

Spectator



Luxury Vinyl Tile and Plank

Technical Manual

Installation • Maintenance • Warranty

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

ecore

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Check website for updates

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INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT: Areas to receive flooring must be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F (18° C) for 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation. Failure to comply could result in flooring failure. All methods and procedures should be followed as listed in the instructions below.

I. MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

A. Proper Acclimation of Materials

1. Deliver the material to the job site in its original unopened packaging with all labels intact and stored appropriately to prevent damage.
2. Inspect all material for visual defects before beginning the installation. Ecore will honor no labor claim on material installed with any visually apparent defects.
3. Verify the material delivered is the correct type, thickness, and amount. Report any discrepancies immediately.
4. Spectator must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting the installation.

II. SITE CONDITIONS

A. GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. All areas where Spectator tile and plank will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source operational for a minimum of one week prior to installation and remain in operation during and after installation. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use (between 65-85 F / 18-29 C with relative humidity no greater than 65%). It should NEVER be installed outdoors.
2. Spectator tile and plank must be acclimated in the climate-controlled location for 48 hours before starting installation.
3. Spectator tile and plank installation should be protected from exposure to direct sunlight and cartons should be evenly stacked no more than five high on a flat surface.
4. Spectator tile and plank should only be installed after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage a finished tile and plank installation.
5. During the Spectator tile and plank installation, mix and install tiles and planks from several different cartons to minimize shade variation.

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III. SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

A. Concrete Subfloors

1. Concrete shall be prepared according to ASTM F710 standards. This standard calls for complete removal of all extraneous materials that may affect the adhesive bond. These materials include, but are not limited to, dust, paint, wax, solvents, adhesive residue, curing & hardening compounds, and sealers. If any of these are present, they must be removed prior to installation of flooring materials. Keep in mind that they should be removed mechanically without the use of chemicals, which could also act as a bond breaker for the adhesive.
2. The concrete should be given a sufficient amount of time to dry, naturally, before the application of adhesives. The moisture content must be tested to the ASTM F-2170 method for relative humidity. Relative humidity should result in a level of 80% or lower with diminishing results. If levels exceed these parameters, the installation should not proceed until the condition is corrected.
3. In the event that a moisture mitigation system is required, it must conform to the ASTM F3010 Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for use Under Resilient Floor Coverings.
4. Alkalinity: Must test surface alkalinity (ASTM F710). A 7.0 to 9.0 pH is acceptable
5. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor. All subfloors should be smooth and flat with the tolerance not exceeding more than 1/8" in a 6' span. All subfloor and underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.
6. Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions must be filled with a Portland cement-based underlayment and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.
7. Temperature of Concrete Subfloors should be maintained between 65°F and 90°F.
8. Before installation, turn on the heating system to eliminate any residual moisture.

B. Wood Subfloors

1. Wood subfloors must be suspended at least 18" (457mm) above the ground. Adequate cross-ventilation must be provided, and the ground surface of a crawl space must be covered with a suitable vapor barrier.
2. Wood subfloors directly on concrete or installed over sleeper construction are not suitable for the installation.

