

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl Flooring Installation Guide

GENERAL INFORMATION

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring is constructed of PVC over a rigid core to offer a strong, durable construction which is 100% waterproof* and offers impressive acoustic performance. The planks are locked together without the need for any glue by a unique locking system. A separate underlayment is not normally required. It is suitable for commercial and residential use, but it is not suitable for installation outdoors nor in rooms that will be continually wet.

Before installation, all materials must be checked to ensure that batches are identical and free from defects. Complaints regarding clearly identifiable defects cannot be accepted after installation.

INSTALLATION TOOLS AND MATERIALS

- Straight edge
- Utility knife
- Tile cutter
- Ruler
- Rubber mallet
- Spacer
- Firm sponge, cloth

CONDITIONING

Conditioning is a required procedure prior to the installation of Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring. The climatic conditions acceptable for the installation are:

- Floor temperature > 15°C
- Room temperature > 18°C
- Air Relative humidity \leq 65%

Before installation, floorings must be removed from their packaging and laid flat at the room where the installation is to take place at a minimum of 48 hours. The room temperature should be kept between 18 and 28°C before and during the installation.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl floorings should only be installed on to a smooth, clean, and dry surface, free from contamination and dust. Any adhesive residue from prior installations should be completely removed. Remove any unevenness in the subfloor prior to installation. Subfloor levels should be in accordance with local national standards and in any event, should never exceed a maximum deviation of 2mm when measured under a 2m long straight edge.

Suitable subfloors include concrete, timber, and ceramic tiles. Do not install on asphalt, bituminous surfaces or over existing floor coverings.

Concrete Subfloors

Moisture testing must be performed on all concrete subfloors. The Residual Moisture Content must meet the following requirements:

- Reinforced concrete \leq 3.5% CM
- Cement mortar and fine aggregate concrete \leq 2% CM
- Underfloor heating \leq 1.8% CM

Also, the concrete Tensile Adhesive Strength should be at a minimum of 1.0 Mpa.

High spots should be levelled and low spots should be filled with a proper material to ensure substrate is flat (not exceed 2mm when measured under a 2m long straight edge).

All construction seams, expansion joints, and holes should be filled level with the surrounding surface to eliminate telegraphing of such irregularities.

Timber Subfloors

For boarded timber floors, any loose boards should be firmly fixed and high spots removed by sanding. The timber should be overlaid with 6mm Hardboard or Cement fibre or as recommended by the manufacturer. Sheet layout details, type of fixing and spacing of fixings must be strictly in accordance with the material manufacturers recommendations, all fixings must be below the surface of the board. The surface should then be primed with a suitable primer.

Ceramic Tiles

Test floor for evidence of damp. If after testing, dampness is detected consult your supplier. Check floor area for unstable, loose or broken tiles, waxes and sealers. Remove loose pieces and fill deep holes with rapid drying mortar. Degrease, rinse and abrade the surface of the floor. Apply a cement-based floor patch or embossed leveller as per manufacturer's instructions to standards of ASTM F710.

Existing Resilient Floorcoverings

Always uplift the existing resilient floorcovering, and remove as much as possible of the old adhesive. Floorings accept no responsibility for overlaying over existing floors, carpets, vinyl, linoleum or rubber. If the flooring appears damp, or if there is a musty smell, or visible evidence of mould or mildew, professional advice should be sought before proceeding with the flooring work.

Underfloor Heating/Radiant Heated Floors:

Floorings may be installed over underfloor heating systems, provided it is insulated such that the temperature between the underside of the floorings and subfloor does not exceed 27°C. It should then be switched off 48 hours before, during, and 48 hours after installation. 48 hours after installation the temperature can be gradually increased to the desired temperature (at no more than 3°C per day). Do not raise the temperature to more than the tolerated maximum surface temperature of 28 °C as the flooring may accidentally function.

