



Luxury Vinyl Plank & Tile Installation Instructions - EZ Loc

San Simeon

V 2014 1

Thank You

We appreciate your selecting Hallmark Luxury Vinyl® plank or stone. It is our hope that your new floor will enhance your living space and beautify your home or commercial project. We apply Surface Guardian Pro finish to the surface of all our Luxury Vinyl products for years of performance and enjoyment. All installation instructions must be followed for warranties to be considered valid.

We appreciate you selecting Hallmark's Luxury Vinyl San Simeon Plank. We apply our Surface Guardian Pro Finish to the surface of all our San Simeon products for years of performance and enjoyment.

San Simeon must be installed as a floating floor. It can not be glued, nailed or fastened to the subfloor in any way possible.

Tools Needed

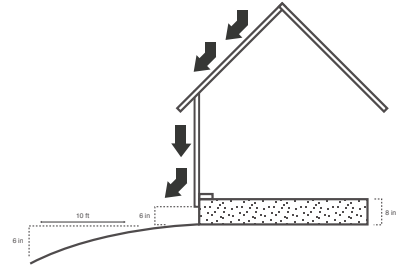
TAPPING BLOCK, Mitre Square, Tape Measure, Chalk Line, ¼" Spacers, Utility Knife or Guillotean.

Handling & Storage

1. Installation of Hallmark Luxury Vinyl® should only proceed after the subfloor has been properly prepped and cleaned and the site cleared of all other trades, to prevent damage to the new floor.
2. Prior to installation check cartons to ensure proper materials have been shipped. Homeowner or building owner should check the material to ensure that they have no concerns with color or pattern in comparison to a smaller sample.
3. San Simeon needs to be acclimated in a temperature of 65° to 85° F (18° C to 29° C) in unopened cartons.
4. San Simeon is an interior product only. Do not install in direct sunlight.
5. Install cabinets, island counters or anything heavy first, then cut San Simeon around them.
6. HVAC system must be turned on one week prior to installation.
7. Store all boxes flat and do not stack material acclimating to job site in direct sunlight. Direct sunlight can also be problematic during installation as it could shorten adhesive open time. Cartons do not need to be opened.
8. The highest quality standards and raw materials are used in the production of Hallmark Luxury Vinyl® and stringent quality control measures are employed at our factory. However, the installer is responsible to check for defects or damage to the planks and is responsible for providing a quality installation and adherence to all installation instructions.

Pre-Installation Inspection

1. Visual inspection: The first inspection is visual and basic. Is there water in the building?
2. Exterior Checks: Is exterior soil elevation 6" below edge of flashing?
3. Does exterior slope away from foundation at rate of 6" drop in 10' soft-landscaped and drop 3" in 10' for hard-paved areas.
4. Crawl spaces should have a minimum of 18" of well ventilated air space & insulated per building code. It should also be protected with a minimum of a 6 mil poly vapor barrier.
5. San Simeon is suitable for on, above or below grade installation.
6. All subfloors must be stable and sound with a flatness within 1/8" in a 10 foot radius.
7. Floor must not slope down more than 1" in 6'.
8. It is recommended that door jams be undercut with a 1/4" gap around the walls or any other structure.



Moisture Testing

1. Adhere to ASTM F-710: Standard practice for preparing concrete floors to receive resilient flooring. The standard includes determining moisture levels, relative humidity, PH levels in compliance with the ASTM specifications here listed.
2. ASTM-F 1869 The standard practice for checking concrete floors prior to installation of resilient flooring. The maximum allowable readings are 8 lbs. / 1,000 sq. ft. / 24 hours.
3. ASTM-F 2170 Relative humidity test using in situ probes. The maximum allowable reading is 85% RH.
4. ASTM-F 710 PH levels, with 5.3.1 test procedure. The readings should be between 8 and 10.
5. ASTM TEST FREQUENCY, should be 3 measurements per 1,000 sq. ft. for the first 1,000 sq. ft. and one additional measurement each for every additional 1,000 sq. ft.
6. Make sure all moisture, relative humidity, and PH tests have been conducted according to the latest ASTM version and methods recommended by the testing companies of the test or testing equipment.
7. It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor to ensure, moisture, relative humidity, and PH tests to determine if too much moisture is present. Hallmark Luxury Vinyl® is not responsible for hydrostatic pressure or changes in the moisture emission from the slab which may occur in the future for below, on, above grade concrete installations.

