

Installation instructions for SPC Solen Long Plank panels with the Uniclic system.



Thank you for choosing our product. Correct installation will ensure many years of trouble-free use, which is why it is so important to read the following information.

Please note: these instructions are a set of recommendations. It is advisable to use the services of professional installers, as incorrect installation or poor preparation of the subfloor will void the warranty. Installation should be carried out in accordance with good building practice in the field of flooring, current standards and these instructions. If in doubt, please contact a Multicontract technician.

Safety: always use eye and hand protection equipment and take special care when cutting and handling the panels.

The material should be stored and transported in such a way as to prevent damage, with due care. Cardboard boxes should be laid flat, never leaned on their edges or placed upright. Packages filled with the product are quite heavy, so take special care when moving them to protect your health, preferably ask another person for help.

Basic tools required for installation:

Expansion wedges (spacers), rubber hammer, ruler, pencil, tape measure, chalk line, utility knife. Optional: panel cutter or circular saw.

Before installation

- Check that all panels have the same production batch number. The batch number is located on each package. Do not install panels from different batches in the same room or in rooms that are directly connected to each other. After unpacking, visually inspect the product for quality, colour, pattern and compliance with the order. If any defects are noticed, do not proceed with the installation and contact the point of purchase immediately. Once the floor has been installed, claims for surface defects that were already present before installation and were not reported will not be considered.
- **No additional soft underlays may be used** for the installation of the panels. The panels have an integrated acoustic underlay. In special cases, only hard and dense XPS underlays dedicated to the installation of LVT/SPC panels with the "Click" system (minimum load resistance 700 kPa) may be used. In such a situation, consultation with a Multicontract technician is required, as improper use of the underlay may result in loss of warranty.

- **Acclimatisation.** Remove all panels from their packaging and arrange them evenly in the target room in stacks approximately 5 packages high. They should be acclimatised in this form for at least 48 hours at the recommended and controlled room temperature between 18°C and 22°C. After acclimatisation, installation can begin. If the room has underfloor heating, the panels should be acclimatised in such a way that they do not come into direct contact with the floor to prevent the lower elements from overheating. In addition, during acclimatisation, it is forbidden to store the product near radiators or other point sources of heat.

Subfloor preparation

- The subfloor must be free of any contamination (if necessary, it should be swept, vacuumed and mopped).
- Ensure that the area is hard, level, even, without excessive protrusions or depressions (greater than 3 mm over a 2 m section). Any unevenness should be sanded down or levelled with filler (minimum C18 F3) so that no imperfections show through the finished floor surface.
- The substrate should be stable (deflection up to 1 mm) and dry (maximum 3% CM).
- Do not use products containing petroleum derivatives (solvents, oils, etc.) to prepare the substrate, as they may cause permanent discolouration and spot deformations of the new floor.
- Despite the water resistance of the panels, they should not be used as a moisture barrier. Prolonged exposure to water (e.g. lack of horizontal insulation in the building) may damage the product's component layers.
- When installing on ceramic tiles, grout lines and other irregularities should be filled and levelled with special acrylic (washable/removable) fillers. If you do not intend to recover the floor in the future, you can use a permanent/non-washable filler.
- The requirements for substrates should comply with applicable standards and technical information.
- If necessary, it is recommended to seek the assistance of a specialist.

Climate conditions during installation

The panels can be installed in rooms with the following climatic conditions:

- air temperature: 18-25°C
- subfloor temperature without underfloor heating 18-22°C and at least 3°C above the dew point (optimal subfloor temperature to prevent moisture condensation).
- subfloor temperature with underfloor heating 18-22°C and at least 3°C above the dew point (in this case, the panels can be installed with the underfloor heating switched on and properly adjusted).
- Relative air humidity: 35-65%.

The above climatic conditions should be maintained in the room during panel installation and for 72 hours after completion. A sudden change in conditions may cause deformation of the floor.

Information on the use of panels on underfloor heating

The maximum operating temperature of the heating should not exceed 27°C (the maximum substrate temperature of 27°C should not be reached faster than 45 minutes after the heating is turned on). The temperature increase should not exceed 5°C / 10 minutes. Other heat sources (radiators, stoves, etc.) must not come into direct contact with the panels. They must be at least 2 cm away from the floor.

Heating foils (including infrared)

The foil must be designed for this type of floor, and the substrate under the foil must be perfectly even and hard (minimum load resistance 700 kPa). Follow the foil manufacturer's recommendations!

Expansion joint

During installation, remember to leave a gap (perimeter expansion joint – minimum 5 mm) around all walls and vertical partitions in the room. Expansion wedges should be left in place throughout the installation. The wedges may only be removed after the installation is complete. If the wall is uneven, adjust the elements to its contours. Mark the outline of the wall on the floor element and cut it out in such a way as to leave a perimeter expansion joint at the wall.

