

EVOKE LUXURY VINYL

Complete Installation Instructions for

STICK 2mm & STICK 3mm LUXURY VINYL PLANK or LUXURY VINYL TILE

Installation Method: Dry Back Full Spread Adhesive Installation

Please read complete instructions before commencing installation

These floors may be installed:

- On, above or below grade - for interior applications only.
- Over radiant heated floors where the surface temperature of the subfloor is within specification. See details below.

Added Systems Warranty:

- In addition to the product warranty, your Evoke Luxury Vinyl floor may also be covered by a systems warranty if the installation method and materials conform to the manufacturer's recommendations. For more information, please email info@evokeflooring.com.

Installer Responsibility:

- Inspect all flooring products to ensure they are the correct color, pattern, size and texture ordered.
- Inspect related installation materials and tools to ensure that they are correct for substrate, application rate and that the correct quantity of materials is on hand.
- Inspect all materials for damage and check the adhesive pull date to ensure proper bond strength is achieved.
- Review warranty of products to ensure that the proper flooring and adhesives are being used for intended application, i.e. residential or commercial use including static and dynamic load expectancy.
- Ensure that the jobsite is ready for the installation of floor covering: Underlayment compatibility, signs of moisture or alkalinity and other conditions that may prevent the successful installation and performance over the life of the floor.

Storage and Handling:

- Cartons 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. Do not store or turn on edges. Do not store directly on any concrete surface. Acclimate all materials according to instructions found in section: Installation.
- Store in a dry, temperature controlled environment out of direct sunlight. Maintain temperatures between 65° F (18° C) and 95° F (35° C) at all times. Remove tile and adhesives from your vehicle immediately after transporting.

Jobsite Conditions:

- Intended for interior applications only. These floors should not be used in garages, commercial kitchens, food processing areas, heavy industrial areas or where spiked shoes are worn.
- Do not begin installation or floor preparation before other trades have completed their work.
- All areas should be fully enclosed, weather-tight with the permanent HVAC in operation. See special note regarding radiant heated floors under: Other subfloor conditions.
- Substrates must be clean, dry, sound, smooth and flat (1/8" in 8').

Pre-existing conditions:

WARNING

Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphaltic "cutback" adhesive, or other adhesive.

These products may contain asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica.

Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard.

Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.

RFCI's Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings are a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures.

NOTICE

Various Federal, State and local government agencies have regulations governing the removal of in-place asbestos-containing material. If you contemplate the removal of a resilient floor covering structure that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos, you must review and comply with all applicable regulations.

Please note that these recommended work practices are subject to change as new practices are incorporated. It is your responsibility to determine that the recommended work practices you use are those in effect.

Important Information for Installers of Resilient Floor Coverings Concerning Existing Resilient Floor Covering Structures

- Vinyl-asbestos tile and asphalt tile contain asbestos fibers, as did some asphaltic "cutback" adhesives and the backings of many sheet vinyl floorings and lining felts. The presence of the asbestos in these products is not readily identifiable.
- While resilient floor covering products manufactured today do not contain asbestos, the asbestos used in the older products was encapsulated in the matrix of the product. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognizes that those products are non-friable (i.e. when dry cannot be crumbled, pulverized or reduced to powder by hand pressure) unless certain activities prohibited by the removal practices in the booklet occur.
- Unless positively certain that the product you intend to remove is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.
- RFCI's Recommended Work Practices are a defined set of instructions addressed to the task of removing all resilient floor covering structures whether or not they contain asbestos. When RFCI's Recommended Work Practices are followed, resilient floor covering structures that contain (or are presumed to contain) asbestos can be removed in a manner that will comply with the current Occupational Exposure to Asbestos Standard's Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL) issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).
- Numerous products, devices and techniques have been recently introduced and/or recommended for the removal of resilient floor covering structures. Before you use any practices other than those identified in the booklet for the removal of an in-place resilient floor-covering product that contains (or is presumed to contain) asbestos, you must determine that the practice meets all applicable regulations or standards including the OSHA standards for occupational exposure to asbestos and the EPA asbestos regulations. You must also determine that any materials used during the removal practice will be compatible with the new floor covering to be installed.

