

# Installation Instruction

## LooseLay

### Luxury Vinyl Plank

Congratulations on the purchase of your new floor. We thank you for your excellent selection of a Twelve Oaks product that is designed to offer you years of use and enjoyment.

#### IMPORTANT

- To ensure that your floor is installed properly, Twelve Oaks requires that you **CAREFULLY READ AND FOLLOW** the installation instructions **BEFORE** you or a hired authorized professional install Twelve Oaks products. **FAILURE TO DO SO WILL VOID YOUR PRODUCT WARRANTY.**
- It is the **INSTALLER and OWNERS' RESPONSIBILITY** to inspect all material carefully **BEFORE** installation, and ensure the product match what has been ordered/chosen. If you have any doubts or concerns in regards to the quality of Twelve Oaks flooring products, report to your retailer **BEFORE** installation. **INSTALLATION IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE. NO CLAIM AGAINST MATERIAL OR LABOR WILL BE ACCEPTED BY TWELVE OAKS ONCE THE MATERIAL IS LAID OR INSTALLED.**
- It is the **INSTALLER and OWNERS' RESPONSIBILITY** to ensure the job-site and the sub-surfaces conditions **MEET** all of Twelve Oaks' requirements.
- A 5% material waste allowance should be included within your total square footage

#### TOOLS

Basic tools and accessories: broom or vacuum, chalk line, **MAPEI ECO810 or MAPEI ECO360 adhesive** or equivalent, notched trowel (follow adhesive manufacturer's recommendation), 75lb 3-section roller, cement based embossing leveler, vinyl flooring surface cleaner, hand saw, jigsaw or cross cut saw, wood/concrete moisture meter, safety wear, straight edge, pencil, tape measure, square, utility knife, spacers

#### SAFETY – EXISTING FLOOR

Do not mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphaltic “cutback” adhesives or other adhesives. These products may contain either asbestos fiber and/or crystalline silica. Inhaling such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Always follow local health and safety regulations.

#### STORAGE AND HANDLING

Handle and unload flooring product with care, and store in a dry and well ventilated place. Flooring shall not be delivered until the building has been enclosed with windows, doors are in place, and cement work, plastering and all other “wet” work are completed and dry. HVAC system should be in place and in operation at least 14 days prior, during and after installation of the flooring.

#### JOBSITE CONDITION & PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENT

Exterior grading should be completed with surface drainage offering a minimum drop of 3” in 10’ (7.6cm in 3m) to direct flow of water away from the building. All gutters and drainage spouts must be in place. The soil around the house must be treated or graded to provide sufficient drainage.

Acclimatize the vinyl flooring products on jobsite. Material is acclimated once it has reached moisture equilibrium consistent with the ambient temperature and relative humidity of the job site conditions listed below.

Relative humidity level, where floor is installed, must be maintained at between **30% and 55%**, and room temperature be consistently kept at **65-85°F (18-29°C)**. These ambient conditions are specified as pre-installation requirements and should be maintained for the life of the vinyl floor.

#### SUBFLOOR CONDITIONS AND INSPECTION

Twelve Oaks vinyl flooring products can be laid over most solid and stable sub-floor materials, including plywood, chipboard, existing hardwood flooring, concrete slab, ceramic tile, and resilient.

#### IMPORTANT

- Installer/owner is responsible for determining if the jobsite, subfloor, other conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for vinyl floor installation. Twelve Oaks declines any responsibility for product failure resulting from or connected with subfloors, subsurface, jobsite damage or deficiencies after floors have been installed.
- Wall to wall carpeting must be removed before installing your new vinyl floor
- Your installation will only be as good as the subfloor underneath. Installer/owner must take care to inspect and ensure subfloors meet the flooring

conditions.

### 1) STRUCTURALLY SOUND

Nail or screw down the subfloor (plywood or OSB) if there are any loose areas. It is recommended to install vinyl floor over plywood, CDX and/or concrete. Replace any water-damaged, swollen or delaminated subfloor/underlayment.

### 2) LEVEL & FLAT

Avoid subfloors with excessive vertical movement. Use a straight edge or level, check to ensure the subfloors is within **3/16" in 10' radius** (5mm in 3m) or **1/8" in 6' radius** (3mm in 2m). Use a cement leveling compound that has strength no lower than 3000 p.s.i. to patch/fill any low areas. Follow the cement leveling compound manufacturer's instruction to avoid overfill in deep voids.

### 3) CLEAN

Inspect to ensure the subfloor is free of any imperfections (nails or screw). Sweep or vacuum thoroughly to make sure there is no wax, paint spills, oil, debris, or anything that could impede adhesion to the subfloor.

### 4) DRY

Conduct appropriate moisture test from several different areas of the subfloors and record readings. Subfloor moisture content must not exceed 4% for concrete or 12% for plywood/OSB. It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to verify and ensure the moisture contents are within the requirements prior to installation.

