SPC RIGID CORE VINYL
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

IMPORTANT WARRANTY INFORMATION

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLATION, IMPROPER INSTALLATION WILL VOID WARRANTY.

1) Inspect all materials carefully for color, finish, sheen and defects before installation. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. The warranty does not cover materials with visible defects once they are installed. If there any doubts to the quality, dimensions or appearance of the flooring DO NOT INSTALL. Please contact Cancork Floor Inc/iCork Floor LLC immediately as INSTALLATION IS ACCEPTANCE.

2) Store flooring boxes flat and fully supported during shipping and storage.

3) Condition the flooring by storing it in the room or rooms where installation will occur for 24-48 hours before installation at normal living temperature of 65-80°F (18-26°C) and relative humidity of 35-60%. This product is not suitable for installation in areas above or below temperatures or relative humidity listed, or non-climate-controlled areas such as covered decks, porches or outdoors.

4) Avoid direct sunlight exposure to minimize thermal degradation, color fading, and potential adverse effects on the flooring.

5) It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the jobsite subfloor and jobsite conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for the floor installation. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for flooring failure resulting from or related to subfloor, subsurface, jobsite damage or deficiencies after flooring has been installed.

RECOMMENDED USE

This product is recommended for residential or light commercial interior use only. See the products warranty for details. This floor can be installed below, on, or above grade level. This flooring installs like laminate flooring. It may be floated with or without underlayment.

CAUTION

- Do not install in wet areas like patios and showers, or in exterior areas
- Do not install over radiant heat over 40°C . Do not install under permanent kitchen cabinets
- Do not install on concrete unless proper moisture testing is conducted and documented . Do not install flooring with obvious visual defects

PREPARATION

IMPORTANT PLANNING

- Always install in good lighting so visual defects can clearly be seen and discarded prior to installation.
- All other construction work should be completed prior to the installation of this product.
- It is recommended to have an additional box left over after installation, to be used for repairs if needed.
- For the best overall appearance, select planks from several boxes at a time when installing.
- A waste factor of at least 5% for cutting is recommended per order. Diagonal installations may require 15% to 20%.
- The flooring should be glued down in areas with direct sunlight exposure to the floor. In floating applications, windows and sliding glass doors should have proper cover to prevent direct sunlight to the flooring.
- Flooring should be glued down on stairs.
- Do not move furniture back onto the flooring until the adhesive has cured.
- When moving furniture and heavy equipment on the flooring, use luan board, plywood, or other similar covering to protect the floor.
- Moldings are needed to cover the expansion gaps along the walls, and when the floor edges transition to other floor coverings (carpet, tile, etc.)

SUBFLOORS

- Flooring can be installed over concrete, wood subfloors and most existing hard-surface floor coverings.
- All subfloors must be dry, clean (swept and vacuumed of any debris), structurally sound and flat within 3/16" (4.7mm) per 10-foot radius. Use floor leveling compound if necessary to achieve the desired flatness. If the subfloor is not flat within 3/16" (4.7mm) per 10-foot radius gapping may occur.
- Wood subfloors must be a minimum of 18" (46cm) from the ground to the underside of floor joists. A ground cover of minimum 6 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have a perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation.
- Check if well secured; nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not flat, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a cement-based leveling compound.
- Concrete subfloors must be fully cured for a minimum of 60 days prior to flooring installation and must be tested for moisture. Concrete moisture vapor emissions should not exceed 8lbs (ASTM F1869) or 90%RH (ASTM F2170) with a pH limit of 9. For installations outside of this range a

minimum 6 mil polyfilm required between concrete and ground. If not level, grind down high spots and fill low spots with a cement-based leveling compound.

- To install over an existing hard-surface flooring (ceramic tile, resilient tile, etc.) check to see it is well bonded to the subfloor and flat. Apply cement based leveling compound to flatten surface.
- If flooring has underpad attached, additional underlay is not required, or recommended.

EXPANSION GAPS & TRANSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Maintain a 3/8" expansion gap around room perimeter.
- Areas over 39' long or 39' wide need transition pieces.

RADIANT HEAT

Concrete subfloor with in-floor (embedded) radiant heating systems are allowed. The heating system must be 1 1/2" below the surface layer of the concrete slab. Before installation of flooring, in-floor heating systems must be operated at normal living temperature for 14 days. 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation, turn off in-floor heating unit. Radiant Heat systems must have failsafe capability to ensure surface temperatures do not exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS:

Tools Needed
- Tape Measure
- Spacer
- Rubber Mallet
- Tapping Block
- Pull Bar
- Pencil
- Straight Edge
- Power Saw

Recommendations
- Door jambs are recommended to be undercut, and cabinets cannot be installed on top flooring
- Wall molding and transitions cannot be fastened to the planks/tiles.
- Install flooring from several boxes at one time to ensure a good color and shade mix.

