



## *Fitting Instructions*

### **DRY BACK LVT**



# Aspire

Expect more from a floor

## *Suitability*

This product can be used in most residential areas including kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, living rooms and dining rooms.

Although this product can be used in conservatories it is essential to protect the flooring from direct sunlight to limit solar gain. The room should be kept at a consistent temperature not exceeding 27 degrees. If installing in a conservatory or similar then care should be taken that the ambient temperature does not exceed the recommended fitting temperatures.

This product is suitable for use in light commercial situations. It is suitable for most areas with the exception of high traffic areas, anywhere heavy loads will be rolled or where the room temperature fluctuates significantly.

## *Storage*

Please ensure that the product is stored flat at all times. Failure to do so may cause problems when you come to fit the flooring.

## *Acclimatisation*

Please allow the product time to acclimatise to the installation location. We recommend stacking the product, in small piles, in the area it will be fitted for at least 24 hours prior to fitting. The temperature of the room should ideally be between 18 and 25 degrees on the day, for 48 hours prior and at least 24 hours after. Air humidity should not exceed 70%.

The minimum subfloor temperature is 15 degrees and any underfloor heating should be turned off at least 48 hours prior to fitting.

# Subfloor Preparation

Ensure the subfloor is stable, clean, dry, crack-free and level. If the floor is not you will need to prepare the surface, prior to installation.

## **New Concrete or Sand Cement Screeds:**

If a new concrete floor has a hygrometer reading of less than 75% relative humidity (RH) prime the floor and apply a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum depth of 3mm. For readings greater than 75% RH floors please consult your supplier for information relating to surface damp proof membrane (DPM) requirements.

## **Old or Refurbished Concrete/Sand Cement Screeds:**

For readings below 75% RH, the floor covering, and adhesive residue must be removed, and the surface primed before applying a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. For readings above 75% RH consult your supplier for information relating to surface DPM requirements.

## **Power Floating Concrete:**

If hygrometer readings are below 75% RH the power floated floors require abrasion prior to the application of a primer and compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. (Abrasion can be either scarification or light shot blasting). For readings above 75% RH the surface still require abrasion before applying a surface DPM.

## **Mosaics/Ceramics/Quarry Tiles:**

Test floor for evidence of damp. If after testing, dampness is apparent consult your supplier.

Check floor area for unstable, loose or broken tiles. Remove loose pieces and fill deep holes with rapid drying mortar.

Degrease, rinse and abrade the surface of the floor. Apply primer and compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. A second top coat of primer and smoothing compound may be required to nullify sinking of smoothing compound over old tile grout lines.

## **Standard Floorboards / Tongue and Groove Floorboards**

These should be well secured, loose boards firmly fastened, worn/broken boards replaced.

Lay a minimum 6mm flooring grade plywood, fixed at maximum 150mm centres.

Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound.

## **Undulating Timber Floors**

For undulating timber floors apply a primer over the plywood and a minimum 3mm coat of fibre reinforced smoothing compound.

## **All MDF/ Chipboard**

Overlay with a 6mm flooring grade plywood fixed at maximum 150mm centres.

Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound.

## **Wood Mosaic Panel, Woodblock, Wood strip**

Remove any of these products if laid direct to earth/bitumen/pitch, these should not be overlaid with an impervious vinyl.

## **Flooring Grade Plywood Floors**

Plywood joints can be smoothed over using skim coat or alternatively a full coat of a fibre reinforced smoothing compound. Alternatively apply primer and lay minimum 3mm coat of fibre reinforced smoothing compound. (Any plywood floors with thickness less than 6mm treat as chipboard)

## **Laminate**

Existing laminate floor coverings must be uplifted and removed together with any underlay and laminate flooring accessories. The sub-floor should be treated as per the sub floor exposed.

## **Linoleum/Thermoplastic/Vinyl/Cork Floors**

Uplift, remove adhesive residue. The sub floor should be treated as per the sub floor exposed.

## **Metal and Painted Floors**

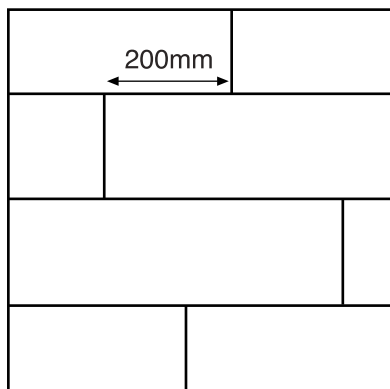
Remove any loose paint or other finishes.

Mechanically remove all paint back to original base prime and apply a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm.

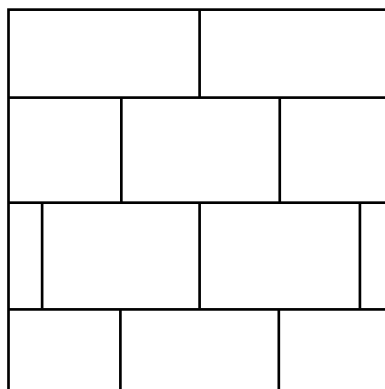
# Installation Plan

In order to create the minimum amount of waste and the best result we recommend that you draw up a plan of work before starting to lay the flooring.

Plank flooring will need staggered joints with a distance of at least 200mm.



Tiled flooring should be fitted broken bond to give maximum stability and create the best look.



## Adhesives

Make sure appropriate adhesives are used for site conditions.

## Avoid colour differences

We recommend that you use material from only one batch within each room. To check these, please refer to the product stickers on the packaging. To achieve the most realistic result, we advise that packs are always mixed together.

# Underfloor Heating

Make sure that the underfloor heating has been switched off for at least 24 hours prior to fitting. Wait at least 24 hours after fitting the flooring before turning back on and increase the temperature of room by no more than 5 °C per day up to a maximum of 27°.

## *Taking care of your floor*

- Where possible use PH neutral cleaners on your floor. Regular use of household cleaners and bleach-based detergents can make the floor slippery and/ or cause discolouration
- Always mop up spills as soon as possible, to reduce the risk of slipping and possible staining
- Regularly sweep the floor to remove loose dirt or grit as these can cause fine scratches
- Use entrance mats to protect against grit and moisture. Use non-rubber backed to prevent any discolouration of the floor
- Use floor protector pads under all furniture to prevent scratching. Avoid sliding or dragging furniture or other objects across the floor
- Maintain room temperature between 13-27°C (55-81°F) for optimum performance.



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