

LOOSE LAY VINYL PLANK

Installation Guidelines

Pre Installation Conditions

All planks must be removed from cartons 30 minutes before use. Planks must be at room temperature before installation can start. The room temperature should ideally be between 18 and 26°C for at least 24 hours before and during installation. After installation, the temperature should remain constant for 24 hours.

Subfloor Preparation

Subfloor preparation must comply with AS/NZS AS 1884-2012 Code of practice for the Installation of Resilient Floorcoverings. The subfloor must be dry, smooth, level, clean and dust-free and should be prepared as follows, dependant on your subfloor type. Note: Solvents and other abrasive chemicals used to clean or remove subfloor contaminants can damage the backing of QLAY LooseLay and affect the product's performance.

Old Adhesive residues

- All adhesive residues from previous installations must be completely removed.

Damp Subfloors

- QLAY LooseLay must only be installed on dry floors. The floor must have a moisture

reading of less than 85% RH. If any sub floor shows moisture readings above 85% RH then an acceptable damp proof membrane/ moisture suppression system must be applied.

Concrete Floors

- Subfloors/Screeds: All cracks and joints must be filled using a cement based patching compound and the floor needs to be level in accordance with the applicable Standard.
- All Gypsum based concrete floors must be sealed with a compatible sealing compound.

Mosaic/Terrazzo/Ceramics/Quarry Tiles

- Level any grout lines with a suitable smoothing compound and make the floor sound.

Timber Floors

- These should be solid with minimal flexibility. All loose boards must be firmly fastened, gaps filled and undulations removed. Where necessary, overlay floorboards with flooring grade plywood or similar.

Yellow Tongue/Particle Board Floors

As per AS 1884 2012 resilient flooring should not be adhered directly to the above. An approved hardboard underlay should be used.

Linoleum/Thermoplastic/Vinyl/Woodblock/Parquet

- Make sure these floors are solid, fix any loose

tiles and remove any surface polish/sealer.

- We recommend the removal of these products if installed directly to earth, bitumen/ cutback or pitch. Then prepare floor to applicable Standard.

Metal and Painted Floors

- Fully remove any loose paint or other finishes.

Other Floors

- Consult your supplier.

Underfloor Heating and Services

• QLAY LooseLay is suitable over underfloor heating systems, as long as it is insulated from the heating system to ensure that the surface temperature does not rise above 27°C .

- **Note:** The system must be switched off 48 hours before, during, and for 48 hours after the installation, then the temperature should be gradually increased (typically 2°C/hour) to the desired warmth. Mesh/wire systems must be bedded into a base coat of reinforced fibre smoothing compound. Refer to manufacturers guidelines for required depth. QLAY LooseLay installation methods are then followed as recommended in these guidelines.

Installation

Before starting the installation remove all debris or dust and clean the floor. Ensure colours correspond to those ordered, and quantities are correct.

We recommend installing planks with a full coverage tackifier/pressure sensitive adhesive. Note: The adhesive used should still allow for easy 'peel up' and replacement of tiles/planks in this area.

Note: High Spillage Wet Areas/Sun Rooms/Conservatories/Panoramic Windows: In areas that are likely to be subject to high water spillage or extreme temperature fluctuations, the use of a full spread epoxy or urethane adhesive is recommended.

Installation

The planks are randomly distributed and can be heavier on some patterns than others. To prevent heavy and light colour shading areas, the tiles should be unboxed and, if required, shuffled. Alternating the direction of tiles may be required to avoid repeat patterns. Check backing to ensure there isn't any damage, which may prevent the product from laying flat.

- When installing, the centre line must be determined and checked to ensure good size cuts will be fitted to the perimeter. Planks should be staggered to obtain a random finish. It is advisable to ensure that plank ends are not within 300mm of adjacent planks.
- Lay a row of QLAY, starting in a corner on a perpendicular line to the centre points.

- Work away from the newly laid floor and keep foot traffic to a minimum in order to minimise movement until flooring is locked in.

- The QLAY should be closely fitted and cut flush to any walls and fittings, score and mark the surface of the plank with a sharp knife from the face side, reverse cut the plank from the underside to approximately 45°.

- It is recommended staggering the joints with planks, however you can make patterns to suit the clients taste.

- All exposed edges of resilient floor coverings or edges abutting other floor covering materials should be protected by means of diminishing strips or other suitable mouldings or trims. When the installation is completed all

Routine Maintenance

Daily: Mop, sweep or vacuum to remove loose dirt and dust. As required, spot clean with a neutral cleanser to remove stubborn marks.

Weekly / Monthly: As required, clean the floor using neutral cleanser (pH 7 to 9), using a microfibre mop. Use an absolute minimum to prevent liquid penetrating into the seams and joints. The maintenance regime requires the installation of an effective barrier matting system at all entrances.

scrap material and debris should be removed from the floor and the floor should be swept or suction cleaned to remove all dust and debris. QLAY Flooring should be allowed to relax for 24 hours before locating furniture and fittings on top of the floor covering. Heavy furniture should never be dragged over any QLAY installation and care should be taken when wheeling heavy loads over this type of installation as it may result in damage. QLAY is water resistant and will withstand standing water. However this does not mean that it is designed to be submerged under water for extended periods of time.