

These installation guidelines apply to the product only. All instructions and recommendations should be followed for a satisfactory installation.

- The floor covering should be stored and installed in a climate-controlled location with an average temperature between 55° and 85°F - 13°-29°C. Do not store or install floors where it will be exposed to temperatures greater than 140° F. Subfloor must be flat – 3/16" in 10' or 1/8" in 6' radius for best installation results DO NOT USE plastic film or other non-breathing coverings **after installation** is complete, as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.
- Failure to follow these guidelines may result in an installation failure. Flooring is an interior product and must be installed in a temperature controlled environment, maintained between 55° and 85°F - 13°-29°C.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods. Exposure may result in discoloration. During peak sunlight hours, the use of the drapes or blinds is recommended.
- Regardless of new construction or remodeling projects, keep flooring stored in rooms that are not being worked in and only install product after all other trades have completed work that could damage the flooring.
- To minimize shade variation, mix and install planks from several cartons.
- Inspect all planks for damage before installing. If you have any concerns about the product fit or finish, call the flooring store that you purchased from. Claims will not be accepted for flooring that has been cut to size and/or installed.
- All subfloor patching must be done with a Portland based compound and allowed to dry completely prior to installing flooring.
- Installation – This product can be installed on, above, or below grade.
- Excessive moisture in the subfloor could promote mold, mildew, and other moisture related issues like the trapping of moisture emissions under the flooring, which may contribute to an unhealthy indoor environment and hydrostatic pressure.
- Nuvelle does not warrant nor is responsible for damage to floor covering due to moisture related issues.

Wood Subfloors

1. Do not apply sheet plastic over wood subfloors.
2. Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6-mil black polyethylene is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. Crawl space clearance from ground to underside of joist is to be no less than 18" and perimeter vent spacing should be equal to 1.5% of the total square footage of the crawl space area to provide cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.
3. All other subfloors – Plywood, OSB, particleboard, chipboard, wafer board, etc. must be structurally sound and must be installed following their manufacturer's recommendations. Local building codes may only establish minimum requirements of the flooring system and may not provide adequate rigidity and support for proper installation and performance.

B. Concrete Subfloors

1. Floors shall be smooth, permanently dry, clean, and free all foreign material such as dust, wax, solvents, paint, grease, oils, and old adhesive residue. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
2. New concrete slabs must be dry and cured for a minimum of 60 days. Maximum moisture level per CaCl test method is 8 lbs. per 1000 in 24 hr. Maximum level for ASTM 2170 Relative humidity test method - 85%. Tramex concrete moisture needs to be less than 4%.
3. Do not install over concrete with a history of high moisture or hydrostatic conditions.
4. Ph. level of concrete should be between 5 and 9. 5. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer. All industry standard guidelines should be followed accordingly. "Above industry limitation of moisture should be treated with epoxy or similar concrete sealer." A 6-mil poly sheeting is still required.
6. Radiant Heat–Hydronic Only: Radiant heat components must have a minimum of 1/2" separation from the product. This is the only type of radiant heat system that is approved. Radiant heat system must be on and operational for at least 2 weeks prior to installation to reduce residual moisture within the concrete. Three days prior to installation lower the temperature to 65 degrees, after installation gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5° F to avoid overheating. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating. **INSTALLATION GUIDELINES WARNING! DO NOT SAND, DRY SWEEP, DRY SCRAPE, DRILL, SAW, BEADBLAST OR MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.** These products may contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestoscontaining material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering

structures. For current information go to www.rfci.com Density Installation Instructions Existing Floor Coverings

- Flooring can be installed over most existing hard– surface floor coverings, provided that the existing floor surface is clean, flat dry and structurally sound. If installed over Porcelain TILES, you must use skim coat over any and all grout lines.
- Existing sheet vinyl floors should not be heavily cushioned and not exceed more than one layer in thickness. Soft underlayment and soft substrates will diminish the products inherent strength in resisting indentations. Eclipse Pad or any similar product approved by manufacture can be used under Density Floors for added acoustical requirements.
- Installation is NOT allowed over any type of carpet.
- Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor may affect the new floor covering.

INSTALLATION - Do not install cabinets or fixed objects on top of the Density flooring. Proper expansion space is required – 1/4inch minimum. Undercut all doorjamb. Do not fasten wall moldings and or transition strips to the planks. This Lifetime Limited Waterproof Warranty excludes all casualty events involving water coming in contact with your floor and failures normally covered by homeowners' insurance including, but not limited to, damages caused by flooding or standing water from leaky pipes, faucets, or household appliances. **Also excluded are damages caused by flooding or standing water from hydrostatic pressure or other casualty events.**

All concrete or terrazzo substrates should be tested for IRH (Internal Relative Humidity) according to ASTM F 2170.

Calcium Chloride tests may be conducted in addition to IRH and must be performed per the latest edition of ASTM F 1869.