1. First, decide which direction to install the flooring. Measure the width of the room and divide by the width of planks to determine how many rows of flooring will be required. In most installations the last row will need to be cut to fit. For best visual effects, a width smaller than 2.5 inches is not recommend. You may need to split the difference between the first and last row to balance the look of your installation. Always work from several open boxes of flooring and dry lay flooring before permanently installing. This will allow you to select varying grains & colors and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. It is the installers responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user expectations.

2. Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line, this will be your reference line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of the plank/tile or the width calculated as above. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks/tiles on the wall side ensuring the first row is exactly on the reference line (chalk line).

3. Using spacers, leave a 3/8" expansion gap between wall and edges of the flooring.

4. Installing first row: from left to right with the groove towards the installer, place the first plank/tile. It is critical you install the first row straight and square, proper placement of the first row is key to the installation. Note if the first row does not need to be scribed in width, remove the tongue so a

solid edge is along wall. Align and angle the second board, end joint tongue into end joint groove of first plank/tile. To ensure tight fit, tap joint with rubber mallet in a downward angle motion towards adjoining plank/tile or tap the end of the board using tapping block or pull bar. Continue installing additional planks/tiles in this manner until reaching final plank/tile in the first row. Measure and cut final plank/tile to length.

5. 5. Installing second row and beyond: you may use left-over plank/tile from first row if greater than 8" in length. If not, cut a new plank/tile at least 8" in length and allowing 8" between end joints from the previous row. Position first plank/tile in place by angling and interlocking the side tongue (long end) into first row. Check for snug fit and fold down gently into place. Position second plank/tile using same angling, interlocking motion on side tongue (long end) fold down gently and leave 1mm gap on adjoining board. Tap the joint with rubber mallet in a downward angle motion towards adjoining board until tongue and groove lock or tap the end of the board using tapping block or pull bar. Continue installing additional planks/tiles in each row in this manner. When you reach final plank/tile in each row, measure and cut final plank/tile to length. CONTINUALLY CHECK FOR GAPPING AFTER EVERY PLANK/TILE BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE NEXT PLANK/TILE OR ROW. CHECK EVERY 4th ROW WITH A STRING LINE ENSURING IT REMAINS STRAIGHT.

6. Installing final row: the final row and all corresponding boards may need to be cut lengthwise and widthwise for proper fit.

7. Finishing the installation; replace moldings or wall base, allowing slight clearance between the moldings and the planks/tiles. Nail the moldings to the wall surface not through the flooring. At doorways and at other areas where the flooring may meet other flooring surfaces, it is preferable to use a "T-molding", or similar to cover exposed edge. Check for clearance, do not pinch planks/tiles.
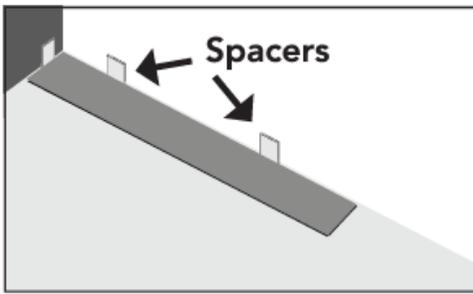

HOW TO ASSEMBLE TONGUE AND GROOVE PLANKS

Groove → Tongue ←

PROFILE (END VIEW)

1. Insert tongue into groove at approx. 20° angle. 20° ①

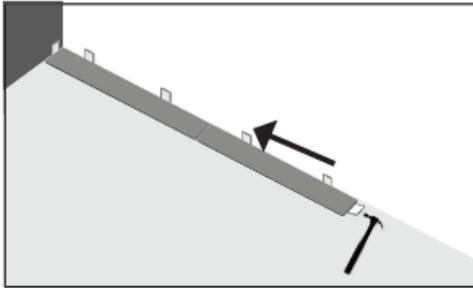2. Push down while applying forward pressure to fully engage planks. ②

