



HOUSE & HAVEN  
luxury vinyl floorboards

# LUXURY VINYL FLOORBOARDS

## Installation Guide

Thank you for choosing from our beautiful House & Haven Luxury floorboard collection. We are proud of the product we bring to market and warrant and standby its performance and integrity. Having said that we have no control over environmental influences or the condition of the materials used in the subfloor, it is therefore important to understand and adhere to the accompanying installation instructions and guidelines.

Please take time to read this document, as we believe it is invaluable in ensuring the products performance and it is unreasonable to expect any product to perform if conditions and installation instructions are ignored.

The overriding proviso to all these guidelines is that all installations and practices must be in accordance with Australian standards guidelines AS1884: 2012. Information contained in this guide must not be construed as replacing these Standards.

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

It is vitally important that prior to any installation of House & Haven floorboards, the subfloor must be dry, level, smooth, clean, structurally sound and without cracks.

**Dry.** Please check for moisture. The floorboards will not perform installed over a slab with a relative humidity reading of 75% and above. Equally the pH should not exceed 10. It is suggested that these tests be standard preparation practice.

**Level.** To achieve an ideal level and even subfloor, using a 2metre straight edge ensure that there is no more than a gradual 2mm deflection either higher or lower over any 2metre distance. or more than 1mm over any 1500mm distance This needs to be checked in all directions.

**Smooth.** Any joins, cracks, holes, roughness, unevenness etc. must be filled and leveled with materially compatible filler. Please remember that your finished floor will mirror the quality of the subfloor. Any imperfections such as shadowing, protrusions, depressions etc. will eventually project and show through.

**Clean.** The last thing before installation it to ensure the subfloor is clean. In order to achieve the required bond strength the glue needs to have direct contact with the subfloor. Extra care should be taken to ensure the elimination of any chemical residues that may remain from any cleaning preparation undertaken to the subfloor as they could react with and compromise the backing layers of the floorboards. The adhesive will not adhere to dust or grit, Please vacuum the area thoroughly.

### EXISTING FLOORING

The sub floor should then be prepared according to AS/NZ 1884: 2012. and be read in conjunction with the House & Haven guidelines for sub floor preparation as stated above.

**Carpet/Textile floorcoverings.** House and Haven floorboards cannot be installed over existing carpet – carpet tile- cushioned or textile backed vinyl - cork or any type of textile floor covering. These must always be uplifted and removed.

**Adhesives/residues.** Any existing floor covering along with all residues of aged adhesives, underlays and the like will need to be removed from the subfloor surface. The surface must be free of oil, grease, loose paint, dust, dirt, or any other material that could adversely affect adhesion.



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**Painted Surfaces.** If installing the vinyl floorboards over a painted surface any flaking paint will need to be removed. It is further, necessary to ascertain whether the paint is compatible with the adhesive. If not the effectiveness of adhesive could be compromised.

**Linoleum.** If installing over vinyl sheeting or linoleum any loose material needs to be secured and surface polishes, chemicals etc. must be removed.

**Ceramics.** Vinyl floorboards can be installed over ceramic / mosaic floors. Should this decision be taken then the retailer/purchaser will assume responsibility for the products performance and or appearance caused by uncorrected sub floor defects showing through the installed floorboards.

If laying vinyl floorboards over ceramic/mosaic tiles please ensure.

- Any loose tiles are appropriately secured.
- All grout lines must be levelled with materially compatible smoothing / levelling compound.
- Raised/peaking tiles are ground and levelled.

**Timber subfloors.** Vinyl floorboards can be installed over timber, Plywood or Particleboard providing the total floor is sound, dry and is overlaid with appropriate hardboard or cement sheeting to improve subfloor stability and minimise show through caused by seasonal building movement.

In wet areas cement sheeting will need to be installed over a moisture proof barrier that has been pre-prepared in accordance with Australian Standards. AS/NZ 1884: 2012.

## PRE-INSTALLATION SITE AND PRODUCT CHECKS

Prior to installation the flooring product must be inspected for defects and to ensure the product selection, dye continuity and quantity are correct. Please check and if unsure direct any queries to your House and Haven representative prior to installation.

House & Haven vinyl floorboards along with the adhesive must be acclimatised on site in the installation area for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. Loose stack boxes flat and no more than three high to ensure optimum acclimatisation.

Please ensure the area is dry, well ventilated and that the temperature is between 16-28 C. for the duration of the acclimatisation period and for a further 48 hours after the installation to allow the glue to set. Maintaining this temperature consistency is an important requirement and may require the windows needing to be covered to prevent temperature fluctuations and thermally induced changes to the product.

The minimum sub-floor temperature for the application of adhesives is 10C.

## PRE-PLAN YOUR INSTALLATION.

To ensure the practical aspects as well as the desired aesthetic is achieved we recommend that before installation, time be dedicated to pre planning.

Although common practice will dictate that the floorboards are installed longitudinally parallel to the longest wall this is not always give the best overall aesthetic result. Here consideration should be given to the focal direction of the space, light source and the interplay between rooms etc. We'd recommend design and practical consideration be discussed between the contractor, the designer and the owner.

It is recommended that prior to installation the floorboards should be mixed together to help achieve a more random, natural look. The more irregular and staggered the header joints are the more the overall aesthetic will mimic a solid timber floor. Avoid regular brick or stair step laying repeats, as they are not visually pleasing. All end joints should have a minimum stagger of 200mm.

Plan the installation to ensure that there is at least 50mm of board where the side ends and 200mm on the end. Less than that will look unsightly and will not be able to integrate and perform with the floor as a whole.



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## INSTALLING THE FLOORBOARDS

With the subfloor correctly prepared, the product identified, acclimatised and the pre-planning in place it is now time to install your new floor. There are three recognised and accepted installation methods for this family of product. Loose lay, Pressure sensitive direct stick and then Hard-set direct stick. In Australia our vastly varying temperatures our open lifestyle and the array of subfloors we at House & Haven recommend and believe that by far the safest installation method is to use the Hard-set direct stick method.

**Direct stick with Hard-set adhesive.** Overall, this is the installation method that is considered to be the safest and will achieve the most consistent results. The adhesive is to be a full spread troweled application using a VI notch trowel. Please follow the Adhesive manufacturers application and spread rate instructions. A 95% glue transfer rate is required so once installed the entire surface will need to be rolled with a 45Kg roller or 3 section equivalent. In smaller tight areas a hand roller can be used to achieve the same transfer result.

Recommended adhesives

RLA - Polymer 365/GS200

RLA - Polymer 285FR

**Direct Stick with Pressure sensitive adhesive.** This installation method is approved for moderate size climate controlled areas that do not exceed 36m<sup>2</sup>. The adhesive must be a full cover trowelled application using an approved high strength Pressure sensitive adhesive.

This method is not suitable in high traffic areas, areas exposed to direct sunlight / strong heat source or wet areas.

**Loose Lay – No Adhesive.** This installation method is only acceptable in areas with permanent climate control and not larger than 16m<sup>2</sup>. A small 1mm perimeter gap will be needed to accommodate minor seasonal movement. This installation method is not acceptable in high traffic areas, areas exposed to direct sunlight / strong heat source or wet areas.