



# VIVIDCOZY

## Peel & Stick Vinyl Floors Installation Manual

Version 2025 | For Residential & Commercial Use

Legal Note: This guide is for general reference only and does not replace manufacturer installation manuals or product-specific care instructions.

### 1. Why Choose Self-Adhesive LVT?

Key Differences vs. Click-Lock SPC

Feature	Self-Adhesive LVT	Click-Lock SPC
Installation Speed	Single-person operation, 100 sq.ft/2 hours	Requires teamwork, 100 sq.ft/4 hours
Subfloor Requirement	Covers tiles/old wood (flatness $\leq 1/4"$ in 6ft)	Strict flatness ( $\leq 3/16"$ in 10ft)
Ideal For	Rental renovations, temporary commercial spaces	Permanent homes, high-traffic areas
Cost	30% savings on adhesives/tools	Needs click tools & accessories

Unique Advantages:

- Peel & Stick Convenience: No tapping blocks or glue guns required.
- Quiet Installation: Silent installation suitable for apartments.

## 2. Pre-Installation Inspection

### 2.1 Subfloor Moisture Testing

- **Concrete Floors:**
  - Use a Protimeter Aquant 2 to measure Relative Humidity (RH). Acceptable range:  $\leq 85\%$ .
  - Conduct a calcium chloride test (ASTM F1869) if RH is marginal.
- **Wood Subfloors:**
  - Test moisture content with a Wagner Meters L6. Maximum: 14%.

### 2.2 Flatness Verification

- Use a 10-ft straightedge to check for deviations:
  - Concrete:  $\leq 1/8"$  in 10 ft.
  - Wood:  $\leq 1/16"$  in 2 ft.
- Mark high/low spots with chalk for grinding/filling.

### 2.3 Adhesion Compatibility Test

- Cut a 6"x6" sample of LVT. Apply manufacturer's recommended adhesive to subfloor.
- Press sample firmly, wait 24 hours. Attempt to peel—if adhesive fails, consult a flooring expert.

### 2.4 Acclimation Protocol

- Store unopened boxes at 68–78°F (20–26°C) for 72 hours.

- In cold rooms (<65°F), warm tiles with a heat gun for 10 seconds per tile before peeling.

## 2.5 Environmental Conditions

- The installation space must be climate-controlled, with an ambient temperature maintained between 55°F and 85°F (13°C to 29°C) and relative humidity between 35% and 70% before, during, and for at least 72 hours after installation.
- If the room is part of a three-season home, seasonal cabin, or lacks HVAC control, the post-installation temperature range should be stable and not exceed -13°F to 155°F (-25°C to 68°C).
- Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight during installation, which may lead to expansion, edge curling, or adhesive softening. Use drapes or blinds during peak hours if necessary.
- Do not install flooring until all other wet trades (e.g., drywall, painting) are completed and the site is dry and dust-free.

### **Note for Special Home Types:**

- For installations in mobile homes, seasonal cabins, or three-season rooms lacking year-round HVAC, always maintain indoor temperatures within -13°F to 155°F (-25°C to 68°C). Adhesion strength may be affected in areas without stable humidity and temperature—additional adhesive or underlayment may be required.

## 3. Subfloor Preparation

### 3.1 Concrete Subfloors

#### 3.1.1 Surface Profile

- Use a Schluter Surface Profile Gauge to ensure CSP 3–5 (medium to coarse texture).
- For smooth surfaces, mechanically abrade with a diamond cup wheel (16–20 grit).

#### 3.1.2 Patch & Level

- Fill cracks with Henry 545 Crack Filler (ASTM C476 compliant).

- Level low areas with Custom Building Products LevelQuik RS (self-leveling underlayment).

## 3.2 Wood Subfloors

### 3.2.1 Plywood Requirements

- Minimum thickness: 5/8" CDX plywood (ASTM D354).
- Joints must be staggered 6" and supported by joists.
- Use plywood sheets to protect floors when moving heavy appliances.

### 3.2.2 Squeak Repair

- Secure loose boards with 8 x 2-1/2" deck screws every 6" along edges.

## 4. Material Handling

### 4.1 Acclimation Protocol

- Store unopened cartons in-room for 72 hours at 68–78°F (20–26°C) and 35–55% RH.
- Rotate cartons daily to equalize temperature.

