

General Information

Rigid Core SPC is a fully waterproof* and stable floating floor with excellent acoustic and thermal properties. It is essential that these installation instructions are followed to ensure a quality fit that complies with our warranty terms.

Rigid Core SPC is suitable for commercial and residential use but it is not suitable for installation outdoors nor in rooms that will be continually wet. A separate underlayment is not required. Install permanent fixtures (such as kitchen island units) prior to installation of Rigid Core SPC, Leave a space to fill with a suitable antimicrobial gap filler (silicone).

When fitting in a bathroom or WC areas it's recommended fixed objects (such as WC's and Basin Pedestals) are removed then refitted over the completed floor for a perfect finish.

When fitting in kitchens / utilities any permanent cabinets or island features must not be installed on top of the flooring - plinths will need to be removed and trimmed so the flooring can slide underneath the cabinets past the plinth line.

We recommend you remove all skirtings prior to installation then refit over the top of the expansion gap, to leave a perfect finish.

Acclimatisation of material

- Make sure flooring materials are removed from packaging at least 24 hours prior to installation, (planks may be stacked, but must be rested flat) and allowed to condition in the room where the installation is to take place. Room temperature must be kept between 18-27°C (64-81°F).

Subfloors

Before Rigid Core SPC may be installed, all subfloors should be solid and sound, smooth and level, clean and swept free of all debris. Measured moisture must be less than 95%RH, (or no more than 5lbs. moisture/1000 ft²/24 hours:calcium chloride test). Any unevenness in the subfloor should be limited to a maximum of 5mm variation over a 3m span in any direction. **Any isolated highpoints/ridges must first be removed in order to avoid damage to the product and unnecessary strain on any joints.**

- **Concrete/Screeds:** For an RH between 75%-95%RH where the subfloor is uneven an appropriate smoothing compound should be selected.
- **Quarry Tiles/Mosaics/Terrazzo/Ceramics:** Level any grout lines with a width and/or depth of more than 5mm.
- **Timber floors:** These should be solid with little flexibility. All loose boards must be firmly fastened and gaps filled. Wood block floors laid direct to earth/bitumen/pitch must be removed prior to installation.
- **Linoleum/Thermoplastic/Vinyl/Cork Floors:** Make sure these floors are solid; fix any loose tiles.
- **Underfloor Heating:** Rigid Core SPC can be installed over floors incorporating underfloor heating, but these must be insulated to keep surface temperature below 27°C (81°F). For Electrical systems please refer to the manufacturers guide to ensure their system is compatible with our flooring. Mesh/wire systems must be bedded into a basecoat of reinforced fibre smoothing compound. The room temperature must be between 18-27°C (64-81°F) prior and during installation. This is applicable for both concrete and timber construction subfloors.
- **Misc:** Any existing floors installed with bitumen based adhesive must first be suitably covered.
- **Metal and Painted Floors:** Remove any loose paint or other finishes.
- **Textile floor coverings** (including carpet) must be removed.
- **Other Floors:** Consult your supplier.

Installation

Planks should be laid with staggered joints, at a distance of at least 150mm.

Although dimensionally stable, Rigid Core SPC should be laid with a minimal gap around the perimeter of the room and all fixed objects, including pipes, of 5mm that can be covered by the skirting board or filled. This must be increased for areas larger than 100m² or extended continuous lengths.

Tools

For a successful installation, the following tools will be necessary – pencil, utility knife, ruler/straight edge, carpenter's square, tapping block, saw, hand roller, pull bar, hammer and rubber mallet are recommended.

Exclusions

Special care must be taken when installing Rigid Core SPC in rooms that are exposed to large temperature fluctuations e.g. unheated rooms, conservatories or direct sun / through south facing patio doors, care must be taken to protect these exposed areas from excessive exposure. Adhesives are not recommended in the installation of this product.

* Water will not penetrate through the product from one side to the other. This does not include joints between individual tiles/plank.

Installation Directions To achieve a more natural look to your floor, we recommend that the product is shuffled before installation.

1. First check the width of the room and calculate how many full rows will fit and how best to divide the first and last row for the most symmetrical finish. Install the plank with the tongue side/cut edge facing the wall.
2. Lay the first row, ensuring the header joints are clicked together.
3. Using a knife and straight edge, cut the last piece of the row to size. Ensure this first row is true and square.
4. Start the second row by clicking the tongue into the groove holding the plank at an angle, then tap the plank firmly into the groove of the first row. Fit the next plank by easing the tongue and groove together on the longside the header joint will drop into position, simply tap to clip the push-fit joint into place.

5. Continue to fit planks across the room until the row is complete. A pull bar can be used to pull the product together around the edges of the room.
6. Repeat section 4 and 5 until the installation is complete.
7. Under door frames: If plank/tile cannot be lifted use a tapping block, mallet or a pull bar to carefully ease the planks together.
8. When fitting convex corners, around corners or complex profiles, scribe the shape on the plank and cut using a jigsaw.
9. Once the floor is fitted, remove the spacers; sweep the floor with a soft brush. Fix the skirting boards.

Watch the video guide

www.bramptonchase.co.uk/pages/video-guides