Refer to the Resilient Floor Covering Institute Website at: <http://www.rfci.com/images/pdf/rfcirecommended9-04.pdf>

IN CANADA

- The Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Covering Materials are intended for use in the United States. The work practices for the removal of in-place resilient floor coverings and associated adhesives described in this publication have not been reviewed with either National or Provincial officials in Canada to determine their applicability when asbestos-containing or assumed to be asbestos-containing resilient floor covering materials are encountered.
- These work practices are recommended when removing resilient floor covering and its associated adhesives that have been determined not to be asbestos-containing.
- To determine what are acceptable work practices and the associated requirements for the removal of resilient floor covering that is assumed to contain asbestos or has been determined to contain asbestos, you should contact your local or provincial officials.
- As an alternative to the removal of any in-place resilient floor covering materials, refer to RFCI website: Alternative to Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings.

CAUTION

Mold and Mildew

Prior to removing an existing resilient floor following the **RFIC Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings** (unless state or local law requires other measures) or installing a new floor, if there are visible indications of mold or mildew or the presence of a strong musty odor in the area where resilient flooring is to be removed or installed, the source of the problem should be identified and corrected before proceeding with the flooring work. In virtually all situations, if there is a mold issue, there is or has been an excessive moisture issue. Visible signs of mold or mildew (such as discoloration) can indicate the presence of mold or mildew on the subfloor, on the underlayment, on the back of the flooring, and sometimes even on the floor surface. If mold or mildew is discovered during the removal or installation of resilient flooring, all flooring work should stop until the mold/mildew problem (and any related moisture problem) has been addressed. Before installing the new resilient flooring, make sure the underlayment and/or subfloor is allowed to thoroughly dry and that any residual effect of excessive moisture, mold, or structural damage has been corrected.

To address mold and mildew issues, you should refer to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines that address mold and mildew. Depending on the mold or mildew condition present, those remediation options range from cleanup measures using gloves and biocide to hiring a professional mold and mildew remediation contractor to address the condition. Remediation measures may require structural repairs such as replacing the underlayment and/or subfloor contaminated with mold and mildew as a result of prolonged exposure to moisture.

The EPA mold guidelines are contained in two publications "A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture and Your Home" (EPA 402-K-02-003) and "Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings" (EPA 402-K-01-001). Appendix B of the "Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings" publication describes potential health effects from exposure to mold, such as allergic and asthma reactions and irritation to eyes, skin, nose and throat. These publications can be located on EPA's website at

www.epa.gov/iaq/molds

Lead Safe Housing Rule

It is the contractor or installer's responsibility to comply with the Lead Safe Housing Rule and RRP regulations linked at: http://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/enforcement/lshr_rrp_changes.cfm

Considerations:

Static or Dynamic Loads:

- To help prevent damage from heavy static loads such as hospital beds or heavy dynamic (rolling) loads, use devices and rollers/casters that dissipate concentrated weight loads. It is the furniture, appliance or equipment manufacturer's responsibility to warrant the suitability of their device against any damage that may occur to the flooring due to the use of their equipment.
- When heavy static or dynamic load conditions are present, Evoke requires the use of Apac 584 adhesive. Extremely heavy loads may require the use of Apac 569 adhesive.

Frequent or Topical (Top-Down) Moisture:

- Where excessive topical moisture situations are present use Apac 569 adhesive.

Subfloor & Underlayment:

The installer should take care to ensure that the subfloor and substrate are properly prepared to receive the new flooring. Adequate and careful attention to this will help prevent ridging and tunneling; bumps caused from dirt or other textures; discoloration from residual adhesives, nails or other fastening devices and improperly used underlayment panels, alkali deposits, mold and mildew.

