

LUXURY VINYL GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR DRYBACK FLOORING

ACCLIMATION

Acclimation is required prior to the installation of Luxury Vinyl Flooring (LVF). Store the UNOPENED BOXES in the room where the floor is to be installed for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Always store the boxes on a flat and level surface; never store the boxes on their sides. Heating and Air conditioning should be operational and set between 65°F- 85°F (18.3°C - 29.4 °C) for the acclimation and installation period.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Beaulieu LVF Plank and Tile Adhesive (GLV01-1 gallon, GLV04-4 gallons) for permanent installation. FOLLOW ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER'S INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDING PROPER TROWEL.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS AND MATERIALS

- Safety glasses
- Measuring tape
- Square
- Weighted floor roller (100 lb)
- Utility knife
- Straight edge
- Chalk line
- Fine felt pen
- Trowel (as per adhesive manufacturer's recommendations)
- Primer (if necessary)
- Vinyl plank/tile cutter (optional)
- Acetone (if necessary)
- Embossing leveler/floor patch(if necessary)
- **NOTE TO INSTALLERS: When using knee pads, insure that the cap is a soft material. Never use hard cap knee pads as these may scratch the flooring.**

Note: Depending on the required floor preparation, other materials required may include: cement-based floor patching compound and trowel, embossing leveler, scraper, sander or grinder.

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

Beaulieu®LVF can be installed over many floors. All carpeting and padding need to be removed. Make sure that the surface is clean, dry, structurally sound and flat within 3/16" per 10 foot radius (4.7 mm per 3 m). Supporting floors should be rigid as too much deflection can result in a failed installation. Maximum deflection should not exceed 3/64" (1.1mm).

Beaulieu LVF should not be installed over plank floors, cushioned-backed vinyl flooring, asphalt-based floors, carpet, self-adhering plank or tile, laminate or other floating flooring or structurally-damaged concrete.

CONCRETE SUBSTRATES

All concrete (new and old) should be tested for moisture and pH levels. Concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3500 psi. Moisture vapor emission rate should not exceed 8lb/1000 sq. ft. (3.63 kg/92.9 sq. m)/24 hours per ASTM F1869. Moisture may also be tested according to the test method ASTM F2170; when tested according to this method, the internal relative humidity should not exceed 90%, and pH level should be between 7 and 9. **IF MOISTURE IS PRESENT, DO NOT INSTALL FLOOR, corrective measures should be taken. Do not install when hydrostatic pressure or alkaline conditions are evident.** New concrete should be properly cured.

WOODEN SUBSTRATES

Wood floors should be a minimum of 3/4" (19 mm) thick, APA approved grade tongue and groove plywood or 23/32" (18.25 mm) OSB, with a smooth finish, free from spring and deflection. Make sure that the surface is clean, dry, structurally sound and flat within 3/16" per 10 foot radius (4.7 mm per 3 m). All fastener indentations and joints should be level and smooth using appropriate patching compounds. Deflection should not exceed 3/64" (1.1 mm).

EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORS

When installing Beaulieu LVF over existing resilient flooring, ensure that the existing sheet good or tile product is in good condition, and that it was installed in the full spread method and is properly secured. Beaulieu LVF can be installed over one layer of non-cushioned sheet good flooring. It may be best to remove the present floor and prepare the structural floor for a fresh application of the Beaulieu LVF. Existing tile or sheet resilient floor should be stripped using a product that is an appropriate stripper for vinyl to remove wax or other contamination and rinsed with clear water and allowed to dry. Very smooth or high-gloss floors need to be lightly abraded to rough up the surface to allow proper adhesive bonding.

GYPSUM FLOORS

Beaulieu LVF can be installed over flooring grade gypsum subfloors when properly installed following the adhesive manufacturers installation guidelines. It should be noted that gypsum subfloors are very porous and are required to be primed following the adhesive manufacturers installation instructions. The subfloor should be structurally sound and flat within 3/16" per 10 foot radius (4.7mm per 3m).

MARBLE, QUARRY TILE, TERRAZZO, CERAMIC TILE

Properly cleanse substrate using a commercial degreasing/dewaxing solution. Grind or abrade any highly polished or irregular surfaces. Fill any low areas, chips and grout joints that may telegraph through the new flooring. Test for porosity and use the appropriate adhesive application method. Bond tests are required.

