

QuietChoice Gluedown Installation Guidelines for Use Under Luxury Vinyl Tile and Plank

Approved Adhesive: All Karndean Designflooring LVT Adhesives

Prior to the start of the installation the installer must determine that the job-site conditions meet or exceed all applicable standards of the flooring installation guidelines. Installation of LVT/LVP flooring should be one of the last jobs of any construction project.

Site Conditions:

The building should be completely enclosed. All outside doors and windows should be properly installed with latching mechanisms in place.

Landscaping should be sufficiently completed to direct water away from the building. Gutters and downspouts should be in place.

All concrete, masonry, plastering, drywall, painting and other wet work should be completed and thoroughly dry prior to beginning the installation. Where possible the installation of the base molding should not take place until after the flooring has been installed.

The HVAC system for the building should be operational. The flooring should not be exposed to extremes of temperature, humidity or moisture. The installation site should have a consistent temperature of at least 65° F (air and sub-floor and humidity levels should be between 35-55% for a minimum of 72 hours prior to and following the installation.

Basements and crawl spaces should be dry and adequately ventilated. Sub-floors must be checked for moisture content and emissions using industry accepted methods. Crawl spaces should meet local building codes regarding minimum heights, cross ventilation and the use of vapor retarders.

Subfloors must be free from dust, dirt, grease, wax, curing agents, sealers, oil and any other bond inhibiting substances. The subfloor should be level within 3/16" in 10' or 1/8" in 6'.

Concrete must be dry with moisture emission rates that do not exceed maximum of the Karndean Designflooring adhesive chosen for the installation as measured by the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM-F-1869-98) or ASTM 2170 – in-situ Relative Humidity test method. Concrete surface pH must not exceed the limit of the Karndean Designflooring adhesive chosen for the installation. Before moisture testing begins, the slab must be cured for a minimum of 30 days. All concrete substrates must be prepared to specifications of ASTM F710.

For Wood Joist Systems the subfloor should be structurally sound, free of loose panels or boards, and free of protruding fasteners. Moisture content should be within normal industry standards for the area's average environmental conditions. Underlayment panels should be fastened according to the manufacturer's specifications. All panel seams should be sanded level and prepared according to the manufacturer's instructions. Install the flooring perpendicular to the floor joists. Do not install flooring over existing glue down wood flooring or nailed down wood flooring that is wider than 3/4". Wide plank floors must be covered with an acceptable underlayment. Do not install over any wood substrate that is adhered to a concrete substrate.

Underlayment Installation:

1. Roll out Underlayment cushion and trim to fit the floor leaving no gaps around the perimeter of the room. Where possible Underlayment should be laid at right angles (perpendicular) to the flooring's direction. Avoid placing a flooring seam directly inline and over underlayment seams.

2. Pull back one half of the "cut-in" piece(s). Spread adhesive onto the substrate with the adhesives recommended applicator. Allow adhesive to properly flash, 10 to 15 minutes maximum, and set the Underlayment into the spread adhesive.

NOTE: Consideration must be given to the initial "open time" of the adhesive to avoid trapping water under the Underlayment. Temperature and relative humidity will determine the actual amount of open time needed and the adhesive's working time. A 100% adhesive transfer rate to Underlayment is required. If proper transfer is not achieved, remove dried adhesive and reapply the adhesive with the recommended trowel allowing the appropriate open time before proceeding.

3. Roll completed installation with a 35lb. three-section roller in a north-south direction and then in an east-west direction to ensure adequate seating into the adhesive. Do not use a roller heavier than 35 lbs.
4. Seams should be butted together leaving no gaps or overlaps. If installing the Underlayment on concrete, or below grade sub-floors, be sure to tape the seams together with two-inch packing tape (for added moisture protection).
5. Allow recommended minimum 2 hours cure time before allowing traffic on the installed QuietChoice Underlayment. If flooring is not to be installed on the same day, take care to protect the cushion from damage by using plywood panels or other means until the LVT/LVP flooring can be installed.

LVT/LVP Flooring Installation:

1. Install the LVT/LVP per the installation guidelines for layout and any special precautions for installation.
2. Use the recommended applicator for the Karndean Designflooring adhesive chosen for the installation on top of the QuietChoice Underlayment. Follow all instructions for a normal non-porous installation of the LVT/LVP.

NOTE: Underlayment is a non-porous, waterproof membrane. Consideration must be given to the initial "open time" of the adhesive to avoid trapping water under the flooring. Temperature and relative humidity will determine the actual amount of open time needed and the adhesive's working time. A 100% adhesive transfer rate to the LVT flooring required.

3. Install flooring into the adhesive. Occasionally lift a piece of flooring to assure that a 100% adhesive transfer is achieved. If proper transfer is not achieved, remove dried adhesive and reapply the adhesive with the recommended trowel allowing the appropriate open time before proceeding.
4. Roll completed installation with a 100lb. roller in a north-south direction and then in an east-west direction to ensure adequate seating into the adhesive.
5. Furniture placement and foot traffic should be restricted for a minimum of 24 hours.
6. Remove wet adhesive with a damp cloth. If adhesive dries, remove the adhesive with safety solvent. Test solvent on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure solvent does not affect the floor's finish.