

VICTORIA™

Design Floors

Fitting Instructions

Dryback

Distinctive™
FLOORING

Universal
DESIGN FLOORING

Issue: February 2022

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Design Floors

Suitability of use

Residential: Kitchens, Bathrooms, Hallways, Living Rooms, Dining Rooms, Studies and Bedrooms.

It is possible to install into conservatories and south facing rooms but it is essential that the room is protected from direct sunlight to limit solar gain. The room must be kept at a maintained climate where the floor temperature will not exceed 27 degrees. If installing into one of these locations, ensure that all direct sunlight is blocked out so that the room does not exceed the recommended fitting temperatures.

Kitchen Installation - We recommend that the material is installed around any fixed unit, but can be installed under appliances.

Light Commercial: Suitable for most areas except those subjected to high traffic, heavy rolling loads or locations with wide temperature variations.



Storage

Make sure that the flooring is always stored on a flat surface. If the material is not stored flat, you could find that you encounter problems when fitting the floor.

Acclimatisation - Product and Room

To give the flooring enough time to relax, we recommend that the product is stacked in small piles in the installation location at least 24 hours before fitting. The ideal fitting temperature is approximately 18 - 25°C.

The room in which the flooring will be installed should also be acclimatised for approx. 48 hours prior and for at least 24 hours after completion at a steady temperature of between 18 - 27°C.

The minimum subfloor temperature should be 15°C.

Underfloor heating should be turned off 48 hours prior to laying a floor covering.

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Sub-floor Preparation

Make sure that the floor is sound, smooth, clean and dry. If not, you will need to carry out the appropriate preparation work before installation to BS8203.

- **New Concrete/Sand Cement Screeds:**

If a new concrete floor has a reading of below 75% relative humidity (RH) prime the floor and apply a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. For readings above 75% RH floors consult your supplier for information relating to surface damp proof membrane (DPM) requirements.

- **Old/Refurbished Concrete/Sand Cement Screeds:**

For readings below 75% RH, the floor covering, and adhesive residue must be removed, and the surface primed before applying a compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm.

For readings above 75% RH consult your supplier for information relating to surface DPM requirements.

- **Power Floating Concrete:**

If readings with the hygrometer are below 75% RH the power floated floors require abrasion prior to the application of a primer and compatible smoothing compound to a minimum of 3mm. (Abrasion can be either scarification or light shot blasting). For readings above 75% RH the surface still require abrasion before applying a surface DPM.

- **Mosaics/Ceramics/Quarry Tiles:**

Level any grout lines with a depth of >2mm and/or a width of >5mm with a smoothing compound or screed filler to make the floor solid.

- **Timber Floors**

All boards must be firmly fastened, and any gaps filled. Ensure that there is no damp or mould. Should any be visible, these planks will need replacing. Loose boards will require fixing and any difference in levels on planks will also need addressing. In the case of any unevenness of a wooden floor, it is also recommended to install smoothing boards. If installing over solid hardwood floors, then plywood and a smoothing compound will need to be used.

- **Linoleum/Thermoplastic/Vinyl/Cork Floors:**

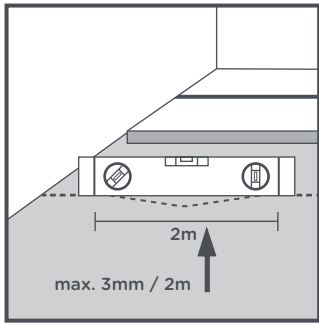
Existing flooring is to be uplifted and an appropriate smoothing compound or screed filler used.

- **Metal and Painted Floors:**

Remove any loose paint or other finishes. In many cases these floors will need to be primed ready for adhesion/install.

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Before installation, the surface should be checked for evenness using a 2m long straight edge / spirit level.

Any unevenness observed cannot exceed 3mm. Any unevenness exceeding 3mm over a length of more than 2m must be smoothed with subfloor preparations carried out in line with BS8203 guidelines.

Underfloor heating

Make sure that the underfloor heating has been switched off for at least 48 hours prior to fitting.

