

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR GERFLOR HOME CREATION CLIC PLANK

1. Subfloor Preparation for Home Creation Clic plank

1.1 All subfloors must be sound and solid, dry, free of dust and preferably vacuumed prior to the installation of the flooring.

1.2 Wood Subfloors (existing or new)

Home Creation Clic plank can be installed over well secured plywood, and OSB (manufactured to receive resilient).

1.3 Concrete

Home Creation Clic plank can be installed over concrete subfloors (below, on or above grade) with proper subfloor preparation as long as the concrete slab has cured for at least 30 days. Moisture content as determined by a RH test ASTM F2170 or a Calcium Chloride test ASTM F1869 and should meet the requirements for the adhesive used. We recommend that on grade and below grade slabs have an effective moisture retarder under the concrete slab.

2. Subfloor Preparation for the installation of Home Creation Clic Plank

Home Creation Clic plank can be installed loose-laid or fully adhered using a recommended adhesive. Subfloor preparation should comply with the following:

2.1 Concrete subfloor:

- The concrete subfloor must cure for a minimum of 30 days.
- The concrete slab will have a tolerance of 3/16" in a 10' radius.
- Prepare the substrate per ASTM F710 'Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring'.
- The concrete floor temperature will have to be maintained at a minimum of 65°F for 48 hours prior, during and thereafter.
- For an installation over a radiant heated floor, turn off the system 48 hours prior, during and 48 hours after the installation. The room temperature must remain at a minimum of 65°F at all time.
- Concrete slab moisture level must not exceed 10 lbs/1000 sq. ft./24 hrs per ASTM F1869 and 92% per ASTM F2170 when installing Home Creation Clic **loose laid**.
- Concrete slab moisture level must not exceed 5 lbs/1000 sq. ft./24 hrs per ASTM F1869 and 80% per ASTM F2170 when installing Home Creation Clic plank **when using Gerfix TPS+ adhesive**.
- Concrete slab moisture level must not exceed 8 lbs/1000 sq. ft./24 hrs per ASTM F1869 and 90% per ASTM F2170 when installing Home Creation Clic plank **when using Gerfix LVT & Plank Spray adhesive**.
- Before proceeding with any work, inspect the subfloor surface and report any visible defects on the surface such as cracks, bumps, rough areas or variations in evenness.
- Check the subfloor for grease, oil, paint, marker, spills, dust or any contamination that may adversely affect the adhesion of the flooring. Clean the subfloor according to the existing conditions.

- Prohibit circulation of other trades in the installation area.
- Sanding of the subfloor will be mandatory in many cases; especially in areas where the subfloor has been contaminated with foreign products. It may be necessary to scarify or bead-blast concrete surface to remove existing adhesives, paint or other surface applied materials.

2.2 Wood subfloor:

- Suspended wood subfloor shall be 1" thick or heavier, conforming to the current CSA or FHA standards, double-layered, strongly constructed, free from vertical movement and have a minimum of 18" of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. In an area of high humidity due to ground moisture such as a crawl space or basement, a vapor barrier (minimum 4 mil polyethylene sheeting) should be installed over the ground with overlapped widths and lengths, to serve as a moisture barrier to help assure dryness. The truss shall be spaced not more than 16-inch on centers. If truss are warped or twisted, or otherwise do not present a flat, true base for plywood installation, these conditions must be corrected prior to the installation of the plywood by routing the truss or by firmly nailing blocks to the sides of the truss whichever is required. All subfloor panels must be fastened to the truss in accordance with their manufactures recommendations to preserve their warranties.
- Single Layer Wood Floors: Single layer plywood subfloors are not recommended in areas requiring resilient flooring; they are the major cause of nails popping and squeaking. These subfloors must be covered with a minimum of 1/4" or heavier approved underlayment grade plywood.
- Stripwood Subfloors: Single and/or double tongue-and-groove stripwood floors should be covered with a 3/8" or heavier underlayment to eliminate telegraphing of the stripwood floor board joints. Underlayment grade panels are used to resurface an existing wood subfloor. The finished appearance of any resilient flooring installation will be determined in part by the underlayment over which it is installed. Underlayment grade panels for commercial resilient floors must be 3/8" or heavier with fully sanded face meeting CSA or FHA standards. The following descriptions of types of underlayment panels and Gerflor's resilient flooring recommendations for their use are intended only as a guide. The underlayment selected is subject to the discretion of the installer based upon subfloor conditions. Gerflor strongly suggests that whoever is buying the underlayment material obtain a warranty from the supplier.