INSTALLATION

3. Wood Subfloors and underlayment panels shall have the moisture content tested using a suitable wood pin meter. Readings between the wood subfloor and underlayment should be within 3% and have a maximum moisture content of 14% or less.
4. Particleboard, chipboard, construction grade plywood, any hardboard and flake-board, are not recommended as underlayments for fully adhered installations. All have inadequate uniformity, poor dimensional stability, and variable surface porosity. Ecore will not accept responsibility for adhered installation over these subfloors. If the surface of the subfloor is not smooth, a ¼” underlayment should be installed over the subfloor. In all cases, the underlayment manufacturer or underlayment installer is responsible for any and all underlayment warranties.
5. Wood subfloors require an underlayment (double layer construction) with a minimum total thickness of 1”. Use minimum ¼” (6 mm) thick APA rated “underlayment grade” plywood with a fully sanded face or other underlayment panel that is appropriate for the intended usage. Install and prepare panels and seams according to the manufacturers’ instructions. Also refer to ASTM F 1482 Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Underlayments to receive Resilient Flooring.
6. Many times wood panel subfloors are damaged during the construction process or are not underlayment grade. These panels must be covered with an appropriate underlayment. Underlayment panels are intended to be used to provide a smooth surface on which to adhere the finished floor covering. It should be understood that underlayment panels cannot correct structural deficiencies. Panels intended to be used as underlayment should be specifically designed for this purpose. These panels should have a minimum thickness of ¼” (6mm) any panels selected as an underlayment must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Be dimensionally stable
 - b. Have a smooth, fully sanded face so graining or texture will not telegraph through
 - c. Be resistant to both static and impact indentation
 - d. Be free of any surface components that may cause staining such as plastic fillers, marking inks sealers, etc.
 - e. Be of uniform density, porosity and thickness
7. Any unevenness at the joints between panels must be sanded to a level surface. Gaps between panels, hammer indentations, and all other surface irregularities must be filled and sanded.
8. Wood subfloors should be double construction, rigid, and free from movement.

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IV. INSTALLATION

A. Plank and Tile Installation

1. Check to ensure quantity of tile, plank, and adhesive are sufficient for area to be installed. Check tile or planks for visual defects before installation. Installation of flooring acknowledges acceptance of materials.
2. Any discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning installation. Products installed with noticeable visual defects will not be honored.
3. Make sure all surfaces to be covered are completely clean, dry and smooth and that all necessary subfloor preparation has been properly completed and documented.
4. Spectator tiles have arrows imprinted on the back. Lay all arrows pointing in the same direction.
5. Tiles and planks can be laid out to run either parallel or diagonal to the room or primary wall.
6. Tiles should be installed running in the same direction (block or staggered), when quarter turned, arrows should alternate.
7. Plank flooring should have end joints offset by at least 6" and staggered to create a random appearance that avoids alignment of end joints.
8. Layout shall be specified by end user, architect or designer.
9. Establish center marks and determine start point to balance installation in room and have equal tile widths on opposite sides of room. This can be facilitated by dry laying tiles and marking base lines.
10. The room layout must be set-up so that all flooring can be installed while staying off freshly installed tiles. This will minimize tile shifting, adhesive displacement and wet adhesive from oozing up and getting onto the face of the tiles. This can be accomplished by creating work zones outlined with chalk lines to spread adhesive aligned with established base lines. Create work zones that are no wider than the installers comfortable arm reach and in multiples of the tile width.
11. Spread only the amount of adhesive that can be covered within the working time specific to the adhesive and substrate being used.

B. Adhesive Application

1. The only approved adhesive for installation of the Spectator tiles and planks is Ecore's Egrip-Evolve.

ADHESIVE INSTALLATION OVER STANDARD SUBSTRATES

2. E-Grip Evolve is a high performance, wet-set adhesive designed for use with Ecore's Spectator luxury vinyl tile and plank. With its strong, durable, moisture-resistant and alkali-resistant bond, it is ideal for commercial applications. E-Grip Evolve has an excellent open time, develops strength quickly, and resists indentation. Its low volatile organic content makes it ideal for use in occupied buildings
3. Work only in small sections, where it's possible to install LVT planks into adhesive bed within the specified working time.
4. Allow adhesive to flash until adhesive valley is clear and adhesive ridge is gummy to the touch, approximately 15-30 minutes over porous substrates and 30-45 minutes over non-porous substrates.
5. Carefully lay planks into the adhesive bed. Work off of the planks if possible, to eliminate excess movement before adhesive cures.
6. After completing each section, roll the planks with the specified 100 lb. three section flooring roller.
7. Prohibit foot traffic for a minimum of 48 hours after installation and light rolling loads for a minimum of 72 hours.
8. The recommended wait time is a minimum of 72 hours before returning furniture to the surface.
9. **IMPORTANT** – Chair mats are required under caster wheels/rolling chairs. This system is not intended for use under constant heavy rolling loads. Ecore cannot be held liable for failure to protect flooring surface.

