



ENVIRO
BUILD

Sisû

Dryback LVT

Luxury Vinyl Tiles: Installation Guide

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Required Tools

- Tape measure
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Chalk line or pencil/marker
- Utility knife
- A2 trowel

You may also need:

- Floor levelling compound (subfloor)
- Power drill and drill bit (for pipes)
- Wood glue (for pipes)
- Hand saw (for door frames)
- Hand roller

Preparation

Before fitting Dryback LVT, your subfloor must be solid, smooth, level, clean, dry and dust-free.

- Remove any existing floor covering, checking there are no signs of mould.
- Clear the subfloor and remove or nail down any loose parts.
- Any unevenness of more than 1 mm across a 20 cm length must be levelled, as well as 2 mm variations over 1m.
- Either lay a level floor, or use a floor levelling compound, which will provide a smooth subfloor that can bind strongly with the glue.

- If installing on a wooden subfloor, the moisture content of the wood must be under 10%, and it must be completely dry beneath the subfloor.
- Any crawl spaces beneath subfloors should have sufficient ventilation.

Prior to installation, remove all debris, sweep and vacuum the area. If installing with built-in floor heating systems, a constant room and floor temperature of 18°C must be guaranteed during the acclimatisation, installation and for 48 hours after installing. If adjacent rooms have no heating system or a separate heating system, a transition profile must be used between the rooms. Wooden door frames must be cut so that tiles may be installed beneath them. Use an offcut of a tile to measure the height at which to make the cut, then use a handsaw to trim the frame.

Acclimatisation

Before installing your LVT it's important to ensure that it has been acclimatised to the conditions of the installation room. Leave your boxed Sisu packs in the room for 48 hours, laid flat and under the typical heating conditions of the room (ideally 15-20°C). The average temperature must also be maintained for at least 24 hours after the installation is completed.

Installation

We recommend shuffling your Sisu tiles prior to installation to give a more natural look, avoiding laying tiles with similar patterns adjacent to one another. Check each tile sufficiently before and during installation. Do not use tiles with visible defects.

1. Determine the direction you want the flooring to run. Typically the length of luxury vinyl flooring will run with the length of the room or floor plan.
2. It is best to install dryback in manageable sections to avoid the adhesive drying before installation is complete. Measure and mark two or more points from the starting wall, up to where the first few rows will be installed (fig 1).
3. Draw a line connecting the points across the width of the room (fig. 2). This can be done with either a pencil, marker or with a chalk line.
4. Dry-fit the first row (lay the tiles without adhesive), using as many full tiles as possible. The last tile may have to be cut shorter to fit any remaining gap (fig. 3).
5. To cut: measure the remaining gap between the last full tile and the wall. Mark the same length on a tile and draw a straight line. Cut along the line with a utility knife (or LVT cutting tool), with the tile pattern side up (fig. 4). Once scored, break the tile with your hands (fig. 5).
6. Continuing to dry-fit, lay the first tile of the second row. It is recommended to stagger the tiles so as not to have noticeable uniform straight edge seams (fig. 6). Cut the first tile of the second row shorter to achieve this.

