

Fitting Instructions

Important Information

- Handle cartons carefully to protect the locking edges from damage.
- Before you begin the installation, inspect the flooring material for any obvious defects. Ensure you have the correct colour, pattern, quantity, and that all the material is of the same batch number. Beginning the installation means that you have accepted the conditions.
- Acclimatising the flooring and the area being installed to the same constant temperature is always the best practice. The room and flooring temperature should not be below 13°C or above 32°C during the installation.
- Luvanto Click Plus does not need to be acclimatised if the material has been stored in a temperature within -6°C of the area to be installed.
- Click Plus should not be exposed to temperatures greater than 71°C under any circumstances. It must not be installed near any excessive heat sources, such as wood burning stoves, fireplaces, aga's etc.
- Click Plus must be laid directly over the subfloor. A separate underlay must not be used under any circumstances.
- Click Plus may be installed over a continuous floor area up to 300m² without leaving any expansion joints across the floor.
- To allow for building/subfloor movement leave a **minimum 5mm expansion gap** around all walls and fixtures. Door jambs should be undercut.
- For a really neat finish around the perimeter of the room, use the colour-matched **Finishing Strip** to conceal the expansion gaps and any rough cuts next to the skirting boards. Alternatively, a low modulus silicone sealant, that is suitable for expansion joints, can be used to conceal the gaps. <u>Do not use decorators caulk or any other form of solid gap filler.</u>
- Mix planks from several cartons to ensure a random variation.
- To prevent fading and discoloration, Click Plus should be protected from prolonged exposure to direct sunlight if room will be heated above 26°C.
- Do not install under permanent fixtures such as kitchen units and fitted furniture.
- These fitting instructions must be followed exactly, to avoid invalidating the Warranty. The responsibility to determine the suitability of the flooring for the situation, and to fit the flooring carefully and professionally, lies only with the installer.
- We recommend that installation is carried out by a qualified flooring fitter.

Subfloor preparation:

As a floating floor, Click Plus may be installed over subfloors that may not be suitable for normal glue down installations such as particle board, OSB, chipboard, existing resilient flooring, certain ceramic tiles, etc. However, subfloors must be rigid, even and flat to within 4mm height variation over a 3 metre distance in any direction.

Timber Subfloors:

The floor must be rigid, free from movement and have at least 450mm of well-ventilated air space below. Click Plus should not be installed over wooden subfloors built on joists over, on grade, or below grade concrete floors unless specific design has been undertaken to eliminate the chance of failure due to the excessive moisture emissions from the concrete.

Concrete Subfloors:

Concrete floors should be prepared according to ASTM F-710, Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring.

Floors must be smooth, rigid, flat, level, permanently dry, clean and free of all foreign material. Corrective patching/levelling should be with cementitious based patching and/or underlayment materials. The surface of the concrete must be flat to within 2mm height variation over a 3 metre distance in any direction.

Existing Floor Coverings:

Click Plus may be installed over a single layer of resilient flooring such as sheet vinyl, ceramic tile and epoxy coatings. The flooring must be flat and smooth and non-cushioned. Do not install over carpet or carpet tiles.

Radiant Heated Floors:

Click Plus may be installed over radiant heated floors provided the operating temperature does not exceed 27°C. The room temperature must be maintained at a minimum of 13°C for 48 hours before and during installation.

Moisture Testing:

It is essential that moisture tests are taken on all concrete floors regardless of age or grade level with a minimum of three tests for the first 100 square metres. The test should be conducted according to Annex A (normative) — Dampness testing in BS 5325, BS 8203, BS 8425 and BS 8201 – using the Hygrometer Box Method or Hygrometer Sleeve Method. One test should be conducted for every additional 100 square metres of flooring. The test should be carried out in positions where moisture levels will be at their highest, such as near the room perimeter, near to columns or areas of poor ventilation or little exposure to sunlight.

The Relative Humidity (RH) of the subfloor must be less than 75% in accordance with the above test methods. If the test result is 70% or higher, a liquid damp proof membrane must be applied first. If the test result is greater than 75% the subfloor must be left to dry for longer.