The floor does not require expansion joints in passageways to rooms and narrowings, provided that the subfloor under the panels is sufficiently stable.

Important: In the case of underfloor heating or rooms exposed to strong sunlight (high temperature), and in rooms larger than 40 m², the perimeter expansion joint should be increased to 8 mm.

Very large areas. In areas larger than 500 m², threshold and shrinkage expansion joints are required, and the perimeter expansion joint should be at least 8 mm.

Regardless of the size of the surface, all design and structural expansion joints should be transferred to all layers of the floor.

Very heavy furniture, such as kitchen islands/built-in units, built-in wardrobes, etc., must not be placed on the floor unless expansion joints are made under the cover panels (masks).

Planning the layout

Plan the layout of the panels so as to minimise the occurrence of excessively narrow elements along the walls of the main rooms. Elements laid parallel to the wall should be at least 5 cm wide, while elements perpendicular to the wall should be at least 20 cm wide. Remember to measure the total distance between opposite walls and divide it by the width of a single panel to ensure that the last row after cutting is not too narrow (min. 5 cm). It can be adjusted by setting the width of the first row.

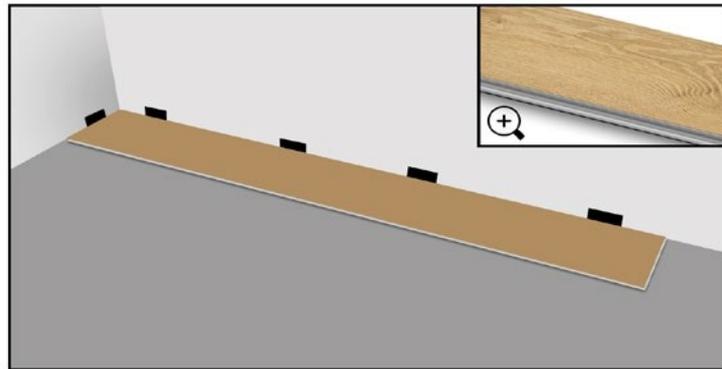
It is recommended to lay the panels perpendicular to the largest source of natural light in the room (windows, patio doors, etc.), i.e. in the direction of the light, unless the design specifies otherwise.

The row offset (the distance between short joints and the adjacent row) should be at least 20 cm. For the most natural look, it is recommended to use different offset distances in successive rows.

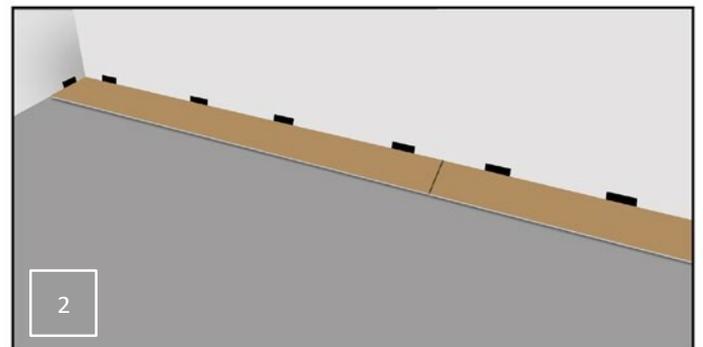
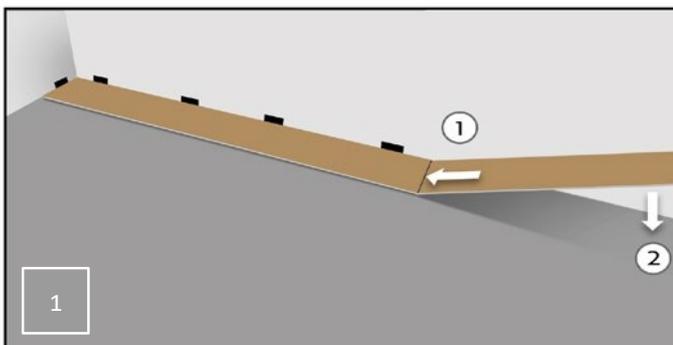
Important: mix panels from different packages. This will give you the best variety of elements and a natural look.

