

## LUXURY VINYL PLANK - DIRECT STICK AND EXPRESS LAY™

# Installation Instructions

Godfrey Hirst Luxury Vinyl Plank (Direct Stick & Express Lay™) Installation Guidelines should be reviewed by installers prior to commencement of installation. All installations should be in accordance with NZ/AS 1884-2013. Should you have any queries in relation to the below recommendations, please contact your retailer or Godfrey Hirst Floors representative.

## PRE-LAYING CHECKS

It is the installer's responsibility to verify that the product supplied is the correct product, colour, pattern and quantity, prior to installation and in good natural light, check for any obvious visual defects. If incorrect, contact your retailer or Godfrey Hirst Floors representative.

## SITE TESTING AND ACCLIMATISATION

Godfrey Hirst Luxury Vinyl Plank boxes should be stored no more than 3 high to avoid damage and maximise acclimatisation.

Concrete sub floors must be tested in accordance with NZ/AS 1884-2013 for moisture using the relative humidity in-situ probe test and pH. RH levels should not exceed 75% and pH levels should not exceed 10.

Godfrey Hirst Luxury Vinyl Plank products (and adhesives) must be allowed to condition on site for a minimum period of 24 hours, in a dry, well ventilated area with an air temperature between 18°C and 28°C. The temperature must remain within this range for the entire installation period and a minimum of 48 hours after installation completion. For optimum adhesive bond strength during and 48 hours post installation, the ambient relative humidity of the area where the products are to be installed must not exceed 60% or fall below 30%. This may require covering the windows to prevent any fluctuations of temperature during or after the installation to prevent thermally induced changes to the product.

## SUB FLOOR PREPARATION

Sub floor must be solid, clean and dry, free of dust, dirt, oil, grease, paint or any other materials which could adversely affect the adhesion of the Luxury Vinyl Plank to the floor. The sub floor must be level and smooth.

Concrete floors must be cured and completely dry, with a surface free of trowel marks and surface irregularities. When a straightedge 3 metres long is placed at rest at 2 points 3 metres apart, no part of the surface shall be more than 3mm below the straightedge. Similarly when a straightedge 200mm is placed at any position at rest, no part of the surface shall be below the straightedge. Depressions and cracks must be filled using a suitable (taking into account the traffic loads) approved levelling compound in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All protrusions must be levelled. A moisture test must be conducted in accordance with NZ/AS 1884-2013 prior to installation.

New timber subfloors should be constructed of seasoned timber that is rigid and free from excessive warping and cupping. For existing floors, any loose boards should be re-fixed and damaged boards replaced, then if required, sanded to a level, smooth and dust free surface.

Resilient flooring should not be adhered directly to timber subfloors, underlayment is required. Resilient sheet and tile finishes are not considered a suitable surface for adhering resilient floor coverings and should be removed. If this cannot be achieved, careful assessment is required as to whether the existing floor is to acceptable standards to adhere the new flooring.

Refer to the relevant standards outlined in NZ/AS 1884-2013 3.2 for any further information on timber, plywood, particleboard and fibre cement board subfloors, or contact your Godfrey Hirst Floors representative.

## UNDER FLOOR HEATING

For installations where underfloor heating is used the surface temperature must not exceed 27°C or have any floor coverings upon it to fluctuate above this. Refer to NZ/AS 1884-2013 4.1.3 for scope of preparing and conditioning the sub floor pre and post installation. Please contact your retailer or Godfrey Hirst Floors representative to confirm suitability and further installation recommendations.

## ADHESIVES

Use only adhesives recommended by the manufacturer for use with Luxury Vinyl Plank and relevant to specific site conditions. Special consideration should be given to the type of adhesive used in areas subject to extremes in temperature fluctuations and/or prolonged direct sunlight. Some examples may be as follows; windows/doors with continuous full sun exposure, heaters/fireplaces, laundries, bathrooms, areas of high water spillage etc. It is suggested you contact the relevant adhesive manufacturer to confirm suitability and application of adhesive.

## INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

Luxury Vinyl Plank should be carefully checked prior to installation. Never install defective product. If the product has any visual defects or damage, contact the retailer. Godfrey Hirst will not be responsible for any visible defects after the flooring has been cut and/or installed.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prepare the subfloor in accordance with NZ/AS 1884-2013 and as set out in these instructions. The floor temperature should be maintained between 18°C and 28°C with a relative humidity of 30-60% to ensure full efficacy of the adhesive.
2. Plan the direction of the area to be installed to maximise the visual appearance once installed. The direction of the plank grain should be confirmed and the installation should be balanced from the centre of the area to minimise waste.
3. To minimise shade variation, mix and install product from several different packs alternatively. Before applying adhesive, loosely lay a small quantity of product, view from a distance that allows you to clearly see the overall effect. If there is any doubt cease installation/adhesion immediately and contact your Godfrey Hirst Floors representative.

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# Installation Instructions

- When installing planks the starting point should be marked out at the perpendicular axis adjacent to the longest straight wall. Installations containing connection areas and link-ups may require a number of perpendicular axis. When installing planks the starting point should be marked out at a perpendicular line adjacent to the longest straight wall.
- For further information regarding adhesive application rates, site specific recommendations and warranties please refer to the adhesive manufacturers specifications and guidelines.
- Adhere areas into workable sections. At 23°C this will usually be the amount of flooring that can be laid within 20 - 25 minutes. However, this will decrease if the temperatures are higher. Observe the adhesive manufacturers guidelines.
- The planks should be fitted together tightly but without excessive pressure and cut flush to walls and fittings.
- The perimeter planks should be fitted last ensuring they do not apply any pressure to the adjacent planks. These perimeter tiles should be no less than 50mm in width.
- When a section has been installed it can be rolled in both directions using at least 45kg roller or 3-section roller of equivalent weight to ensure a full adhesive transfer rate of no less than 95%. For smaller areas, use a hand roller to achieve the same transfer result.
- Once fully installed all exposed edges should be protected by means of a diminishing strip or other suitable mouldings.
- Remove any visible traces of adhesive, contact the adhesive manufacture for the recommended removal method.
- Traffic or wet area cleaning should not be allowed on the installation for at least 24 hours to allow the adhesive to reach its full bond strength. Please refer to the relevant adhesive manufacturer for curing time frames.

## POST INSTALLATION

If construction work is still underway, the floor should be protected from site debris, dirt, soil, traffic etc by use of a protective surface (eg sheet plastic, hard board etc). It is recommended that plywood be placed over the floor during the removal or replacement of furniture or any heavy objects within 48 hours of the installation. Please be careful to ensure no condensation occurs and any adhesive tape or protective material does not affect the aesthetics of the finished installation.

## IMPORTANT WARNING

Asbestos - Any previously installed resilient floor coverings and/or adhesives may contain asbestos. If it is known or suspected the previous flooring contains asbestos, you should avoid creating dust and the previous flooring should be only be removed by an appropriately licensed asbestos removal contractor.

Godfrey Hirst's Luxury Vinyl Plank Installation Guidelines are intended to assist in achieving an optimum installation. Any variation to the recommendations above by installers may affect any warranties.

For further information, please contact your local Godfrey Hirst Floors representative.