WARNING: REMOVAL OF OLD FLOORING:

Do not sand, sweep, dry or wet scrape, mechanically chip, bead blast, or pulverize existing resilient flooring, the felt, lining, paint, black asphalt cutback adhesives or other existing adhesives. These products could contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Breathing dust from these sources increases your risk of cancer and respiratory diseases. If you smoke and are exposed to asbestos fibers you are at greater risk of serious damage to your health. If you are not sure that the product being removed is asbestos free, assume that the product contains asbestos or crystalline silica. Regulations in your area may require you to have the material tested to determine if it contains asbestos. Check the Resilient Floor Coverings Institutes' recommendations for removal of existing resilient floor coverings.

Subfloor Preparation

All subfloors must be clean, smooth and flat within 1/8" in a ten foot radius. Dust, scale, old adhesive, and asphalt cut-back adhesive must be removed. CAUTION test cut-back adhesives for asbestos content. If the cut-back contains asbestos, contact an asbestos abatement company for professional removal. The surface must be free of paint, grease, drywall, curing/sealing compounds, existing resilient floors, engineered hardwood floors, wax, oil, alkali and any other foreign material that would negatively affect the bonding of the adhesive.

1. Concrete must be tested for moisture, regardless of the age of the concrete. See requirements under moisture testing. Moisture tests should be conducted on the slab after it has been cleaned of all foreign materials.
2. All subfloor patching and leveling should be done with a quality water resistant, non-shrinking Portland cement patch. Concrete floor must be smooth and flat to prevent telegraphing imperfections in the concrete.
3. Do not install the flooring over existing resilient floors.
4. Chemical adhesive removal products must not be used to prepare the slab. Use of such chemicals will void the warranty on all Hallmark Luxury Vinyl®.
5. Hallmark Luxury Vinyl® is not responsible for any movement in expansion joints in concrete slab.
8. Underlayment recommended by Hallmark is Eternity Premium underlayment pad or equivalent. Note: Do not use a polyethylene moisture barrier underlay over any wood subfloor.

Wood Subfloors

Wood subfloors must have a minimum of 18" between the bottom of the joists and the surface of the soil. Soil to be covered with 6-8mil black plastic as vapor barrier. Plastic must be overlapped at joints by a minimum of 8 inches and fully taped with a high quality moisture proof duct tape. Size of available vents should equal 1.5% of the square footage within the crawl space. Relative humidity should be in balance with interior of home. Moisture content of sub-floor should not vary more than 2%MC from the bottom of the sub-floor to the surface of the soil level.

1. Joists should be 16" inch on center with minimum subfloor thickness of 5/8" joist spacing of 16" - 18" should be 3/4" .
2. It may be necessary to install temperature/humidity activated exhaust fans to create more movement in the crawl space. Uncontrolled humidity and moisture in crawl space will lead to mold and damage to the structure as well as the hardwood floor. In these events a contractor specializing in dehumidifying systems will need to be contracted to keep crawlspace humidity within proper norms. This is more likely in high humidity areas.
3. Ensure that clothes driers are properly vented to the outside of the foundation. Check for signs of plumbing, both pressurized and non-pressurized/drain leaks.
4. Basements should be completely weather tight and proper drainage away from the foundations walls in place to insure that basement remains dry.
5. All wood and wood composition panels are suitable for use providing that they are smooth, flat, free of deflection and structurally sound. Examples of these types of flooring are plywood, particleboard, sub, flake board and wafer board. If the flooring surface is not smooth, 1/4" underlayment should be used over the subfloor. Depending on the underlayment used, it must be dimensionally stable, smooth and fully sanded so the texture does not telegraph through, resistant to static and impact indentation, free of any material that may cause staining (fillers, ink, sealers), be uniform in density and thickness and carry a performance warranty.
6. Make any repairs necessary to the existing subfloor prior to installing underlayment.
7. Do not install the flooring over existing resilient floors.
8. See underlayment manufacturers specification/instructions for proper installation of product.
9. Stagger plywood end-joints and butt edges per installation instructions, fastener holes and seams should be filled with a polymer modified patch such as Ardex Feather Finish or Mapei Fine Finish. These products are applied in a thin skim coat per manufacturers instructions. Make sure to fill all end and side joints nail holes and dents in the underlayment to prevent transfer to the surface.
10. Sand substrate smooth, any remaining imperfections could telegraph to the surface.

