

# **Shires Loose Lay LVP Installation & Care Guidelines**

**Recommended Installation Instructions:** Shires Loose Lay LVP flooring has a non-skid backing to improve friction between the plank and subfloor, thus reducing lateral movement when walked upon. The product also incorporates a solid sheet glass fiber layer for enhanced dimensional stability. The 0.5mm clear wear layer has a reinforced polyurethane coating. The plank sizes are 9" x 60". **For more details on installation guidelines, please visit [lwflooring.com](http://lwflooring.com) under the Shires Collection.**

## **1. Pre Installation**

Shires Loose Lay LVP can be laid on most sub-floors and substrates, including concrete and screed bases, quarry and ceramic tiles, wood substrates, existing resilient sheets and tiles, and metal and poured floors. Relative humidity should not exceed 75% for extended periods of time. Subfloors should be level, dry, smooth, structurally sound, and without cracks. Any grout lines or joints should be leveled /filled to avoid eventual telegraphing.

Please note: Shires cannot be installed over the following substrates: carpet/ carpet pad, cork, engineered hardwood, floating floors, laminate, parquet, cushioned vinyl flooring, sleeper substrates, and rubber flooring (vulcanized or crumb).

It is suitable for installation on heated subfloors or underfloor heating with a maximum surface temperature of 29°C (85°F) using a permanent glue method and a recommended adhesive for LVP flooring over various substrates (Sparta Warloc PS). All flooring materials must be allowed to condition to room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting the installation.

Please note that boxes of planks must be stacked no more than three feet high. All planks must be removed from cartons 30 minutes before use. The room temperature should ideally be between 18C (65F) and 29C (85F) for at least 48 hours before and during installation. As extremes of temperature can occur between the day and night times, it is important that these be avoided. South-facing windows and conservatories should be shaded to minimize daytime fluctuations. Take care next to high heat sources (wood stoves, baseboard heaters, etc), where surface temperatures can become higher than 29C (85F). All structures shift and move. It is mandatory to have an expansion gap off all walls. Planks or tiles should be placed 1/4" off the wall plate. If an installation area is less than 20" in the longest direction, an 1/8" expansion gap is sufficient. Drywall and trims will cover the gap.

## **2. Installation**

Ensure colors/run-lots correspond to those ordered, quantities are correct, and the product is from one batch. Do not mix batches in the same visual area without inspection before installation. Check backing to ensure there isn't any damage that may prevent the product from lying flat. When installing, the center line must be determined first and checked to ensure the installation is square when complete. Planks should be staggered to obtain a random finish; it is advisable to ensure that plank ends are not within 203mm (8") of adjacent end joints. Cut with a sharp knife from the face side, ensuring the cut is 90°, by scoring twice. The second score cuts the glass fiber reinforcement layer. Open up the cut by bending the plank, and then finish the cut from the backside. **Three installation methods are recommended, depending on the installation's size and expected traffic conditions.**

**Small Room—Perimeter Spread Application:** For residential installations where the longest length is no longer than 3.66 meters (12'), spread a 10.0cm (4") adhesive band around the perimeter of the room and between doorways and openings. For easier installation, double-sided flooring tape can be substituted for adhesive.

**Large Room- Diamond Spread Application:** For light commercial installations up to 8.0 meters (26') in length and for residential installations between 3.66 meters (12') and 8.0 meters (26') in length, a diamond spread system of installation is required. Using Sparta Warloc PS adhesive, apply a 10.0cm (4") wide band around the total perimeter and spread a 10.0cm (4") band of adhesive every 61.0cm (24") in a 45-degree diamond-shaped grid pattern across the room. Recommended Trowel size is 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U-notch. Alternatively, for residential installations, a high-quality double-sided tape can be used to achieve the grid-lock system effect

**Commercial- Full Spread Application:** For all other Commercial and Residential installations where the shortest length is 8.0 meters (26') or longer or in areas that experience extreme traffic, it is recommended to use a full spread of Sparta Warloc PS adhesive to adhere the product. A full spread is also recommended in high-temperature areas (for example south south-facing floor-to-ceiling windows). Recommended Trowel size is 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U-notch.

In all types of installations please fit the planks SNUG but not tight against walls and fittings. Areas with high rolling loads should be fully glued down using Sparta Warloc PS adhesive across the total floor area. Trowel size 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch is recommended for this application. If a PS adhesive is used please roll the floor using a 75-100lb 3 section roller after installation.

**Toilet Areas:** When installing in restrooms, toilets must be removed. Installation at toilet must have a 1/8" gap for expansion. Re-install toilet and seal around toilet using a premium 100% silicone sealant.

## **3. Post-Installation and Maintenance**

After installation, use a brush, dry cloth, or vacuum cleaner to clean. For cleaning the floor, use an approved vinyl cleaner (never wax) with a terry cloth or microfiber mop. Daily/Weekly: Mop, sweep, or vacuum to remove loose dirt and dust. As required, clean with an approved vinyl cleaner to remove stubborn marks.

**\* For further information, please contact the retailer where the product was purchased or see the maintenance guide for cleaning at [www.lwflooring.com](http://www.lwflooring.com)**