

Installation Instructions

ATTENTION! READ BEFORE INSTALLING!

FOR BEST VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF YOUR FLOOR

This flooring replicates the look of a natural product which has natural variations in color, texture, and sheen/gloss. For best visual effect, shuffle planks or tiles from several cartons and do not install similar planks or tiles next to one another.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION Subfloor should be dry and level to 3/16" per 8 ft. radius for best installation results.

Stoneform Plank Installation Instructions

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION.

While Stoneform is waterproof, it is not a moisture barrier. It is still a good idea to make sure your concrete is cured and tested for moisture, any warranty claims related to subfloor or crawl space moisture issues will be denied if no moisture barrier is used. For moisture mitigation a 6mils plastic visqueen is recommended. Topical spills and moisture will not damage the Stoneform flooring. However, hydrostatic pressure from subfloor moisture can put undue pressure on the joints between planks and ultimately cause the flooring to cup, warp, or fail. A couple of extra dollars and a few extra minutes is a small investment for the added protection and peace of mind. Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, we recommend leaving a ¼" expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood or tile floor.

Our locking system is an angle-angle installation. Different than other locking systems, it does not require the use of rubber mallets or tapping blocks to engage the locking system. A simple web search will offer many online references to help with the proper method of angle-angle installation.

Use good common-sense installation practices, and you'll have a successful installation that results in a beautiful floor.

Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish, sheen, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. If flooring is not acceptable, contact your supplier immediately and arrange for replacement. We cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the jobsite and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. Manufacturer is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory jobsite and/or subfloor conditions.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project. Install flooring after cabinetry installation. We will not be held liable for product failure where cabinets are set upon an unlevel floor.

Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 18" (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6–20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.

Room temperature and humidity of installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least **48 hours** before installation of flooring. Maintaining an optimum room temperature of **65-80degrees F** and a humidity range of 25% is recommended.

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, it is required to leave a ¼" expansion gap between the perimeter walls, cabinets, and any adjacent hardwood floor. Work from several open boxes of flooring and "dry lay" the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying textures, colors, and sheens, and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. Remember, it is the installers' responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations. Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank or tile. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks or tiles to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is out of square. You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 8", when cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. If cut-off end is less than 8", discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length (at least 8" in length) and use it to start the next row.

AFTER INSTALLATION

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. In order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use rosin paper and only use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor (other blue tapes may damage the finish). Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the rosin paper to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. **DO NOT USE** plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups. Dust mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris. It is suggested that you clean the floor using a recommended PH neutral cleaner. Install any transition pieces that may be needed using 100% silicone as an adhesive. (reducers, T-moldings, etc.).

Protection and Maintenance of Your Floor

Lasting beauty can be achieved through purchasing a quality floor covering and providing proper on-going maintenance.

Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.

Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects on the floor covering.

Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile-oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.

Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.

Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. **DO NOT** use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.

Use floor protectors under furniture.

Use walk off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked on to the floor.

Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. **DO NOT** use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off.

DO NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.

Clean up spills immediately.

Damp mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. **DO NOT** use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor. **DO NOT** use abrasive scrubbing tools. **DO NOT** use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products.

Vinyl flooring, like other types of smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for floor to dry after cleaning. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances or wet feet.