Wait at least 24 hours after fitting the flooring before turning back on and increase the temperature of room by no more than 5 °C per day up to a maximum subfloor temperature of 27°. The temperature of the floor should never exceed 27 degrees as this will cause your floor to fail.

Avoid colour differences

We recommend that you use material from only one batch within each room. To check these, please refer to the product stickers on the packaging.

To achieve the most realistic result, we advise that packs are always mixed together to ensure an even distribution of design and colour.

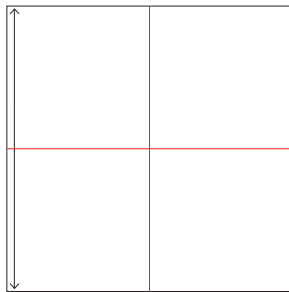
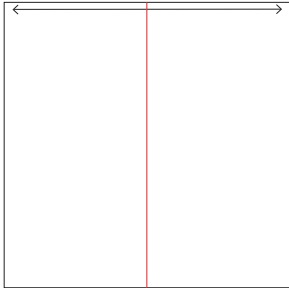
Adhesives

To ensure you use the correct adhesives for site conditions, you can find F.Balls recommendations here: <https://www.f-ball.com/rag-manufacturer/victoria-design-floors/#rag>.

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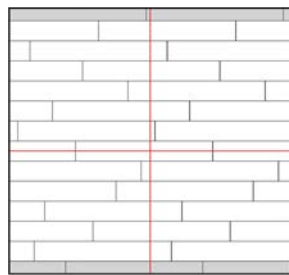
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Installation Plan



To achieve the best layout and the least waste possible we advise you prepare a working drawing before you start to fit the floor.

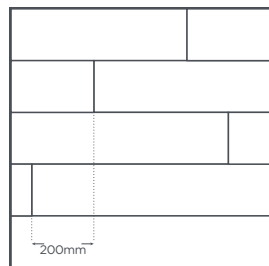
Start by marking the centre of the room, both horizontally and vertically. You will want to physically draw a line on your sub-floor as you will need to refer to this to get started.



First row

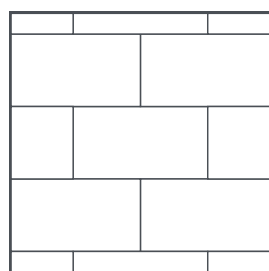
Last row

To ensure your floor is uniform in appearance, you will need to make sure that your first and last rows are the same size.

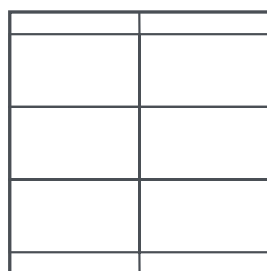


Wood

Should be fitted with random staggered joints with a minimum of 200mm between short ends



Brick Bond



Uniform

Stone

Should be fitted in a brick bond design or uniform

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After Installation

- Ensure your floor is clear of debris.
- When it is time to move your furniture back in place; lift, don't drag.
- Apply felt pads to furniture legs and feet to help protect the floor and for larger items consider castor cups.
- If moving really heavy items back into place (washing machines/fridge freezers etc) protect the floor with sheets of cardboard or thin pieces of hardboard

Protecting your floor

By following the below hints and tips, your LVT floor will continue to look as good as the day it was installed.

- Use felt pads to protect chair legs.
- Lift furniture rather than dragging as this can cause damage to your floor.
- When moving heavy items of furniture or household appliances protect the floor with sheets of cardboard or thin pieces of hardboard.
- To protect the floor from indentations, use castor cups to help distribute the weight.
- Use non-rubber backed entrance mats to prevent any discolouration of the floor and protect for dirt being walked into the house.
- Maintain room temperature between 13-27°C (55-81°F) for optimum performance.

The Company reserves the right to amend fitting instructions at any time in response to new/improved techniques and/or revised industry fitting advice issued by the BSI.

For the most up to date instructions please refer to the technical section on the MyVictoria.co.uk website.