

STICK DOWN LVT - REGULAR BOARDS

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Our Stick Down LVT flooring comes in a variety of ranges, using different installation methods depending on the specific range. In this guide, we will walk through how to install the Stick Down LVT.

1. PREPARATION.

Prior to installation, there is some preparation required to ensure fitting your flooring runs as smooth as possible.

Important: Carefully inspect all boards for any defects. Planks installed with visible defects are not covered under warranty, and is the owner/installer's responsibility for the suitability of the Stick Down LVT flooring and accompanying products. Please do not install any plank or tile that is considered questionable in appearance or dimensions.

2. BEST VISUAL RESULTS.

The flooring replicates the look of a natural product which has natural variations in colour, texture and sheen/gloss. For best visual effect, work from 3-4 boxes and shuffle planks or tiles. Avoid installing similar planks next to one another.

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3. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION.

Ensure your subfloor is dry and use a spirit level to ensure your floor is level for best installation results.

While this product is water-resistant, it's not a moisture barrier. Moisture won't damage this product, but it can get in the walls and structure of the home. It's still a good idea to make sure your concrete is cured and tested for moisture, and that a moisture barrier is installed under an Stick Down LVT floor over a concrete subfloor.

Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, it is recommended to leave a ¼" expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor.

Wood subfloors must be dry and well secured. Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with self-levelling patch.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, and should have minimum 6-mil polyfilm between concrete and ground. If not level, grind down high spots and fill low spots with self-levelling compound.

Floating installations may be made over subfloors including: Concrete and plywood.

WE DO NOT RECOMMEND installing over an existing floor.

4. ACCLIMATIZATION.

LVT is waterproof and does not require acclimatization, though it is still recommended to store and install the material in an environment that has been acclimated to acceptable living conditions.

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5. PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS.

Tools:

- Tape measure.
- Pencil.
- Chalk line.
- Crosscut power saw.
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape.
- ¼" Spacers

Acceptable subfloor types:

- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood. (at least ½" thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard.
- OSB. (at least ¾" thick)
- Concrete slab.
- Existing wood or laminate floor.
- Ceramic tile.
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl.

6. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS.

Subfloors must be clean, flat, dry and structurally sound. Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for colour, finish, sheen, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project.

If you have a crawl space, it must be a minimum of 18" (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6–20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.

Room temperature and humidity of the installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least one week before installation of flooring. After installation, a room temperature range between 15°C and 41°C and a humidity range of 30-50% is recommended.

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7. STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION.

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line.

Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank or tile. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks or tiles to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is out of straight.

You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row-to-row by at least 6" (15 cm) for planks, and equal to a half piece for tiles.

For plank installations, when cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. If the cut-off end is less than 6", discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length (at least 6" in length) and use it to start the next row.

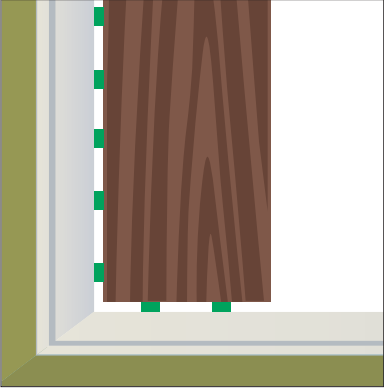
For tile installations, always begin a row with either a full tile or a half tile so that the joints are consistently staggered in a "brick work" type pattern. Always begin each row from the same side of the room.

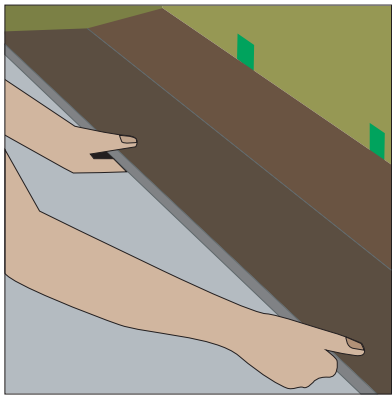
Before laying: Measure the room at a right angle to the direction of the flooring. For best visual effect, planks or tiles in the final row should be at least at least 1/3 the width of the plank or tile. For this purpose, planks or tiles in the first row can be cut to smaller size. Purposely mix and arrange boards in a pleasant blend of shades. Lay boards, preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboards.

