

DuraCORE Flooring

DuraCORE flooring represents the newest generation of high-quality resilient wood and tile looking flooring. It has a *unique composite DuraCORE with interlocking-edge design* for simple installation.

Simply follow the steps in the following section and you will see how easy it is to lock the flooring together. The wear layer has additives embedded within the finish that makes this floor more durable and resistant to wear or scratches. It can be used in any area of the home and it carries a 15-year residential warranty against wear, stains and manufacturing defects.

Follow the instructions for installation in the next section and you will be enjoying your beautiful new floor in just a few hours.

INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- Crosscut power saw
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape
- Rubber mallet
- ¼” spacers

Acceptable subfloor types:

- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least ½” thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- OSB (at least ¾” thick)
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood floor
- Ceramic tile
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl

Planks needed to complete your project

Measure the length & width of your room. If the room has alcoves or offsets, measure these separately. This will give you the square footage of the room. Purchase a minimum of 10% extra to cover mistakes, trimming and for future needs and or replacement. Most installations require about 10% overage. However, this can vary depending upon the room size and layout.

Helpful Notice 1: For best results it is important to have more than one case open, we highly recommend you install planks from 4 or 5 different cases at one time and

randomly mix them into the installation as you go. This will insure a more natural looking floor.

- **CAUTION:** Do not install Vinyl Flooring over carpet or any foam or padding, DuraCORE may come with an EVA foam underlayment attached. While it is waterproof it is not a moisture barrier, It's still a good idea to make sure your concrete is cured and tested for moisture, and that a moisture barrier is installed in the crawl space and even under flooring over a concrete subfloor. This product is not suitable for any outside use, sunrooms/solariums, saunas, or rooms that have the potential of flooding. If installed over radiant heating systems, the surface temperature of the subfloor must not exceed 85F (29C). Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath.
- **NOTE:** DuraCORE may be installed with a direct glue-down method on approved wooden or concrete substrates that are on or above grade only. This method is also used on stairs. Use a premium multi-purpose adhesive. Like those used for installing direct glue down carpet that are also approved for use with high density foam backings. Please consult adhesives manufacturer to determine if suitable with this material. 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" trowel recommended.

CHECK THE PLANKS BEFORE INSTALLING THEM TO BE SURE OF APPEARANCE.

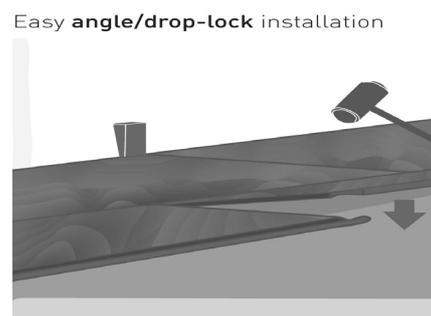
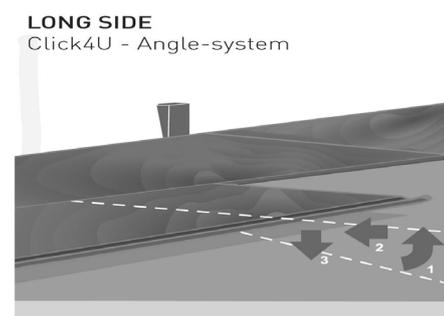
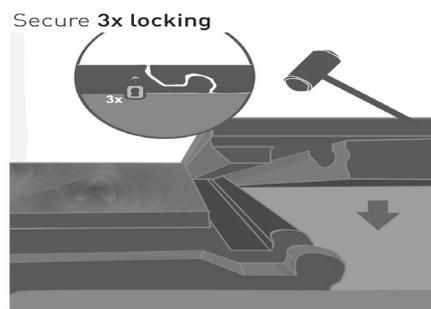
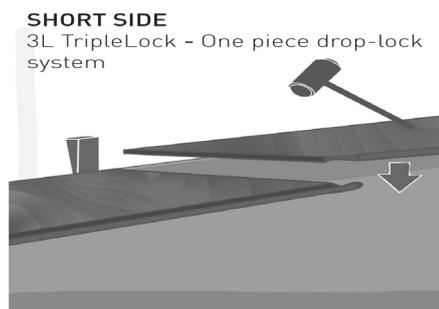
We maintain strict quality control at the factory, but it is a good idea to check each plank for blemishes or flaws. Return any such planks to your dealer for replacement.

Helpful Notice 2: When installing be sure to keep dust, dirt or foreign particles away from the Locking Strip. The cleaner the Locking Strip remains, the better the bond between planks. The planks are best kept in the box until you are ready to install them.

5. Subfloor preparation:

The sub floor surface ***must be smooth, flat, dry, clean and solid.*** Carpet staples or adhesive residue must be removed to insure proper installation. Subfloors should be flat within a tolerance of 3-16" per 10' radius, if necessary, grind high spots down and fill low spots with a Portland based leveling compound. Voids or humps in the sub floor will prevent planks from locking properly. Subfloors must be carefully checked for moisture problems. DuraCORE is waterproof. It is NOT a water-proofer. Any moisture problems need to be addressed prior to installation. New concrete floors need to cure for a minimum of 60 days. If you have old, ugly vinyl and don't want to pay for an expensive removal and remediating job, DuraCORE is the perfect answer. Any loose or damaged tiles should be patched prior to installing vinyl over the old floor. Never sand old vinyl floors from any floor manufacturer if you think the floor may be over 20 years old, since it may contain asbestos.

