

INSTALLATION GUIDE

PRE-INSTALLATION

A. Check Installation Material

- 1) Before installing **FloorFolio's Rigid Hybrid**, check all material for correct color, design, size and that the correct quantity is available to finish the job.
- 2) Checking all material before installation can assure that the job won't be delayed.
(Complaints with regard to clearly identifiable defects can't be accepted once the flooring has been laid.)
- 3) Boxes of tiles should be removed from pallets and separated from one another as part of the acclimatization process.
- 4) Boxes of tile or plank should be stored in a dry environment and placed on a flat, level surface. Stack squarely, no more than 10 cartons high.

B. Job Site Condition

- 1) Maintain all flooring material between 65°F (19°C) and 85°F (30°C) for at least 48 hours before installation, during installation, and after installation to ensure proper product and adhesive functionality.
- 2) The recommended relative humidity inside the room should be between 35% and 65%.
- 3) Fully functional HVAC systems are the best way to ensure temperature and humidity control.
- 4) All material must be stored flat and kept away from direct sunlight, heaters or air vents for proper conditioning
- 5) The work must be completed with an inspection. Ensure that the newly laid floor is free from adhesive residues.
- 6) The installation should not begin until the works of all other trades have been completed.

C. Sub-floor

- 1) You can install **Rigid Hybrid** over many existing floor coverings, providing it is stable and firmly fixed. It cannot be soft, damaged or loosely laid. Please remove carpet, needle felt, cushion vinyl, floating laminate and floating hardwood, hardwood flooring that has been installed directly over concrete, on stairs or in rooms with sloping floors or floor drains.
You may install directly over ceramic tiles, PVC, VCT, glued laminate, glued hardwood and fixed wooden boards provided they are not installed over a wooden sub-floor.
- 2) The moisture content of the concrete sub-floor must be less than 85% relative humidity (RH test, ASTM F2170) or less than 5lbs moisture vapor emission rate (MVER test, ASTM F1869). Always measure, record and keep your moisture content.
- 3) If installed over concrete the subfloor shall conform to ASTM F-710, Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring. If installed over plywood the subfloor shall conform to ASTM F-1482, Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayments to Receive Resilient Flooring 1.

INSTALLATION

- 1) Install the planks parallel to the longest wall with the tongue profile facing the wall.
- 2) Determine if the starter row will need to be cut (If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in width to the right).
- 3) Installation of the product must start from the left side of the room, if you are working in front of the boards, working to the right.
- 4) Check groove on plank to make sure it is clean and free of debris. To start the first row, press the end seam of the second plank into the end seam of the first plank, and then lock them together by laying the plank down. Complete the entire first row in this manner.
- 5) Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 1/4" from the wall. Also ensure a distance of 5mm to all fixed objects in the room, e.g. pipe passageways, door frames etc.
- 6) The maximum area that can be installed without an expansion joint is 10m x 20m. A section length of approximately longer than 12.5m should be installed expansion joint. If the temperature while using is higher than the temperature when installing, should apply a little smaller area and shorter length than usual for the standard of expansion joint.
- 7) Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. This is best way with a low angle of the plank. Install the second plank in the second row by aligning the end seam of the plank directly above the end seam of the preceding plank. Insert the long side seam at a slight angle first, and as the top surfaces meet, rotate the plank down into the locked position.
- 8) Work across the length of the room installing planks along the wall in the first row and then aligning the planks in the second row. It is critical to keep these two rows straight and square, as they are the 'foundation' for the rest of the installation. Check squareness and straightness often.
- 9) Cut the last plank in the second row and leave an expansion gap of around 6~8mm. Planks may be cut with a crosscut power saw (circular saw or reciprocating jig saw). The leftover of this plank may be used to start the third row if it's a minimum 15cm long.
- 10) Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with end pieces of minimum 15cm. Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the tapping block in order to avoid damages on the planks. And apply seam sealer or equivalent to the edges to glue planks together.
- 11) Cut using jigsaw or circular saw.
- 12) When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, Rigid Hybrid can be cut with handsaw.
- 13) Protect all exposed edges of Rigid Hybrid by installing wall molding and/or transition strips.
- 14) For wet areas such as bathrooms caulk the perimeter of the floor with a silicone caulk.
- 15) If you use the spacers for expansion gap from wall, please remove spacers and install molding pieces.

POST INSTALLATION

- 1) It is possible to walk on Rigid Hybrid right after installation
- 2) Never slide appliances or other heavy items across the floor. Use plywood and a hand dolly or an approved air ride appliance moving device.
- 3) Use walk-off mats without rubber backing to control grit, dirt.
- 4) Use furniture glides and protectors to prevent scratching and indentations.
- 5) Recommend all rolling chairs have castors designed for resilient flooring that are not damaged.
- 6) Do not wet-wash, scrub or strip the floor for a minimum of 7 days following installation.
- 7) Rigid Hybrid can be used with under-floor heating providing it is switched off for 48 hours before and after laying (the maximum permitted surface temperature is 27°C (80°F)). Once the floor has been installed and allowed to acclimate for 24 hours, the underfloor heating must be gradually increased by increments of 5°C until it reaches the maximum operating temperature of 27°C (80°F) over a period of at least 24 hours.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

The installed floor should be maintained temperature of 13°C and 30°C throughout its service life.

1) Prevention

- ⊙ Always protect floors when moving heavy objects to prevent permanent scratches and tears.
- ⊙ Use appropriate wide floor protectors under tables, chairs, and any heavy furnishing to avoid permanent damage.
- ⊙ Place walk-off mats at all entrances, it helps protect the floor from water, grease, sand and dust
- ⊙ During peak sunlight hours, the use of blinds or curtains is recommended.
- ⊙ Prolonged direct sunlight can result in discoloration and volatile temperature variations causing damage to the floor.
- ⊙ Do not allow solvent to the seams, this may cause it damaged or become moldy.

2) Routine Maintenance

- ⊙ Routine cleaning is important to prevent particles from abrading the surface of resilient floors.
- ⊙ Clean the floor surface regularly.
- ⊙ Use a dry cloth or vacuum cleaner for cleaning. When water or any cleaning liquid is used, please squeeze out all water for cleaning.
- ⊙ All stain-forming and aggressive substances must be immediately removed from the surface.
- ⊙ Periodically wax the floor surface to keep it always better.