NEW AND EXISTING CONCRETE SUBFLOORS SHOULD MEET THE GUIDELINES OF THE LATEST EDITION OF ACI 302 AND ASTM F 710, "STANDARD PRACTICE FOR PREPARING CONCRETE FLOORS TO RECEIVE RESILIENT FLOORING" AVAILABLE FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS, 100 BARR HARBOR DRIVE, WEST CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428; 610-832-9585; [HTTP://WWW.ASTM.ORG](http://WWW.ASTM.ORG).

PH

Concrete floors must be tested per the latest edition of ASTM F 710.

- PH reading must not exceed 10.0.
- Readings below 7.0 and in excess of 10.0 affect resilient flooring and adhesives negatively.
- Rinsing the surface with clear water may lower alkalinity. "DAMP MOP"

-it is the responsibility of the installer and retailer to determine suitability of subfloor prior to installation. Should a problem attributable to a manufacturing defect develop after flooring is installed, cost of labor for repair will not be covered by manufacture warranty

LIMITED WATERPROOF WARRANTY

Problems due to moisture not covered under warranty such as: mildew, alkaline substances, hydrostatic pressure, expansion and contraction between planks or humidity levels above or below those recommended. (Refer to industry recommend guidelines)

- when excessive moisture accumulates in buildings or on building materials, mold (and/or) mildew growth can occur (particularly if the moisture problem remains undiscovered or unaddressed). Nuvelle moisture warranty excludes damage resulting from:
- mold and/or mildew growth due to prolonged exposure to moisture. If the floor plank or tile is structurally impugned, resulting from exposure to water.
- all casualty events involving water coming in contact with your floor and failures normally covered by homeowners' insurance.
- damages caused by flooding or standing water from leaky pipes, faucets, or household appliances.
- damages caused by flooding or standing water from hydrostatic pressure.
- Damage to surrounding structure, walls, subfloor, fixtures, furniture, underlayment, moldings, trims, subfloor.

Required Tools: Tape Measure, Utility Knife, Jigsaw, Tapping Block or Rubber Mallet, Pull Bar, ¼" Spacers, T-Square, Safety Glasses, Broom or Vacuum and, if necessary, tools for subfloor repair.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION All subfloors must be clean, flat, dry and structurally sound. The correct preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Subfloor must be flat – 3/16" in 10' or 1/8" in 6'. **CAUTION:** Some types of nails, such as common steel nails, may cause discoloration of the vinyl floor covering. Recommendations for attaching underlayment panels are not included. Solvent based construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by the use of the above-mentioned products is not the responsibility of Nuvelle, but rests with the installer and the underlayment panel manufacture.

1. Before you start with the installation, it is important to determine the layout of the flooring. Proper planning and layout will prevent having narrow plank widths at wall junctures or very short length pieces at the end of rows. Maximum allowed continues installation of flooring is 50' by 50'. Transition moldings are required at all door ways.
 2. As with all plank products, install the planks parallel to the longest exterior wall.
 3. Determine if the starter row will need to be cut. If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in width, it will be necessary to cut off the unsupported tongue so that a clean, solid edge shows towards the wall.
 4. Installation of the product must start from the left side of the room, working to the right when working in front of the planks or facing the starting wall. Use spacers along the walls to maintain proper expansion space (1/4") and align the first plank.
 5. Install the second plank in the row by aligning and dropping the end tongue over the end groove of the first plank. Apply light pressure to join the two planks together.
 6. If needed, use a rubber mallet to fully engage the short side of the plank by lightly tapping the plank to engage and sit flush with the adjacent plank. Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 1/4" from the wall. Repeat this process to complete the first row.
 7. Start the second row by cutting a plank to the desired length. Keep in mind that the plank must not be shorter than 6" (15cm) to achieve the best appearance.
 8. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. This is best done with a low angle of the plank. Maintain light pressure into the side seam as you rotate the plank to the subfloor. Repeat the process with additional planks to complete each row. Very little force is required to seat the tongue into the groove. You should feel the tongue lock into the groove.
 9. It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square, as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the installation. Check for squareness and straightness often.
 10. Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with end pieces of minimum 6" - 15cm. Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the Density Installation Instructions tapping block in order to avoid damages on the planks.
 11. When fitting under door casings, if necessary, a flat pull bar may be used to assist in locking the planks.
 12. When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, planks can be cut easily and cleanly using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer this pattern to the plank.
 13. Protect all exposed edges of the flooring by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Make sure that no plank will be secured in any way to the sub floor. **MAINTENANCE AND PREVENTION** • Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects on the floor covering.
 - Do not expose floors to temperature exceeding 140° F.
 - Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
 - All plastic casters should be replaced with wide, rubber casters. Protective mats are required under office chairs.
 - Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
 - Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor. Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors. Furniture with castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. Do NOT use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.
 - Use floor protectors under furniture.
 - Use walk off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked on to the floor.
 - Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Do NOT use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off.
 - Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.
 - Clean up spills immediately.
 - Damp mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. Do NOT use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor. Do NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools. Do NOT use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products.
 - Flooring, like other types of smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for floor to dry after cleaning. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances or wet feet