6. Installing Real Living Rigid Core Flooring:



1. Installation should begin in a corner (left side of room) and proceed from the wall with the tongue facing toward the wall. Allow a minimum gap of 1/4" for subfloor movement or product expansion.
2. When laying the first row in a straight line interlock the short ends by laying 2nd plank directly over the groove of first plank (figure 1 and 2). Install each sequential plank on the short end (7") and be sure to line up evenly. It is of great significance for a wonderful installation.
3. Make sure to keep the seams between planks tight. You will feel and hear the click when locking the planks together to create a tight seam. There should be no gap visible between planks.
4. When installing DuraCORE, it is strongly suggested to stagger the rows so that the short edge seams are not in a straight uniform line. We advise staggering rows at minimum 8" from the previous end joint.
5. To start the second row with the plank in proportion, measure and mark the plank, then using a saw cut a piece (or use the remaining piece from the first row) and place that to the far left. Position the first board in place by angling it up slightly, pushing forward and interlocking the side tongue. The long side of the plank **MUST BE SNUG** against the adjoining plank with **NO GAPPING**. There will be a slight click if the long side is fully engaged when lowered into place (figure 3)
6. Interlock the plank tightly against the first row (long side) again at a 15-20 degree angle. Slide plank over the short end lays directly on top of the groove of the short end of first plank in 2nd row. Use a rubber mallet and tap to securely lock short ends together. (figure 4)

IMPORTANT NOTE: When cutting DuraCORE for length, be sure to always cut the short side of the plank with the groove edge. The remaining piece can then be used on the opposite side of the room, at the end of that row if the layout permits.

7. Start the third row with the plank cut to appropriate length. Again the remaining piece can be used at the opposite end of the row, if the layout of the room permits.

8. Continue this pattern for the remainder of the rows to be installed. Always place the cut end of the first plank against the wall.

9. Fitting around irregular objects or door jams. Installation under moldings (such as door jams) may require that the top lip of the groove on the end be reduced in size.

Using a small plane or knife plane, carefully shave off the ledge of the groove. After the groove ledge has been trimmed, place the board in place and tighten with a pull bar. The installer must be sure that the required expansion gap has been maintained and the flooring is not pinched. If fit is not correct, re-trim as necessary. Place a bead of wood glue on the bottom lip of the groove. Insert the tongue into the groove and engage with a pull bar. Hold the board in place with painters' tape until the glue is dry. Do not use masking tape or duct tape as they may damage the floors finish.

Dis-assembly: Long sides come apart by angling the entire row up and pulling back from first row. To dis-assemble short sides lay the two planks flat on floor and slide them apart. Do not try and angle short sides from one plank to another since this will cause breaking of the locking joint.

Check with your dealer to furnish moldings.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Moisture in a concrete substrate should be tested according to ASTM F 1869-98 (Calcium Chloride Moisture Test using the Quantitative Method) Moisture levels should never exceed 8lbs per 1000sf per 24 hour period or ASTM F 2170-2 (Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in-situ Probes.) Relative humidity levels should never exceed 90%.

Also noted: The following situations are beyond the warranty: Please be advised there could be minor color, shade or texture variations between samples, printed color photography and the actual material.

CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

You have just installed DuraCORE Flooring. Your new resilient floor was produced under the highest quality standards and will provide you with a lifetime of enjoyment. Although DuraCORE is one of the easiest floors to maintain, please follow the recommendations in this guide to retain the fresh look and protect the factory finish. After installing the floor, we recommend a first cleaning to remove any loose dirt or debris that may have been introduced during the installation process.

Please check any new cleaning agents on a small test patch of the floor in an inconspicuous area and avoid using harsh cleaners or alcohol or ammonia-based cleaning products.

1. First sweep and vacuum the floor surface to ensure removal of all loose dust, dirt, and debris. Using a mop (or, for large areas, a floor cleaning machine with a low-abrasive pad), scrub the flooring surface. Using warm, clean water, rinse several times or as needed, then use a dry mop or wet vacuum to remove the water and allow drying.
2. Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to damage your DuraCORE Flooring. It may result in severe scratching to the surface. Replace furniture glides and round-headed hard plastic glides with floor protectors made of non-staining felt on furniture legs. DuraCORE is scratch resistant not scratch proof.
3. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. During peak sunlight hours, use drapes or blinds to minimize the direct sunlight. Most types of PVC based flooring will be affected by continuous strong sunlight. To avoid an uneven appearance, please consider relocations of any area rugs from time to time. Long term continuous inside temperatures over 95 F degrees combined with strong direct sunlight could cause thermal degradation.
4. Always sweep or vacuum before cleaning so that all loose dirt and particles are removed. Some hand wiping may be required to remove tough spots and spills. . For best results do not use combination cleaner/finish products.
5. **DO NOT WAX YOUR DuraCORE!** The surface of your floor is very dense and nonporous, which prevents wax from penetrating and thus builds up a bed for yellowing and dirt collection. The same non-porous feature also provides all the protection against wear and staining that you will need.
6. If your floor has been exposed to excessive amounts of water due to flooding, do not panic. DuraCORE is waterproof! Simply remove the water as quickly as possible. Dis-assemble the flooring carefully to ensure all water is removed. A dehumidifier should be promptly turned on in the room to reduce the moisture levels back to normal. Do not dry the room below the normal moisture level that existed previously. Flooring can then be re-installed.