

*The*  
**GARRISON**  
*Collection*



## **Garrison Glue Down Vinyl Installation Instructions**

### **Handling & Storage**

- 1.** Installation of Garrison® Luxury Vinyl should only proceed after the subfloor has been properly prepped and cleaned and the site cleared of all other trades, to prevent damage to the new floor.
- 2.** Prior to installation check cartons to ensure proper materials have been shipped. Homeowner or building owner should check the material to ensure that they have no concerns with color or pattern in comparison to showroom sample.
- 3.** Store all boxes flat and do not stack material while acclimating to job site for at least 48 hours prior to installation and do not layout boxes in direct sunlight. Direct sunlight can also be problematic during installation as it could shorten adhesive open time. Cartons do not need to be opened.
- 4.** The highest quality standards and raw materials are used in the production of Garrison® Luxury Vinyl and stringent quality control measures are employed at our factory. However, the installer is responsible to check for defects or damage to the planks and is responsible for providing a quality installation and adhering to all installation instructions.
- 5.** Garrison® Luxury Vinyl and adhesives must be conditioned to the site at a room temperature for 48 hours before, during and after completion of installation. A room temperature of between 65° F and 85° F (18° C and 24°). Relative humidity can be no greater that 55%. A minimum temperature of 65° F must be maintained throughout the lifetime of the floor.

Check and follow all adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions. Adhesives are humidity and temperature sensitive. Great care should be exercised regarding environmental conditions at time of install.

6. Garrison® Luxury Vinyl is an interior product only.

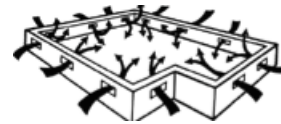


**\*\*\*Do not install in direct sunlight.\*\*\***

7. HVAC system must be turned on one week prior to delivery of materials and remain on during the installation and afterwards.

### **Pre-Installation Inspection**

1. Visual inspection: The first inspection is visual and basic. Is there water in the building?
2. Exterior Checks: Is exterior soil elevation 6" below edge of flashing?
3. Does exterior slope away from foundation at rate of 6" drop in 10' soft-landscaped and drop 3" in 10' for hard-paved areas.
4. Crawl spaces should have a minimum of 18" on well ventilated air space and insulated per building code. It should also be protected with a minimum of a 6mil poly vapor barrier.
5. Garrison® Luxury Vinyl is suitable for on, above, or below grade installations.
6. Door jams should be undercut with a 1/4" gap around the wall or any other structure.



### **Moisture Testing**

1. Adhere to ASTM F-710: Standard practice for preparing concrete floors to receive resilient flooring. The standard includes determining moisture levels, relative humidity, PH levels in compliance with the ASTM specifications here listed.
2. ASTM-F 1869 The standard practice for checking concrete floors prior to installation of resilient flooring. The maximum allowable readings are 3 lbs./1,000 sq. ft./24 hours.
3. ASTM-F 2170 Relative humidity test using in situ probes. The maximum allowable reading is 75% RH.
4. ASTM-F 710 PH levels, with 5.3.1 test procedure. The readings should be between 8 and 10.
5. ASTM TEST FREQUENCY, should be 3 measurements per 1,000 sq. ft. for the first 1,000 sq. ft. and one additional measurement each for every additional 1,000 sq. ft.
6. Make sure all moisture, relative humidity, and PH tests have been conducted according to the latest ASTM version and methods recommended by the testing companies of the test or testing equipment.
7. It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor to ensure, moisture, relative humidity, and PH tests to determine if too much moisture is present. Garrison®Luxury Vinyl is not responsible for hydrostatic pressure or changes in the moisture emission from the slab which may occur in the future for below, on, or above grade concrete installations.
8. If the readings exceed the figures above, the use of a moisture retardant membrane/sealant must be used prior to installation. We recommend using

DRITAC ECO-DRIBLOC,  
PREMIUM "GREEN" MOISTURE CONTROL  
& ADHESIVE ISOLATION MEMBRANE.



**\*\*\*\*\*WARNING: REMOVAL OF OLD FLOORING:\*\*\*\*\***

**Do not sand, sweep, dry or wet scrape, mechanically chip, bead blast, or pulverize existing resilient flooring, the felt, lining, paint, black asphalt cutback adhesives or other existing adhesives. These products could contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Breathing dust from these sources increases your risk of cancer and respiratory diseases. If you smoke and are exposed to asbestos fibers you are at greater risk of serious damage to your health. If you are not sure that the product being removed is asbestos free, assume that the product contains asbestos or crystalline silica. Regulations in your area may require you to have the material tested to determine if it contains asbestos. Check the Resilient Floor Coverings Institutes' recommendations for removal of existing resilient floor coverings.**

**Subfloor Preparation**

**Concrete**

All subfloors must be clean, smooth and flat within 1/8" in a ten foot radius. Dust, scale, old adhesive, and asphalt cut-back adhesive must be removed or coated with DRITAC ECO-DRIBLOC, PREMIUM "GREEN" MOISTURE CONTROL & ADHESIVE ISOLATION MEMBRANE.