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8. STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION.

1.  Starting from the left with the tongue-side facing the wall, carefully place the first board in place, using spacers to leave a ¼” expansion gap between the wall and edges of the plank or tile.

2.  Next, draw a line to mark out the perimeter of the laid plank and then set the planks aside.

Apply the adhesive to the subfloor within this marked out area. Use a recommended adhesive for LVT flooring and follow the manufacturer’s instructions. Lay the floor on top of the adhesive. You can adjust the planks as needed and then push down on the planks so that the adhesive transfers from the subfloor to the back of the planks.

Wipe away any glue residue immediately with a damp cloth.

3. Within 30 minutes after laying use a heavy roll to bond the adhesive to the planks.

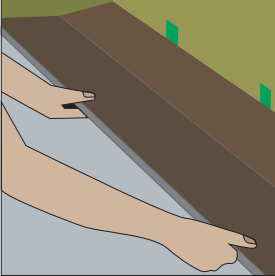

Repeat this process for the other rows. We recommended doing two rows at a time to minimise mistakes.

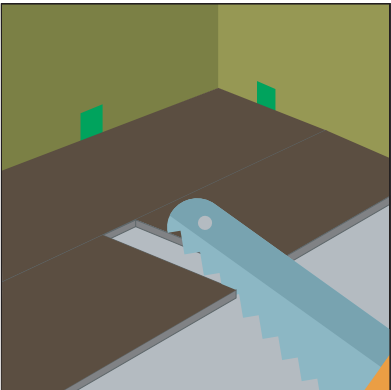
In any rooms with high moisture, seal between the wall and floor with a transparent waterproof silicone. Fit in matching skirtings to cover the expansion gap in any other rooms.

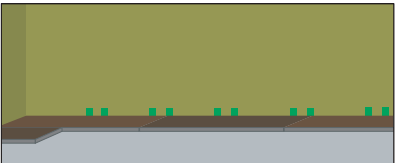
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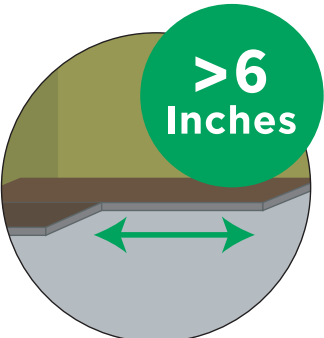
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9. CONTINUING THE INSTALLATION.

1.   Install the remaining boards and rows in the same manner.

2.  Cut the last board to size.

3.  Whenever practical, use cut pieces from previous rows as the starter board to reduce waste.

4.  Maintain proper spacing (at least 6" for planks, and equal to half its length for tiles) between end joints for best appearance.
- 5.

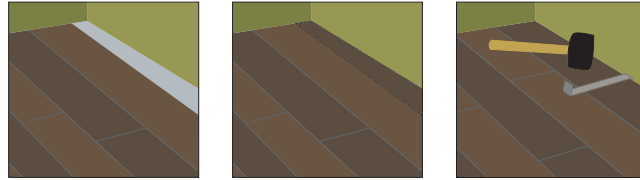
6. Carefully inspect the long edge and short ends of the plank or tile for any gapping before moving on to the next tile. If you notice a gap, **STOP**, and reinstall the board to ensure a snug fit.

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10. INSTALLING THE FINAL ROW.

1.  The last row may need to be cut lengthwise (ripped).



2. Place the last row of boards to be fit on top of the last row of installed boards. Use a piece of plank or tile as a scribe to trace the contour of the wall.
3. Mark where the board will be cut. If the fit of the wall is simple and straight, simply measure for the correct fit and cut.
4. After boards are cut, position boards and tap all joints (long AND short ends) with the rubber mallet.
5. Leave the floor for 24 hours before moving furniture back to the room or walking on it.