Note: It is not recommended to install Spectator tiles or planks over concrete slabs with a history of excessive moisture or hydrostatic conditions. Concrete subfloors that exceed 80% RH as determined by the In-Situ Relative Humidity test (ASTM F-2170) should be considered excessive with regards to moisture emissions and may require the installation of a moisture suppressant membrane.

Ecore will not assume responsibility for floor covering failure due to hydrostatic pressure or moisture vapor emission. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.

Note: Temperature directly affects adhesive working and setting times. Warmer temperatures shorten working times and colder temperatures lengthen working times of adhesive. Follow instructions on container for proper application.

Working Time – The maximum amount of time that an adhesive can remain exposed to the air and still effectively bond to the floor covering.

Flash Time: The amount of time recommended for the adhesive to remain exposed to the air following application and before installation of the floor covering.

ADHESIVE DATA

E-Grip Evolve

Premium High Performance Adhesive for Spectator Tile and Plank

DESCRIPTION

E-Grip Evolve is suitable for installation of Spectator Luxury Vinyl Tile and Plank over approved substrates. With its strong, durable, moisture-resistant and alkali-resistant bond, it is ideal for commercial applications. E-Grip Evolve has an excellent open time, develops strength quickly, and resists indentation. Its low volatile organic content makes it ideal for use in occupied buildings.

Application Characteristics over Porous Substrates		
	Flash Time	Working Time
Permanent bonding (LVT)	15-30 minutes or until adhesive valley is clear and adhesive ridges are wet to the touch	Approx 15-30 minutes

Application Characteristics over Nonporous Substrates		
	Flash Time *	Working Time **
Permanent bonding (LVT)	30-45 minutes or until adhesive valley is clear and adhesive ridges are wet to the touch	Approx 30-45 minutes

*** Flash Time:** The amount of time recommended for the adhesive to remain exposed to the air following application and before installation of the floor covering.

****Working Time:** The maximum amount of time that an adhesive can remain exposed to the air and still effectively bond to the floor covering.

Note: Flash and working times may vary based on temperature, humidity, substrate porosity, trowel size and jobsite conditions.

ADHESIVE DATA

Limitations
Do not install over substrates containing asbestos
For interior installations only
Do not apply over existing adhesive residue
Use only when substrate temperature is between 65°F and 90°F (16°C and 32°C)
Follow flooring manufacturer's instructions for installation and substrate preparation

Spectator Luxury Vinyl Tile and Plank.	1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" (1 x 1.5 x 1 mm)  (as specified by manufacturer)	150 to 200 sq. ft./U.S. gal (3.68 to 4.9 m ² per L)
† Coverage rates shown here are for estimating purposes only. Actual jobsite coverage may vary according by application method, substrate, substrate conditions, trowel angle, and actual thickness applied.		

PHYSICAL DATA	
Adhesive Type	Vinyl Acrylic Polymer
Antimicrobial	Yes
Color	Off-white
Consistency	Creamy
Density	8.3 lbs/gal (3.77 kg per 3.79 L)
VOC Content	.28 lbs/gal (34 g/l)
Shelf Life	2 years when stored at 73° F (23°C)
Flash point	>212°F (100°C)
pH	7 to 9
Maximum RH (ASTM F-2170)	80% RH diminishing
MVER (ASTM F-1869)	5 lbs diminishing
Freeze/Thaw	Protect from freezing Freeze/Thaw stable up to 5 cycles at 0°F (-18°C)