RADIANT-HEATED FLOORS

Beaulieu LVF can be installed over embedded radiant-heated floors provided the operating temperature never exceeds 85 °F (29.4 °C). The radiant system should be in operation for three (3) weeks prior to installation of the flooring. For 48 hours prior to and during installation, the system should be kept at 65 °F (18.3°C). It should be noted that when using adhesive, flash off time may be decreased due to operation of the radiant heat flooring system. Once the installation is completed, the heat should be gradually increased by a maximum of 5°F (2.8 °C) per day until the desired setting is reached.

JOB SITE CONDITIONS/SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- Verify the boxes to make sure that they are of the correct product. Inspect all planks/tiles for visible defects and damage before and during installation. Do not install damaged planks/tiles. Beaulieu will not accept responsibility for claims on flooring installed with obvious defects.
- Room temperature should be no less than 65 °F (18.3 °C) for 48 hours before, during and after installation. Maximum temperature should not exceed 85°F (29.4 °C).
- Substrate should be free of dust, debris from paint, varnish, wax, oils, curing sealers, solvents and other foreign matter. Any adhesive residue from prior installations should be completely removed.
- Any looseness of the substrate should be secured.
- High spots should be levelled and low spots should be filled with a proper material to ensure substrate is flat within 3/16" per 10 foot radius (4.7 mm per 3 m).
- All construction seams, expansion joints, and holes should be filled level with the surrounding surface to eliminate telegraphing of such irregularities.
- When installing over an existing resilient flooring material, an embossing leveler may be required to prevent the existing material pattern from telegraphing through the new material.
- When installing, open several boxes at a time and mix planks/tiles from different boxes for best results and overall look.
- Beaulieu recommends the use of floor primers on all porous substrates.

Caution: If you plan to remove old resilient flooring material or any type of old adhesive, please be aware that it may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica; therefore, avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard and local regulations may require professional removal. Instructions for the removal of old flooring materials and adhesives may be found in the RFCI Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings. You may contact the Resilient Floor Covering Institute at 706-882-3833 or www.rfci.com.

PATCHING AND LEVELING

Use only cement-based patching and leveling compounds. Check with patching and leveling compound manufacturers for curing times. Check moisture levels before starting installation to ensure moisture levels are within guidelines outlined in the Concrete Slab section.

Note: Priming the substrate or adding latex to levelers will normally make the floors NON-POROUS. Test for porosity and use the non-porous adhesive instructions if necessary.

The contractor or owner is responsible for cure time, moisture content testing, and the structural integrity of any leveling or patching compound used.

EMBOSSING LEVELERS

When installing over an existing resilient flooring material, an embossing leveler may be required to prevent the existing material pattern from telegraphing through the new material. Embossing levelers are for sheet goods with textures that could telegraph through the LVF and be visible on the surface.

Note: Existing resilient flooring should be in good condition, non-cushioned, thoroughly bonded to the substrate, and all waxes or finishes should be removed before applying embossing levelers or adhesives.

INSTALLATION

Beaulieu Approved Adhesives

Beaulieu LVF Plank and Tile Adhesive (GLV01-1 gallon, GLV04-4 gallons) is recommended. There should be adhesive transfer to the bottom of the plank/tile. Follow adhesive label instructions for trowel, spread rate, set up time and working time.