### 4.2 Tile Inspection

- Check for:
  - Surface defects (scratches, chips)
  - Inconsistent thickness ( $\pm 0.15\text{mm}$  per EN 14041)
  - Color variation ( $\Delta E \leq 3.0$  per ASTM D2244)

## 5. Tools & Materials

# 5.1 Essential Tools

Tool	Specification	Purpose	Optional Upgrades	Compliance Gear
Utility Knife	OLFA AK-5 with 18 blades	Straight cuts	100-lb Roberts Roller	3M N95 (CA 65) 8210 Mask Prop
Jigsaw	Dewalt DCS331B with T101B blade	Curved cuts		
Roller	100-lb floor roller (Roberts 20-008)	Ensure full adhesion		
Notched Trowel	1/16" V-notch	For adhesive touch-ups		
1/4" Spacers	6-mil Vapor Barrier			
Chalk Line	Heat Gun (for cold climates)			
24" Straight Edge	Laser Level			Safety Goggles

# 6. Adhesive Application

## 6.1 Self-Adhesive Layer Activation

- Temperature Requirements:
  - Minimum application temperature: 65°F (18°C).
  - Maximum: 85°F (29°C).
- Peel Technique:
  - Use a 3M ScotchBlue Edge Lock Tape to hold backing while peeling.
  - Remove backing in 12" increments to prevent premature drying.

## 6.2 Adhesive Touch-Up (Optional)

- For high-traffic areas:
  - Apply Mapei Ultrabond ECO 570 with a 1/16" V-notched trowel.
  - Coverage rate: 25–30 sq.ft. per gallon.

# 7. Installation Process Preparation

## 7.1 Layout Planning

### 7.1.1 Grid System Setup

- Snap two perpendicular chalk lines from the room's center.
- Verify 90° angles with a Framing Square (ASTM E755).

### 7.1.2 Waste Calculation

- Straight Pattern: 10% waste.
- Use formula:  $(\text{Room Length} + 6") \times (\text{Room Width} + 6") \times 1.10$ .

## 7.2 Tile Placement

### 7.2.1 Pressure Application

- Use a 100-lb roller in cross-directions (lengthwise then widthwise).
- Apply 10 psi (pounds per square inch) pressure.

### 7.2.2 Seam Alignment

- Ensure  $\leq 0.2\text{mm}$  height difference between tiles (EN 14041).
- Use a Seam Roller for edges.

## 7.3 Post-Installation Inspections

Test	Method	Acceptance Criteria
Adhesion Pull Test	ASTM D413 with 100-lb force gauge	No tile detachment
Seam Uniformity	Feeler gauge	$\leq 0.3\text{mm}$ gap
Surface Flatness	10-ft straightedge	$\leq 1/16"$ deviation

## 7.4 Baseboard & Wall Prep Considerations

- If the drywall is slightly lifted above the subfloor at the wall base (common in newer U.S. construction), we recommend installing a 1/4" (6 mm) plywood facing strip attached to wall studs. This creates a solid vertical surface and prevents tile edges from curling upward due to lack of support.

- The facing strip should be the same height as the expansion gap (1/4"–1/2") and securely fastened before installation begins.

## 8. Step-by-Step Installation (DIY-Friendly)

### 8.1 Layout Like a Pro

- Find Your Center: Snap two chalk lines to divide the room into quadrants.
- Dry Lay First: Place tiles without peeling backing to avoid narrow end rows (<2").
- Pro Tip: Mix tiles from 3 boxes to minimize shade variation.

#### 8.1.1 Common Installation Patterns (Visual Reference)

- Straight Lay: Linear layout with tiles aligned in straight lines. Most efficient and beginner-friendly.
- Brick Pattern (Staggered Lay): Each row offset by 50% of the tile's length. Provides a natural, dynamic look.
- Herringbone Pattern: Diagonal placement in "V" shapes. Advanced pattern for stylish settings; higher waste rate (~15%).
- See diagram below for visual comparison.

### 8.2 Peel & Stick Technique

#### Step 1: Partial Peel Method

- Peel back 12–18" of backing from the first tile, align with chalk lines, and press from the center outward.
- Use a credit card to scrape out air bubbles as you progress.

#### Step 2: Seam Alignment

- Stagger joints by 6–8" (use cut-offs from previous rows).
- For straight lay: Keep long-side seams aligned within  $\leq 0.2\text{mm}$  tolerance.

#### Step 3: Cut for Perimeter

- Measure gap to wall, add 1/8" expansion space, and cut with OLFA knife guided by straight edge.
- For curves (e.g., pipes), trace with a compass and cut with a jigsaw.



## 8.3 Heavy-Duty Commercial Option

- For high-traffic areas: Apply Mapei Ultrabond ECO 570 with 1/16" trowel (25 sq.ft/gal), then lay tiles and roll with 100-lb roller in cross directions.

## 8.4 Regional Installation Tips

### Southern U.S. (High Humidity)

- Extra Moisture Barrier: Install 6-mil vapor barrier over concrete, overlapping seams by 4" and taping with polyethylene tape.
- Grout Release: For textured LVT, apply Custom Building Products Grout Release before grouting.

