

# MEDITERRANEAN

## RIGID CORE FLOORING

### INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

#### Tools Required

- Utility Knife
- Small Rubber Mallet
- Straight Edge
- Spacers
- Tape Measure
- Installation Block

THIS PRODUCT HAS UNDERLAYMENT PRE-ATTACHED

#### Prior to Installation

- Carefully check flooring material for any defects. Contact your supplier immediately if any defects are found.
- Room temperature shall be no less than 65°F (18°C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation.
- Remove quarter round, baseboard molding and cover base.
- Undercut doorway moldings the thickness of the flooring.
- Cartons must be stored horizontally at all times.
- Protect carton corners from damage.

#### Wood Substrates

Wood floors must be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1", free from spring deflection. Top layer of plywood shall be 1/4" minimum thickness underlayment grade plywood.

#### Concrete Substrates

RigidCore may be installed over on grade, above grade, or below grade concrete subfloors. Concrete floors shall be constructed in accordance with the American Concrete Institute (ACI) 302.1 Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction. Concrete shall be finished and cured according to ACI and have a minimum compressive strength of 3500 psi. Installation of moisture vapor barrier is recommended prior to pouring of on or below grade slabs. Moisture vapor transmission shall not exceed 3lbs./4000 sq.ft./24 hours per ASTM F-186 (Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test). Moisture may also be tested according to ASTM F2170 (Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using in situ probes). When tested according to this method, the internal relative humidity shall not exceed 75%. Rigidcore may be installed over gypsum based underlayments.

#### Existing Floors

RigidCore may be installed over most smooth, single layer, hard surface existing floors. Check flooring for any curled areas around the perimeter or at seams and repair if necessary. Use a good quality cementitious base embossing leveler to smooth and fill the existing floor.

#### WARNING

Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt or asphaltic 'cutback' adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. This product contains no asbestos.

#### Substrate Preparation

- All substrates must be dry, clean, smooth, level, free from all existing adhesive residues and free from movement or deflection.
- The substrate must be level within 3/16" over a 10ft. area.
- Fill and level all plywood seams and concrete cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves or other irregular with a latex fortified, cementitious patching compound.
- Sweep and/or vacuum substrate to remove all dust and debris.

#### Installation

- RigidCore is a floating floor and should not be glued or nailed to the substrate.
- RigidCore is intended for indoor use only.
- Determine in which direction the planks will be installed. It is preferred to lay the planks parallel to the longest room dimension.
- Do not install cabinets on planks.
- Carefully measure the room to determine squareness and width of the last row of planks. The width of the last row can not be less than 2" excluding the tongue. The width of the first row will need to be cut accordingly.
- A minimum of 5/16" expansion space is required around the perimeter of the room and all vertical objects.
- Inspect all planks for visible defects and damage in a well light area before and during installation. Do not install damaged plank. The original purchaser is responsible for approval and acceptance of all products.
- During installation, inspect the groove area and remove any debris that may prevent proper assembly of planks.

#### Finishing the Installation

- After all planks have been installed, remove spacers from the perimeter of the room.
- Install transition moldings. Do not fasten any moldings to or through the flooring.
- Pre-fill and install quarter round or baseboard molding to the wall. Molding must be sufficient size to cover the 5/16" space between the floor and the wall.
- Use plywood to cover the top of the flooring when moving heavy furniture or appliances into position.
- Use proper protectors under the legs and feet of the furniture.
- Post installation temperature must be maintained between 55°F and 90°F along with the relative humidity must be maintained between 40% and 70%.

#### Maintenance

Please follow the recommendations in this guide to retain the fresh look and protect the finish of the floor. After installing the floor, we recommend a first cleaning to remove any loose dirt or debris that may have been introduced during the installation process. Also, in order to protect the flooring surface from abrasive dirt and debris, we recommend installing an effective barrier system to limit the amount of moisture, dirt, and grit that may enter the flooring area. Please check any new cleaning agents on a small test patch of the floor in an inconspicuous area, and avoid using harsh cleaners or ammonia based cleaning products.

