

General Installation Guidelines

Dura Contract® Vinyl Flooring

Product Suitability

Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF) is suitable for all interior floor surfaces, above, on or below grade, and over concrete or wood substrates. **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** is ideally suited for medium duty commercial environments such as retail, leisure, health and education.

Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring is manufactured under ISO 9001:2000, *Quality management systems* and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. Suitable for Recycling. Suitable for under floor heating.

Testing and Acclimatizing

It is essential to conduct a calcium chloride test (moisture test) on all concrete floors. The test should be conducted around the perimeter of the room, at columns, and where moisture may be evident. The moisture emissions from the concrete should not exceed 3lbs / 1000s.f. /24 hrs (1.36 kg / 92.9s.m. /24 hrs).

During this preliminary moisture-testing period, **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** should be present at job site to allow an appropriate period for product to acclimatize. Remove material from packaging, spread out if possible and allow to condition in room where installation is to take place at a constant temperature of 18°-26° for a period of 48 hours prior to installation. This temperature should be maintained during installation, and for a 24 hour period after installation.

If the concrete exceeds moisture limitations, the installation should not proceed until the problem is corrected. A moisture problem can be corrected by sealing the concrete with any one of the many brands of concrete sealers available. After the sealer has been applied, re-test to ensure that the problem has been corrected. It is important to note that a moisture test indicates conditions at the time of testing only. The flooring contractor cannot be held responsible if moisture appears in the future, causing adhesive failure.

Please note that new concrete subfloors contain a high percentage of moisture and must be allowed to dry out. The drying time will depend on several conditions, such as the type of concrete used, average air temperature and thickness and location of the slab.

Surface preparation

Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF) can be installed using **TEC® 744 Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT)** adhesive or equivalent, it is suitable for installation over non-porous surfaces and existing vinyl floors or used in wet use areas. Please consult your representative for your particular application.

1. All supporting surfaces shall be structurally sound, solid, stable, level, plumb and true to a tolerance in plane of ¼” in 10 feet (6 mm in 3 m). They shall be dry, clean and free of dust, oil, grease, paint, tar, wax, curing agent, primer, sealer, old adhesive or any deleterious substance and debris which may prevent or reduce adhesion.
2. Mechanically sand, bead blast or scarify the substrate to completely remove all paint, loosely bonded topping, loose particles, construction debris, old adhesive and any contaminant that may prevent or reduce adhesion.
3. Remove any trace of strong acid or alkali from the substrate prior to the application of the surface product and/or the adhesive.
4. The supporting surfaces shall be dry. The moisture emission shall not exceed 3lbs / 1000s.f. /24 hrs (1.36 kg / 92.9s.m. /24 hrs) for concrete. For wood underlayment, the moisture content should meet with the requirements of the wood manufacturer and/or flooring manufacturer, generally 8-10% using a Wood Moisture tester.
5. In all cases, the structural design of floors shall not allow a deflection of more than 1/360 of span under live or dead load

Concrete

1. Concrete substrates shall be free of sealer or curing compound. The substrate shall be cured for a minimum of 42 days and tested for moisture emission using the anhydrous calcium chloride method. Test results shall be no more than 3lbs/1000s.f. /24 hrs (1.36kg / 92.9s.m. /24 hrs) prior to the installation of the floor covering.
2. Concrete substrates shall be finished using a flat trowel, the surface shall be sound, true and level to a tolerance in plane of ¼” in 10 feet (6 mm in 3 m) for floors.
3. The installer shall be responsible to complete a humidity test and provide the general contractor and/or the architect with the written results prior to the execution. A humidity test has to be done at least 96 hours (4 days) prior to commencing work and the results shall not exceed 3lbs / 1000s.f. /24 hrs (1.36kg / 92.9 s.m. /24 hrs) with the anhydrous calcium chloride test.

4. All new concrete surfaces should be steel trowel finished. A moisture barrier with a permeance of less than 0,2 metric perms as measured according to the ASMT-96 standard must be present under concrete slabs that are on or below grade. This barrier must be resistant to deterioration as well as to puncture during construction and must remain intact and continuous.
5. Any repair to the concrete substrate shall be made using the proper surface preparation product specified sub-paragraph 2.1. Where self-smoothing surface preparation material is required, the concrete shall be bead blasted or scarified. Where a fast setting screed mortar or fast setting polymer-modified premixed mortar the concrete shall be scarified.
6. Neutralize any traces of strong acid or alkali prior to application of the surface preparation product or the adhesive.

Wood underlayment

1. Particleboard, strand board and flake board are not RFCI-recommended underlayments, therefore are not recommended for use as a substrate for **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)**.
2. Plywood substrate and underlayment shall be group 1, exterior grade plywood, CC plugged or better conforming to APA classification and U.S Product Standard PS 1-95 or a select or (SEL TF) COFI classified.
3. The installation of wood underlayment shall comply with ASTM F499-84 standard.
4. All wood underlayment shall be new and acclimated for at least 24 hours to the job site condition prior to installation.
5. When required, the wood underlayment shall be filled and patched to correct Seams, cracks, indentations and other subfloor irregularities using the proper products. Fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound and Acrylic latex additive for use as recommended. Other types of levelers, such as calcium sulfate/plaster/gypsum based compounds are not recommended