### Northern U.S. (Radiant Floors)

- Keep floor heating off during installation; maintain post-install temperature  $\leq 85^{\circ}\text{F}$ .
- Use Acoustic Underlay to reduce heat loss and impact noise.

# 9. Post-Installation & Maintenance

## 9.1 Immediate Care

- Wait 24 hours before light foot traffic; 48 hours before placing furniture.
- Use plywood sheets to protect floors when moving heavy appliances.

## 9.2 Daily to Seasonal Care

Frequency	Task	Products
Daily	Dry sweep: - Sweeping: Use a Dyson V11 with soft roller head. - Spot Cleaning: Bona Stone, Tile & Laminate Cleaner.	-
Weekly	Damp mop with Bona pH-neutral cleaner	Avoid bleach/amm onia
Monthly	Deep Clean:- Dilute cleaner per manufacturer's instructions (typically 1:32). - Use a Rug Doctor CrossWave on "hard floor" setting.	
Seasonal	Buff with Tennant T380AM roller	Check for loose tiles with mallet

## 9.3 Pet-Friendly Tips

- Trim pet nails monthly; use felt pads on furniture legs.
- For scratches: Apply VividCozy Floor Wax and buff with a soft microfiber cloth.

# 10. General Maintenance Tips

## Daily Care

- **Dust-Mop Regularly:** Use a microfiber dust mop or soft-bristle broom to prevent grit accumulation (grit can scratch the wear layer).
- **Spot Cleaning:** Wipe spills immediately with a damp cloth and pH-neutral cleaner (e.g., Bona). Avoid over-wetting the floor.

## **Prohibited Products**

Never Use:

- Floor polish, wax, or oil-based soaps (leave sticky residues).
- Abrasive cleaners (e.g., baking soda, steel wool).
- Solvent-based products (e.g., paint thinners) – they may dissolve the adhesive layer.

## **Furniture & Foot Traffic**

- **Leg Protectors:** Always use felt-tipped protectors on furniture legs to prevent indentations.
- **High-Heel Caution:** Avoid walking on the floor with exposed metal heel tips, which can puncture the wear layer.
- **No Rubber Mats:** Rubber-backed mats can react with the LVT surface; use non-rubber alternatives like cotton or jute.

## **Entryway Protection**

- Install walk-off mats at all entrances to trap dirt and moisture. Choose mats with non-silicone backing to avoid adhesion issues.

## **Moving Heavy Items**

- **Never Slide Furniture:** Use furniture sliders or lift items to avoid scraping the floor. For appliances, place plywood sheets under wheels during transport.

# **11. Troubleshooting**

## **11.1 Common Issues**

Problem	Cause	Solution
Bubbling	Trapped air	Use a syringe to inject DAP Alex Plus Adhesive into bubbles.
Curling Edges	Inadequate pressure	Re-roll edges with a 100-lb roller; apply 3M Double-Sided Carpet Tape.
Staining	Chemical exposure	Test Goo Gone Pro-Power on a hidden area first.
Adhesive Failure	Subfloor contamination	Remove tile, clean with TSP, and re-lay.
Surface Film Buildup	Overuse of detergent or improper cleaners.	<p>1.Mix 1 cup of white vinegar with 1 gallon of warm water.</p> <p>2.Mop the floor to dissolve residue, then rinse with clean water.</p> <p>3.Dry thoroughly to prevent water absorption at seams.</p>

## 12. Safety Compliance

### 12.1 OSHA Requirements

- Respiratory Protection:
  - N95 mask (3M 8210) for cutting operations.

- Eye Protection:
  - ANSI Z87.1 compliant goggles (DeWALT DPG51-11).

## 12.2 California Prop 65

### Warning Label:

- “This product may contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.”

### CA Prop 65 Compliance

- Crystalline Silica Warning: Cutting may generate harmful dust — always use an N95 mask and work in well-ventilated areas.
- Low VOC: Adhesive emits <50g/L VOCs, certified by FloorScore.
- Rubber Mat Warning: Some rubber products contain phthalates – always check for Prop 65 compliance when selecting mats.

### CE Certification

- Meets EN 14041 standards for fire safety (Bfl-s1), formaldehyde emissions (E1), and slip resistance (DS,  $\mu=0.51$ ).

## 12.3 Exclusions

- Improper subfloor preparation.
- Use of non-recommended cleaners.

# 13. Technical Specifications

Property	Standard	VividCozy LVT Value
Thickness	EN 14041	4.0mm ±0.15mm
Wear Layer	EN 438	0.55mm (commercial grade)
Fire Rating	EN 13501-1	Bfl-s1
Slip Resistance	DIN 51130	R10 (dry), R9 (wet)

## 13. Certifications

- ISO 9001: Quality Management System.
- ISO 14001: Environmental Management.
- FloorScore: Low-emitting materials (CARB Phase 2 compliant).