The responsibility for warranties, guarantees and performance rests with the manufacturer of the underlayment and not with Gerflor.

CAUTION: Some plywood underlayment manufacturers use plastic or resin filler to patch surface cracks. Some filler can cause discoloration in vinyl flooring, specify plywood underlayment with wood plugs and fills

2.3 APA-American Plywood Underlayment:

- 3/8" or heavier APA Underlayment Exposure 1 (with fully sanded face)
- 3/8" or heavier APA Underlayment C-C Plugged Exterior (with fully sanded face)

2.4 Sturd-I-Floor Construction Plywood Floor System

- Conventional veneered plywood Sturd-I-Floor system with sanded face is a suitable subfloor for installation of Gerflor resilient flooring when constructed for resilient flooring per *APA*.
- The identification provides information on thickness and the corresponding allowable maximum joist spacing. Tables in the *APA Design/Construction Guide – Residential and Commercial Guide* provide maximum joist spans for each joist size, wood specie and grade. Glued tongue and groove edges are recommended to assure snug joints. Only fully sanded panels are acceptable and must be thoroughly

dry before applying floor covering. The long dimension of the panel must be installed across supports and nail-pop. Follow the APA recommendations for site applied glue on both joists and tongue and groove joints.

Note: 3/8" (9 mm) minimum APA Underlayment grade plywood must be applied over the Sturd-I-Floor System with staggered and off-set joints.

Caution: Some industrial grade adhesives used in the construction trade to adhere subfloor panels have been known to discolor resilient flooring products even when covered with patching compounds. Any construction adhesives used in subfloor construction must be guaranteed by its manufacturer, not Gerflor, to be non-staining for resilient floorings.

Note: Installing resilient flooring over approved plywood with **not** diminish the telegraphing of the sheets of plywood through the resilient flooring.

3. Installation Instructions for Home Creation Clic plank

3.1 Prior to the Installation

Always verify product labels to ensure proper type, color and thickness ordered. Also check lot on the labels to confirm they are the same to avoid shading problems from one box to another.

3.2 Acclimation

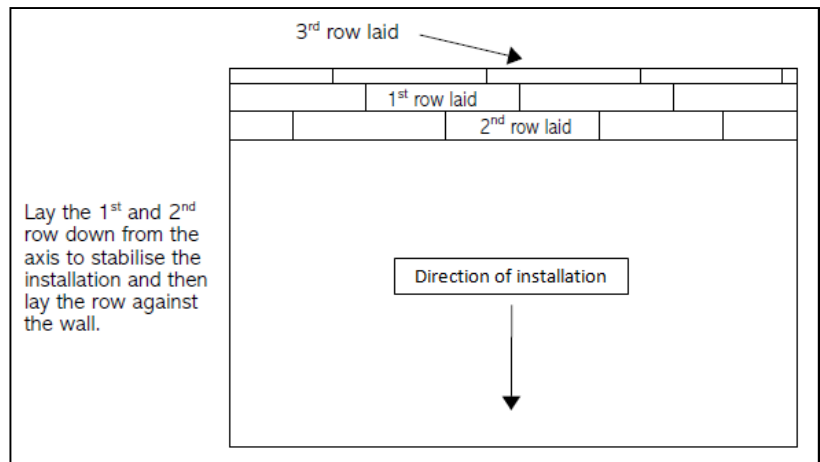
Under normal condition, the tiles and planks must be taken out of their boxes 16-24 hours prior to the installation. In cases where the flooring may have spent a long period of time in colder conditions, more time will be required for acclimatize.

3.3 Inspection

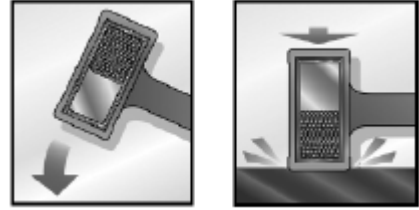
- Boxes are clearly marked with batch numbers and the product should be checked for match before installing.
- Inspect all materials carefully to verify that correct colors, lot number, patterns, quality and quantities have been shipped as ordered. Do not install, cut, or fit any material that has visible defects.

