



SPC FLOORING

Installation & Maintenance Guidelines

PLEASE READ COMPLETELY BEFORE INSTALLATION

Please inspect product for color, finish, quality and style BEFORE installing any material. STONEWOOD warranty DOES NOT cover materials with visible defects once they have been installed. Any defects should be reported to the flooring dealer IMMEDIATELY for inspection and/or replacement. STONEWOOD is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit defect tolerance up to but not exceeding 2%.

ALL PLANKS, ONCE INSTALLED, ARE CONSIDERED ACCEPTED BY THE INSTALLER AND/OR HOMEOWNER AND THE MANUFACTURER ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ABOVE.

I. **BEFORE YOU START**

These installation specifications are for STONEWOOD Waterproof Luxury Vinyl Flooring (SPC). All recommendations are based on the most recent available information. All instructions and recommendations must be followed for a satisfactory installation.

1. SPC Flooring is a completely waterproof product under normal living conditions. Exceptions are listed below.
2. Considerations for under structure or indoor room quality and environment should be given. STONEWOOD Flooring is not mold or mildew resistant. Manufacturer and/or distributor will not be responsible for any problems related to mold or mildew due to excess moisture.
3. Acclimating SPC Flooring is to be considered best work practice, the room and flooring should be allowed to adjust in constant temperatures between 55°F and 90°F for 48 hrs. Prior to and during installation. Temperature of the room should not go below 55°F.
4. STONEWOOD Flooring should not be exposed to temperatures greater than 140°F from any source of heat including sun and steam cleaning.
5. To allow for structure movement and for STONEWOOD Flooring to float freely a ¼" expansion is required with no pinch points.
6. Open room area should not exceed 50 linear ft. in either direction or total of 2500 sq. ft. without transition strip.
7. Install STONEWOOD Flooring only after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of other trade apparatus that may damage a finished installation.
8. Mix and install product from four to five different cartons to achieve maximum variation.
9. Do not install or trap the flooring under permanent structures such as cabinets or other permanent fixtures.
10. STONEWOOD Flooring locking system is designed to be installed as an angle/angle installation. The end of plank should always be installed first and then the side of plank afterward. Never force the joint together as this will break the joint and void the warranty.

II. **THE SUBFLOOR**

Careful and correct preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a satisfactory installation. Although STONEWOOD Flooring is installed as a "floating" floor, correct preparation of the subfloor is still a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor covering, resulting in an unsightly surface and excessive wear on high spots. All sub floors should be flat to within 3/16" in 10'.

- Sub-floor must be flat, dry, smooth, level, free from residues and structurally sound.
- A level slope is a foundation that is less from 5mm over 2 meters or ¼" over 6 feet.
- Concrete substrates require moisture testing (MVER) and should not exceed 8lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours as measured with calcium chloride test. Relative humidity should not exceed 85%
- Although SPC Flooring planks are not susceptible to damage from normal moisture, excessive subfloor moisture is an ideal breeding ground for mold, mildew and fungus. All of which can contribute to an unhealthy indoor

environment. The Limited Warranties do not cover discoloration from mold or flooding, leaking plumbing or appliances, water entering through sliding glass doors or similar conditions.

- Ceramic tile subfloor should be made smooth by applying a cementitious based patch or leveling compound and follow instructions above for a flat and smooth floor.
- Existing floors should be non-cushioned, fully adhered and not exceed one layer in thickness.
- Do not install over carpet or any other non-solid surface.

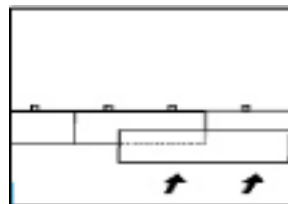
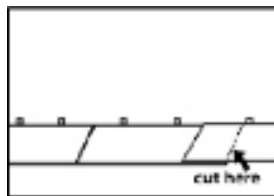
III. INSTALLATION

STONEWOOD Flooring is designed to be installed as a “floating” floor. Flooring is an angle/angle installation, which provides supreme joint strength. Do not secure the planks to the subfloor. Always undercut wood doorjamb. Check local building code for metal doorjamb. If jamb cannot be cut, then expansion must be maintained around doorjamb. Do not install cabinets or kitchen islands on top of SPC Flooring. Use care when installing wall moldings and transition strips to not fasten through the product.

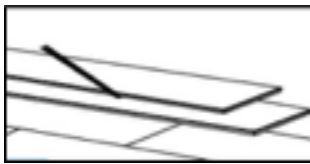
- Remove the tongue (on the long side) from the first row of planks.
- Note: The first row of planks may need to be trimmed lengthwise for a better fit at the end of the installation. Measure the room and divide by the width of the plank. If there is a remainder of less than 2”, the first row will need to be trimmed by that amount.
- Starting in the left-hand corner, place the first plank with its trimmed side towards the wall. Use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion gap of 1/4” (7-8mm) between the wall and the flooring.
- Attach the ends of the 1st plank and the second plank by lifting the 2nd plank and inserting the tongue on the short side into the groove of the first plank and lowering it into place. Line up edges and corners carefully.



- Continue along the wall until you reach the last full plank, connecting each plank in manner described above. To fit the last plank, turn plank over (face down). Place the plank in the corner so the tongue on the short end touches the adjacent wall. Measure overlap between the installed plank and the last plank.