## 14. Tile Replacement Guide

### 14.1 Edge-Area Replacement (Near Walls)

- Remove baseboard or molding nearest to the damaged tile.
- Carefully peel up adjacent tiles in reverse installation order.
- Replace the damaged tile with a new one and reinstall the rest.
- Press and re-roll the replaced section with a 100-lb roller.

### 14.2 Center-of-Room Replacement (Fully Bonded)

- Mark and cut out the center of the damaged tile using a utility knife.
- Carefully remove the center portion, then peel up the edges.

- Trim off the factory adhesive backing on the replacement tile's edges.
  - Apply a thin layer of VividCozy-approved LVT adhesive (e.g., Mapei ECO 570) to the subfloor.
  - Press the new tile into place, wipe off any excess glue, and apply weight over 24 hours to ensure bond integrity.
  - Inspect surrounding seams for levelness and visual consistency.
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- **Pro Tip:** Use heavy books or a flat panel with dumbbells to hold pressure evenly on the tile during curing.

## 15. Glossary of Installation Terms

Term	Definition
LVT (Luxury Vinyl Tile)	A flexible, layered flooring material made of PVC with a printed design and wear layer, used in residential and commercial settings.
Self-Adhesive LVT	LVT with a factory-applied adhesive backing, allowing peel-and-stick installation without glue.
CSP (Concrete Surface Profile)	A scale from 1–10 indicating surface roughness of concrete. CSP 3–5 is optimal for adhesive bonding.
ASTM F1869	A U.S. standard test using calcium chloride to measure the Moisture Vapor Emission Rate (MVER) of concrete.
ASTM D413	Standard method for peel adhesion strength testing of bonded vinyl flooring.
RH (Relative Humidity)	The percentage of moisture in the air. Subfloor RH should be $\leq 85\%$ for safe LVT installation.
Expansion Gap	A space (1/4"–1/2") left between flooring and fixed objects to allow thermal movement.
Adhesive Transfer	The visible transfer of adhesive to the back of the tile, confirming sufficient bonding.
Peel & Stick Method	A DIY-friendly LVT installation approach involving removal of adhesive backing for direct floor placement.



Mapei ECO 570	A low-VOC, pressure-sensitive adhesive used to supplement bond strength in high-traffic zones.
V-Notched Trowel	A tool with V-shaped edges (e.g., 1/16") used for applying adhesive at a consistent depth.
100-lb Roller	A heavy roller used to apply consistent downward pressure during and after installation, aiding adhesion.
Seam Roller	A handheld roller used to press tile seams down for uniformity and secure bonding.
Bfl-s1	A European fire rating for floor coverings: "Bfl" = flame retardant, "s1" = low smoke emission.
EN 14041	A European standard for resilient flooring specifying slip resistance, fire classification, and dimensional stability.
DIN 51130	A German slip resistance standard for dry and wet conditions (R9–R13 range).
ASTM D2244	A standard method for evaluating color variation ( $\Delta E \leq 3.0$ indicates acceptable variation).
Heat Gun (for tiles)	Used to slightly warm LVT for better flexibility and bond activation in cold climates.
Schluter Surface Profile Gauge	A tool used to determine concrete surface roughness (CSP level).

Feeler Gauge	A precision measuring tool for evaluating seam gaps between tiles ( $\leq 0.3\text{mm}$ is ideal).
TSP (Trisodium Phosphate)	A cleaning agent used to remove residue before re-bonding tiles after failure.
Crystalline Silica	A hazardous mineral dust released during cutting. Requires N95 mask and OSHA-compliant PPE.
VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds)	Organic chemical emissions from adhesives or flooring. Must be $< 50\text{g/L}$ for low-VOC compliance.
ANSI Z87.1 Goggles	OSHA-approved protective eyewear standard required during cutting or grinding operations.
FloorScore®	Certification for indoor air quality, verifying low emissions from flooring products.
Tennant T380AM	A professional floor buffer used for periodic deep cleaning and finish restoration.
DAP Alex Plus	A flexible acrylic adhesive used for spot repairs of air bubbles or edge curling.
3M Double-Sided Carpet Tape	A supplemental adhesive method used to re-bond lifted edges.
Walk-Off Mats	Entryway rugs used to trap dirt and moisture, reducing wear and adhesion loss. Non-rubber backed only.

## Disclaimer Addition:

**Always follow local building codes and consult licensed professionals for installation and repair involving structural subfloors, radiant heating, or flood-damaged areas.**

**All product recommendations are based on manufacturer testing and general use cases. Always follow individual product labels and consult professionals for special environments.**

## Get Help:

Email: [support@vividcozytile.com](mailto:support@vividcozytile.com)

Online Contact: <http://vividcozytile.com/contact-us/>

Let your floors shine for years to come.



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