APPROVED MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS					
PRODUCT	Ecore 866-795-2732 Ecoreathletic.com	Hilway Direct Tel: 1-877-356-6748 www.Hilway.com	PROCHEM Tel 800-241-8180 www.prochem.co.uk	ECOLAB Tel 800-352-5326 www.ecolab.com	Johnson DIVERSEY Tel 800-558-2332 option 5 www.johnsondiversey.com
NEUTRAL CLEANER	E-Cleaner	Neutral Cleaner	Neutra Clean	Oasis 100 or High Performance Neutral Floor Cleaner	Diversey Stride
ALKALINE CLEANER		Allsafe stripper		Maxx Dual Action	Diversey GP Forward
GERMICIDAL CLEANER		Disinfectant Cleaner	Power Pouch Disinfectant	Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner	Diversey J-512 (Food Areas) Diversey Virex II 256 (non-Food Areas)
MAINTAINER/WASH & WAX		Plus Cleaner/Maintainer		Easy Glow	Diversey Snapback Spray Buff
DRY BRIGHT EMULSION POLISH	E-Finish	High Gloss	Poly Finish	Monostar	Diversey Carefree
SEMI BUFFABLE EMULSION POLISH		Matte Satin High Gloss		Gemstar Laser	Carefree
FULLY BUFFABLE EMULSION POLISH		Matte Satin High Gloss		Gemstar Stratus	High Mileage UHS Floor Finish
POLISH STRIPPER	E-Strip	Allsafe Stripper	Pro Earth floor Strip	Maxx Floor Finish Remover	Diversey Pro Strip SC
POWER CLEANER (SPOT CLEANER)		Turbo Stripper		Maxx Dual Action	Diversey Spitfire

The data presented is correct at the time of printing. However, Ecore reserves the right to update this information as and when necessary. For the latest information, please check our web site at www.Ecoreintl.com. Providing this information does not imply any equivalence between each of the different manufacturers' products, or that other products would prove unsatisfactory.



MAINTENANCE

The following maintenance instructions are designed to minimize the cost factor, without compromising the long-term appearance of your floorcovering. Once the installation is complete, do not allow foot traffic for 24 hours until the adhesive has dried.

GENERAL

1. Remove all loose debris and ensure that all traces of dried adhesive are removed from the surface of the floorcovering.
2. Mop sweep or vacuum to remove dust and grit. Damp mop with a neutral detergent.

APPLICATION OF A FLOOR DRESSING TO PROVIDE ONGOING PROTECTION

1. The polyurethane surface treatment is designed to provide the initial protection for the floorcovering.
2. An application of a metalised polish will be required eventually to provide ongoing protection. The level and intensity of traffic will determine how soon the polish will have to be applied.
3. Using a suitable applicator the first coat should be applied thinly and evenly across the floor and to within 200mm of the skirting. It should then be left to dry. This normally takes approximately thirty minutes, depending on the ambient conditions and the thickness of the coating.
4. When the first coat is dry, a second coat should be applied at right angles to the direction of the first. Any subsequent coats should be applied at right angles, and the final coat should be applied right up to the skirting.
5. Two to three thin coats are normally sufficient to provide excellent ongoing resistance to abrasion, scuffing and removal of black heel marking. However, be guided by your own periodic assessments of the floor.
6. In order to minimize costs, subsequent polish applications may be applied only to traffic paths.

NOTE: Periodically – generally every six months – assess the appearance of the floor. If there is an unacceptable build-up of polish, especially at the edges of the room, this should be stripped and reapplied, as per the instructions above.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

The following recommendations are provided as a guideline, and the frequencies can be changed to optimize the appearance.

DAILY

1. Mop sweep or vacuum to remove dust and loose dirt.
2. As required, spot clean to remove stubborn marks with a neutral cleanser.