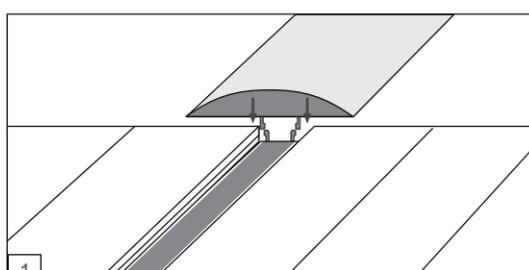
For Electrical Underfloor Heating please consult the manufacturer to make sure their system is compatible with our flooring.

PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

As Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring is a floating floor, a minimum expansion gap of 5mm should be left around the entire installation perimeter and anything protruding from the subfloor such as radiator pipes, fixed down items etc. For larger installations over 5m x 5m an expansion gap of 1mm per linear meter of room length should be used. For example, a room 8m x 4m would require an expansion gap of 8mm around the entire perimeter of the room and around anything protruding from the floor. The length is determined by the direction in which the longest side of the panel is to be fitted. In areas under 5m x 5m use small offsets as spacers between the planks and the walls to help achieve the correct expansion gap size. Skirting boards should be removed and door frames / architraves undercut to allow for possible expansion. A suitable quadrant or scotia trim can be used to cover the expansion gap.

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring is a loose lay product. In areas subject to large temperature fluctuations such as heavily glazed areas and areas subject to direct sunlight, special care must be taken including a larger expansion gap of a minimum 10mm and adequate UV protection.

If installing in multiple rooms, finish the Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring in the doorway on either side of the door to make separate floors. Allow a larger expansion gap between two such floors. Allow a larger expansion gap between two such floors of double that left around the perimeter. Use two small offset pieces of Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring placed back to back to gauge the correct expansion gap then at door thresholds. A suitable transition molding can then be installed to cover the resultant gap. Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring should never be installed across multiple rooms as one floor. Planks should always be laid with staggered joints, at a distance of at least 300mm. When adjoining other floorcoverings, finish the Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring in the doorway. An appropriate expansion gap should be left between the Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring and the adjoining floorcovering. This can be covered using a transition molding (see Fig 1).



INSTALLATION

Valinge 2G/5G-i Locking System

1. Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring, long side, two grooves are assembled by inserting the tongue side into the groove side of the previous plank at a low angle (Fig 2).



(Fig 2)

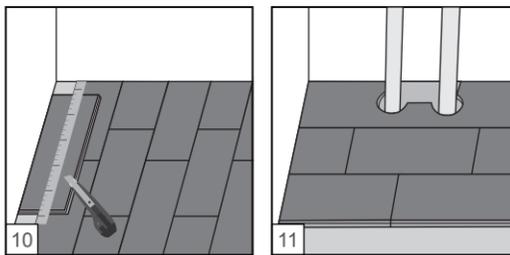
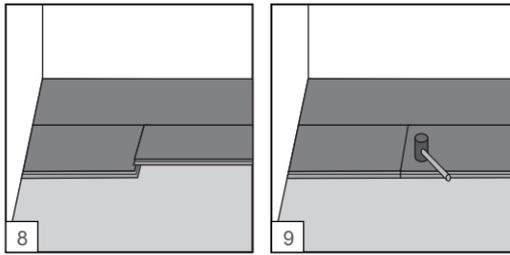
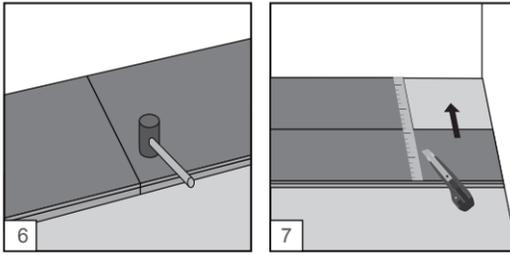
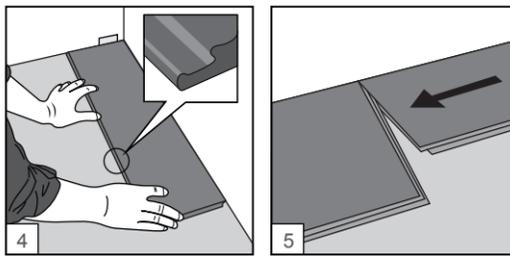
2. Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl flooring, short side, carefully fold it down with a single action movement. Press firmly down on the short end of the next plank into the corresponding short edge of the first one, these should now lock securely together (Fig 3).



