

“PVC vinyl flooring maintenance”

MAINTENANCE AND USE

1. The flooring can only be used and exposed to water 72 hours after all installation work has been completed to ensure that the adhesive and the material have stabilised.
2. Daily maintenance of PVC flooring includes dry and wet mopping, vacuuming, and sweeping.
3. When wet cleaning, it is allowed to use special detergents suitable for PVC flooring. To choose the best solution for your vinyl flooring, refer to the special markings on the packaging of detergents and/or cleaning agents.
4. If aggressive liquids, such as vinegar, ink, permanent marker marks, are spilled on the surface, clean the flooring immediately. We recommend removing coffee, wine, resin, shoe polish, and other aggressive stains with non-abrasive (non-aggressive) products intended for PVC flooring maintenance. In rare cases, we recommend using isopropyl alcohol or its water solution. After the use of aggressive substances, it is possible that a mark (stain, splotch) is left on the surface as a result of deep damage to the upper protective layer of the material.
5. Vinyl flooring is water resistant. However, depending on the temperature and composition of water (impurities, salt, iron), it is not recommended to leave it on the material surface for a long time to preserve its appearance and operational properties.
6. Avoid contact with cigarettes, matches, hot objects — this may cause irreparable flooring damage.
7. Products that contain soap or that are not suitable for PVC flooring (see specific markings on detergent and/or cleaning product packaging), such as dishwashing liquid, can form a residual layer on the surface that is difficult to remove. Thus, the appearance of the material may be impaired.
8. The surface of PVC flooring grades 21-22-23 and 31 may have permanent marks left by the supports of heavy or static furniture and household appliances. As for flooring of grade 32 and above, marks left by the supports of the heavy furniture/household appliances etc. are allowed, if they are within the limits of the residual deformation parameters. It is recommended to use furniture caps/specialised pads to protect the vinyl flooring from damage, scratches and discolouration of the front surface following contact with dyeing elements of furniture/household appliances.
9. PVC flooring is likely to discolour over time when exposed to UV light, which is a natural process for products with a polyvinylchloride component. To avoid this, we recommend using curtains or sun blinds in a room with a lot of sunlight. In places with limited daylight exposure (areas under furniture, appliances or carpets), there may be a discoloration along the edge of the item. It is a natural process that can be reversed within a few weeks, provided that there are no objects blocking daylight on the flooring.
10. PVC flooring waste is classified as a low-hazardous substance, which has a low environmental impact (hazard class 4). These substances cause minor issues to the ecological system. Any waste of this class shall be disposed of by specialised certified waste management organisation.

“Laying of PVC flooring” — to be placed as the second one.

Laying of vinyl flooring is easier than any other flooring material. However, it requires certain skills such as surface preparation, laying, cutting and gluing the floor covering. It is definitely better if the laying is done by professionals in this type of finishing work. If the user wants to do it on his own, it is necessary to observe the following rules and recommendations.

UNDERLAY REQUIREMENTS

1. Floor underlay preparation before installation works shall be carried out in accordance with the updated versions of SP 71.13330.2017 “Insulation and finish coatings” and SP 29.13330-2011 “The floor”, as far as it does not contradict the manufacturer's technical specifications. The underlay shall be: dry, smooth, firm, and clean — free of debris, sand, and dust.
2. The best underlay is a poured floor or levelled concrete screed. For domestic premises, it is allowed to lay vinyl flooring on a flat (without significant height differences) plank floor, which is covered with sheets of fibreboard, high-quality plywood or oriented standard board of 6 mm thickness or more, fixed in 15 cm intervals. For public spaces, only poured floor or levelled concrete screed shall be used as an underlay for PVC covering.

IMPORTANT! It is forbidden to lay PVC flooring over the previously laid polyvinylchloride coating. It is forbidden to lay PVC flooring over the oil-painted underlay, over fibreboards or plywood impregnated with drying oil, and over other types of underlays that deform under temperature and humidity changes. Before choosing an adhesive, check the water absorption of the floor underlay. If the floor underlay shows good water absorption, use an adhesive for absorbent surfaces. If the floor underlay does not absorb water well or does not absorb water at all, use a special type of adhesive.

UNPACKING

1. Ensure that the roll(s) colour and quantity delivered are as ordered, and that the product has no visible damage. Do not lay PVC flooring with any type of defects.
2. Before laying, unpack the vinyl flooring in a dry room at a temperature not lower than +15 °C. When transporting PVC flooring at ambient temperature from 0 °C to +10 °C, wait at least 24 hours before unpacking the rolls. When transporting PVC flooring at temperatures below 0 °C, wait at least 48 hours after carrying the rolls to a room with a temperature not lower than +15 °C.
3. Before laying rolls of PVC flooring, unroll them and leave for at least 2 days at a temperature not lower than +15 °C. Areas that are not tight against the underlay shall be weighted down. We recommend cutting the PVC flooring 24 hours prior to laying.

LAYING REQUIREMENTS

1. Tools required to lay PVC flooring:
 - Metal ruler or tape measure,
 - Knife/scissors to cut flooring,
 - Cold or hot welding (when jointing),
 - Special paper tape (when using cold welding),
 - Spatula,
 - Lapping board or roller,
 - Flooring adhesive.
2. It is recommended to lay PVC flooring at room temperature from 18 °C to 27 °C.