Installation

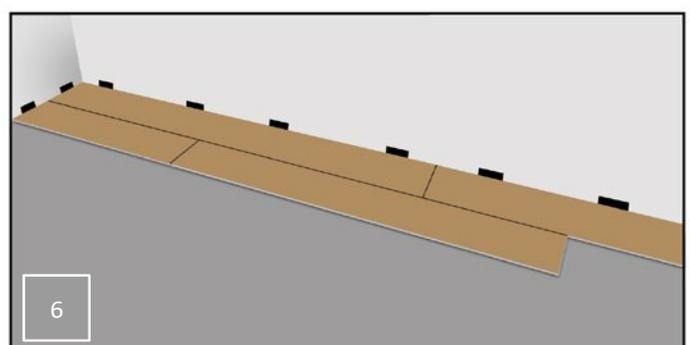
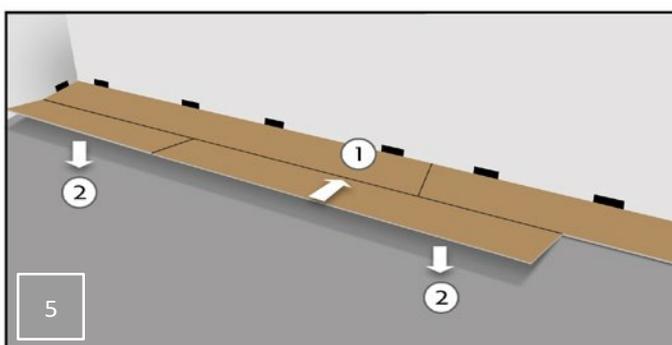
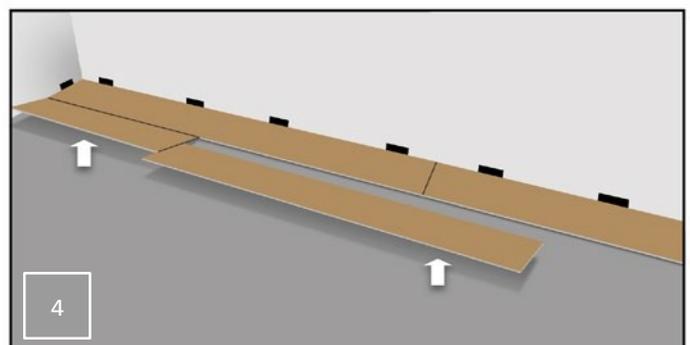
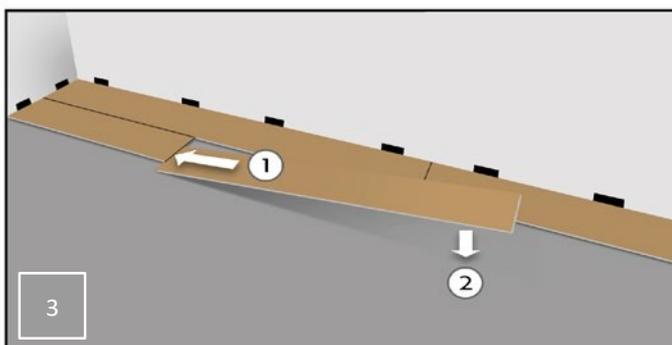
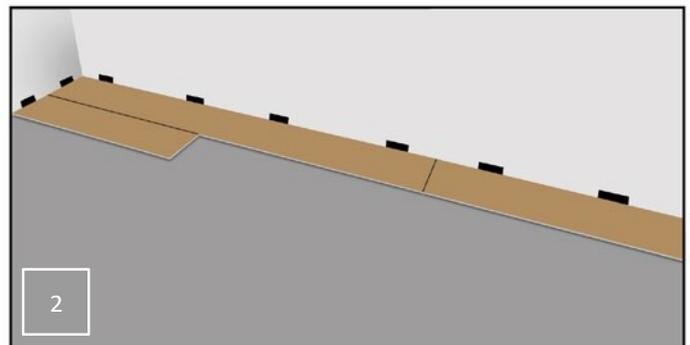
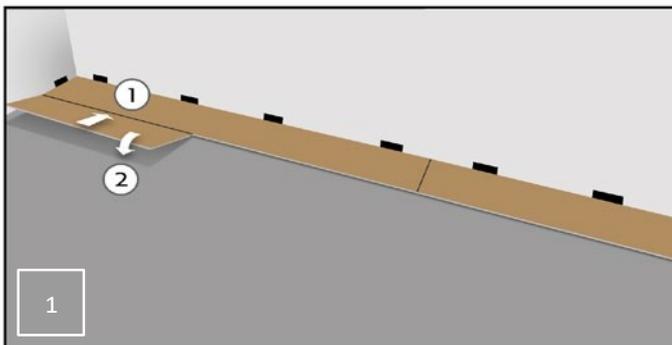
- Start by removing skirting boards, quarter rounds, wall plinths, appliances and furniture from the room so that the panels are directly adjacent to the walls, maintaining a perimeter expansion gap (for details on expansion gaps, see the section above entitled "Expansion gaps"). Never cut the elements in such a way that they have to be forced into place. If possible, cut the door frames so that the panels laid underneath them are free from pressure. If the door frames were not installed before laying the panels, after installation, install the door frames so that they do not rest their entire weight on the floor. This will allow them to move freely. After completing the preparatory work, sweep and vacuum the entire work area to remove all debris and dust.
- Before installing the first row, make sure that the wall is straight. Use a chalk line for this purpose. Draw a line from the beginning to the end of the wall.
- After thoroughly cleaning the substrate, start laying from left to right. The first element should be positioned with the tongue/lock (grooved edge) towards the centre of the room and the installer. Remember to place expansion wedges between each wall and panel. Lock the panel by pushing it against the wedges.