Old substrates

1. Existing cement terrazzo, ceramic tile, single layer non-cushioned mineral fibrous felt-back sheet vinyl shall be sound, solid, well adhered, flawless, stripped or sanded clean and free of dust, wax, grease, soap residue or any deleterious substance that may reduce or prevent adhesion.
2. When installed with a **Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT)** adhesive, **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** may be installed over a single layer of non-cushioned resilient flooring provided the following conditions have been met
The existing flooring must be fully adhered and well-bonded; the sub floor or underlayment that is under the existing resilient floor must meet the requirements of **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)**.
3. Any cuts, gouges, dents or other irregularities in the existing floor and any existing embossing or texture must be leveled to prevent telegraphing; embossed vinyl flooring shall be properly leveled with the fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compound and Acrylic latex additive system and entire floor skim coated to ensure adhesion.
4. Any waxes or finishes must be completely removed and rinsed with clean water; and
If the existing floor has been installed over concrete, on a below grade, a calcium chloride moisture test must be performed for every 1000 square feet. The results of the test must meet the requirements as previously noted. Moisture tests should be conducted over an area where the existing floor and adhesive has been completely removed.

Installation

- Use a Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) adhesive when applying **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** over non porous surfaces and existing vinyl floors or when used in wet use areas. Recommended Trowel Size - 1/32"x 1/32" x1/16"
- Use a Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) adhesive when applying **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** over porous sub floors, such as concrete or wood. Recommended Trowel Size - 1/16"x1/16"x1/16"

*Trowel sizes are a guideline and may vary depending on substrate, adhesive manufacturer and site conditions.

Spread the adhesive with the recommended notched trowel to assure enough adhesive coverage to achieve 95% transfer to the backing of the floor covering. Work in small enough area to ensure that **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** is laid into adhesive according to the adhesive manufacture's installation methods. The adhesive working time is approximately 15-45 minutes under normal conditions. Position the plank at proper position in the adhesive without sliding and pressing firmly down, paying special attention to the tile edges and corners and that the ends of the planks are staggered for best visual appearance. Periodically check by lifting a tile to make sure that at least 95% of the adhesive pattern has been transferred to the back of the plank or tile. If adhesive starts to set up or skins over, scrape it up and reapply fresh adhesive.

Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF) installed next to each other shall be in consecutive lot numbers.

Roll each section in both directions immediately upon completing with a minimum 100-150 lb. roller. Re-roll the entire area after one or two hours. Promptly remove adhesive smudges with a clean cloth dampened with water while adhesive is still fresh and mineral spirits when dried. Ensure that all tile and planks are free from general traffic for 24 hours after installation.

Do not wash or polish the floor for a minimum of 48 hours after installation. The manufacturer or supplier will not be liable for any loss, damage or complaint of any kind if the specific laying procedure described in this guide is not followed.

Radiant Heated Floors

Heating System:

- Concrete subfloors must be cured for a minimum of 90 days before beginning the installation.
- In floor heating pipes must be covered with a minimum of 1" of concrete.
- Maximum allowable temperature is 25° C.
- The heating system must be fully operational at normal temperature for a minimum of 21 days prior to the flooring installation.
- The heating system must be turned off 12 hours prior to the flooring installation and must remain off for 12 hours after the flooring installation.
- Starting 12 hours after the completion of the flooring installation, gradually increase the temperature over a 7 day period at 2° C increments to the normal operating level. NEVER allow the surface temperature to exceed 25° C.

Glue down Installation:

- The sub floor moisture content registered after a calcium chloride test should not be greater than 3lbs/1000 sq.ft/ 24hrs (as per ASTM F-2170) or 75% RH (as per ASTM F-1869). If the moisture level exceeds these levels **DO NOT** install the flooring.
- **Dura Contract Vinyl Flooring (DCVF)** can be installed using **TEC® 744 Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT)** adhesive or equivalent that is approved over radiant heated floors. Please consult your representative for your particular application.

Protection

1. Protect the floor covering installation against dirt and other trades.
2. The finished floor should be protected from exposure of direct sunlight to avoid fading.
3. Do not allow traffic over the installation before 24 hours after work completion.
4. Do not thoroughly wash the floor covering with water before 30 days. Wipe with a damp mop during the first month to allow adhesive to cure.
5. Temperature and humidity during and after the floor covering installation will have a direct effect on the drying time of the adhesive, therefore ensure that room temperature is kept at a minimum of 65°F (15°C) and relative humidity be no more than 65% for a period of 72 hours after the completion of work.

Cleaning and Maintenance

For Routine Cleaning:

- Thoroughly sweep or vacuum floor before washing. Add 1 ounce (4 mL/L) of a **Neutral Floor Cleaner** to 1 gallon of warm water. Damp mop the floor using a clean sponge or mop for best results, continue to rinse the mop or sponge throughout the cleaning process.

For Extra Dirty Floors:

- Add 2 ounces (8 mL/L) of a **Neutral Floor Cleaner** to 1 gallon of warm water. Damp mop the floor using a clean sponge or mop for best results, continue to rinse the mop or sponge throughout the cleaning process.

For Heavily Soiled Areas:

- Add 8 ounces (50 mL/L) of **Neutral Floor Cleaner** to gallon of warm water and allow it to saturate for 3-4 minutes. Use a white scrub brush or nylon pad may be used to loosen dirt. For best results, continue to rinse the brush or pad throughout the cleaning process.

Coatings:

- If an extra coating is desired a **Low Gloss Satin Finish** is recommended, applied according to the manufactures recommended procedures. Once a coating is applied, a regular maintenance program will be required to strip the floor and re-coat the flooring according the manufactures recommendations.