Definitions:

- **Subfloor** is defined as being a part of the structural support of the building.
- **Wood Underlayment** is laid over the top of the subfloor and becomes the substrate on which the vinyl plank or tile is adhered to.
- **Cementitious underlayment** is poured or troweled over a subfloor, existing floor or underlayment to ensure a smooth surface to which the vinyl can be adhered to.

Wood Subfloors:

- Wood Subfloors must have a minimum of 18" of ventilated air space below (crawl space). Crawl space must be covered with a suitable vapor barrier.
- Must be structurally sound with minimal movement and deflection. Minimal thickness is ¾" (19mm).
- Moisture content should not exceed 13%.

Wood Underlayment:

- All underlayment panels must be smooth, clean and dry and a minimum of ¼" (6.35mm) thick.
- Panels must not be treated with any substance including preservatives, moisture inhibitors, and free of any wax, silicone, solvents, dyes or other materials that may stain the flooring or prevent an adequate adhesive bond.
- Nails that do not bleed or rust should be used when installing underlayment panels. Follow underlayment manufacturer instructions.
- Moisture content should not exceed 13%.

The table below is intended only as a guide. Performance for the underlayment rests with the underlayment manufacturer and is not warranted by the flooring manufacturer. Follow underlayment manufacturer's recommendations.

Type of Wood Substrate	Notes
Plywood - APA rated - smooth face, exterior exposure classification	Yes if rated for underlayment with vinyl tile
Plywood - Poplar or Birch smooth face with exterior rated glue	Yes if rated for underlayment with vinyl tile
Plywood – Treated	No
Lauan	No
Hardboard	No
Particleboard	No
OSB	No

Concrete Subfloors:

- Follow all guidelines listed in the most recent ASTM F710 “Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring” and the American Concrete Institutes ACI 302.1R-08 “Guide for Floor and Slab Construction”. It is the installer’s responsibility to determine whether the subfloor is suitable for installation of vinyl tile or plank. If site conditions are not appropriate do not install the floor; inform general contractor and do not proceed until remedial actions to correct improper subfloor conditions have taken place. For all installations where subfloor is below or on grade, determine if there is a physical vapor retarder in place that will prevent the continuing release of moisture through concrete.

These tests should be done to ensure a proper installation.

- Moisture or Relative Humidity Testing
 - Residential Space - Requirement Minimum: Moisture testing according to the most recent ASTM F1869 “Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride”. Results must not exceed (3 lbs/1000 sq. ft / 24 hours).
 - Commercial Space Requirement Minimum testing–
 - ASTM F 2170-02 Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes. Internal Relative Humidity levels must not exceed 80%.
 - OR
 - Moisture testing according to the most recent ASTM F1869 “Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride”. Results must not exceed (3 lbs/1000 sq. ft / 24 hours).
- 72 hour bond test must be performed.

Manufacturer, distributor or dealer is not responsible for any floor installation failures associated with unaddressed site conditions such as, but not exclusively: vapor transmission, moisture permeation, contaminated concrete or damaged subfloors.

The table below is intended only as a general guide. The ultimate responsibility for subfloor acceptability and compatibility resides with the architect, designer, contractor and installer. Note that tests done today do not guarantee long term performance of substrate. Guard

against long term exposure to moisture by installing proper vapor retarder and channeling water away from building.

