

DO-IT-YOURSELF INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT: Unilin Click System is installed without glue. The Individual planks are not fixed to the subfloor. The edges (tongues and grooves) are engineered to lock together creating a secure bond along all four sides of each plank, making installation easier, faster and cleaner while allowing your new floor to be used immediately after installation.

MATERIALS YOU MAY NEED:

- Patch/underlayment/embossing leveler - to level surface and patch cracks
- Utility knife and straight edge
- Measuring tape
- Shears or tin snips for cutting around irregular shaped objects
- Unilin Click System planks - make sure you purchase at least 10% extra to cover mistakes or for possible future replacements and repairs

IMPORTANT: Purchase all planks at the same time, and check to make sure all item numbers match before leaving store.

SUITABLE AREAS:

Excellent for all areas of your home including kitchens, bathrooms, entryways, rec rooms, laundry rooms and commercial installations such as shops, salons, professional and business offices, entryways and break rooms.

SUITABLE SURFACES:

- Smooth surfaces that are flat, level, structurally sound and rigid
- Clean surfaces that are free of dust, dirt, grease, paint, old adhesive residue, carpet staples and moisture
- Plywood, chipboard, flakeboard, waferboard, particleboard or OSB
- Concrete floors that are dry, and free of dust, solvents, grease and oil. New concrete must be thoroughly dry and cured for at least six weeks
- Ceramic and stone floors as long as they have been made smooth and level with a patch/underlayment/embossing leveler
- Radiant-heated floors, provided the floor temperature does not exceed 90 F. Before installing the floor, the heating system should be turned on to eliminate moisture

UNSUITABLE SURFACES

- Carpet, foam underlayment or heavily cushioned floors
- Concrete surfaces below grade where moisture may be a problem. Unilin Click System is waterproof and is not susceptible to water damage. However, excessive moisture in the subfloor beneath the plank may allow for the growth of mold or mildew (see concrete moisture test below)

- Heavily embossed floors, unless the embossed surface is filled with a suitable patch, underlayment, or embossing leveler
- Floors that are not flat or level will cause flooring to buckle and break flooring mechanisms.

CONCRETE SUBFLOOR MOISTURE TESTING PROCEDURE:

If you are unsure whether moisture is a problem, cut a few two-foot square pieces of polyethylene and duct tape them to several areas of the concrete subfloor. Wait about 72 hours and then lift up the corner of each test square. If the plastic is dry, then moisture is within the acceptable levels. If there is condensation on the underside of the plastic, or if the floor beneath is damp, then the moisture level may not be acceptable.

IMPORTANT: Store the Unilin Click System Planks horizontally in the room where it will be installed for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Make sure the room temperature is between 65 degrees and 85 degrees Fahrenheit for at least 48 hours prior to installation and for the life of the floor.

PREPARING THE SUBFLOOR:

CONCRETE FLOORS:

Concrete must be smooth, clean, flat and free of moisture. Remove all dirt, grease and adhesive residue. Sweep and vacuum floor thoroughly. Fill all cracks and holes with a suitable patch/underlayment/embossing leveler per manufacturer's instructions.

WOOD FLOORS:

Securely nail all loose boards. Scrape, plane or fill uneven boards with a suitable patch, underlayment, or embossing leveler. If the surface is still not smooth, then we recommend installing a 1/4" underlayment panel over the wood subfloor.

OLD FLOOR COVERINGS:

Planks may be installed directly over any well-bonded, smooth surface. Planks should not be installed over heavily cushioned floor materials. Planks should not be installed over heavily embossed tiles unless the embossing has been filled in with a suitable patch, underlayment, or embossing leveler. Your Unilin Click System Planks may even be installed over ceramic tiles as long as the surface is smooth and the grout lines and any other irregularities are filled with a suitable patch/ underlayment/embossing leveler.

WARNING: NEVER SAND EXISTING RESILIENT FLOOR, AS THE DUST MAY CONTAIN HARMFUL ASBESTOS FIBERS.