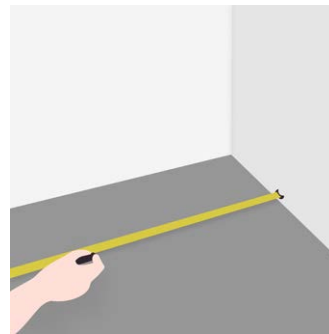


Fig. 1

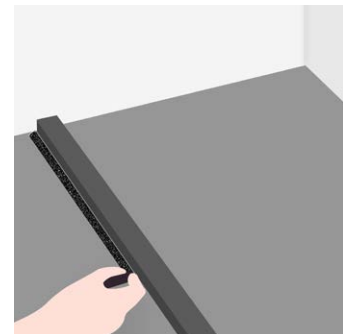


Fig. 2

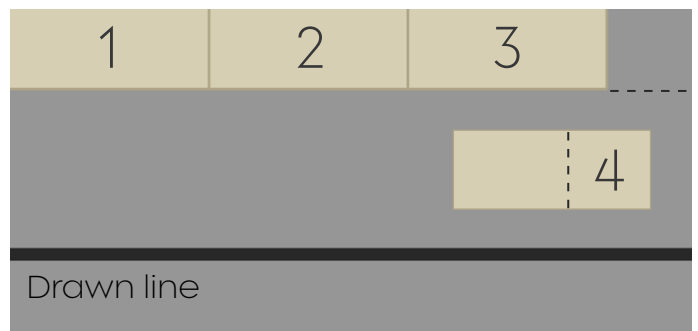


Fig. 3

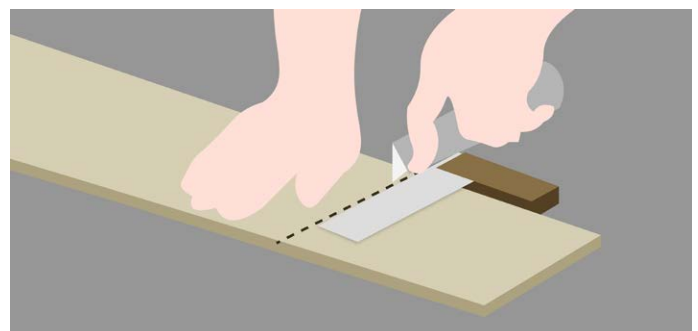


Fig. 4

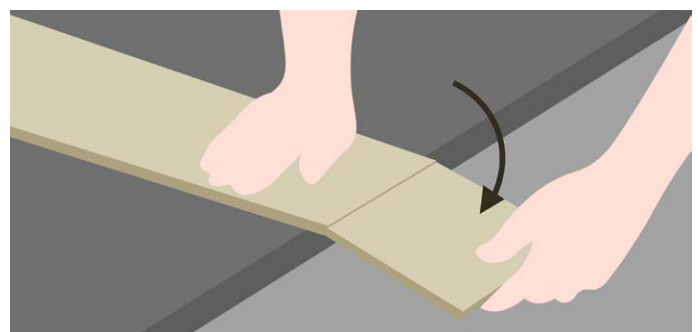


Fig. 5

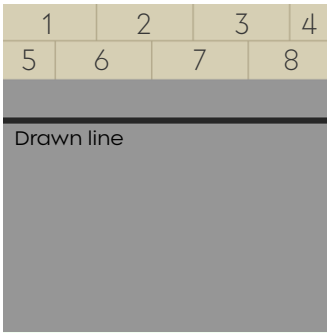


Fig. 6

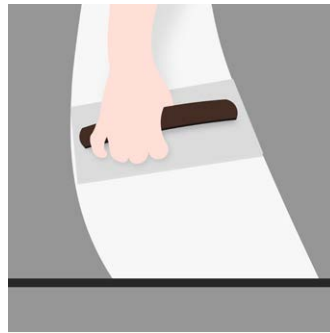


Fig. 7

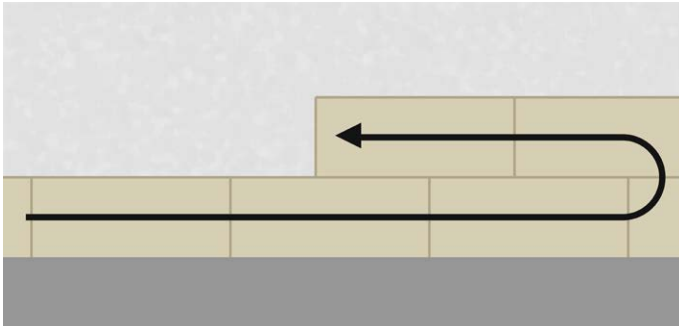


Fig. 8



Fig. 9

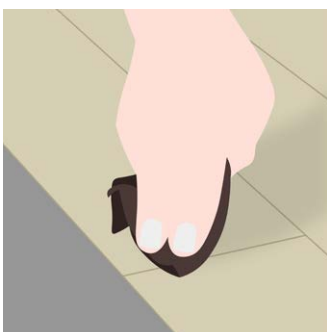


Fig. 10

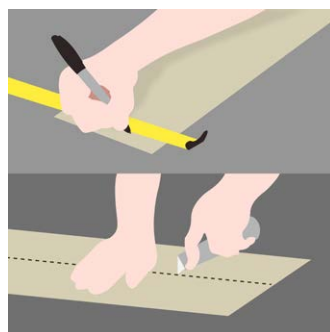


Fig. 11

7. Continue dry-fitting the tiles up to your drawn line. Once the dry fitted section rows have been completed, slide the tiles out of the marked area.
8. Pour your chosen vinyl adhesive onto the subfloor, spreading as evenly as possible with an A2 trowel. Spread the adhesive up to the drawn section line (fig. 7) and as close to the corners as possible, trying not to leave excess glue behind. Leave the adhesive to sit, following the manufacturer's instructions for waiting times.
9. Starting from your drawn line, begin installing the tiles you cut to shape when dry fitting, working backward toward the wall (fig. 8).
10. Push down firmly on the tiles to ensure they bond tightly with the glue. A roller can be used to aid the adhesive transfer process (fig. 9).
11. When installing consecutive tiles, remove any additional adhesive residue immediately with a damp cloth (fig. 10). Do not use detergents.
12. Once the area is complete, section off a second area and repeat steps 3-12 until you reach the opposite wall. The last row of tiles can be cut along their longest edge using the same cutting method outlined in step 5.
13. When installing the final row, lay the final tile in place making sure to check for uneven walls. In the case of uneven walls, trim the tile to shape (fig. 11).