Considerations for Concrete	Specification	If out of spec, look for these problems.	Possible Remedies if out of spec.
Moisture Content	Commercial applications: RH in situ probes – not to exceed 80% in sleeve. Residential or Commercial applications: Calcium Chloride 3 lbs/1000 sq. ft / 24 hours	Slab too new – hasn't cured Physical Moisture Vapor Retarder is compromised or missing. Is water table high creating hydrostatic pressure?	Allow time for slab to cure. Approx. 6 months or use Bone Dry. Install/repair vapor retarder; reroute water flow away from building; if severe, consult a qualified specialist. New Slabs: Apac V-Block seals floor up to 8lbs – can reduce floors to 3 lbs. Cured Slabs use EnCapSeal.
Alkalinity	PH between 5 - 9	Slab too new – hasn't cured. Ongoing water source can carry alkali into the slab.	New slab needs time to cure. Wash slab with clean water – allow to dry. Remove sources of hydrostatic pressure and ongoing moisture penetration. Apply EnCapSeal
Compressive Strength Minimums	3500 psi or more	Refer back to architect and contractor.	Refer back to architect and contractor.
Hydrostatic Pressure	None should exist	Physical Moisture Vapor Retarder is compromised or missing. Refer back to architect and contractor.	Install/repair vapor retarder; reroute water flow away from building; if severe, consult a qualified specialist.
Bond Test	Securely bonded after 72 hours	Curing agents used, especially those with wax, silicone or soap, etc. – will prevent bond. Dirt, debris or other foreign materials present. Moisture levels too high	Grind or bead blast curing agent off. Clean and thoroughly dry floor. Use no solvents. Use Apac V-Block as an adhesion promoter.
Considerations for Lightweight Concrete (Gypcrete)	Specification	If out of spec, look for these problems.	Possible Remedies if out of spec.
Any application	Over gypsum-based concrete		Must use Apac V-Block as sealer and adhesion promoter or Apac 31 primer then Apac 44 Self Leveler
Moisture Content	Above grade, dry, cured	Sources of moisture	Remove source of moisture
Compressive Strength Minimums	2500 psi or more	Crumbling, cracking, dust	Install wood underlayment or physical barrier.
Considerations for Expansion Zones, prebuilt and designed into structure	Specification	If out of spec, look for these problems.	Possible Remedies if out of spec.
Expansion Zones/Strips or active concrete joints	Do not install over	No flooring should be installed over expansion zones/strips unless specified and warranted by architect/designer/general contractor.	Architect should specify transition and exact install method.
Considerations for Patching and Leveling Compounds	Specification	If out of spec, look for these problems.	Possible Remedies if out of spec.
Compressive Strength	4000 psi/28 days	Too much water added when mixed.	Remove and replace
Suspected	None	Do not install	Stop, refer to RFCI: Recommended Work

asbestos			Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings
Gypsum Based	Do not use any gypsum based materials	Mold and Mildew growth	Follow mold and mildew guidelines – EPA Remove sources of moisture
Cracks, Voids, Depressions -	Floor Flat, Sound Fill cracks, voids, depressions except expansion zones	Flooring not smooth. Determine if uneven floor is structural or topical.	Fill with Apac 50 and when necessary, Apac 51 admix.

Other Subfloor Conditions:

- **Existing Resilient Floors**
 - May be installed over 1 layer of dense, non-cushioned, well-adhered resilient flooring. Strip old wax and sealers removing all traces of residue. Use Apac 50 & Apac 51 as an embossing leveler. When no embossing leveler is needed, prime floor with Apac 31 or EnCapSeal prior to installation of new adhesives and flooring.
- **Ceramic or Quarry Tile, Terrazzo and Marble**
 - Okay to install over providing that tile is well bonded to structurally sound subfloor. Use Apac 50 and Apac 51 as patching compound to fill depressions, cracks, voids and grout lines. Fill until all areas are smooth.
- **Polymeric Poured Floors**
 - Okay to install over providing floor is well bonded to structurally sound subfloor. Must be clean, dry, flat and free of bumps, cracks or depressions.
- **Residual Cut Back Adhesive- First review safety regulations for the removal of adhesives – see page 2 of these instructions and the RFCI website:**
 - All ridges removed, smooth and flat. May be covered with 1/8" underlayment such as Apac 50 and Apac 51, Apac 44 self-leveling underlayment, or rolled with Apac EnCapSeal.
- **Radiant Heated Subfloors**
 - Surface temperature of subfloor must not exceed 85° F (32° C). Turn off heating system 24 hours in advance of installation. Install floor using Apac 584 adhesive and correct trowel. Following installation, turn on heat in stages of 5° increments over a 24 hour period.
 - Newly installed concrete floors with radiant heat shall have been operational for a period in which is sufficient to dry and cure slab so that accurate relative humidity, moisture, ph and bond tests may be performed.
 - Manufacturer of radiant heat must warrant that their system is compatible with luxury vinyl tile.
 - It is recommended that you contact our technical services department for further information about your specific project.