Other Substrates

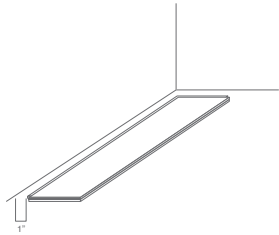
San Simeon can be installed over most substrates, including asbestos tile & existing sheet vinyl. However, do not install over existing carpet tile adhesive & residual floor covering, carpet, carpet pad, hardwood, both solid or engineered, existing floating floor, sleeper systems & cushioned back sheet vinyl. All these types of flooring must be removed. Other types of subfloors such as particleboard, OSB, chipboard, gypsum must be stable, flat, with little flexibility. Quarry Tile, terrazzo & ceramic tile with embossing & grout joints need to be filled with a premium cementitious patch product. Do not install San Simeon over more than one layer of existing flooring to prevent indentation or stress on the joints.

LVT & Radiant Heat:

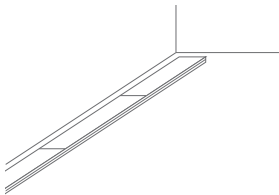
1. The heating system must be $\frac{1}{2}$ " below the surface layer of the concrete slab.
2. In floor heating systems must be water based, low temperature, and must have be designed to prevent surface temperature of the floor from exceeding 85 degrees F. All systems that are part of a wood subfloor construction must use a San Simeon Collection product designed to float and a Eternity Premium underlayment pad or equivalent.
3. 2-3 weeks prior to the installation the thermostat must be set at 70 F and then at 85 F for 3 days. The home should be aired out briefly every day to allow the excess humidity from the thermal mass to exhaust out of the structure.
4. The lightweight concrete moisture content must not exceed 1.5% as measured with a Tramax Moisture Encounter meter prior to installation.
5. Lightweight concretes must be Portland based and be rated at 3,000 psi.
6. Electric Mat systems are not approved for use under Hallmark Luxury Vinyl

Installation

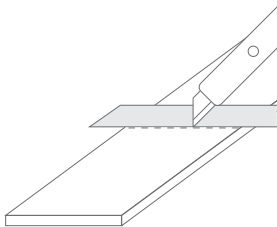
1. Select a starting wall (Tip: Select the longest wall in the room & install Left to Right beginning in the Left corner).
2. Start at least 1" away from the wall & be sure to have the tongue side of the plank facing the wall.



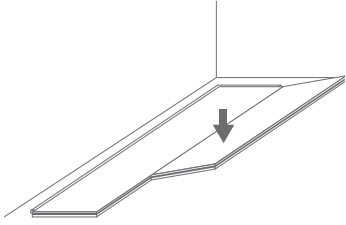
3. Lay the first row by interlocking the ends of each plank in a tight fashion.



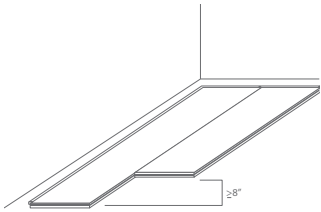
4. The last piece in each row should be cut with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap against the wall to allow the floor to expand and contract.
5. To cut the plank, use a straight edge & a utility knife. Simply score & snap or use a guillotine.



6. Take the piece left over & use it as a starter plank for the next row beginning on the left side of the room. Never start with a piece of plank shorter than 7".
7. Position the plank at a 10 to 20 degree angle & push down & snap the plank into place.



8. For the next plank, interlock the short side first, leaving it slightly away from the long side & then slide into the long side. Repeat until the end of the row is reached.
9. The staggered pattern should never be less than 8". [Pic]



10. Anchor down the first two rows installed by placing a few cartons of material on top of the floor.
11. Continue with the third row using approximately a 36" - 40" piece & repeat the same method of installation. (Tip: When tapping the ends of the planks together tight, never use a cut piece of plank as it will scratch or chip the surface of the plank being installed. Always use a tapping block to avoid these problems).
12. Always check for gaps after installing each row.
13. After installing the third row, gently slide all 3 rows back against the wall, using spacers to ensure a 1/4" gap is left.

Replacement of a Plank

1. Cut out the damaged plank using a utility knife.
2. Take thin double sided tape & place the tape 1/2 under the adjacent planks with the other half being exposed.
3. Measure & cut your replacement plank & cut off the tongue & grooves off of all sides.
4. Place the plank in place & use a hand roller to ensure a good bond.

Warning

In areas of extreme sunlight, close the curtains or blinds in order to protect your Hallmark Luxury Vinyl Floor. Excessive exposure to sunlight can cause an increase in the temperature of the floor, which would most likely lead to fading, discoloring or expansion. Increased expansion will most likely lead to floor buckling or unblocking of the locking system exposing a gap. Hallmark recommends the use of blinds or curtains during peak sunlight hours.



ATTENTION!: Luxury vinyl flooring subjected to excessive heat and light exposure is subject to expansion and contraction (thermal degradation). Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential affects on your luxury vinyl floor.



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Surface
Guardian PRO®



EZ Loc®

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