**CAUTION: Test cut-back adhesives for asbestos content. If the cut-back contains asbestos, contact an asbestos abatement company for professional removal.**

The surface must be free of paint, grease, drywall, curing/sealing compound, wax, oil, alkali and any other foreign material that would negatively affect the bonding of the adhesive.

- 1.** Concrete must be tested for moisture, regardless of the age of the concrete. See requirements under moisture testing. Moisture tests should be conducted on the slab after it has been cleaned of all foreign materials.
- 2.** All subfloor patching and leveling should be done with a quality water resistant, non-shrinking Portland cement patch. Concrete floor must be smooth and flat to prevent telegraphing imperfections in the concrete.
- 3.** Do not install Garrison®Luxury Vinyl over existing resilient floors unless they have been primed using Bostik Universal Primer or an equivalent primer product.
- 4.** Chemical adhesive removal products must not be used to prepare the slab. Use of such chemicals will void the warranty on all Garrison®Luxury Vinyl.
- 5.** Garrison®Luxury Vinyl is not responsible for any movement in expansion joints in concrete slab.

**Wood Subfloors**

Wood subfloors must have a minimum of 18" between the bottom of the joists and the surface of the soil. Soil to be covered with 6-8mil black plastic as vapor barrier. Plastic must be overlapped at joints by a minimum of 8 inches and fully taped with a high quality moisture proof duct tape. Size of available vents should equal 1.5% of the square footage within the crawl space. Relative humidity should be in balance with interior of home. Moisture content of sub-floor should not vary more than 2%MC from the bottom of the sub-floor to the surface of the soil level.

- 1.** Joists should be 16" inch on center with minimum subfloor thickness of 5/8" joist spacing of 16" – 18" should be 3/4" .

## **WOOD SUBFLOORS(cont.)**

2. It may be necessary to install temperature/humidity activated exhaust fans to create more movement in the crawl space. Uncontrolled humidity and moisture in crawl space will lead to mold and damage to the structure as well as the hardwood floor. In these events a contractor specializing in dehumidifying systems will need to be contracted to keep crawlspace humidity within proper norms. This is more likely in high humidity areas.
3. Ensure that clothes driers are properly vented to the outside of the foundation. Check for signs of plumbing, both pressurized and non-pressurized/drain leaks.
4. Basements should be completely weather tight and proper drainage away from the foundations walls in place to insure that basement remains dry.
5. 1" x 6 (3/4" x 5 1/2 nominal) kiln dried dimensional lumber, plywood, O.S.B, tongue and groove subfloors must be covered with kiln dried Baltic birch underlayment plywood. 5/8" subfloors should also be covered with 9mm- 3/8 / 7 ply and 3/4" subfloors covered with 6mm- 1/4"/5 underlayment panels or equivalent. 5/8" subfloors should also be covered with 9mm/ 7 ply and 3/4" subfloors covered with 6mm/5 ply both Baltic Birch or equivalent.
6. Make any repairs necessary to the existing subfloor prior to installing underlayment.
7. Do not install the flooring over existing resilient floors unless they have been primed using Bostik Universal Primer or an equivalent primer product.
8. Stagger plywood end-joints and butt edges per installation instructions, fastener holes and seams should be filled with a polymer modified patch such as Ardex Feather Finish. These products are applied in a thin skim coat per manufacturer's instructions. Make sure to fill all end and side joints nail holes and dents in the underlayment to prevent transfer to the surface.
9. Sand substrate smooth, any remaining imperfections could telegraph to the surface.

## **LVT & Radiant Heat:**

1. The heating system must be 1/2" below the surface layer of the concrete slab.
2. In floor heating systems must be water based, low temperature, and must have be designed to prevent surface temperature of the floor from exceeding 85 degrees F. All systems that are part of a wood subfloor construction must use a product designed to float and a premium underlayment pad.
3. Two to three weeks prior to the installation, the thermostat must be set at 70 degrees F and then at 85 degrees F for 3 days. The home should be aired out briefly every day to allow the excess humidity from the thermal mass to exhaust out of the structure.
4. The lightweight concrete moisture content must not exceed 1.5% as measured with a Tramax Moisture Encounter meter prior to installation.
5. Lightweight concretes must be Portland based and be rated at 3,000 psi.
6. Electric Mat systems are not approved for use under Garrison® Luxury Vinyl

## **Adhesive**

Garrison®Luxury Vinyl recommends using Dri Tac Eco 5500 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive for their Glue Down product and two methods, either wet lay or flash off for installs over porous subfloors and only flash off method for non-porous subfloors.