1. First, sweep and vacuum the floor surface to ensure removal of all loose dust, dirt, and debris. Using a damp mop, scrub the flooring surface using warm, clean water, rung out several times or as needed. The use of a dry mop or wet vacuum to remove water and allow to dry.
2. Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to damage your RigidCore flooring. It may result in severe scratching to the surface. The same is true for any high heeled shoes that do not have proper tips on the heels.
3. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. During peak sunlight hours, use drapes or blinds to minimize the direct sunlight on the RigidCore flooring. Most types of flooring will be affected by continuous strong sunlight. In addition, excessive temperatures are not recommended. Long term continuous inside temperatures over 95°F combined with strong direct sunlight will damage the flooring and cause the installation to fail. Some natural ventilation or intermittent air conditioning in vacant homes should be considered.
4. Do not wax your flooring. The surface of your floor is very dense and nonporous, which prevents wax from penetrating and thus builds up a bed for yellowing and dirt collection. The same nonporous feature also provides all the protection against wear and staining that you will need.
5. If your floor has been exposed to excessive amounts of water due to flooding, do not panic, RigidCore is waterproof. Simply remove the water as quickly as possible. A dehumidifier should be promptly turned on in the room to reduce the moisture levels back to normal. Do not dry the room below the normal moisture level that existed previously.

For any additional questions or concerns, please contact place of purchase



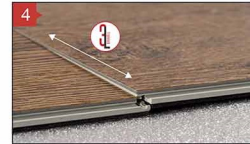
**INSTALL 1<sup>ST</sup> PLANK**  
It is very important that the first row is installed straightly. To realize this, installation alternates back and forth between rows one and two, for the first two rows only. Start with a small plank (1) and position this plank close to the wall. **NOTE:** Tongue of lock system facing end against wall spacer.



**INSTALL 2<sup>ND</sup> PLANK**  
Now select a long plank (2). Using the **Click&Go** angle system, angle the long side of plank 2 on to the long side of plank 1. Drop plank 2 to lock. Make sure there are no gaps.



**ENGAGE 3<sup>RD</sup> PLANK ON LONG SIDE**  
Take another long plank (3). Repeating the previous step, insert the long side of plank 3 into the long side of plank 2. Then slide plank 3 to your left until the short side is in contact with the short side of plank 1.



**ENGAGE 3<sup>RD</sup> PLANK ON SHORT SIDE (Part I)**  
Using the **3L TripleLock** one piece drop-lock system, drop the short side of plank 3 onto the short side of plank 1.



Please note that hard materials are best installed with a soft-faced hammer



**ENGAGE 3<sup>RD</sup> PLANK ON SHORT SIDE (Part II)**  
Using a rubber mallet slightly tap the joints on the short side to secure. This ensures 3x locking.



**FINISH ROWS 1 AND 2**  
Continue alternating planks on rows 1 and 2 to avoid misalignment. From row 3 onwards, installation does not require alternating rows. Install one row after the other by starting with angling on the long side, sliding until the short sides are in contact and then locking the short side.



#### INSTALLING UNDER DOOR JAMBS:



**Step 1:** Undercut door jamb to provide space to allow plank to slide freely. Tap long edge with hammer and tapping block to lock long edge.



**Step 2:** Use hammer and pull bar to draw in and lock short end of plank.

#### - PLEASE NOTE -

The use of a tapping block is not necessary to install your floor. The use of a tapping block, pull bar, and rubber mallet must be used delicately to not damage the connection system or physical appearance of the floor. Damage resulted from misuse of a tapping block or mallet will not be accepted and all warranty will be void for material affected.

#### LENGTH of AREA

X	LENGTH of AREA																			
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39	42	45	48	51	54	57	60	
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48	52	56	60	64	68	72	76	80	
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	90	95	100	
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72	78	84	90	96	102	108	114	120	
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84	91	98	105	112	119	126	133	140	
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96	104	112	120	128	136	144	152	160	
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108	117	126	135	144	153	162	171	180	
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	
11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	122	134	146	158	170	182	194	206	218	230	
12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144	156	168	180	192	204	216	228	240	
13	26	39	52	65	78	91	104	117	130	143	156	169	182	195	208	221	234	247	260	
14	28	42	56	70	84	98	112	126	140	154	168	182	196	210	224	238	252	266	280	
15	30	45	60	75	90	105	120	135	150	165	180	195	210	225	240	255	270	285	300	
16	32	48	64	80	96	112	128	144	160	176	192	208	224	240	256	272	288	304	320	
17	34	51	68	85	102	119	136	153	170	187	204	221	238	255	272	289	306	323	340	
18	36	54	72	90	108	126	144	162	180	198	216	234	252	270	288	306	324	342	360	
19	38	57	76	95	114	133	152	171	190	209	228	247	266	285	304	323	342	361	380	
20	40	60	80	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240	260	280	300	320	340	360	380	400	

\* Please account for 5%-10% more material than needed for project

Installation images above are of plank specification. The installation process is the same for the 12x24 tile specification in this carton.