### Subfloors

#### **PLYWOOD:**

3/4" (19mm) CDX plywood subfloor is preferred, but minimum thickness of 5/8" is required. Check the entire subfloor is fastened down with proper fastener.

#### **O.S.B.:**

3/4" OR 23/32" stamped exterior grade is approved.

#### **CONCRETE:**

Allow a minimum of 60 days for new concrete to cure before installation. If moisture reading exceeds 4% from concrete moisture test, conduct a calcium chloride test. Never install a vinyl floor when calcium chloride test exceeds 5 lbs/1000 sf./24 hr. The pH level of concrete must register between 8 and 9.

The following tests are required for commercial application. Both tests should be performance prior to installation.

- Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM F 1869): Moisture less than 5 lbs/1000 sf./24 hrs.
- RH Level in concrete using In-situ Probes (ASTM F 2170-02): Between 85% and 93%.

#### **OTHER:**

LVT and LVP can be installed over ceramic, Terrazzo, and other hard surfaces. It is the installer/owner's responsibility to ensure the surfaces are dry, clean, structurally sound, and level, as described in subfloor requirements. It may be necessary to seal extremely porous or heavily embossed surfaces to ensure a strong bond.

#### **RADIANT HEAT**

Twelve Oaks LooseLay can be installed over in-floor radiant heating systems provided the subfloor surface does not exceed 85°F or (29°C) at any point. Full spread adhesive must be applied in this installation. The jobsite temperature should not exceed 70°F for 24 hours prior, during and 48 hours post installation. Thereafter, the temperature should be gradually increased by no more than 5°F per day to the desired setting, never exceeding to **85°F**. Relative humidity of between **35% and 60%** must be maintained at all time.

NOTE: Twelve Oaks' Warranty will be voided if an improper installation over radiant heat system is demonstrated.

#### **PREPARATION**

Remove existing carpet, baseboards, moldings (if applicable), wall-base, and thresholds. Undercut all door castings with a hand or power jam saw using a scrap piece of floor plank as a guide. Ensure doors can still open and close after installing the floor (leave a minimum of 3/8" or 1cm clearance).

For a more realistic look, be sure to blend the planks from several cartons to ensure a good mixture of pattern throughout the install. Always stagger planks 8" between end joints of adjacent plank rows for aesthetic and structural stability purposes. Avoid "H" patterns and other discernible patterns in adjacent rows. Discard any pieces shorter than 8" at the end of any row.

## LOOSELAY INSTALLATION

### IMPORTANT

- LooseLay planks can be scored and cut to shape to fit around irregular spaces. It is recommended to make a cardboard template of the space and transfer the pattern onto the plank. Measure twice, cut once
- Withhold foot traffic and keep liquid away from the surface of newly installed LooseLay floor for 24 hours. Thereafter, clean and maintain per *Care and Maintenance* instructions below.
- Use only the Twelve Oaks approved adhesive, trowel size, and spread rate specified by the manufacturer. Temperature and humidity can affect the flash and working time of the adhesive. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instruction carefully, and spread out a small amount on subfloor to test for adhesion bonding. Warranty will be voided when there is improper use of adhesive or trowel.
- MAPEI ECO810 is a releasable adhesive; MAPEI ECO360 is a permanent adhesive. Both are approved by Twelve Oaks

Step 1: Apply a 4"-9" wide strip of adhesive around the perimeter of the room. This includes any open areas without walls as well as doorways. Evenly spread adhesive with a notched trowel (recommended by adhesive manufacturer). Make sure you follow the instructions specified by adhesive manufacturer. Wait until adhesive can be touched without transfer.

#### *Normal residential application:*

Step 2: For areas exceeding 150 sf., other than perimeter gluing (per Step 1), apply adhesive at approximately 6' interval, perpendicular to the direction of vinyl planks. See Fig. 1.

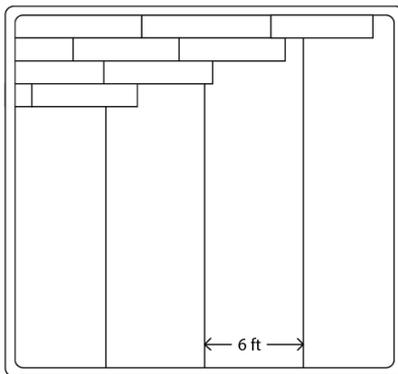


Figure 1

#### *Commercial and special area installation:*

Step 2: Commercial install, install over high-moisture/direct sunlight areas require a full and even spread of adhesive for the entire space. Follow adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

Step 3: Lay planks snugly against all vertical rises, leaving no gap. Use utility knife, score and cut the last board in the first row to length.

Step 4: Roll the entire floor with a 75 pound 3 section roller to secure a strong bond. It is highly recommended to seal all areas that are prone to high moisture (i.e. around tubs, toilets, and showers) with silicone caulking.