Note: It may not be the floor installer's responsibility to conduct the test. It is, however, the floor covering installer's responsibility to make sure these tests have been conducted and that the results are acceptable prior to installing the floor covering.

When moisture tests are conducted it indicates the conditions only at the time of the test. The flooring contractor cannot be held responsible if moisture appears in the future, causing a failure.

Storage:

Flooring shall be stored in a clean, dry environment, protected from the elements. Store cartons on a smooth, level surface. Stack cartons squarely. Do not stack more than 10 cartons high. Do not store tiles and planks on their edges. Do not drop cartons. Do not double stack pallets. Storing flooring at high temperatures and on uneven surfaces may cause a permanent distortion of the material.

Tools needed:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Set square and ruler
- Sharp utility knife
- Rubber mallet
- Safety gloves

Installation:

- Remove plinths, skirting boards (or scotias) and other wall base material. Under-cut door trims to allow flooring to be installed under trim and move freely.
- Measure the room to determine the centre line, adjust that centre line in either direction to give a balanced width of plank on each side of the room. Determine the distance from your starting wall where the first row of planks will start and snap a chalk line along the starting wall.
- If the first row is less than the full width of the plank, or if the wall is not straight, scribe the plank to fit and cut the first row to the needed size **leaving a minimum**5mm gap between the tile and the wall.
- Lay the first row of planks with the 'tongue' side toward from the wall, along the chalk line to ensure all pieces are cut to the width and length needed.
- Starting in the corner, install the first row of planks (groove side out, tongue side toward wall) along the chalk line. The first row must be straight as it is the foundation for the rest of the installation.
- End joints should be staggered a minimum of 200mm.
- Install the first plank of the second row. Insert the long side tongue into the groove side pulling the plank in tight to ensure there is no gap.
- Install the second plank of the second row. Insert the long side tongue into the long side groove. Slide the plank to align the end joints until tight, push the board down until the tongue and groove end joints 'click' together. Tap the end joint with a rubber mallet to ensure the lock is fully engaged.
- Use the leftover of the last cut from the row as the beginning piece for the next row.
- Continue installing planks maintaining the random staggering of the end joints.
- If small/narrow fill pieces are required it is recommended to apply a small bead of wood glue along the tongue of the small piece, use a pull bar to pull piece in tight, use masking tape to hold piece in place until glue is set.
- Upon completion remove install skirting or colour-matched Finishing Strips to cover the expansion gap around the wall. Take care to nail or glue the skirting to the wall and not to the flooring.

After installation:

- Clean the floor thoroughly with vacuum cleaner and/or soft mop to remove any grit and debris before placing furniture back in the room.
- Don't fix any items permanently onto, or through, the floor.

Care and maintenance:

- The single greatest cause of damage to any flooring is abrasion from dirt and grit. Wherever possible, use walk off mats at entrances and doorways, and vacuum mats regularly.
- Ensure you use non-staining mats on the floor. Rubber-backed and latex-backed mats, tyres, and asphalt sealers may stain or damage the surface.
- Use non-staining floor protectors under heavy furniture and equipment. Castor wheels should protected by castor cups.
- Chairs should have clean, smooth, non-staining floor protectors. Ensure there are no nicks or burrs on the protectors. Felt protectors must be cleaned regularly to ensure there is no grit build-up. Floor protectors should be at least 25mm in diameter and rest flat on the floor.
- When moving heavy furniture and equipment, use appropriate furniture sliders of strips of plywood to roll or slide the furniture or equipment.
- The key to successful maintenance of all flooring types is the removal of dirt and soil.
 Mopping with a sponge or string mop alone removes very little soil, but rather it
 dissolves the dirt and spreads it out evenly across the floor creating a dull, dirty film
 and migration into the floor joints.
- For best results, clean and maintain your floor with the Luvanto Floor Care Kit. We also recommend the use of micro-fibre mops and pads for dust mopping and scrubbing. On larger installations using an automatic scrubber or wet vacuum is the preferred way to remove soiled water and rinse water.
- Do not use a vacuum cleaner with rotating brushes or beater bars.