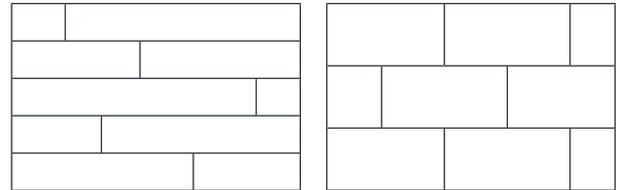


Installation instructions for Venossa New LVT panels.



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. We recommend using 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), installation knife, measuring tape, notched trowel, angle bracket, chalk line, adhesive dedicated to vinyl panels, heavy roller (min. 50 kg), manual rubber pressure roller, panel cutting guillotine (optional).

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 present prior to installation and were not reported will not be considered.
- **Acclimatisation.** Remove all panels from their packaging and stack 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 a 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 substrate must be free of any contaminants that may affect the adhesion of the adhesive, including oil, wax, old adhesive, paint, dust, etc. (if necessary, sweeping, vacuuming and mopping are required).
- 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 C20 F4) so that no imperfections show through the finished floor surface. In the case of a ceramic tile underlay, level the joints with filler and then smooth the entire surface with a suitable compound (minimum C20 F4).
- The substrate should be stable (substrate deflection up to 1 mm).
- The substrate should be dry:
 - cement subfloor without heating max 1.8% CM
 - cement screed with heating 1.5% CM
 - anhydrite screed without heating 0.5% CM
 - anhydrite screed with heating 0.3% CM

In the case of underfloor heating, it is always necessary to "heat" the underlay.

- Do not use products containing petroleum-based agents (solvents, oils, etc.) to prepare the subfloor, 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.
- The requirements for substrates should comply with applicable standards and technical information.
- If necessary, it is recommended to seek the assistance of a specialist.

Climatic conditions during installation

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

- air temperature: 18–25°C
- substrate temperature without underfloor heating 18-22°C and at least 3°C above the dew point (optimal substrate temperature to prevent moisture condensation).
- floor 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. Using LVT panels in conditions where the air and subfloor temperatures are too low or too high may cause deformation of the elements.

Important: Do not lay panels on heating systems that are not embedded in the mass, including heating foils and infrared foils.

Expansion

During installation, remember to leave a gap (perimeter expansion joint – minimum 3 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 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 areas where the floor is exposed to high levels of sunlight, the perimeter expansion joint should be increased to 5 mm.

Very large areas. In areas larger than 1000 m², threshold and contraction expansion joints must be installed, and the perimeter expansion joint should be at least 5 mm.

Regardless of the size of the area, all design and structural expansion joints must 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 strips (masks).

Laying plan

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. For tile-shaped panels (stone pattern), it is recommended to offset the row by half the length of the side.

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

Installation

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. Remember to measure the total distance between the walls and plan the layout so that the elements cut at the walls are not too short.

The adhesive should be applied with a suitable notched trowel (the size of the notches should be specified in the adhesive manufacturer's instructions) to an area that can be covered with panels before it dries (usually about 20-30 minutes, depending on the conditions in the area). Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions!

When the adhesive becomes sticky (it will feel like chewing gum to the touch), you can start laying the panels on the adhesive. It may take 10-15 minutes to achieve the right viscosity; the higher the ambient temperature, the faster the adhesive will become sticky. The time required to achieve the right viscosity also depends on the porosity of the substrate. If the elements are laid on a non-porous surface, use pressure-sensitive adhesive. If in doubt, contact the adhesive manufacturer for further information. Remember that any doubts should be resolved before applying the adhesive and, consequently, before gluing the panels.

Lay the first row in place, remembering to cut the elements that will be laid against the walls appropriately and precisely. Do not forget to leave **a perimeter expansion gap against the walls!** The panels can be gently moved across the adhesive surface in order to properly fit the individual elements and improve the bond between the adhesive and the panel. You can use a mounting knife and a rigid ruler to cut the elements. Make the cut with the ruler on the side of the wear layer. Then break the panel, preferably by placing it on a flat surface (e.g. a worktop) near the edge so that one part can be broken along the previously made cut under pressure.

Continue laying the remaining rows following the above instructions. During the process, pay special attention to ensuring that each subsequent row is even and that there are no deviations or gaps between the panels. After finishing gluing each section, roll it with a heavy roller (min. 50 kg). Once the entire floor has been laid, repeat the rolling process.

Tip: roll diagonally to reduce sideways movement of the panels.

Do not walk on the panels or place furniture on them until the adhesive is completely dry. Never cover the floor with plastic sheeting after installation, as this may adversely affect the drying of the adhesive and cause condensation.

Installation on a substrate with an adhesive layer for LVT panels

Only underlays with an adhesive layer designed for LVT panels may be used. The recommended underlay is **Smart Lay-VT by Multicontact**, which guarantees full compatibility, high performance and the highest quality. The use of multiple layers of underlay is prohibited.

Underlay rolls should be stored and transported with due care to prevent damage. They should be laid flat, never rested on their edges or placed upright. Before installation, the rolls should be placed in the target room for at least 48 hours. Do not store rolls on underfloor heating (unless the underlay temperature does not exceed 20°C). In addition, during acclimatisation, it is forbidden to store rolls near radiators or other point sources of heat.

Before unrolling the underlay, make sure that the subfloor is: dry, clean, even (without excessive bumps or depressions greater than 3 mm over a 2 m section), levelled and hard! Although the underlay compensates for very minor unevenness, any defects (by filling or sanding) that could deform the panels after rolling out the floor should be removed.

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.

Important: Follow all guidelines regarding substrate requirements, climatic conditions, underfloor heating, expansion joints, etc. as indicated in the relevant sections of this manual!

Unroll the underlay on the substrate with the film facing up, perpendicular to the direction of LVT panel installation. The individual strips of underlay must fit tightly together at the edges.

NOTE: It is not permissible to leave gaps between the underlay strips, either along the long edges or at the short joints. The strips must not overlap either!

Remove the foil to a width of several rows of panels and start laying the floor. Do not remove the foil from the entire surface! After removing the foil, do not walk on the surface of the mat and be careful not to contaminate it. Remove the film from an area large enough to lay a section of the floor before the adhesive on the mat loses its 100% adhesion. Once the element has been correctly positioned, each panel should be rolled with a hand roller. After laying all the panels, the entire floor should be thoroughly rolled with a heavy roller (min. 50 kg).

NOTE: When installing on a mat dedicated to LVT panels, remember that each element installed must overlap the next mat sheet joint by at least 15 cm when gluing! Never glue the elements in such a way that the joint of the underlay coincides with the joint of the elements placed on it.

Remember about perimeter expansion joints and to transfer structural and design expansion joints to all floor layers. **You can read more about expansion joints in the "Expansion joints" section.** Additionally, when installing on a mat in rooms with underfloor heating larger than 100 m², threshold and shrinkage expansion joints are required. In rooms with underfloor heating larger than 40 m², the perimeter expansion joint should be increased to 5 mm.

After installation is complete, normal traffic can begin after 24 hours. Furniture can be placed 48 hours after installation is complete.

Important instructions

- Skirting boards should be fixed 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 secure 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-type castors as they can permanently damage the floor.
- Protective mats must be used under office chairs.
- Do not use rubber mats or other materials that may react chemically with the wear layer of the panels on the outside of the floor.
- Please refer to the cleaning and maintenance instructions.