NOTE: Tongue image is for illustration only. The actual locking shape of your floor may differ.
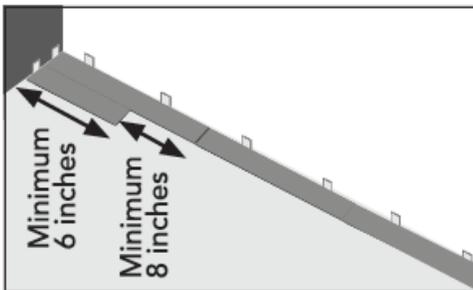
Floating Installation
- Start installing parallel to the longest straightest wall, normally an exterior wall. Install the flooring pieces left to right. The groove side of the plank should be facing away from the starting wall.
- Using spacers, leave a minimum 3/8" expansion gap between the flooring and walls. **Do not skip this important step**
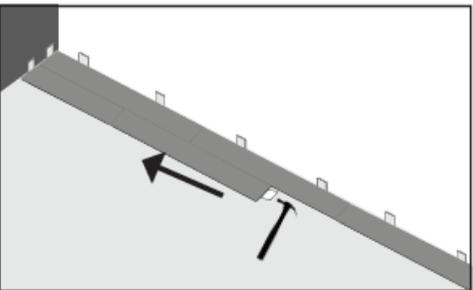
Laying the First Row
After laying the first plank, lay the second plank in position, and tap it toward the first plank to lock the ends of the boards together. Be sure to use a tapping block so you won't damage the boards with the hammer. Continue laying boards this way until you reach the other wall.
- See below for dealing with the last board in the row
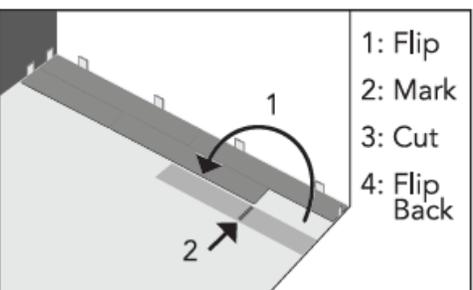- See note in PLANNING section about rows longer than 50 feet

Laying the Second Row
- To start the second row, install the first plank, being sure the plank is at least 8inches longer or shorter than the first board in the previos row. There should be a minimum of 8" stagger between any on joint and the nearest joins in adjacent rows. Planks used to start or end a row should be at least 6" long.

Continue
- Continue installing rows, working left to right, adding additional planks in each row, while maintaining a minimum 8 inch stagger between adjacent-row joints
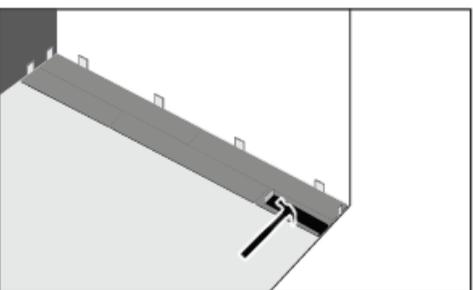
Cutting End of Row Boards
The last board in each row should be cut to fit, while still maintaining a 3/8 inch expansion gap at the wall. Here's how:
1. Flip the board over (placing the groove to your left.)
2. Measure the board by the gap in the row.
3. Mark and cut the board using a miter or table saw
4. Then filp the board back over, and it will be ready to insert and be tapped into place.
5. You may use the remaining piece to start the next row.

Using a Pull Bar Tool
- Use a pull bar to lock in the last plank in any row
- Use a pull bar to lock in the last row of flooring being installed in that room

Installing Around Objects
- Use a hole saw drill bit to make perfect cuts for pipes.
- Use a jamb saw to cut door frames
- Use a jig saw for cutting pieces around irregular shapes.

POST INSTALLATION MAINTENANCE

- Use rosin paper and cover installed flooring area to prevent damage from other trade works. Do not use plastic film or other non-breathing material.
- Routinely vacuum, sweep and/or dust flooring.
- For heavier cleaning use a damp mop and clean water or neutral pH-based cleaner. Do not use harsh cleaners nor chemicals on flooring. Oil and petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not use abrasive scrubbing tools or vacuums with beater bar. Do not use electric brooms.
- To protect flooring surface, close blinds and/or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Excessive heat and light will subject flooring to thermal degradation and potential fading effects. AVOID DIRECT SUNLIGHT EXPOSURE. Place mats at all entrances to keep dirt and debris off flooring. Use non-staining, breathable mats. Rubber mats may discolor flooring. Use floor protectors for furniture. Non-staining felt pads can be used provided they are changed on a regular basis to prevent dirt, debris and sand buildup. Wide, non-staining casters at least 2" in diameter or floor protectors should be used on rolling furniture such as office chairs. To prevent point loads on heavy furniture, use large non-staining surface floor protectors. Do not use ball type castors as they can damage floors.
- When moving heavy furniture or appliances, place a sheet of Masonite or plywood under the piece being moved to distribute the weight and reduce denting or scratching. For light pieces use a clean blanket or a piece of carpet face down under the piece to be moved. Be aware of any sharp edges as they can scratch and gouge your floorís surface.