FITTING AND CUTTING

3. Arrange the material with the pattern upwards so that it adheres to the wall over the entire surface or extends a few centimetres over the wall (it is especially important if the room walls are uneven).
4. To cut external corners, press the covering to the point where the wall and floor joint, make a small (0.3–0.5 cm cut) 'cross' cut down along the corner of the wall exactly to the floor (to prevent tearing) and spread the covering apart. To cut inside corners, carefully cut the corner of a sheet diagonally (parallel to the floor) until the material lies exactly in the corner.
5. To accurately trim the edge, press the vinyl against the wall with your hand, then draw a line along the fold of the sheet and gradually cut off the excess with a knife, pressing the covering against the wall with a metal ruler or spatula. After cutting, the material shall not fit tightly against the wall — a gap of 5-10 mm from each wall shall be left to prevent the flooring from buckling.

IMPORTANT! Make the final cut carefully. Remember, that the excess material can always be cut off, and it is difficult to work with a lack of material.

6. To make the seams invisible, overlap the edges to be joined until the pattern matches, press the joint area with a heavy object, and cut through both layers along a metal ruler. Perform final trimming only when gluing. After that, you will only need to remove the trimmings.

GLUING

7. When laying PVC flooring, it is necessary to glue it to the underlay over the entire area, regardless of the size of the room. This procedure positively affects the product's lifespan.
8. To apply the adhesive, roll the sheet from the edge to the centre to expose the area for glue application. Apply adhesive to the underlay and spread it evenly over the entire area with a notched spatula: A2 (if the backing is smooth), B1 (if the backing is laminated). For drying time, follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions and consider the type of floor underlay. Lay down the previously folded sheet, avoiding bubbles, compression, and tension in the material. The joining seams should be tightly pressed together, yet folding shall be avoided. Such folding indicates that the strips are laid incorrectly. A roller can be used to press down on the entire floor surface, except for the seam. Roll from the centre to the edge while carefully pushing out air bubbles and ensuring complete and even adhesion of the sheet to the underlay. Repeat this process with the second (and other) parts of the sheet across the entire underlay area. Check all joints.
9. Leave the flooring for gluing to the underlay as indicated in the adhesive instructions. The material shall dry in a room with tightly closed windows for at least 24 hours at a temperature not lower than +15 °C and humidity not more than 70%.

IMPORTANT! When choosing adhesive, it is better to consult a specialist or follow the recommendations of adhesive manufacturers, which will depend on the characteristics of the floor underlay and the PVC flooring backing. Be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions for the adhesive before use and strictly follow their recommendations.

10. Cold welding is recommended for joining two or more sheets of vinyl flooring. It guarantees closed and tight seams. For PVC-based flooring, it is better to use type A welding. For laminated flooring — type T welding. Before using cold welding, read the instructions and comply with the specified requirements.
11. Seamless laying of PVC flooring is similar to laying of vinyl flooring with seams, excluding matching patterns and welding seams.

PVC LAYING WITH HEAT-INSULATED FLOORING SYSTEM

12. PVC flooring can be used with water and electric underfloor heating systems embedded in a screed with a thickness of at least 10 mm above the heating cable. We recommend conducting installation work in accordance with regulatory documents.
13. Gradual operation of the floor heating system is recommended — a temperature range of 15–18 °C during laying works and for the following 72 hours. 72 hours after the completion of all PVC flooring installation stages, the temperature can be gradually increased by 5 °C per day until standard operating temperature conditions of not more than 27 °C are reached.

IMPORTANT! The laying of PVC flooring with infrared underfloor heating systems is prohibited.

“Storage of PVC flooring”

STORAGE

1. All types of covered vehicles can be used for transportation. Transportation of material is possible in a horizontal position with not more than 8 rows in height.
2. During transportation, exposure to atmospheric precipitation on the rolls is not allowed. Extra precautions shall be taken in winter time due to the possibility of cracking at low temperatures.
3. Avoid severe bending of the rolls (at 90° and 180°, including folding the sheet in several layers) — this can lead to creases and damage to the PVC flooring.
4. During transportation and storage, rolls of PVC flooring, as well as cut-off parts, shall not be twisted with the back side facing outwards. It is especially important for rolls with a protective layer of more than 0.3 mm and/or with additional non-woven backing, due to their rigidity.
5. Store PVC flooring in a dry, closed room at a temperature not lower than +10 °C. It shall be stored in a horizontal position, no more than one row high, at least 1 meter away from heating devices, on flat and clean shelves. Keep PVC flooring rolls away from direct sunlight. It is not allowed to store PVC flooring together with organic solvents and substances containing them.
6. We recommend storing vinyl flooring rolls in the manufacturer's packaging prior to installation to ensure the preservation and appearance of the product.
7. It is not recommended to stick tapes and adhesive strips, except for masking tape, on the front side of PU-lacquered flooring. This may damage the lacquer coating, and gloss may appear on matte surfaces. When necessary, wrap a roll with tape, use the non-sticky (back) side of the tape for contact with the surface of the flooring to avoid damaging the lacquer coating.