away from the locking strip. The cleaner the locking strip remains, the better the connection between the planks or tiles.
- b. Before installing your floor, take the material from two or three consecutive cartons and examine the pattern repeat/wood graining to ensure that the graining is evenly spread over the whole installation and not concentrated in certain areas, to ensure a random effect.
- c. If fitting over under-floor heating, the system should be switched off for at least 3 days prior to installation. Once Multipanel® Click flooring has been installed, the heating must not be switched back on for at least 3 days, after which time it should be turned on to the same temperature as the ambient room temperature and not below 18°C. The thermostat should then be gradually increased by 2-3 degrees per day.
NOTE: the surface temperature of Multipanel® Click must not exceed 30°C. This is not to be confused with the air temperature of the room.
- d. Measure the width and length of the room; If the room has alcoves or offsets, measure these separately. This will give you the number of square metres of the room. We recommend purchasing a minimum of 10% extra to cover mistakes, trimming, future needs and/or replacements.

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3. Laying the floor

Before laying out the floor, check the wall you are starting from and make sure it is square compared to the opposite wall. Simply measure the room from opposite ends of the wall to the far wall. If the measurements are different, you can either make adjustments to the first line by scribing the first row of planks, or start in the centre of the room and work towards the wall – refer to note 3i on fitting a row next to a wall.

- a. For best results with Multipanel® Click wood effect planks, ensure a minimum off-set of 300mm between seams. Multipanel® Click tiles should be offset by half a tile length.
 - b. To cut Multipanel® Click, measure and mark the tile/plank, then using a straight edge and utility knife, simply score the plank and snap. If the tile/plank does not break off fully, cut from the back with a utility knife. (see fig. A1/2) Always cut the short side of the plank with the tongue edge. The remaining piece can then be used on the opposite side of the room, at the end of a row.
 - c. If the walls are perfectly straight, installation should start in a corner and proceed from the wall with the groove facing out away from the wall. (see fig. B) Allow a gap of 6mm for sub-floor movement or product expansion, which should be covered by moulding, skirting or silicone sealed. If the edge of the flooring next to the wall will be exposed, you may wish to cut off the tongue to create a square edge.
- Note:** Be sure to leave a minimum of 8-10mm (1/4 ") expansion space around all fixed objects, cabinetry, and metal door jambs. Undercut wooden door jambs. Fill any expansion spaces around potentially wet areas such as refrigerators, tubs, and appliances with premium waterproof 100% silicone.
- d. When laying the first row in a straight line, inter-lock the short ends by inserting the tongue into the grooves at an angle of approximately 15 to 20°. Install each sequential plank/tile on the short end and be sure to line up evenly. This is very important for a good installation.
 - e. Be sure to keep the seams tight. You will feel and hear the click when locking the planks/tiles – if you can run your finger nail down the seam, or if there is a visible gap between the planks/tiles, they have not engaged fully. If your seams appear not to be tight you can pull them apart immediately and re-apply. Slowly lift the top plank from the bottom plank and repeat the steps above. Be careful not to pull the planks apart too fast as this may damage the locking profile.
 - f. To cut pieces to the required length at the end of a row, take one full plank or tile to use as your 'marker'. Cut the protruding tongues and grooves from all four edges, making the marker the exact size of the face. Position the marker 2-3mm from the wall so it overlaps with the last plank/tile to be laid. (see fig. C) Using the end of the marker as a straight edge, score the last plank/tile to have been laid. This piece is then removed, snapped and cut. Lay a full plank/tile in its place, then the cut piece should fit perfectly against the wall.

Tip: place some tape on the marker so it can be easily identified.

- g. Start the second row with a 2/3 length plank (810mm) or off-set tiles by half a length, (view video guide for further clarification). Inter-lock the first piece (long side) against the first row at an angle of approximately 15-20°. Push the length of the next plank up against the first row, then inter-lock the short side first, leaving it slightly away from the long side. Holding the two pieces of Multipanel® Click together, lift and then slide into the long side. (see fig. D1/D2) Do not attempt to knock the planks together like laminate flooring as this will damage the locking profile. Continue with full planks and repeat step 3f to cut the end piece.

Tip: flexing the short edge seam slightly will ease the new plank/tile down the short edge of one existing piece, and into the long edge of the other. (see fig. E) You must then ensure the seam has engaged down the full length.

- h. Start the third row with a 1/3 length plank (405 mm). The remaining piece can be used at the opposite end of the row, if the layout of the room permits. Continue this pattern for the remainder of the rows to be installed.
- i. For the last row, repeat step 3f, but this time using the long edge of the marker as a square edge to cut against. Place the marker against the wall (see fig. F) and score down the length of the fitted pieces in the second last row. Remove, snap and cut the fitted pieces, lay full planks/tiles in their place, and slot into the last row.

Tip: use adhesive carpet tape to create tabs to lever pieces in the last row into position. (see fig. G1/2) When locking both a short and long edge, lift tabs of both planks/tiles, and inter-lock the short edges first, then slide into the long edge.

Figure A.1



Figure A.2

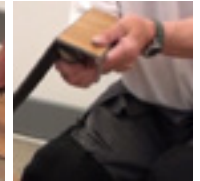


Figure B.

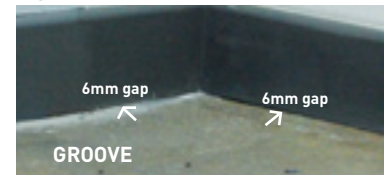


Figure C.



Figure D.1



Figure D.2



Figure E.



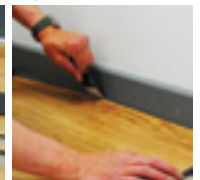
Figure F.