Installation:

Acclimation:

Condition flooring and adhesives to the proper room temperature between 65° F (18° C) and 95° F (35° C), 48 hours before, during and thereafter. In any case, the temperature should never fall below 55° F (13° C).

Installation Materials:

For added assurance and warranty use recommended installation and maintenance materials that are listed below.

- Apac 564 Universal Adhesive for residential and light commercial applications.
- Apac 610 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive when easy removability is desired.
- Apac 584 Adhesive for commercial applications and when heavy rolling or static load conditions are present. Use for all radiant heat applications.
- Apac 569 Heavy Duty Adhesive for commercial applications where very heavy rolling or static load conditions are present or when topical moisture conditions persist.
- Apac 50 Cement-Based Patch for filling and repairing cracks and voids
- Apac 51 Additive to Apac 50 – increases pot life and workability for Apac 50. When mixed with Apac 50, can be used as an embossing leveler.
- Apac 44 Self-leveling cement-based underlayment
- Apac 31 Primer as preparation for Apac 44, especially over gypsum.
- Apac EnCapSeal for slabs over 1 year old: Encapsulator, Sealer, Primer, PH Blocker
- Apac V-Block for new slabs up to one year: Primer and Sealer. Required over Gypsum based subfloor.

More about these products can be found at: www.apacadhesives.com

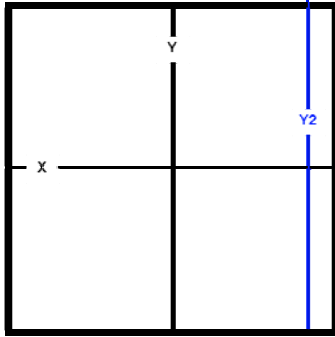
Layout:

Precise and careful measurements are very important. Plan your layout so that the edges of the flooring tiles or planks do not sit directly over the top of underlayment joints. Do not install over expansion joints.

For Planks:

When cutting and fitting planks into the overall layout of the room; cut planks no smaller than 6" in length and 3" in width. Adjust layout for a balanced look. Dry-fit planks before spreading adhesive.

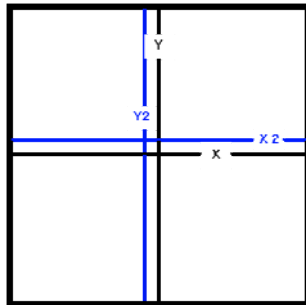
- Begin by squaring off and finding the center point in the room.
 - Snap chalk lines on X (horizontal) & Y (vertical) planes.
- Measure out from center in both directions to determine if planks that are closest to walls will be at least 3" wide and 6" in length and that they are equally balanced on each side of the room. This will determine if you need to cut planks to partial widths at the perimeter of the installation and determine the placement of your starter row.
 - Using this information, measure from the original Y plane, a distance from the wall that is equal to the width of one full plank plus the width of the partial plank size you determined in the last step. Snap a chalk line Y (Y2) at this measurement.
 - Determine if beginning plank should be cut in length. Retain piece if larger than 6" because you can use it to start or end another row of planks.



For Tiles:

When cutting and fitting tiles into the overall layout of the room; cut tiles no smaller than 3" in width or 3" in length. Adjust layout for a balanced look; dry-fit planks before spreading adhesive.