(Fig 3)

When installation, remember that always install the long side first, install the short side later.

Starting the Installation



1. First plank first row

The planks are laid without glue. Start to lay the floor in the left-hand corner of the room with the groove facing towards you (Fig 4). A minimum expansion gap of 5mm should be left around the installation perimeter and anything protruding from the subfloor.

2. Second plank first row

Place the short end of the second plank close to the corresponding short end of the previous plank. Carefully fold it down with a single action movement (Fig 5). Press firmly down on the short end of the next plank into the corresponding short edge of the first one, these should now lock securely together.

Using the rubber mallet gently tap down the short joints along the short end just installed (Fig 6). It is important to ensure early in the installation that the short joints are fully engaged and locked into one another. Provided the planks align and fit flush with each other on the short joints after any hand / mallet pressure has been released, then the joints will be fully engaged. If they do not reapply pressure until this is achieved. Complete the first row in the same way. Continue in this way to as far as full planks can be installed to the end of this first row.

3. Last plank first row

Before place the last plank, insert correct sized spacer between the end of the first row and the wall to ensure the correct expansion gap is left. Measure the length of this plank to fit (Fig 7), cut to correct length (minimum length 300mm). The remaining part of this plank will start the next plank.

4. First plank second row

Start this new row with the leftover piece from the last row (min length 300mm). Insert the tongue side of the long edge into the corresponding groove side of the long edge of the plank in the previous row, at a slight angle. Press down until it locks into place. Always try to stagger the short joints approx. 300mm from the nearest short joint in the previous row (Fig 8). Do not forget to include the required expansion gap to the wall.

5. Second plank second row

Position the long side of the plank with the tongue side overlapping the groove of the planks in the previous row. Then for short side, fold it down with a single action movement. Press down and firmly to lock into place. Gently tap this short edge joint perfectly into place using the rubber mallet (Fig 9). Continue installing planks in the second row.

6. Remaining Rows

Continue working from left to right, row by row. Be sure to maintain a 5mm space around all walls and vertical objects. To maintain a random appearance, remember to offset end joints a minimum of 300mm.

7. Last Row

Need to cut the planks to fit the last row. Lay a plank on top of the installed row (Fig 10). The edge of this plank should be against the wall after inserting a spacer. Use the ruler to mark the cutting line with a pencil, and then cut the plank lengthwise with a sharp utility knife or tile cutter. Remember to allow for the expansion gap. Continue cutting the planks needed for the last row.

8. Radiator Pipes

Mark and drill holes according to the Pipe size (Fig 11). Make sure enough expansion gap has been left.

9. Transition moldings are required every 10m in any direction and at all doorways.

Finishing the Installation

- After all planks have been installed, remove spacers from perimeter of room.
- Do not fasten any moldings through the flooring.
- Install quarter-round or baseboard molding. Molding should be of sufficient size to cover the 5mm space and should be fastened to the wall, not to the flooring.

IMPORTANT

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl Flooring is only used for indoor and floor covering only.

Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl Flooring must be protected from direct sunlight exposure. Vinylinx recommends using UV protective film, blinds or curtains in all windows that provide direct sunlight to ensure that the products are not overheated.

Care must be taken to avoid damage to the floor caused by localised 'hot spots/thermal blocks. Care must also be taken in placing rugs, and items of furniture which do not allow hot air circulation. No responsibility for damage to flooring can be accepted under these circumstances.

* Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl Floorings are 100% waterproof. Therefore they will not absorb water and the structural integrity of the product will not be affected by water e.g. no swelling. In the case of standing water or flooding, Vinylinx Click Rigid Core Vinyl Flooring will not act as a barrier between standing water/flooding and the subfloor, and as such is not recommended for continually wet areas such as walk in shower rooms.