- Using a sharp utility knife and a straight edge, score a line on the top surface of the plank. The plank should split on the score line with little effort or you may use a saw to cut plank to size.
- The end pieces must be longer than 8”. This may require cutting a plank to start row depending on room size.
- Begin the next row with the cut off piece from the previous row to create the necessary stagger pattern. This piece should be a minimum of 8” (20cm) long and the joint offset from the previous row should be at least 10” (26cm) apart. To attach, tilt the plank you are installing slightly upwards (about 15-25°), insert its tongue into the previous row’s groove and lower it into place. The plank will click into place with light pressure and light wiggling motion.
- Install second plank in second row by inserting the short end tongue into previously installed plank’s groove. Align the plank so that the long side tongue tip is positioned just over the groove lip of the plank in the first row. Working from end seam, at a low angle, insert the long tongue into the groove of the adjoining plank.
- Continue the process until reaching the final row of the area.
- To fit the last row, lay a plank on top of the previous row. With the plank against the wall, mark a line down the length of the plank and cut the planks accordingly.



- To finish the perimeter of the room, install quarter round or standard molding using finishing nails. Nail molding directly into the baseboard or wall not the flooring.

IV. FINISHING THE JOB

- A. Protect all exposed edges of STONEWOOD SPC Flooring by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Use caution to prevent the fasteners from securing the planks to the subfloor, do not allow floor to become pinched. Caulk along tubs, toilet bowls, etc. Consideration for transitions should be made at substrate changes, room to room environment changes, complicated layouts, subfloor elevation, or room size over 50 ft. length or width.
- B. Like with all floor coverings, protect the finished STONEWOOD SPC Flooring installation from exposure to direct sunlight. Close your curtains or blinds where extreme sunlight hits the floor. A combination of heat and sunlight can cause fading, discoloration, or thermal expansion in most home furnishings. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods. Prolonged direct sunlight can result in discoloration and excessive temperatures may cause floor expansion (which may cause buckling) or delaminating.

V. REPAIRS

STONEWOOD SPC Flooring is tough and durable, however, if a floor plank becomes damaged it can be replaced. If the damaged plank or tile is along the perimeter of the room, the easiest technique is to just disconnect the planks until the damaged plank is removed. Replace the material and reassemble the planks.

If it's impractical to just disconnect and reassemble the flooring the following procedure should be used:

1. Using a circular saw and or a multi-tool saw, cut out and remove the center of the damaged piece, leaving approximately a 1" strip attached to the surrounding material.
2. Carefully cut back from the corners of the plank or tile to the inside edge.
3. Remove the edges by wiggling the cut plank out from the tongue and groove of the surrounding pieces.
4. Prepare the replacement plank by removing the leading edge of the tongue on the long side and the end of the plank being careful not to damage the decorative surface. Also remove the bottom of the groove on the short end side by cutting on an angle. Once the plank is prepared install groove into tongue to test the connection. Once you check the connection you are now ready to fully install.
5. Position the replacement piece by engaging the groove into the tongue of the adjoining material. "Hinge" the prepared replacement plank into position.
6. Slightly lift prepared side of plank and apply a thin application of MSS 20 Seam Sealer onto the three exposed seams and carefully position plank into place, wipe excess from surface.
7. Use a hand roller to assist in aligning the edges into position.
8. Weigh down the replaced plank for at least 15 minutes until the sealer secures the material.

VI. EXCLUSIONS

- Any visible defects noted after installation.
- Consequential or incidental damages, such as any loss, expense or damages other than to the flooring itself that may result from a defect in the flooring.
- Improper installation or anything caused by improper installation.
- Improper maintenance or inadequate care, including, but not limited to, mold or mildew growth as a result of excessive moisture accumulation or any damage related to heat or steam cleaning.
- Accidents abuse or misuse.
- Uneven sub-floor or Building settling.
- Damage caused by furniture without felt pads or protective covers.
- Damage caused by sharp or abrasive objects making contact with the flooring.
- Direct sunlight can affect the appearance and performance of the floor.

VII. MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

- Use rugs at entry points to help prevent damage from debris.
- To prevent abrasive dirt from accumulating and scratching the finish, sweep or dust mop the floor weekly.
- Use Vinyl floor cleaners as needed.
- Do not use harsh abrasive cleaners, wax, bleach, ammonia or vinegar-based cleaners or acrylic polishes, or oil soaps. These may dull or damage the finish, leaving a film that may harm flooring making it hard to clean.
- Roller Chairs must have gel wheels or a chair mat underneath.
- Furniture and chairs protectors must be used on furniture and chair legs.
- Always read the cautionary information on all cleaners.

Important: NEVER push, pull, or drag heavy furniture or other items across the floor. When moving furniture or heavy items, always lift and carry the items, if possible. Otherwise, use furniture sliders available at most hardware, home improvement, and discount stores.

Warning: The use of latex or rubber mats may cause yellowing or discoloration.

Warning: Some packing tapes use plastic migrators that can permanently alter the surface.

Caution: Resilient floors can be slippery when wet. Use extreme caution when walking on a wet floor.

INSTALLATION WARRANTY

Installation of any flooring constitutes acceptance. The manufacturer has no control over installation methods or site conditions, and therefore cannot warrant any installation or site related issue. Installation should be done in compliance with the procedures outlined in the installation instructions. A professional and licensed installation service is recommended. Installer and/or owner of the floor are responsible to inspect the flooring before installation and if they find SPC Vinyl Flooring not suitable for installation, product should be returned in original packing to original place of purchase.