Finishing Touches

- **Pipes**

Measure and mark on the tile where the pipe will sit once installed. Make a hole in the tile using a drill bit at least 2 mm wider than the diameter of the pipe. If only a single pipe is present, a line can be cut from the drilled hole to the edge of the tile, allowing it to be laid around the pipe. In the case of two or more nearby pipes, cut a section from the drilled holes to the edge of the tile, lay the tile and then reinsert the cut shape (fig. 12).

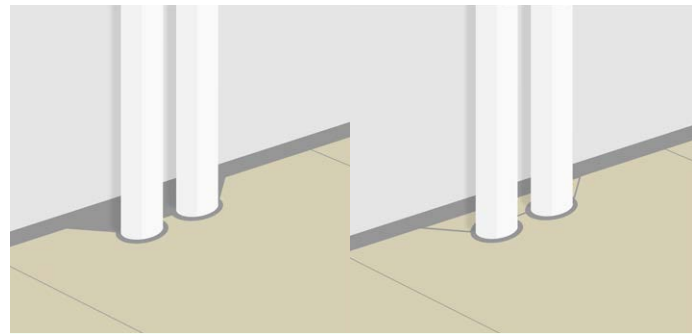


Fig. 12

- **Doors**

To install Sisu tiles around a door frame, the frame may need to be trimmed to fit the tile beneath it. Use a handsaw to trim the door frame, using an offcut as a guide for the correct height (fig. 13). After trimming, test that the tile can comfortably fit beneath the frame. When installing flooring close to doors, ensure that there is at least a 10 mm space between the tile surface and the bottom of the door.

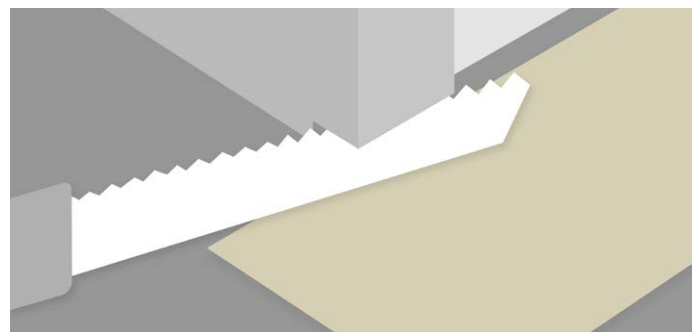


Fig. 13

- **Uneven Walls and Contours**

While dry-fitting, lay a thin section of Sisu Dryback on top of the last full tile, pushing it against the wall. Use a pencil and move along the contour of the wall, drawing the curve onto the tile nearest the wall (fig. 14). Once the curve has been drawn, cut along the marking with a utility knife and break it off. This piece should now fit with the wall curve.

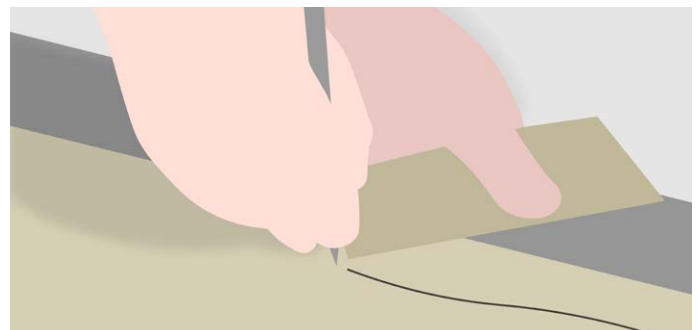


Fig. 14

- **Skirting Boards**

When fitting a skirting board, do not attach the board directly onto Sisu tiles. Leave a gap between the bottom of the skirting board and the tile in order to allow for natural movement during heat expansion.

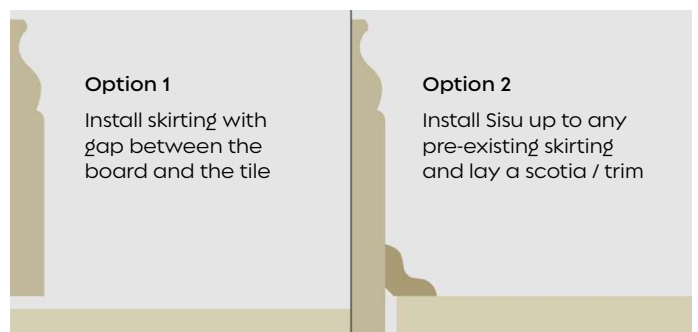


Fig. 15

Maintenance

Sisu Dryback is a durable material and its protective wear layer will keep it looking great for years to come. It is recommended to never let the temperature of the room drop below 12°C.