Figure G.1



Figure G.2



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- j. To cut around irregular objects such as pedestals and WC's, try to set out the flooring in the area with a view to having two planks/tiles meeting at the front of the curve – this will make it easier to fit into place. If flooring has already been laid up close to the object, or if it is close to the starting point in the room, use the White card which is supplied between the faces of the flooring in the boxes as a template.

To do this, if adjoining to a previous piece of flooring, butt the edge of the card against the shoulder of the rebate at the groove, hold firmly in place and run your finger nail along the card pressing it up against the pedestal or other object to crease the card, then make a pencil mark around it and cut the card to shape, you can check the fit by laying the card in place against the adjoining flooring and object prior to marking in the piece of flooring.

When you are happy with a good fit (allowing for expansion), lay the card onto the piece of flooring which is to be cut to shape and mark the shape it is to be cut to (note for darker colours it may be easier to put masking tape on the area to be marked so you can clearly see the pencil mark).

Cut the flooring to the required shape either using a utility knife or Coping Saw if easier, trim off any burr from the cut and try in place, if fine adjustment is required. This can be done by pairing a piece of the flooring with a utility knife (cutting away from yourself) or by re-trimming with a coping saw.

Figure H.1



Figure H.2

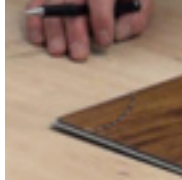


Figure I



Figure J.1

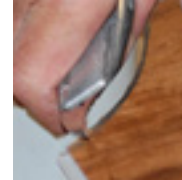


Figure J.2



4. Aftercare

Prevention Maintenance

- Use **NON RUBBER** protective mats in front of any doors leading to the outside. This helps stop the sand and grit from getting onto the floors. Gritty sand is the worst enemy for any kind of floor covering.
- Install proper floor protection on all furniture legs used with resilient flooring. Protectors will allow chairs to move easily over the floor without scuffing or scratching. Clean protectors on a regular basis to remove any grit that may have become embedded on the bottom of the furniture leg. For any swivelled type office chairs and other rolling furniture, please install 5 cm wide non staining flat castors. **DO NOT USE ANY RUBBER CASTORS.**
- To keep your floor at its best dust or vacuum your floor at least twice a week. Do it more on floors with heavy traffic. Do not use a household dust cleaner of any kind as this may cause the floor to become slick or damage the finish. Just sweep the floor as often as needed.
- Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to damage your floor. It may result in severe scratching of the surface. The same is true for high heeled shoes that do not have proper tips on the heels.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. During peak sunlight hours use blinds or curtains to minimize the direct sunlight on the floor. Most types of flooring will be affected by continuous strong sunlight. To avoid an uneven appearance please consider relocation of area rugs from time to time. In addition, excessive temperatures are not good for resilient floors. Some natural ventilation or intermittent air conditioning in vacant homes should be considered. Long term continuous inside temperatures over 35°C degrees, combined with strong direct sunlight will damage your floor and cause the installation to fail.

Regular Maintenance

- Food spills should be cleaned up as rapidly as possible with a quality vinyl cleaner. We do not recommend powdered cleaners, oils, soaps, dishwashing detergents, or other dusting products. Try to use a non-rinsing, bio-degradable cleaner that leaves no residue or haze and requires no rinsing after application.
- Shoe marks and scuffs can be easily removed.
- Do **NOT WAX** Multipanel® Click flooring at all. The surface of your floor is very dense and non-porous. This prevents wax from penetrating and thus will build up a bed for yellowing and dirt collection. The same non-porous feature also provides all the protection against wear and staining that you will need.
- If accidental deep scratches appear on your floor then it might be necessary to replace this piece – please refer to section 5. If the scratches are fine and the result of normal household use, then it is recommended only to fill them with one or two coats of good vinyl matt finishing product.

5. Replacement tiles

Be sure to keep some spare flooring in case there is an unforeseen need for replacement. If you need to replace a plank of Multipanel® Click, simply take a utility knife and cut out the plank on the long side only and lift it. Then take a spare plank, cut the tongue and groove off the long side only of the replacement plank. Leave the tongue and groove on the short side of the plank. Then simply fit into place and inter-lock the two short seams using carpet tape on the bottom of the planks/ tiles to secure the long edges.

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WARRANTY

Grant Westfield Ltd offers a reducing 1 year wear warranty that Multipanel® Click will not wear-out under normal foot traffic. Wear-out means the removal of pattern and colours from the floor. In the event of a successful claim under your Multipanel® Click guarantee we will replace the necessary amount of flooring, but will only cover any claims for consequential costs under exceptional circumstances where a defective plank / tile prohibits ordinary use of the surrounding area, e.g. unable to take a shower.

This guarantee does not cover failure of the product due to:

- Faulty installation
- Wet room or conservatory installation
- Incorrect maintenance
- Damage or misuse
- Damage from underfloor heating > 27°C
- Exposure to direct sunlight > 110°F / 43°C

Prior to installation the following checks should be carried out and any queries reported, as claims of this nature will not be covered:

- Colour matching and sheen levels between different planks of the same finish.

Note. A degree of variation is normal on wood grain planks to ensure an authentic effect.

- If flooring is to be fitted by a tradesman - colours should be approved by the customer
- If flooring has been stored in cold conditions, it must be left to condition at room temperature for 48 hours prior to installation.
- Check all products have arrived in good condition
- Flaws and defects in vinyl - although unlikely

This guarantee does not confer any rights other than those set out above and claims for consequential loss or damage are excluded.

Grant Westfield Ltd reserve the right to change Multipanel® Click decor and sizes. We hope that you are fully satisfied with the Multipanel® product you have purchased and that you will return to Multipanel® for all your wall/ceiling lining requirements.

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