



Riverside
ENGINEERED VINYL PLANKS
by LW Flooring



Installation & Maintenance Guide

Read this guide before starting installation

Riverside WPC Engineered Vinyl Plank is a waterproof floating floor but should not be used to seal an existing floor from moisture. It cannot inhibit mold growth or prevent structural problems associated with or caused by flooding, excessive moisture, alkalis in the subfloor, or conditions arising from hydrostatic pressure. Regardless of location, always promptly remove standing water, urine, and other liquids. Moisture issues should be addressed and corrected at the job site before installation.

PRE-LAY CHECK

It is the installer's responsibility to verify that the product is the correct product, color, pattern, and quantity. Before installation, check each board for visual defects. LW cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Color variations are to be expected. For the best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons during installation.

SITE CONDITIONS

LW Riverside WPC Engineered Vinyl Plank is more dimensionally stable than typical wood or vinyl-based flooring products. For best results, it is recommended to maintain an optimum material temperature range for installation between 65°– 85°F. Extreme hot or cold conditions may cause the material to become too flexible or rigid, resulting in installation difficulty or damage to the locking system.

Acclimate for 48 hours. For acclimation, unopened cartons of flooring need to be lying horizontally in the room when acclimating. They do not need to be opened or the plastic to be removed. They need to lay (can be stacked) horizontally for 48 hours in a controlled environment. Humidity is maintained at or near normal living conditions, generally between 60° to 80° Fahrenheit and at the average yearly relative humidity for the area.

Installing a moisture barrier may prevent the floor from getting wet in the future. LW Flooring is not responsible for site-related moisture issues. For additional protection, consider applying a moisture barrier compound system.

UNDERLayment

The product has an attached pad, and using an additional underlayment that is more than 2mm thick will void the warranty. It is not approved. If you choose to use an additional underlayment, we recommend 1-2mm thick. Make sure to use an underlayment approved for use with floating LVP flooring and has a manufacturer's warranty regarding floating LVP usage.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Before installing any flooring, the installer must ensure that the job site and subfloor meet the requirements of this instruction. A floating floor can be installed over most existing floor coverings, provided it is firmly attached to the structural floors and sound and sturdy. Do NOT install over existing hardwood floors. Moisture issues should be addressed and corrected at the job site before installation. Installation is NOT allowed over any type of carpet.

The subfloor should be flat within $\frac{1}{8}$ " in a 6-foot radius or $\frac{3}{16}$ " within a 10-foot radius. The substrate should not slope more than 1" per 6 feet in any direction.

LW recommends testing concrete substrates for relative humidity, moisture, and pH before installing LW Riverside WPC Engineered Vinyl Plank. Test results should not exceed 85% relative humidity (RH). The Calcium Chloride Test for the moisture should be no more than 8 lbs per 1000 SF in 24 hours MVER (Moisture Vapor Emission Rating), and pH tests for alkalinity levels should register between 7 and 9. **LW Flooring requires a 6 mil poly film when installing over concrete subfloors.**

LW recommends checking wood substrates for moisture. Obvious signs of moisture issues include warping, peaking, degradation of the integrity of the substrate, rusted fasteners, and rusted floor registers. Even if obvious signs are not present, the material should be tested using an invasive moisture meter, and moisture levels should not exceed 14%.

Radiant heating systems must be cast $\frac{1}{2}$ inch below the surface of the concrete slab and should be operating at least 2 weeks before installing LW Riverside WPC Engineered Vinyl Plank. Set the temperature of the radiant heating system to 68°F 48 hours before, during, and 72 hours after installation. The temperature of the radiant heat floor may be increased gradually 72 hours after installation, but the surface temperature should never exceed 85°F. Contact the manufacturer of your radiant heating system for further recommendations.

Note: Follow and comply with various Federal, State, and Local government agencies' regulations governing the removal of in-place asbestos-containing material. If you contemplate the removal of a resilient floor covering structure that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos, you must review and comply with all applicable regulations. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos.

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

Installation exceeding 35-40 feet in each direction requires expansion trims. An expansion gap of no less than 3/8" is required. The flooring is not suitable for areas with dynamic horizontal forces, such as those found at gyms, sports, and dance floors. Do not install cabinets or fixed objects on top of the flooring. Do NOT install over existing hardwood floors that lay directly on concrete. Do NOT adhere any tape to the face of the floor, as it will damage the finish. No claims will be processed for tape damage.

Riverside WPC Engineered Vinyl Plank uses a 5G with a drop lock system.

1. Plan the direction of the area to be installed to maximize the visual appearance once installed. The direction of the plank grain should be confirmed, and the installation should be balanced from the center of the area.
2. Start from the top left corner of the room by putting the first plank in place so both the head and side grooves are exposed. Planks should be installed from left to right. To assist in laying the first row straight.
3. Install the second piece in the first row by laying the short-end tongue onto the previously installed piece short-end groove. Lock the pieces together by firmly pressing down with your thumb along the seam to lock the planks together. This will engage the 5G locking tab into the piece you just placed. You will hear and feel the pieces lock together as the locking tab engages in the joint. Use a soft rubber mallet to vertically engage the joint.
4. Continue this manner for the rest of the first row. Make sure there is a 3/8" space between the first row and the walls.
5. Cut the piece at least 10" shorter so the short end is enough apart from the end of the first row. Install the first piece in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the piece in the first row at a low angle into the installed piece. Then, firmly lower the plank while maintaining a slight pressure towards the installed piece. The pieces should fit snugly together and lay flat. Finish the remainder of the second row.
6. It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square since they are the foundation for the rest of the installation. Check often for straightness while installing the floor, as failure to do so can result in gapping.

7. Continue installing. Make sure to maintain a random pattern repeat. Maintain a 3/8" expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces.
8. Check to be certain all planks are fully locked. If slight gapping is noticed, or pieces will not lie flat, simply disengage the long side joint and carefully slide the short end joint apart. Do not pull up on this joint, as it will damage the locking mechanism! Reinstall the piece.
9. Install wall and door moldings last. Be sure that all moldings are fastened directly to the wall or subfloor. Do not place any fasteners through the floating vinyl flooring.

Note: When removing or repositioning a plank, the 5G drop lock joints cannot be "lifted" or angled apart. To remove a plank, first disengage the long joint by lifting at a slight angle while pulling the complete rows away from each other. Then simply "slide" the drop joint apart along the floor. Failure to slide this joint will damage the drop lock mechanism and prevent proper re-installation of the affected plank.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

NEVER use wax or oil-based cleaning agents. All-purpose cleaners are not recommended, as they can dull your floor's finish or leave a hazy residue.

- LW Flooring recommends Bona brand cleaning products, which are widely regarded as the best cleaning solution for urethane finish flooring.
- Sweep, vacuum with the beater bar up (no beater bar), or dust mop regularly.
- Do not use steam cleaners or a wet mop to clean floors. "wet mop" is defined as "well submersed with fluid."
- Install proper felt protectors under the chair and furniture legs to prevent scratching.
- Roller or castor chairs should not be used directly on the floor surface as grit will build up under the wheels over time and become abrasive. Protective mats must be placed on the floor to protect the surface coating and keep your floor looking good.
- Use walk-off mats at entrance doors and in front of kitchen sinks.
- Do not use mats with a rubber or latex back, as they may permanently stain your floor.
- Do not drag or push heavy items across the surface of the floor.
- Sun exposure can cause discoloration and thermal expansion on the flooring. LW Flooring recommends keeping curtains or blinds close to limit direct exposure.