- Insert the second panel in the row at an angle into the lock of the first panel on the short side. Then gently press the panel against the floor so that the lock engages correctly. The edges of the panels should be perfectly aligned. To adjust this, use a rubber mallet and gently tap the panel in the lock until the edges are aligned. Make sure that their position is perfect and continue laying in the same way until you reach the opposite wall.



- The last panel in the row should be cut to the appropriate length, taking into account the expansion gap (the length of the element should not be less than 20 cm; this can be adjusted by cutting the first panel in the row if necessary). You can use the cut-off part of the last panel as the first element in the next row.
- Cutting panels. The best method is to use a guillotine to cut the panels, but you can also do this with a utility knife and a rigid ruler. Make the cut with the ruler on the side of the wear layer (the surface with the pattern). Then break the panel, preferably by placing it on a raised flat surface (e.g. a worktop) close to the edge so that one part can be broken along the previously made cut under pressure. A circular saw can also be used for cutting. **Regardless of the method, always exercise extreme caution!**
- Start the second row with the piece left over from the last panel of the first row. Its length should not be less than 20 cm. Otherwise, take a new element, cut it in half (or otherwise, to maintain the proper offset between rows - a minimum of 20 cm for short joints) and start laying the second row. If possible, it is recommended to use the cut pieces to start new rows.
- Place the first element of the new row in the long lock of the previous row. Place the next panel in the short lock of the first panel. Lift the connected elements gently at an angle of 20-30° upwards and move the second panel in the short lock so that its long lock can be correctly placed in the previous row. You can use a rubber mallet for this purpose. Once both panels are aligned in the lock of the first row, press them gently against the ground. They should be perfectly connected to the previous row. Make sure that the edges of the panels are in an even position. This is very important and will allow you to continue the installation without any problems.



- Continue laying the panels in the same way. After completing 2-3 rows, check that they are straight. This can be done using a string. If there are any deviations, it may mean that the wall from which the installation was started is uneven. Do not forget about the perimeter expansion joint!
- If it is necessary to drill holes in the panels, e.g. for pipes, ensure that the holes are larger in diameter than the object/obstacle. Tip: when installing around pipes, the hole diameter should be 12 mm larger than the pipe diameter.
- Once all rows are ready, remove the expansion wedges from the gaps.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The product belongs to the "floating floor" group (installation without the use of adhesive). Installation with adhesive is not recommended, but it is acceptable provided that a specialist is consulted, as improper installation may result in the loss of the warranty. When gluing the floor, do not use additional barriers such as underlays or polymer films – the floor must be glued directly to the subfloor, never to insulating materials. Before installation, remove all contaminants that may affect the adhesion and bonding of the adhesive (e.g. oil, wax, varnish, old adhesive, paint and other similar substances) and strictly follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, with particular attention to substrate preparation (temperature, humidity level, etc.). Only use specialised, thermoactive, flexible, moisture-resistant adhesives designed for this type of flooring. Requirements: the temperature of the panels at the time of installation must be close to the ideal installation conditions, i.e. 18–22°C (an element that is too cold, installed on underfloor heating, may become deformed), humidity of the substrate on which the panel will be glued:

- cement screed without heating 1.8% CM
- cement screed with heating 1.5% CM
- anhydrite screed without heating 0.5% CM
- anhydrite screed with heating 0.3 CM

If adhesive was used for installation, the floor should be taken out of normal use until it has completely set. During this period, do not place furniture on the floor or cover it with protective film, as this may interfere with the setting process.

- Skirting boards should be attached to the wall, never to the floor.
- Ensure that all furniture, other heavy items and appliances have felt pads to prevent scratches. Damage caused by failure to protect these items is not covered by the warranty.
- When moving heavy furniture, it is recommended to use special "blankets" used during removals. This will prevent scratches and dents.
- Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-marking, large-area covers/pads to prevent dents. As a general rule, the heavier the item, the wider the pad should be.
- Furniture on castors should rotate easily so as not to cause scratches when changing direction. Castors should be made of a material that does not discolour and is suitable for this type of flexible flooring. Do not use ball castors as they can permanently damage the floor.
- Protective mats must be used under office chairs.
- Rubber mats or other materials that may react chemically with the wear layer of the panels must not be used on the outside of the floor.
- Please refer to the cleaning and maintenance instructions.