MAINTENANCE

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

1. Assess the appearance of the floor. As required, scrub with neutral cleanser diluted as per the manufacturers recommendations; a 3M® doodlebug or deck scrubber can be used.
2. If a luster is required then the floor should be damp mopped with a dilution of maintainer, which should then be left to dry before being trafficked.
3. To minimize any surface scratching, external doorways should have a mat placed inside to take off any water or dirt/dust and a scraper mat outside to remove large grit and small stones. These should be cleaned regularly to remain effective.
4. Cleaners and detergents should be diluted as per the manufacturers' instructions. Always follow the Health and Safety guidance provided.

MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS

To achieve the best results for your floor, and a long lasting beautiful floor, simply follow the easy steps laid out.

Polish - Provides a hard wearing surface to aid routine cleaning.

- Ensure the floor surface is clean and dry before applying Polish.
- Using a clean, lint free, flat mop, apply the undiluted polish evenly and thinly, in a uniform direction.
- Allow approximately 25 minutes to dry before applying a second coat at 90° to the first.
- It is advisable to leave the surface overnight before walking on it, to enable the polish to fully cure.
- Polish should be removed periodically (approx. every 6 months, dependent on traffic), by applying Stripper.

Maintainer - Regular routine cleaning of vinyl floor tiles.

- Before applying the Maintainer, ensure the floor is free from dust and grit by gently sweeping or vacuuming.
- Dilute 100ml (approximately half a cupful) of Maintainer with approximately 5 liters of cold water (Ratio 1:50).
- Damp mop the floor with the diluted solution and allow to dry thoroughly.

Stripper - Easy removal of Polish.

- To remove the buildup of Polish, dilute 500ml (approximately 2 and a half cupful's) of Stripper with 5 liters of clean water (Ratio 1:10).
- Apply this solution to the floor and leave for 10 minutes.
- Scrub the floor thoroughly with a deck scrubber or 3M® doodlebug .
- When the polish has been fully removed, pick up the slurry with a clean mop and rinse with clean water.
- Repeat until all residues have been removed.
- Allow the floor to dry.
- To remove excess adhesive after the initial installation of the floor, apply undiluted Stripper and rinse afterwards with clean water.

WARRANTY

Ecore guarantees that the following product will be free from any manufacturing defects and that it will provide a minimum of 10 years serviceable life in normal wear and tear circumstances.

This guarantee is dependent upon strict adherence to the following conditions:

1. The respective products are installed strictly in accordance with the instructions as described in the Technical Information Manual and to the prescribed Industry Standard and with an Ecore approved adhesive and in accordance with the manufacturer specification.
2. The products are maintained strictly in accordance with the instructions contained in the products' respective maintenance instructions.
3. Adequate entrance barrier matting protection is provided as detailed by Ecore.

Ecore reserves the right to send an authorized representative to verify any claim and to confirm or not any manufacturing defects. Ecore may also request samples of material to be returned to the factory for inspection and testing by our Technical Department.

In the unlikely event of the product being found to be defective, Ecore will pay reasonable uplift and relay-costs and provide sufficient replacement material for the affected area.

In providing this guarantee at no extra cost to the end user, Ecore reserves the right to offer an alternative color or equal product should a direct replacement no longer be available. This guarantee does not cover defects arising from excessive moisture, chemical reaction, corrosion, extremes in temperature, abuse and abnormal usage above which the product is specified, scuffs, scratches, indentations.

Spectator luxury vinyl tile and plank should never be installed over any existing floorcovering or old existing contaminated concrete subfloor.

Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats are required under chairs with casters/wheels.

Prior to commencing any replacement work, Ecore or their agent reserves the right to visit the installation to investigate the cause of the problem. If Ecore agrees that the product is at fault, they will arrange with the installer the remedial course of action, who will then carry out the necessary work. The replacement will cover the immediate affected area. Ecore will not accept or be liable for any liquidated damages or other costs not included in the aforementioned statements. This guarantee does not affect the individual's statutory rights with regard to both the product and services supplied. This guarantee is non-transferable. Proof of purchase will be required for any claim.

Spectator

866-765-2732 – www.ecoreathletic.com

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