3.4 Installation

- Chalk the center line
- Report the axis by a multiple of the width of a plank along the starting wall
- Using a dead blow rubber mallet, align the planks properly and lock them together.
- Install the 1st and 2nd rows down from the axis to stabilize the installation and then install the row against the wall.
- Mix planks from different boxes to obtain a consistent layout.



- Begin stair-stepping the planks into the field area.
- Long corridors, large areas will need to be spot glued to stabilize the installation. Gerfix LVT & Plank Adhesive is recommended for these cases.



4. Once The Installation Is Completed

- Do a visual inspection of the project.
- Verify every welded seam.
- Repair every imperfection before leaving the project.
- Make sure that every vertical obstacle such as doorframes is well trimmed and sealed with a silicone sealer or an equivalent product.

For any information, please refer to Gerflor Technical Services.

5. Residential Maintenance

Gerflor floorings are solid and durable but, like any floor coverings, they still need proper cleaning and maintenance to remain beautiful. To maintain the shine and the new sparkling look of your flooring, follow the maintenance guidelines below:

5.1 General Floor Care

- Regularly sweep the floor with a soft broom to remove dirt and grit and prevent scratches.
- Wash the floor regularly with a mild floor detergent and rinse with clean water.
- Wipe up spills immediately with a clean cloth dampened with warm water.
- Never use abrasive cleaners, soaps, waxes in the form of paste or solvents as they leave a film that will discolor the floor or reduce its shine.
- Avoid using a “beater bar” rotary suction vacuum cleaner as it may damage the floor surface.

5.2 Floor Care Tips

- Use floor protectors on furniture to reduce the possibility of indentation.
- When moving heavy objects or appliances across your floor, always lift them, use professional guides or place them on a plywood panel or turn a section of the carpet upside down. The carpet should be free of abrasives.
- Place non-staining, door mats at every outside entrance to the room to keep sand and grit from being transported onto the floor. Do not use rubber or latex backed mats; they may damage the floor.
- In areas with extremely high sunlight, close your blinds, shades or curtains during sunlight hours to prevent the floor from discoloring over time.
- It is recommended that a chair pad be used for chairs with rolling casters. The combination of sand, grit and localized pressure from casters will cause the increased wear on the material.

6. Stain Chart

TYPE OF STAIN	CLEANING METHODS
<p>Group A Ink, iodine, mercurochrome, coffee, alcohol, fruit juice, ketchup, vinegar, mustard, blood, urine, vomit, excrement, betadine.</p>	<p>Method A Immediately rub stain with a white cloth in solution of bleach and water (20 parts and one part bleach) or use water in which you diluted mineral spirit of ammonia. Let set for minute. Rinse with cold/clean water.</p>
<p>Group B Rust, grass, dye.</p>	<p>Method B Immediately rub stain with soft nylon pad dampened in alcohol (isopropyl). Thoroughly rinse with cold/clean water.</p>
<p>Group C Asphalt, tar, grease, oil, wax, chewing gum, nail polish, alkalis, lacquer, paint, rubber.</p>	<p>Method C If needed, remove soiled material with a plastic spatula. Immediately wipe with a white cloth dampened in full strength floor cleaner or alcohol. Thoroughly rinse with cold/clean water. Polish floor if necessary.</p>
<p>Group D Diluted acids, drain cleaner, harsh soaps of detergents.</p>	<p>Method D Remove spill with a clean damp cloth folding frequently. Immediately wipe with a white cloth dampened in full strength floor cleaner or alcohol. Thoroughly rinse with cold/clean water. Polish floor if necessary.</p>
<p>Group E Burns (cigarettes, matches, etc.)</p>	<p>Method E Use light sand paper on affected area. Apply floor dressing or vinyl seaming liquid to repair.</p>

7. Damages

Type of damage	Flooring	Action to be taken
Cut	Damaged surface with heavy dents.	Lightly sand damaged area, dry buff or if necessary, repair with ROMUS liquid seam sealer. If unsuccessful, replace plank.
Scratches	Damaged surface with light abrasions.	Buff manually or with a polisher with a red pad or replace plank

Scuff marks	Black or white streaks.	Black: Remove with a damp cloth. White: Manually polish or use a polisher.
Staining and discoloration	Local or all-over stain.	Clean according to General Floor Care.
Burns	Surface tarnished or melted.	See recommendation for “Cuts”.
Indentation	Elongated or local concave	Determine source. Use floor protectors.
Subfloor defects	Subfloor defect.	Contact flooring contractor.

For more information you can reach us at:

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