



LUXURY VINYL TILE & PLANK

ENGINEERED INSTALLATION SYSTEM

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLING YOUR NEW ARMSTRONG FLOOR

Armstrong recommends that all our residential floor coverings are installed by a professional wherever possible.

Conditioning

Your Armstrong flooring packs should be stored at a room temperature of 18-24°C for at least 48 hours prior to the installation. To achieve the best results, Armstrong recommends that the material should be unwrapped and laid flat for as long as possible prior to installation. Before installing ensure that each carton is from the same shade block by referring to the carton number on the pack.

Sub-floor Preparation

The sub-floor must be dry, smooth, sound and free from dust, grease, wax, oil, paint, etc. It must be of such strength that it does not break up during installation. The requirements of BS 8203 : 2001 should be followed.

Concrete sub-floors laid directly to earth, must incorporate a Damp Proof Membrane. Where this is not done, or the floor shows a moisture reading above 75%RH when tested with a hygrometer in accordance with BS 8203, a suitable surface membrane must be applied, then screeded with a 3mm (minimum) layer of smoothing compound prior to installation.

Wooden sub-floors should be standard construction, with a finished thickness of at least 25mm and should have 450mm of well ventilated air space underneath. Crawl space should be insulated and protected by a barrier. Do not install over a sleeper type sub-floor, or over plywood, which is directly over a concrete slab. Strip wood floors, particle board, chipboard, waferboard, knotty plywood, etc. should be covered with a plywood underlayment (6mm minimum thickness), before installation. Plywood underlayment should

be primed with a solution of PVA adhesive for best results.

Other existing 'smooth' floor types: vinyl tile, linoleum, cushioned vinyl, cork etc. should be removed and the sub-floor treated according to the above instructions dependent on its construction prior to installation of your Armstrong vinyl floor.

Do not install this Armstrong vinyl floor covering directly over **asphalt** or **bitumenous** sub-floors. Sub-floors of this type must be degreased, rinsed and screeded with a minimum 3mm layer of smoothing compound prior to installation.

Tools required

- Scissors
- String
- Utility knife
- Pencil and paper (for tracing)
- Carpenter's square
- Trowel
- Chalk

Adhesives

There are a number of adhesives that can be used with this type of floor covering:

- a For normal installations the use of a good quality acrylic adhesive is recommended.
- b Where the installation will be subject to wet or moderately high temperature conditions (i.e. a conservatory or bathroom) the use of an epoxy adhesive is recommended.

Note: Selecting the correct adhesive for the installation is crucial to the expected lifetime of the floor, consult your retailer for advice on suitability and availability of adhesive materials.

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General

Before installing your Armstrong 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.

Note: During installation look for an arrow on the back of each tile. If an arrow is present it is important for colour continuity to ensure that tiles are laid with arrows running in the same direction. With certain designs however one can achieve interesting visual effects by laying tiles cross directionally.

Installation

1. Find the centre of the room by measuring each opposite wall and calculating the central point.
2. Join the central points of each wall with the opposite wall using a taut string.
3. Chalk the string and snap a line onto the sub-floor.
4. Repeat this process with the other two walls to find the central point in the room. This is the starting point for the installation. It is preferable to have the longest edge of the tile running in the same direction as any incident light (incoming from windows, skylights etc.)
5. Lay out one row of tiles in each direction to the walls to ensure that there are no thin strips (less than a half tile) adjacent to the wall. If this is the case move the tiles slightly away from the centre to ensure that borders will be wider (than a half tile) and therefore more straightforward to install.
6. Spread a band of adhesive approx. 1m wide in the area where installation is to commence. Allow the adhesive to become slightly tacky. Install the first tile ensuring that it is parallel to the chalked lines.
7. Continue laying the tiles ensuring that they are butted tightly. Use a rolling pin or similar device to stick down the edges of the tiles.
8. Ensure that in adjacent rows of wood design tiles that the ends of the planks are offset by about 25cm (6"). Continue as per 7, 8, 9 until the installation is complete.
9. Remove any adhesive as quickly as possible using a soft cloth and dilute detergent solution.
10. On completion roll the installation in both directions using a 68Kg flooring roller.

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