

InstaLay 25 & 30 (high grab)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS
Luxury Vinyl Tile/Plank Flooring (Dryback) Installation
Using The InstaLay Self-Adhesive Installation System
(loose laid to the sub-floor)

Acoustic system for use below most types of Luxury Vinyl Tile and Plank Flooring products

Domestic and commercial use, suitable for heavy foot traffic
Manufactured using recycled rubber crumb. Guaranteed for 10 Years
Roll Size: 2.5mm - 1.0m x 15.0m (15.0m² / roll) / 3ft 3in x 49ft 2in (161.4ft² / roll)
& 3mm - 1.0m x 15.0m (15.0m² / roll) / 3ft 3in x 49ft 2in (161.4ft² / roll)

1. Before the installation commences, it is important to check that there is no potential for the floor surface temperature to exceed 27°C (80°F). InstaLay creates a floating floor installation and is not designed to stop excessive expansion of Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVTs) that are subject to high surface temperatures. LVT installations with InstaLay are therefore subject to the maximum industry standard limitations of 27°C (80°F) surface temperature, such as in the case where underfloor heating is present. If there is any doubt, InstaFloor recommends that the floor temperature is checked with an infra-red temperature gauge. On completion of these measurements, if the floor surface temperature is expected to rise above 27°C (80°F) then InstaLay should not be used.
2. InstaLay is suitable for most types of LVT and Plank Flooring products. Some LVTs are manufactured with textured backings, such as the one shown in photo 1 below. The textured backing design can reduce the surface contact area with the InstaLay adhesive membrane. Before installing an LVT with a textured backing, please check that the tile bonds securely to the InstaLay adhesive membrane. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of the tile or the strength of adhesion to InstaLay, please seek further advice from the InstaFloor technical team.

Photo 1



3. The sub-floor must be sufficiently level (for imperfections not to protrude through InstaLay) and dry. InstaLay is a moisture tolerant installation system that can be used over concrete sub-floors without a

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DPM where the moisture level does not exceed 90% RH. If sub-floor relative humidity is above 90%, a damp proof membrane (DPM) such as 600 gauge (6mil) polythene sheeting must be used under the InstaLay loose lay system. The sub-floor must also be sound and suitable for receiving a floor covering. When installations are to be carried out in newly constructed buildings, the structure must be fully enclosed and watertight.

4. A DPM is recommended on all concrete floor slabs where the moisture level is above 90% RH. If a DPM is required, the joints should be overlapped by a minimum of 150mm (6in) and be taped and sealed with waterproof adhesive tape. The DPM should be allowed to extend up the perimeter walls by 50mm (2in), and can later be trimmed level with the surface of the finished floor, to allow moisture vapour to be expelled above the finished floor height around the perimeter of the room.
5. The LVTs should always be allowed to condition prior to the installation. Before starting the installation, always follow the manufacturer's conditioning recommendations carefully (conditioning should never be less than 48 hours). The InstaLay must also be conditioned together with the LVTs for the same length of time, in the location where the installation will take place. It is important to control the internal temperature and humidity during and following the installation and we recommend that if a HVAC system is installed, it should be running constantly to maintain the required conditions. The air conditioning system should be allowed to run for a sufficient time to create the normal internal climate that the floor will be subject to during normal use. Once the climate has been stabilized, InstaLay and the floor covering should be conditioned to this environment for at least 48 hours prior to the installation.
6. Roll out and position the InstaLay (over the DPM, if fitted) with the exposed rubber surface facing downwards and the release film facing upwards, in rows next to one another (do not overlap the InstaLay). Joins must be closely butted together (to ensure that there are no gaps in the InstaLay) and run in the opposite direction to the planned LVT flooring edges (see Photo 2). When fitting a square tile system, care should be taken to set out the InstaLay to prevent tile edges coinciding with the underlay joins. In this instance, a 45° angle could be used as described in the installation tips provided at the end of this document.

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7. Cover the floor area to be fitted with InstaLay, leaving an expansion gap between the InstaLay and the perimeter wall. This expansion gap should be identical to the expansion gap being left between the wall and the LVT being installed above (see Section 10 below).

Photo 2



8. Please be aware that:
- **InstaLay 25hg is suitable for use with LVTs which are ≥ 2.0 mm in thickness. InstaLay 30hg should only be used with LVTs that are ≥ 3.0 mm in thickness and in cases where the acoustic performance is critical. In such cases, it must be recognised that the InstaLay 30hg system with vinyl tiles will create a cushion floor installation and increase the potential for indentations from heavy point loads such as furniture and appliances.**
9. Always ensure that the LVTs are clean and completely dust-free. If they are at all dusty, wipe them down using a clean, damp, lint-free cloth and allow them to dry off completely before installation.
10. When setting out the LVT pattern, ensure that all edges are staggered between the InstaLay and the finished floor tile. Several installation techniques may be employed, with one such technique being as

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follows: With the release film still in place on the InstaLay, set out the first row of LVTs along the full length of a selected starting wall. Because this is a floating floor installation, it is recommended that a minimum 3mm expansion gap be maintained between the wall and the LVT around the entire perimeter of the room. This is necessary as the LVT may expand and contract with changes in temperature. Set out the first 3 or 4 rows of LVTs (with the release film still in place) to ensure that the configuration and set up is correct. Ensure that the alignment of the LVTs is square to the centre line of the room and that the perimeter LVTs will have a sensible size cut against the wall.