- **Regular Cleaning**

Regular cleaning by sweeping or vacuuming is recommended to remove loose dirt and grit which can damage your flooring. Avoid vacuums with beater bars as they may visibly damage Sisu. Steam cleaning should be avoided as it may warp the LVT and cause damage. Sisu tiles require no treatment or waxing.

1. Sweep the floor with a soft brush to remove dust and loose dirt.
2. Mop the floor with a pH neutral cleaner. Abrasive chemicals containing bleach should be avoided for regular cleaning to prevent colour fade.
3. Allow to dry before walking on.

- **Spills**

Spills should be wiped up to prevent staining. Never use highly abrasive scrubbing tools. If staining occurs, treat as soon as possible by spot-cleaning with a nylon cloth and a neutral detergent, before rinsing the wipe and cleaning the spot with water. White cloths are recommended in order to avoid colour bleed. Do not allow standing water on your flooring and aim to clean spillages within 30 minutes.

- **Stains**

When cleaning your flooring it is recommended to use substances that are

as mild as possible, however more stubborn stains may require a more robust solution. It is recommended to test any chemicals in an inconspicuous area first. Apply a mixture of one part dishwashing liquid to 10 parts water, rubbing with a sponge and then allowing to dry thoroughly. Mix a tablespoon of ammonia with a litre of warm water. Pour a small amount of the solution onto the spot and leave to sit for 10 minutes, before gently agitating with a soft-bristled brush. Rinse the area well with water and allow to dry. If the stain remains, begin to increase the ratio of ammonia to water, repeating the process.

- **Scuffs**

Shoe and furniture scuffs will resist most cleaning solutions. To remove from the product, soak a soft cloth in denatured alcohol or lighter fluid. Rub the cloth firmly onto the scuff mark, then rinse the area clean with water and allow to dry. Make sure to clean up any additional lighter fluid.

- **Furniture**

Felt pads can be used to prevent the scraping of furniture legs, while castor cups can be used to prevent indentation from heavy furniture. Do not drag furniture across the floor when moving, lift objects and move them to prevent marking the floor. Very heavy objects such as fridges can be laid on a panel and “walked” across it to move.

- **Entrance Mats**

A suitable entrance mat is recommended to capture dirt and grit that would otherwise be tracked inside, potentially scratching the floor. Avoid mats with a rubber backing as they can cause staining or marking.

FAQs

- **Environmental credentials?**

Sisu Dryback is 20% recycled overall. The middle and back layers are made using recycled PVC. The flooring is phthalate free and with Class E1 formaldehyde emissions.

- **How long after laying can Sisu Dryback be used?**

Once installed, do not walk on the tiles for at least 48 hours.

- **How easily do Sisu tiles scratch?**

Sisu is a durable material, though some precautions should be made to keep your product looking fresher for longer. LVT is more scratch resistant than hardwood.

- **Is it possible to remove a scratch?**

In many cases, yes. Scratches can be made almost invisible to the eye after using an LVT scratch repair or concealer. The physical indentation will remain, however the visible white scratch can be removed.

- **Is Sisu Dryback waterproof?**

LVT is an incredibly water resistant material and is suitable for all rooms of the house, including kitchens and bathrooms.

- **Are there any rooms in which I shouldn't install Sisu?**

Rooms with constant contact with water, such as beside a pool should be avoided. Also where the operating temperature of the room is consistently above 27°C.





- **Can I use rugs and mats on Sisu?**

Yes, but only if labelled “colourfast” by the manufacturer. Use non-staining backed mats. Avoid rubber as it marks LVT.

- **Will office chair wheels damage Sisu?**

Some precautions should be taken with office chair wheels to avoid wear. Don't use office chairs with rubber wheels as rubber can leave marks on LVT. A modified transparent office chair mat can be placed beneath the chair for protection.

- **Does Sisu Dryback need any particular waxing or treating?**

No special treatment is required. Sisu is incredibly low maintenance and is ready to go 48 hours after installation.

- **Can I steam clean Sisu Dryback?**

Steam cleaning Sisu is unadvised as it can make the LVT unstable.

- **Can Sisu Dryback be used with underfloor heating?**

Sisu tiles are perfectly suitable for use with underfloor heating, provided the surface temperature does not exceed 27°C.

- **Is the flooring antistatic?**

Sisu is antistatic or static dissipative.



Sisū

Dryback LVT



Beauty



Balance



Design