Wet lay installs are a more solid method of installing a glue down vinyl product and make plank replacement a bit more problematic. Flash off installs are very secure, although not as secure as a wet lay install, and it is much easier to remove planks in case of future damage to a plank.

**Wet Lay:** Using a Crain 420 trowel(1/16”x1/16”x1/16” square notch), trowel out Dri Tac 5500 and install vinyl planks into adhesive before it flashes off. As the flash off time of Dri Tac’s Eco 5500 Pressure Sensitive Adhesive will vary based on the amount of humidity in the structure, it is a good practice to trowel a bit of the adhesive and note the time before flash off occurs so you will have an idea how much to trowel at a time.

**Flash Off:** This method of install must be used on non-porous subfloors such as installs over existing vinyl product and over concrete slabs that have been sealed with DRITAC ECO-DRIBLOC, PREMIUM "GREEN" MOISTURE CONTROL & ADHESIVE ISOLATION MEMBRANE or other concrete sealers. This type of subfloor does not allow for the Dri Tac Eco 5500 to flash off once the Garrison®Luxury Vinyl has been installed over it, so you must allow the adhesive to flash off or it will not properly cure and bond. If you are unsure whether or not your slab is porous or non-porous, pour a bit of water onto the slab. If you can see that the water has completely or partially seeped into the slab over a 10-15 minute, then your slab is porous. If the water has not seeped into the slab, your slab is non-porous.


### **Installation**

1. Before installing any material, plan the layout of the plank or tile joints so they fall at least 6” away from the subfloor/underlayment joints. Do not install over expansion joints.
2. The end joints should be staggered at least 6” apart.
3. Garrison® recommends scribing, pattern scribing, cutting with a tile or vat cutter or guillotine cutter for cutting planks.
4. Accurately measure the room to determine the center line, adjust this line to accommodate for a balanced layout and then move this line 2’ - 3’ from the starting wall.
5. Spread adhesive and set plank into the adhesive while avoiding any sliding of the plank.
6. After installation has begun, begin laying Garrison®Luxury Vinyl along the starting line and work back to the starting wall.
7. Plank ends should be staggered, randomly to avoid a cluster or stair stepping of end joints. Varying the length of the starter plank will give the appropriate stagger for that row.
- 8. After completion of the installation, the floor must be rolled with a minimum 100 lb 3-section floor roller in both directions.**
9. Do not clean the floor for 48 hours after installation.

***ATTENTION!:*** Garrison® Luxury Vinyl flooring subjected to excessive heat and sun exposure is subject to expansion and contraction (thermal degradation). Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects on your Garrison® Luxury Vinyl floor.



**Care and Maintenance:**

1. Furniture should not be dragged across new flooring. Use a hand truck or hand carry furniture to the appropriate area.
2. Do not place heavy items on the floor for at least 24 hours. These items must have suitable, non-staining castors or feet to offset the weight it is bearing.
3. Use plastic, glass, or other non-staining cups with flat surfaces not less than 2 inches in diameter for legs of heavy appliances and furniture. Use proper floor protectors on all chairs. Remove all small diameter buttons from legs of straight chairs and replace with medal glides no smaller than 1inch in diameter. Examine your protectors periodically, check for burs, debris, or wear, and make sure the surface is smooth.
4. Avoid rolling type caster chairs if possible. If not make sure the rollers are the double type wheels at least 2” in diameter. These precautions will prevent scratches and indentations from appearing on your floor.
5. Do not expose floor to frequent standing water and wipe up all spills quickly.
6. Take precautions to ensure that your Garrison®Luxury Vinyl is not subjected to excessive heat and light exposure. Cover windows or exposed areas to avoid increased temperatures on the floor. 
7. Watch for tracked in dirt and debris. Use non-staining walk off mats, as some of the backing may cause discoloration in Garrison Luxury Vinyl Floors.
8. Do not use vacuums with beater bars. Do not use any type of harsh detergent or solvents like lacquer thinner, abrasive cleaners or Mop and Glo type products, which can leave a film. Do not use silicone or wax based cleaners as they will create a residue on the surface and attract additional dirt. Recommended cleaners are:



Armstrong's  
New Beginning



Armstrong's  
Shine Keeper



Armstrong's  
Once 'N Done