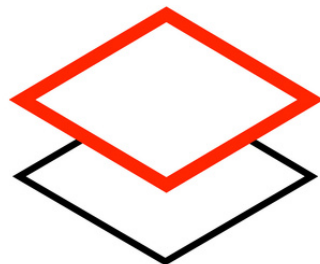
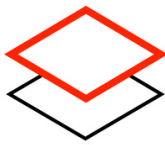


Installation Instructions



GRAND SURFACES

Grand Valley Tile / Grand Surfaces



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Installation Instructions

Preparation

Subfloor requirements

GVT floating floors are suitable for installation in various domestic and commercial areas, excluding bathrooms, saunas, and consistently wet rooms. They can be placed on resilient floor coverings, wood flooring, and ceramic tiles, but soft subfloors like carpets and similar materials must be removed. The subfloor should be even, flat, and dry, with variations not exceeding 3mm in a 2m span (0.12" in 6.6 feet). It is crucial to ensure complete dryness of concrete, wood, and ceramic surfaces before installing GVT floating floors. Remember to always use a PE moisture barrier film with a minimum thickness of 0.2mm (0.08") during the installation of GVT floating floors.

Radiant-Heated Subfloors:

GVT floating floors require the subfloor temperature to stay below 28°C (82°F). It is important to refer to the instructions provided by the subfloor heating system manufacturer/contractor or contact your supplier for detailed information. Keep in mind that placing rugs or mats on the floor can act as heat accumulators and raise the floor surface temperature beyond the recommended maximum of 20-22 °C (68°F-72°F).

Heated subfloors have specific operating conditions depending on the heating system and subfloor type. To ensure proper functioning and durability during the construction phase, strict adherence to installation norms and rules is essential. The drying process of a heated subfloor involves turning the heating on/off with a pause before floor installation, following a documented protocol. Afterward, the "heating phase" can commence. For concrete subfloors, the heating phase should not begin earlier than 21 days after the substrate has fully cured. Start the heating phase with a running temperature of 25°C (78°F) for three days. The subfloor should be in place and cured for a minimum of 60-90 days. Gradually increase the temperature each day until reaching the maximum temperature allowed by the manufacturer's system. Maintain this maximum temperature for at least 72 hours and continue for 5-7 days without turning it off. To decrease the temperature, gradually reduce it every day until achieving a surface temperature of 18°C (65°F). During installation, ensure that the surface temperature does not exceed 18°C (65°F) and maintain it for three days after completing the installation for floating floors. Then, slowly increase the temperature to a maximum of 28°C (82°F) on the subfloor surface.

Expansion Gaps

GVT floating floors are designed to be installed as "floating floors," meaning that the planks should not be fastened to the subfloor. It is important to ensure that the skirting boards/mouldings are not pressed down, allowing for the movement of the floor. Additionally, provide 5mm (0.2") expansion gaps along the walls and other fixed objects. The skirting boards/mouldings should cover a minimum of 7mm (0.28") of the floor. For transitions between two rooms and asymmetrical floor areas, it is necessary to incorporate extra expansion gaps in floor areas that exceed 100m² (1000 sqft) or have dimensions larger than 10m (30 feet) in either direction.

Prior to Installation

Transport, storage, and acclimatization

When handling GVT flooring, it is important to transport and store the cartons horizontally to prevent any damage. The packed tiles should be acclimatized at the job site in a dry and well-ventilated area for at least 48 hours, allowing the flooring to adjust to the ambient conditions. Before starting the installation, remove the tiles from their packages. Throughout the storage and installation process, it is crucial to maintain the temperature and relative humidity at levels consistent with the anticipated conditions when the building is occupied. Typically, this means maintaining a temperature range of 18°C to 28°C (65°F to 82°F) and a relative humidity range of 35% to 65%. To achieve the desired climate, utilize heating or air conditioning in the appropriate duration before commencing the installation. GVT flooring exhibits inherent shade variation, which adds to its visual appeal. To achieve the most pleasing blend of shades, it is recommended to shuffle the planks before installation, ensuring a harmonious distribution of color variations.

Site Inspection

Before proceeding with the installation, it is important to carefully examine the GVT tiles in daylight to identify any visible faults or damages. Additionally, ensure that the subfloor and site conditions align with the specifications outlined in the provided instructions.

Please note that GVT cannot be held responsible for any claims related to subfloors that do not meet the requirements, incorrect applications, the use of unsuitable adhesives, varnishes, or maintenance products, or detectable defects that could have been identified prior to installation. It is crucial to adhere to the recommended guidelines to avoid such issues and ensure a successful installation.

During Installation

In wooden subfloors we recommend installing perpendicular to existing boards.

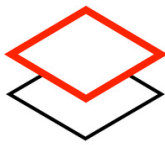
Tools required



Padsaw or a fine toothed handsaw, spacer blocks, pencil, set square, 0.2mm PE film and adhesive tape.