11. Once you have set out the first several rows, cut the InstaLay release film to expose the high grab adhesive membrane (see Photo 3). Take care not to cut into the scrim itself whilst cutting the release film. It is recommended that the release film is lifted off the InstaLay slightly during this cutting process so that the adhesive membrane is not damaged in any way. Remove the release film only from the area you intend to work in immediately and ensure that no dirt or dust is introduced onto the adhesive membrane once it is exposed.

Photo 3



12. With the InstaLay Self-adhesive installation system, you don't need to allow an open time for the adhesive and installation can commence immediately, once the adhesive membrane has been exposed.

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13. Keeping the first several rows in place (still loose above the release film – see Photo 4) and ensuring that the alignment is parallel to the centre line of the room, start laying the first row of properly bonded LVTs by placing them gently onto the exposed adhesive membrane, ensuring that each LVT gives a tight join. Do not apply too much downward pressure onto the newly placed LVTs initially so that, if any LVT needs to be repositioned, the tiles can be uplifted from the adhesive membrane and repositioned as required. Once each LVT has been positioned correctly, and the initial alignment has been checked, press the tile firmly onto the adhesive membrane to lock it in place and ensure good adhesion. The bond between the LVTs and the adhesive membrane will increase with increasing downward pressure.

Photo 4



14. Once sufficient rows have been installed to cover the first strip of exposed adhesive membrane (as seen in Photo 3), the release film can be removed from below the first several rows that are still loose. These rows can then be positioned onto the adhesive membrane, working from the bonded LVT rows back towards the starting wall, ensuring that all joints are tightly butted together (see Photo 5). When cutting the perimeter LVTs, use either the overlap method or the scribe method depending on the straightness of the wall.

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Photo 5



15. Once the LVTs have been installed back to the starting wall, then the installation can be continued in incremental sections by removing the release film in stages across the remaining floor, allowing for the LVTs to be fitted in a planned manner as shown in Photos 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Photo 6



Photo 7



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Photo 8



Photo 9



16. When a suitably large section has been fitted, it should be rolled at a 45° angle to the direction of the LVTs using a light weight roller (maximum roller weight of 20kg / 45lbs). Repeat this process for all additional sections until the entire floor has been fitted (as shown in Photo 10).

Photo 10



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17. To complete the installation perimeters, use a small hand roller in areas that are inaccessible to ensure a good adhesion between the LVTs and the InstaLay adhesive membrane.

Installation Tips:

- In certain installations, it may be advantageous to roll out and position the InstaLay at a 45° angle to planned LVT joints, in order to minimise the tile edges coinciding with the underlay joins (see photos 11 and 12).

Photo 11



Photo 12



Please note:

- ✓ When using InstaLay below LVTs in a situation where there could be heavy point loads, caution should be exercised. In such cases please refer to the InstaFloor Technical Department.
- ✓ We advise that InstaLay is generally not suitable for installations in conservatories or other areas where there is extreme heat (where the installation is subject to temperatures in excess of 27°C / 80°F) due to direct sunlight (or other sources). We recommend that installations in conservatories

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or areas where the installation is subject to temperatures in excess of 27°C (80°F), should be discussed with the InstaFloor Technical Department. Guidelines and recommendations can then be provided for the specific requirements of the project.

- ✓ For any situation where a castor wheel chair may be used, a floor protection mat should always be used. This prevents any possible damage to the edges of the tiles/planks by the castor wheels rolling over the joints.
- ✓ When the adhesive membrane is exposed, avoid contamination with dirt or dust as this will cause a weakening of the adhesive bond.
- ✓ When installing larger areas (100m² + / 1000ft² +), the minimum expansion gap between the wall and the LVT (including the InstaLay) around the entire perimeter of the room should be increased to a minimum of 10mm. The expansion gap can be neatly finished with a suitable trim, or left free below the skirting boards.
- ✓ In installations where underfloor heating is present, the underfloor heating should be switched on to a low setting, giving a floor temperature of 22°C (71°F) prior to conditioning and installation. This temperature should then be maintained until the conditioning and installation processes have been completed. *InstaLay and the LVTs should be allowed to fully condition at 22°C (71°F) ambient temperature for at least 48 hours before the installation commences.* To ensure compliance we recommend that an infra-red temperature gauge is used to check and record the floor temperature. Once the installation is complete, the underfloor heating should then be brought slowly back up to a normal working temperature over the next 48 hours. Peak temperatures should be avoided for a further 7 days and should never exceed 27°C (80°F).
- ✓ Due to the nature of vinyl tiles expanding and contracting in direct relationship to temperature changes, in locations where there are sudden and dramatic temperature fluctuations please refer to the InstaFloor technical department for advice before the installation commences.