

InstaLay 25 (high grab)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone Tile Flooring Installation Using The InstaLay Self-Adhesive Installation System (loose laid to the sub-floor)

**Acoustic system for use below most types of Ceramic,
Porcelain and Natural Stone Tile 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)

1. The sub-floor must be sufficiently level, smooth and dry. The sub-floor must also be sound and suitable for receiving a floor covering of this type.
2. Wooden / Plywood sub-floors must be a minimum of 18mm (¾in) thickness and must be sound, with minimal deflection of panels. Joist spacing must be at a maximum of 485mm (19in). 600mm (24in) joist centres are not permitted, as there is too much deflection and increased risk of cracking of floor covering. Plywood must be sound and clean; all large open knots should be filled in prior to installation commencing.
3. Concrete sub-floors are excellent substrates for this type of installation, but InstaLay does not act as a moisture barrier and, if the sub-floor relative humidity (RH) is 75% or above, a damp proof membrane (DPM) such as 600 gauge (6mil) polythene sheeting must be used. It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that moisture testing is completed prior to installation. The sub-floor should be relatively level to ensure that there is no lippage. Any large cracks in the sub-floor must be patched prior to installation commencing.

A DPM is recommended on all concrete floor slabs where the moisture level is above 75% 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.

4. Other floor coverings - InstaLay 25hg can be directly loose laid over existing vinyl floor coverings and ceramic flooring, provided that this flooring is sound and is not peeling, cracking or blistering. Grout lines on existing ceramic flooring may require filling and significant lippage may need to be corrected prior to InstaLay being rolled out. **All carpet must be removed prior to the installation of ceramic / porcelain tiles with InstaLay, as moisture can become trapped in the carpet causing mould and other contaminants to exist. Existing carpet would also create an unstable sub-floor which would not be suitable for ceramic / porcelain tiles.**

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5. 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 tile flooring edges (see Photo 1). 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.

Photo 1



6. Cover the floor area to be fitted with InstaLay, leaving an expansion gap between the InstaLay and the perimeter wall and all fixed objects. Because this is a floating floor installation, it is recommended that a minimum 3mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ in) expansion gap be maintained between the InstaLay and the perimeter wall and all fixed objects. This is necessary, as the installation may expand and contract with changes in temperature.

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7. Measure the area to be covered and find the centre point. This is where the first tile will be laid into place. While you may start in the corner and / or anywhere else you wish in the area, this method will ensure the most desired finished look.
 8. Once you have set out the first several rows, cut the InstaLay release film to expose the high grab adhesive membrane (see Photos 2 and 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.
 9. 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.
 10. Position your first tile onto the exposed adhesive membrane. Using spacers of your preference as to the size of the grout line, place spacers against the first tile laid and then place the second tile against the spacers, using slight pressure to ensure a tight position and press the tile into place (see Photos 2 and 3).

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Photo 2



Photo 3



11. Once each tile 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 tiles and the adhesive membrane will increase with increasing downward pressure.
12. During the installation process, minor imperfections in the sub-floor may cause one tile to be slightly raised or recessed to the surrounding tiles. In such situations, it is possible to use a small dab of grout compound in the correct location on the InstaLay system to level the tile. Lightly press the tile into the dab of grout compound to create the correct position for the tile. Care should be taken not to walk on this tile until the grout has hardened to prevent movement after positioning.
13. The process can be continued in incremental sections by removing the release film in stages across the remaining floor, allowing for the tiles to be fitted in a planned manner. Repeat this process for all

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additional sections until the entire floor has been installed (see photo 4). **Make sure that you maintain the expansion gap as originally set out in step 6 above.**

Photo 4



14. Due to the nature of the adhesive membrane, you can walk directly on the tiles immediately after they have been installed. This is recommended, as the bond between the tiles and the adhesive membrane will increase with increasing downward pressure.
15. Use only a **pre-mixed flexible grout** to neatly finish off the installation. These **flexible grouts** are already pre-mixed and are available in different colours. Do not add water or additives to the **flexible grout**. Use a hard tile float to install this type of grout. It is very important to stir and thoroughly mix the grout before commencing the grouting process, as this ensures that the flexible additives are evenly spread throughout the mixture. Failure to do this can cause the grout to crack following installation and the drying process. For a list of the latest approved grout products, please contact the InstaFloor technical team.

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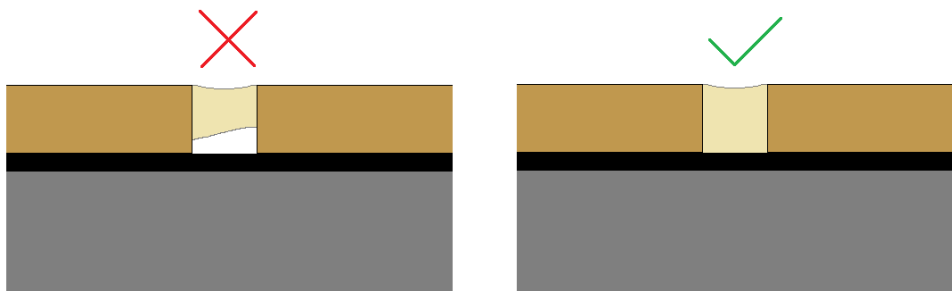
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16. It is critical to ensure that the grout channels have been completely filled during the grouting process. If voids within the grout channel remain, this can cause the grout to fail during normal use of the floor. Please see the diagrams below which show the correct way to fill the grout channels.



17. Immediately after the grouting process has been completed, use a sponge soaked in warm water to wash off any excess grout from surface of tiles. Lightly go over grout lines to ensure that they are fully filled in with grout.
18. If the grout dries on the surface of the tile, it will require additional washing and effort to remove it. It is therefore recommended that excess grout is regularly removed from the tiles as the grouting process continues.
19. Once the grouting is finished, the installation is now complete. Allow the grout sufficient time to dry and set (usually between 1 and 2 hours) before light traffic can enter the installation and approximately 24 hours for heavy foot traffic.

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Installation Tips:

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

Please note:

- ✓ 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 + / 1000 ft² +) the minimum expansion gap between the wall and the tile (including the InstaLay) around the entire perimeter of the room should be increased to a minimum of 10mm (½in). The expansion gap can be neatly finished with a suitable trim, or left free below the skirting boards.
- ✓ In installations where underfloor heating is used, the heating should be switched off 48 hours prior to installation and 48 hours afterwards. It should be brought slowly back up to working temperature; a maximum of 27°C (80°F). Peak temperatures should be avoided for a further 7 days.