



Since 1996

ALSTON INC.

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WATER PROOF Stone Powder Composite (SPC) **StoneCoreX™** RIGID LUXURY VINYL PLANK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ OVER THE ENTIRE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH ACTUAL INSTALLATION. IF YOU DO NOT ACCEPT THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS WARRANTY, PLEASE DO NOT INSTALL "ALSTON" FLOORING.
(Please check for details on our website www.AlstonFlooring.com for up-to-date information and changes)

Pre-Installation Satisfaction Guarantee

ALSTON INC. has adopted the highest possible manufacturing standards for its premium floors well within the limitations of the natural materials, and, based on the accepted standards in the industry defect tolerances and variances of maximum 5% allowed. These allowances cover either natural defect within the raw-materials themselves, and/or defects that may take place in working specifically with natural materials. Within 30 days of purchase, **PRIOR TO INSTALLATION**, the Installer/Owner should perform a detailed product quality inspection. The User/Installer/Homeowner has the final responsibility pertaining to the inspection and acceptance of quality, grade, workmanship, surface-finish, color, and visual aspects of

ALSTON INC. floorings prior to installation. The responsibility is also applicable during his/her/their absence from the location of the installation(s). The installer must also utilize the product selectively and methodically. Floor material must be carefully checked and judged prior to installation; **never install any damaged or visually defective boards**. If for any reason the flooring is not acceptable at the time of final inspection, **please DO NOT install the flooring** and contact the seller or **ALSTON INC.** immediately and we will exchange the material until you are 100% satisfied or refund the money for the flooring products purchased. Once any floorboards are installed, they are deemed as accepted by the User/Installer/Homeowner.

Suitable Surfaces

Engineered rigid flooring is a floating floor which should never be nailed down to the substrate. It should be laid flat and fully supported during shipping and storage. Lightly textured or porous surfaces. Well-bonded, solid floors. Dry, clean, well-cured concrete (cured for at least 60 days prior). Wood floors with plywood on top. Ceramic or porcelain tiles with grout lines filled with floor leveler. All surfaces must be clean and dust free.

Unsuitable Surfaces

Rough, uneven surfaces including carpet and underlay. Rough, heavily textured and/or uneven surfaces may telegraph through the vinyl and distort the finished surface. Do not install this product in areas which are exposed to long term direct sunlight such as sun rooms or solariums.

WARNING: DO NOT REMOVE OLD RESILIENT FLOORING. THESE PRODUCTS MAY CONTAIN EITHER ASBESTOS FIBERS OR CRYSTALLINE SILICA, WHICH CAN BE HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.

Radiant Heated Floors

Our vinyl products can be installed over hydronic radiant heated floors or electric radiant heated floors that use embedded cables under the subfloor. **DO NOT INSTALL** over any electric heating mat that is installed on top of the subfloor. Do not turn heat above 29°C (85°F). To avoid overheating, the use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended.

PREPARATION

The vinyl planks should be allowed to acclimatize to room temperature (approx. 20°C/68°F) for a minimum of 72 hours prior to installation. