



Installation of EarthWerks® Vinyl Flooring

Installation

Subfloor Requirements

Install over smooth, clean and dry concrete, mosaic floors, or wood floor covering material as long as its condition is perfectly smooth, without cracks, dry, and free of oil, wax or other contaminants prior to installation. Existing floor covering (such as porous ceramic tile) should still be well adhered to the subfloor, or removed before installing your new EarthWerks® Vinyl flooring product. Floor must be smooth and in optimal condition, otherwise any defect may show up in the surface of your new floor. If the subfloor has cracks or small holes, it will be necessary to patch it with non-shrinking Portland based cement with latex additive.

WARNING: Existing resilient floor coverings and black asphalt adhesive may contain asbestos. Improper removal procedures could release asbestos fibers into the air. Asbestos fibers, when inhaled, could cause serious bodily harm. Do not sand or dry scrape these materials. If removal of existing floor coverings is necessary, be certain that all precautions are taken and proper procedures are followed. For information regarding proper removal procedures please consult the Resilient Floor Covering Institute, 966 Hungerford Drive, Suite 12-B, Rockville, MD, 20850) for a pamphlet "Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings"

NOTE: EarthWerks® Vinyl Tile does not warrant or guarantee unsatisfactory installations due to the presence of excessive alkali, moisture or hydrostatic pressure in subfloors.



Maintain room temperature, adhesive and flooring between 65-85° F/18-29° C for a minimum of 72 hours prior to installation

Installation of the Planks or Tiles

Best results are obtained by installing the floor from the center of the room. Measure and mark at the center of each end wall. Connect these center points with a chalk line. Locate the center and establish a line at a right angle to the existing line. (Use a carpenter's square) It is best to add an additional 5% to the total for cutting waste. Divide the length between the walls (in inches/centimeters) by the width of the planks. If less than half a plank or tile will be installed at the border, it will be necessary to adjust your chalk lines. Your floor will be more work and less attractive if you have to cut a sliver of plank or tile for the border than if a wider piece remains.

Try not to spread more adhesive than you can lay flooring into before it loses its grabbing strength. Tack time will vary depending upon temperature and humidity. Follow adhesive manufacturer's suggestions for trowel size and open time. We recommend the use of a hard setting adhesive specifically designed for the installation of solid vinyl tiles and planks.

The use of solvents to remove dried adhesive may discolor the floor. Therefore, you should first test the solvent on either a scrap piece, or in an inconspicuous area. Please also refer to our list of recommended adhesives.

Laying Plank Flooring

Carefully place the first piece of plank at the junction of the chalk lines. (Figure 1) Continue to lay the plank making sure each plank is flush against the chalk line and tight against the adjoining plank. Make sure that the plank is well seated into the wet adhesive, paying special attention to the edges. Lay in a pyramid fashion or row by row. (Figures 2 & 3)

Figure 1

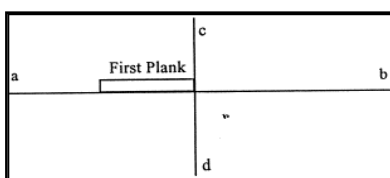


Figure 2

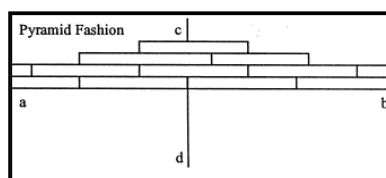
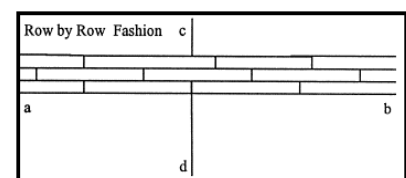


Figure 3



Laying of Tile

Follow the same instructions as with plank flooring, except the tiles should be laid in a pyramid fashion. (Figure 2)

Figure 1

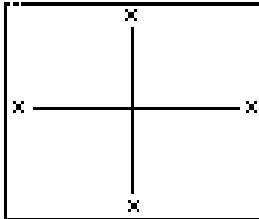


Figure 2

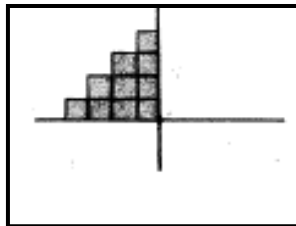
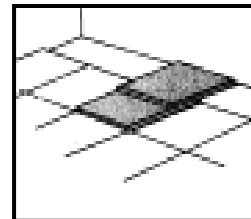


Figure 3



To fit partial planks or tiles, lay the piece to be cut exactly over the last full piece, place another full piece against the wall and make the cutting line where they overlap. Make sure the cut edge of the flooring is against the wall to ensure the factory-finished edges are next to each other. To fit the floor around door jambs, pipes or other protrusions, cut a paper pattern to fit, and trace it on the face of a piece. Cut the piece and try fitting it into place before installing.

When finished installing, use a 100 lb. (45 kg.) roller to roll the floor. This will ensure the floor is firmly adhered.

These instructions are general guidelines for the proper procedures for installing and maintaining this flooring product. For detailed instructions in Installation and Maintenance, please contact:

Swift-Train Company, European contact. Tel: 0032 87 306850. Fax: 0032 87 306859.

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