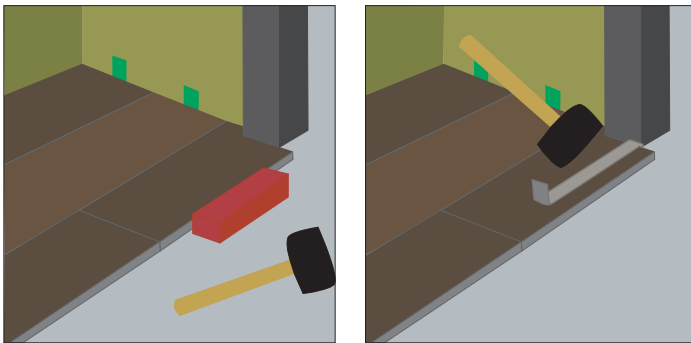
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11. INSTALLING UNDER A DOOR.

1. Installation under moldings (such as door jambs) may require that the top lip of the groove on the end be reduced in size.
2. Using a small knife, carefully shave off the ledge of the groove.

3.



After the groove ledge has been trimmed, place the board in place and tighten with a pull bar. The installer must be sure that the required expansion gap has been maintained and the flooring is not pinched.

4. If fit is not correct, re-trim as necessary.
5. Place a bead of wood glue on the bottom lip of the groove.
6. Insert the tongue into the groove and engage with a pull bar. Hold the board in place with painter's tape until the glue is dry. Do not use masking tape or duct tape as they may damage the floors finish.

12. UNDERFLOOR HEATING.

- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over underfloor heating.
- Floor temperature must not exceed (28°C).

Warning: Failure to follow adhesive manufacturer's guidelines and temperature limitations will result in failure and void warranty. Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath ACE floors.

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13. AFTER INSTALLATION.

If you are completing a renovation project and other tasks are yet to be completed, in order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work, 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.).

14. PROTECTION OF YOUR FLOORING.

- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile-oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
- Use floor protectors under furniture.

15. IMPORTANT.

We can not be held accountable for faulty installations due to site conditions.

Planks installed with visible defects are not covered under warranty.

For information regarding warranties, please contact your supplier.

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FINISHING TOUCHES

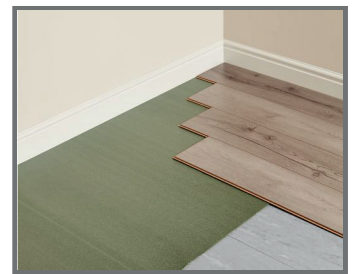
- If you are fitting your LVT around pipes, first mark the position of the pipe in the board you're using with a pencil. Then carefully drill a hole in this position and make two angled cuts with a saw. These cuts should form a wedge from the edge of the board to the hole which can then be removed. Fit the board around the pipe and then reattach the wedge with glue behind the pipe so the plank looks intact.
- You can then use matching scotia beading and doorbars to cover expansion gaps and blend the new floors in with your existing walls and joining rooms, creating a professional and seamless finish.
- Any spare planks or cuttings should be kept if possible in case any repairs are needed to be made in the future.

CHOOSING THE CORRECT UNDERLAY

There are a few things that you should consider when choosing the right underlay for your new flooring:

- The overall thickness of the floor; you don't want your floor to sit too high as this could put strain on the join and also cause the floor to not be of a suitable height for your doorbars, skirting boards etc.
- Do you require added thermal insulation? There are underlays which are designed to help provide extra insulation to your home.
- If you live in an upstairs apartment then a sound-absorbing underlay will help to keep unwanted noise to a minimum.
- If you have underfloor heating you will need to make sure your chosen underlay is compatible with your heating system.

Head over to our [accessories page](#) where we offer a fantastic selection of underlays for your new flooring!



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