PATCHING OR LEVELING:

Patch, fill, level and smooth any holes, cracks or surface irregularities. Floor must be level within 1/8" over 6' or 3/16" over a 10' radius. Make sure that the floor is smooth, clean and completely free of wax, grease, oil or dust before laying the planks. Any roughness or unevenness in the subfloor may eventually show through, detracting from the genuine appearance of your floor as well as cause excessive wearing in those areas.

BEFORE INSTALLING PLANKS:

Planks and the room where the planks are being installed must be maintained at a stable temperature of around 65°F - 85°F for at least 48 hours prior to, during and after installation. Installed planks must always be maintained at a stable, controlled temperature of between 65°F and 85°F for the life of the product.

FOR BEST VISUAL RESULTS:

- Check to see that all pattern and item numbers are the same.
- Always mix planks from several boxes to avoid installing planks with similar patterns/colors next to each other. A little time spent carefully selecting planks from several boxes will significantly reduce the effect of any shade variations as well as increase the authenticity and beauty of your floor.

- Before installation, carefully inspect each plank for blemishes and visual defects. For visual defects: installation constitutes acceptance.

INSTALLING PLANKS:

LAYING THE FIRST THREE ROWS:

1. Remove wood moldings around the perimeter of the floor.
2. Lay the long dimension of the planks parallel to the long dimension of the room.
3. It is important to plan your layout to avoid an unbalanced installation with narrow plank widths or short end lengths at the walls. Always plan your layout to prevent having less than a half plank width at the side walls and no less than 12" lengths at the end walls.
4. Measure the width of the room at the front, middle and back and divide the widths of each measurement by the width of a plank. If the remainder is less than half the plank width, then the planks on your starter row should be narrowed to make the last row approximately half the width of the plank. The width of the last plank should be approximately the same width as the first plank.

Please note: This may also be figured out by laying down loose planks across the width of the room without securing them to each other and making the necessary adjustments.

5. Same for the length. Measure the length of the room at left wall and divide by the length of a plank. If the remainder is less than 12", then you need to cut the first plank down to make the remainder 12" or longer.
6. Begin installing the first row of planks along the left side wall from the left front corner with the tongue side facing the wall. Lay down your first plank, then insert the tongue end of the second plank into the groove end of the first plank at an angle of approximately 20 degrees and push down. You should feel the planks lock together. It is very important that the planks line up perfectly, the joints are tight and do not pull apart, and the seems are tight without any gaps. Put 1/4" spacers along the walls to maintain a 1/4" expansion zone between the wall and the planks. Spacers should be approximately 20" apart. Do not install product against wall, columns or cabinets without leaving 1/4" expansion zone.

CUTTING THE LAST PLANK IN THE FIRST ROW:

Mark the last plank, score it with a straight edge and utility knife, and break it at your scoring line.

IMPORTANT: This product is manufactured with a fiberglass layer which adds dimensional stability to each plank, minimizing expansion, contraction and curling. When you score the planks, cut cleanly through the fiberglass layer before breaking the plank. Always stagger the end joints in a random manner by at least 6" from row to row, and always avoid the clustering of end joints. If the layout of the room permits you may use the cut piece from the end of first row to start the next row.

INSTALLING THE FIRST AND SECOND PLANK OF THE SECOND ROW:

- Insert the tongue on the side of the first plank of the second row into the groove of the first plank in the first row at an angle of approximately 20 degrees. With lightly applied pressure, click the tongue into the groove. Make sure the seems are tight with no separations or gaps.
- Interlock the end of the second plank with end of the first plank, leaving the second plank long side tongue just over the first row plank groove. Then at a very low angle, slide/push the lengths together. Check to make sure there are no gaps in the end or long side seems.

