



# Installation & Maintenance Guide

## Read this guide before starting installation

Grand Nature 3D Printed SPC Plank is a waterproof floor but should not be used to seal an existing floor from moisture. It cannot inhibit the growth of mold or prevent structural problems associated with or caused by flooding, excessive moisture, alkalis in the subfloor, or conditions arising from hydrostatic pressure. Regardless of location, always remove standing water and other liquids promptly. Moisture issues should be addressed and corrected at the job site prior to installation.

### PRE-LAY CHECK

It is the installer's responsibility to verify the product is the correct product, color, pattern, and quantity. Check each board for visual defects before installation. Claims will not be accepted for flooring that has been cut to size and/or installed. LW cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Color variations are to be expected. For best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons during installation.

### SITE CONDITIONS

The floor covering should be stored and installed in a climate-controlled location with a temperature between 50° - 86°F (10° - 30°C). If the product is stored in temperatures outside this range prior to installation, it is recommended to acclimate the material for 48 hours prior to installation. The post-installation temperature of 41- 86°F (5° - 33°C) and relative humidity in the range of 35-65% are optimal and recommended.

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Prior to the installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the job site and subfloor meet the requirements of this instruction. As a floating floor, the floor can be installed over existing hard surface floor coverings, provided that the existing floor surface is clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound. There should be no loose grout, tiles, or planks, and grout depth must be no more than 5/64 " (2 mm) below the tile surface. Moisture issues should be addressed and corrected at the job site prior to installation. Do NOT install over existing timber strip floors directly adhered to concrete or installed directly over timber bearers & joists. Installation is NOT allowed over any type of carpet.

The subfloor should be flat within 1/5" in a 20-foot radius. The substrate should not slope more than 1" per 6 feet in any direction.

**Do NOT add additional underlayment.** The product has an attached pad, and the use of an additional underlayment is NOT approved.

**CAUTION:** Some types of nails, such as common steel nails, may cause discoloration of the vinyl floor covering. Solvent-based construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by the use of the products mentioned above is not the responsibility of LW Flooring.

### Wood Subfloors

Do not install material over wood subfloors that lay directly on concrete or over-dimensional lumber or plywood used over concrete. LW recommends checking wood substrates for moisture. Obvious signs of moisture issues include warping, peaking, degradation of substrate integrity, rusted fasteners, and rusted floor registers. Even if apparent signs are not present, the material should be tested using an invasive moisture meter, and moisture levels should not exceed 14%.

1. Do not apply sheet plastic over wood subfloors.
2. Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. The use of 6 mil black polyethylene is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. Crawl space clearance from ground to underside of the joist is to be no less than 18," and perimeter vent spacing should be equal to 1.5% of the total square footage of the crawl space area to provide cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.

### Concrete Subfloors

LW recommends testing concrete substrates for relative humidity, moisture, and pH before installing LW SPC. Test results should not exceed 85% relative humidity (RH). The Calcium Chloride Test for the moisture should be no more than 8 lbs per 1000 SF in 24 hours MVER (Moisture Vapor Emission Rating), and pH tests for alkalinity levels should register between 6 and 9. LW Flooring recommends a 6 mil poly film when installing over concrete subfloors.

### Radiant Heat

Grand Nature 3D Printed SPC Flooring is suitable for underfloor heating systems using hot water but radiant or electrical underfloor heating is prohibited.

*Note: Follow and comply with various Federal, State, and Local government agencies' 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. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos.*

## **INSTALLATION PROCEDURES**

LW Grand Nature 3D Printed SPC is designed to be installed utilizing the floating method on Plywood, OSB, Particleboard (PB), and Masonite. This flooring can be installed on, above, and below grade. Never secure the planks to the subfloor when using the floating installation method. DO NOT adhere any tape to the face of the floor as it will damage the finish. LW Flooring will process no claims for tape damage. The flooring is not suitable for areas with dynamic horizontal forces, such as those found at gyms, sports, and dance floors. Do not install cabinets or fixed objects on top of the flooring. Proper expansion space (7/16") 10mm is required. Undercut all doorjambes. Do not fasten wall moldings and or transition strips to the planks. Installation exceeding 32 feet in each direction with direct sunlight and installation exceeding 49 feet in each direction with no sunlight exposure require expansion trim.

### **Grand Nature 3D Printed SPC uses a 5G with drop lock system.**

1. Plan the direction of the area to be installed to maximize the visual appearance once installed. The direction of the plank grain should be confirmed, and the installation should be balanced from the center of the area.
2. Start from the top left corner of the room by putting the first plank in place to expose both the head and side grooves. Planks should be installed from left to right. Lay the first row straight.
3. Install the second piece in the first row by laying the short-end tongue onto the previously installed piece short-end groove. Lock the pieces together by firmly pressing down with your thumb along the seam to lock the planks together. This will engage the 5G locking tab into the piece you just placed. You will hear and feel the pieces lock together as the locking tab engages in the joint. Use a soft rubber mallet to engage the joint vertically if necessary.
4. Continue this manner for the rest of the first row. Make sure there is a 7/16" space between the first row and the walls.
5. Cut the piece at least 10" shorter, so the short end is enough apart from the end of the first row. Install the first piece in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the piece in the first row at a low angle into

the installed piece. Then firmly lower the plank while maintaining a slight pressure towards the installed piece. The pieces should fit snugly together and lay flat. Finish the remainder of the second row.

6. It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square since they are the foundation for the rest of the installation. Check often for straightness while installing the floor as failure to do so can result in gapping.
7. Continue installing. Make sure to maintain a random pattern repeat. Maintain a 7/16" expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces.
8. Check to be certain all planks are fully locked. If slight gapping is noticed, or pieces will not lie flat, simply disengage the long side joint and carefully slide the short end joint apart. Do not pull up on this joint as it will damage the locking mechanism! Reinstall the piece.
9. Install wall and door moldings last. Be sure that all moldings are fastened directly to the wall or subfloor. Do not place any fasteners through the floating vinyl flooring.

***Note: The 5G drop lock joints cannot be "lifted" or angled apart when removing or reposition a plank. To remove a plank, first, disengage the long joint by lifting at a slight angle while pulling the complete rows away from each other. Then simply "slide" the drop joint apart along the floor. Failure to slide this joint will damage the drop lock mechanism and prevent proper re-installation of the affected plank.***

## **GENERAL MAINTENANCE**

**NEVER** use wax or oil-based cleaning agents. All-purpose cleaners are not recommended as they can dull your floor's finish or leave a hazy residue.

- LW Flooring recommends Bona brand cleaning products, which are widely regarded as the best cleaning solution for urethane finish flooring.
- Sweep, vacuum with beater bar up, or dust mop regularly.
- Do not use steam cleaners or a wet mop to clean wood floors.
- Install proper felt protectors under the chair and furniture legs to prevent scratching.
- Roller or castor chairs should not be used directly on the floor surface as grit will build up under the wheels over time and become abrasive. Protective mats must be placed on the floor to protect the surface coating and keep your floor looking good.
- Use walk-off mats at entrance doors and in front of kitchen sinks.
- Do not use mats with a rubber or latex back as they may permanently stain your floor.
- Do not drag or push heavy items across the surface of the floor.
- Sun exposure can cause discoloration and thermal expansion on the flooring. LW Flooring recommends keeping curtains or blinds close to limit direct exposure.