Moisture Protection

Subfloor	Maximum humidity CM% Heated	Unheated
Cement	1.5	2.0
Anhydrite	0.3	0.5



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Installation Instructions



(First Three Rows)

The planks can be installed from all directions. Wicanders 2G floors are easy to install. We recommend to start installation in the right-hand corner.



Turn the tongue side of the plank facing the wall. Maintain a gap of 5mm (0.2") on the short side.

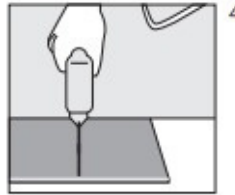


Hold the next plank against the first at an angle to the first one and lay it flat on the floor.

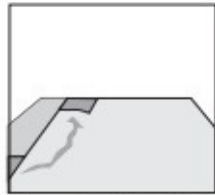
Complete the first row in the same way.



Cut the final plank of the first row to the correct length. Place the final plank face down and the short side without the locking strip towards the wall. The distance to the wall should be 5mm (0.2").



Mark where the plank is to be cut and place it on the work surface and cut to size using any kind of saw.



Make sure that the long sides of the planks make a straight line. Use the cut piece of the plank from the previous row to start the next one. However it must be at least 30cm (12") long. If the piece is too short, start with a new board and cut it in half. Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 30cm (12"). Tiles with 606 x 445 (23-7/8" x 17-1/2"), "brick" or "half brick" installation method must be used.

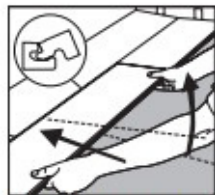


Place the first plank of the new row with the tongue side at an angle against the groove side of the plank in the previous row.

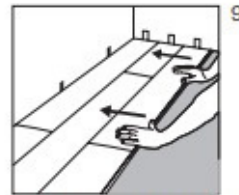
Press forward and lay it flat at the same time.



Place the short end of the plank at an angle against the previous installed plank and fold down. Ensure that the plank is positioned on the integral locking strip of the plank in the previous row.

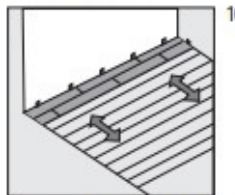


Lift the plank (together with the previous one laid in the same row) slightly up (about 30mm (1.2")), push it against the row in front and then put it down. Tip: This movement requires some gentle adjustments on the pressing angle.



Adjust the distance to the wall to 5mm (0.2") when three rows are complete.

(Remaining Rows)

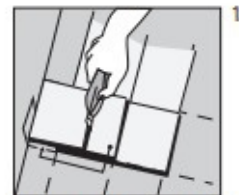


Proceed the installation as described above until reaching the opposite wall.

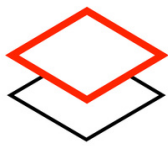
(Last Row)



Measure and cut the planks in the last row to the correct size. Allow for a 5mm (0.2") distance to the wall. No plank should be less than 5cm (2") wide.



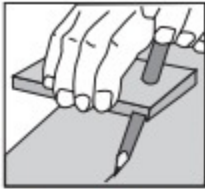
The last and first plank can be cut in the correct width. Place the last plank on top the second to last plank. Mark the plank with the help of a piece of plank without locking the strip. Allow for 5mm (0.2") distance to the wall for the expansion gap.



Installation Instructions

(Uneven walls)

Sometimes the first row must be cut to match an uneven wall.



Transfer the shape of the wall to the planks. Do not forget to allow 5mm (0.2") for the expansion gap.

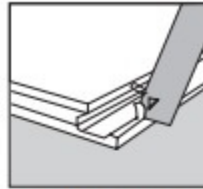


To remove the first row, lift the plank a few centimetres and tap along the joint.

Cut the planks as required.

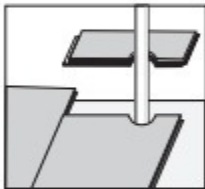
(Installation around doors, radiators and last row)

If you cannot angle the tile under (e.g. a doorframe) or low fitted radiator, you can do as the picture shows:



cut away the locking edge and apply Glue (PVA Glue, class D3) on the groove and install the plank

(Heating Pipes)



Drill the required holes in the planks, making a hole on the plank 10mm (0.4") bigger than the pipe diameter.



Cut the plank with a 45° angle towards the hole. The cut-off piece is glued in the position again. Cover the hole with a pipe sleeve.

(Door Frames)



If a door frame needs to be cut, use a piece of plank to obtain the correct height.

Saw the door frame and architrave to the required height allowing for 2mm (0.08") of space to the planks.

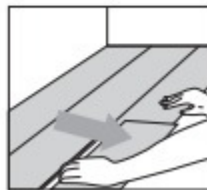
The planks can be laid from all directions. This makes easier to plan the installation e.g. around doors.

(After installation)

Removing the floor



If you wish to uninstall the floor, just lift the planks a few centimetres and tap along the joint.



The released plank can then be pulled out. Never bend connected plank backwards, as this will damage the planks.