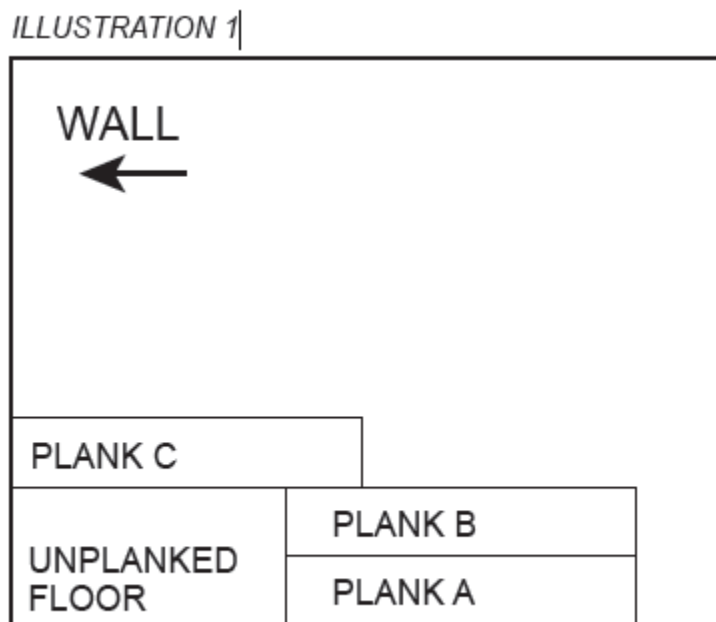
The seams must be tight with no separation at the ends or along the side.

- Continue laying planks, one row at a time.
- Pause, check, then recheck the first three rows again to make sure everything is straight and square without any gaps in the seams. These three rows are the foundation for the rest of

your floor.

- Don't forget to use 1/4" spacers along the side and end walls to maintain a 1/4" expansion zone. Your flooring will expand and contract with temperature changes within the home as well as direct sunlight.
- To fit planks around obstacles, make a pattern of the area on paper or cardboard, trace the pattern onto the plank and cut.
- To fit a partial plank on the last row, first place a loose plank (B) directly over the last whole plank (A) closest to the wall. Then butt another plank (C) against the wall overlapping plank (B) and mark plank (B) where it is to be cut (see Illustration #1). Do not cut on floor, as you may cut through and damage new planks. Check to see if the fit is acceptable, then click lock the plank (B) into place.

ILLUSTRATION 1



Trim Side View

When you are done, remove all spacers along the walls and install moldings over the planks. When installing the moldings, always fasten them to the wall, not to the plank.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR NEW FLOOR:

Your new floor is now ready to show with pride! You may wash the floor immediately. Always use chair protectors, mats and rugs to help prevent scratching. Regular sweeping or vacuuming and occasional washing with clean warm water will keep your new floor clean and beautiful. Use a damp sponge mop rinsed with a mild, no-wax floor cleaner to clean your new floor. This is a high quality vinyl floor that if maintained, will last for years. If not protected properly, as with other floor covering such as hardwood and laminate, it will scratch. Scratches may be caused by pets, furniture, rocks from shoes, and many other abrasive items.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Limited 10 Year Residential, 5 - Year Light Commercial Warranty:

This product is warranted by the manufacturer to the original purchaser against manufacturing defects when installed and maintained according to the instructions printed or supplied within each carton. Under this warranty, the manufacturer will repair or, at his option, furnish replacement material of similar design, color, and quality as the defective material. If a manufacturing defect becomes evident within the warranted time period, you should notify the retailer immediately, in writing, and supply proof of purchase, a detailed description of the defect, along with a sample, and /or photograph if possible. No other expressed warranties are given. Repair or replacement of the defective product is your only remedy. In no event shall the manufacturer be liable for consequential or incidental damages or expenses of any kind or amount no matter what the cost.

This warranty does NOT cover the following:

- Any usage other than interior residential or interior commercial
- Labor and/or material costs involved in removing defective product and installing the replacement.
- Damage due to excessive moisture, alkaline substances or hydrostatic pressure in the subfloor
- Dissatisfaction due to improper installation and maintenance
- Damage due to stains, scratches, gouges, scuffs, indentions, punctures, tears or burns.
- Accidental discoloration due to extended exposure to sunlight
- Seasonal Dwellings, unheated porches or installations where there are extreme temperature variations.
- Intentional misuse.