INSTALLATION

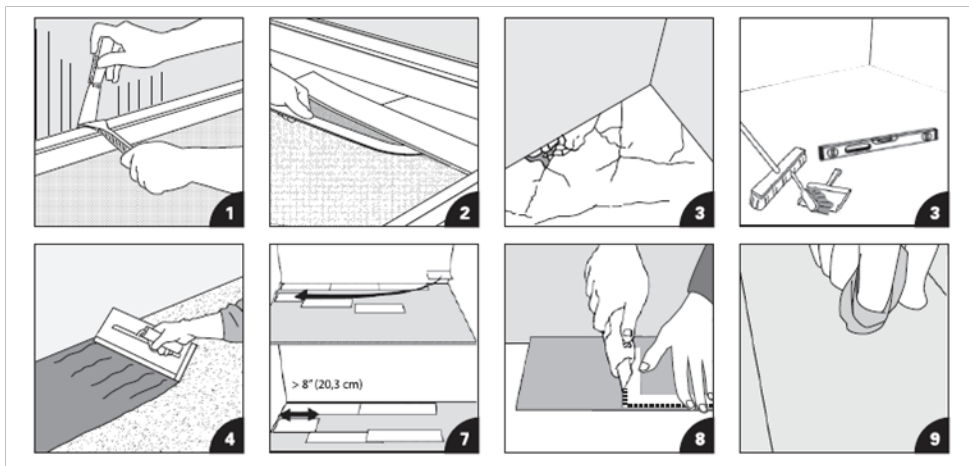
1. Remove thresholds and baseboards before you measure the room to calculate how much flooring to purchase. Your surface to cover will be the length times the width of the room, plus the area of any nooks and closets. To this total surface, you will need to add 5-10% for trimming. We recommend to keep a few planks/tiles for replacement should any planks/tiles become damaged.
2. Strip the existing flooring if necessary. If the existing floor surface is solid and smooth, you may choose to skip this step. If you remove carpet or old vinyl, you may need to use a power scraper to remove old adhesive without omitting corners and crevices.
3. Use a patching compound to fill in any cracks and holes in your subfloor. Work the compound into the hole with a putty knife and level it off. Once you have a smooth, even surface, sweep or vacuum the subfloor thoroughly.
4. Planks/tiles are to be installed parallel to the wall that is the main line of sight in the room (usually this is the wall opposite to the room's main entrance). Measure to determine the center of the room and adjust the center point so that planks/tiles are evenly distributed on each side. Mark this straight center line on the floor using a chalk line or fine felt pen. Planks/tiles on first and last rows may need to be cut to ensure even layout throughout the room.
5. Make sure to apply the adhesive only when you are ready to install the planks/tiles, using the proper trowel size and following the adhesives open time as outlined on the adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions.
6. Starting from one corner of the room, lay down the first row of planks/tiles moving towards the other wall. Since these planks/tiles do not have any particular direction, they can be installed either from left to right or from right to left.
7. When placing the second row and every subsequent row, make sure to stagger the end joints a minimum of 8" (20 cm) apart from the previous row. Staggering the vinyl planks/tiles creates a more authentic appearance. In order to accomplish this, you may need to cut a plank/tile to start a row. Ends that have been cut should be placed against the wall. Use a vinyl plank/tile cutter (recommended) or a utility knife and square to cut the plank/tile at a 90-degree angle to its length. Planks/tiles that are against the wall also need to be a minimum 8" (20 cm) in length. Make sure there are no gaps between the planks/tiles; they should be fitted tight to each other on all four (4) edges. Once the planks/tiles have been installed, use a 100 lb floor roller to ensure all the planks/tiles are firmly bonded to the floor. Rolling should take place during the working time of the adhesive (see adhesive labels for working times).
8. To remove any adhesive residues on the surface of the floor, use a clean white cloth dampened with water if adhesive is wet and acetone, denatured alcohol or mineral spirits if adhesive is dry.

IMPORTANT

- Beaulieu LVF is intended for indoor use only.
- Beaulieu LVF is warranted as a floor covering only.
- Post-installation temperature should be maintained between 65 °F - 85 °F (18.3 °C - 29.4 °C). Relative humidity should be maintained between 40% and 70%.
- Protect the installation from direct sunlight exposure. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering exposed to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects on the floor covering. Flooring that cannot be protected from direct sunlight is required to be installed with adhesive. Failure to install this LVF with Beaulieu approved adhesive when such flooring will be exposed to direct sunlight voids all warranties, express or implied; the end user shall assume full responsibility for any failure of the flooring, and Beaulieu shall be released from any claims, damages, or liabilities whatsoever arising out of or related to the failure to install the flooring with approved adhesive when the flooring is exposed to direct sunlight.

Follow the Beaulieu Care and Maintenance Guidelines to properly care for your flooring. These can be found on our website at beaulieuflooring.com, or you may contact Technical Services at 800-944-2840 or tek.services@beaulieugroup.com.

INSTALLATION ILLUSTRATIONS



Homeowner Obligations

To maintain the coverage under the terms of these warranties and ensure fast and easy warranty service, the homeowner is responsible for the following:

- Keep five (5) planks/tiles of the LVF product after installation for testing purposes.
- Keep and be able to provide the original sales receipt or documentation illustrating proof of purchase and installation date of the product.
- Make sure the floor is installed according to Beaulieu Installation Instructions.
- Keep a list of products used to clean the flooring.

Please visit our website at beaulieuflooring.com for the most up-to-date version of this document as it may have been revised and updated since this printed version.

Warranty Guide as well as Care and Maintenance instructions can also be found on our website at beaulieuflooring.com, or you may contact Technical Services at 800-944-2840 or tek.services@beaulieugroup.com.

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