- Begin by squaring off and finding the center point in the room.
 - Snap chalk lines on X (horizontal) & Y (vertical) planes.
 - Measure out from the chalk line X, $\frac{1}{2}$ the width of the tile. Snap a chalk line at this measurement. This line becomes X2.
 - Measure out from the chalk line Y, $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the tile. Snap a chalk line at this measurement. This line becomes Y2.



- Measure out from Y2 and X2 in both directions to determine if tiles that are closest to walls will be at least 3" wide and 3" in length and that they are equally balanced on each side of the room. This will determine if you need to cut tiles to partial widths and lengths at the perimeter of the installation and determine if you will have to change the placement of your starter row.

Installation:

- Planks or Tiles can be cut using the score and snap method or by using a tile cutter.
- Install by pulling planks or tiles from several cartons concurrently. This important step will assure a random and natural appearance.

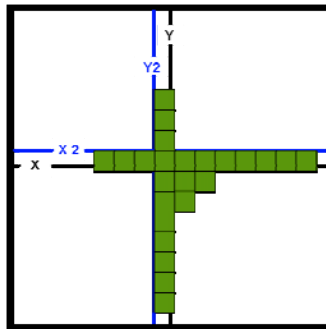
For Planks:

- Spread adhesive according to Apac instructions paying careful attention to open and dry times.
- Install all planks in the same direction, following arrow direction on the back of the plank.

- Install starter row along chalk line (Y 2) Layout plan (A) for planks, being careful to match planks exactly along chalk line. The starter row must be perfectly aligned because it establishes a true and straight line for all subsequent rows.
- Continue installing rows in a staggered and random fashion. Stagger end joints a minimum of 4" – 6" to assure a beautiful and random appearance.
- Do not kneel on freshly installed planks.
- Scribe or measure the planks that will be installed at the perimeter of the area. Cut and dry fit into the area. Spread adhesive and adhere.
- Roll large areas with a 100 lb. roller; smaller areas with a hand-held roller within 1 hour of installation.

For Tiles:


- Spread adhesive according to Apac instructions paying careful attention to open and dry times.
- Install all tiles in the same direction, following arrow direction on the back of the tile.
- Install along X2 and Y2 lines to form a +
- Continue installation in area using a stair-step method.



- Do not kneel on freshly installed tiles.
- Determine the border/perimeter piece sizes. Scribe or measure, dry fit into area, spread adhesive, and adhere.
- Roll large areas with a 100 lb. roller; smaller areas with a hand-held roller within 1 hour of installation.

Following Installation:

- Install specified transition strips where applicable. These accessories are available from your Evoke dealer.
- Do not walk, place furniture, appliances or other items on floor for at least 24 hours.
- Never slide appliances or other heavy items across the floor. Use plywood and a hand dolly or an approved air ride appliance moving device.
- Use walk-off mats without rubber backings to control grit.
- Use furniture glides and protectors to prevent scratching and indentations.
- Do not wet-wash, scrub or strip the floor for a minimum of 7 days following installation.



Follow regular maintenance routine using the Therapy by Kentwood Floor Care System, available from your Evoke dealer.

In order to deliver the best looking product possible, when the installation is complete it is recommended that the installer clean the floor using Therapy by Kentwood Spray Cleanser. Follow the product instructions. Do not wet mop or flood the floor; mist it with the Spray Cleanser and damp mop as instructed.

Commercial applications: while all Evoke Luxury Vinyl floors have durable polyurethane finishes, users in some commercial applications may wish to wax the floor for added protection. If the Evoke Luxury Vinyl flooring was installed with adhesive (Stick, Quick) DO NOT wet wash or strip the floor for seven days after installation. This will ensure the adhesive has sufficient time to cure completely.

CARE & MAINTENANCE / PRODUCT WARRANTY

For complete CARE & MAINTENANCE instructions and PRODUCT WARRANTY for your Evoke Luxury Vinyl Floor please visit www.evokeflooring.com. PLEASE NOTE: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S CARE & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS MAY VOID THE PRODUCT WARRANTY.

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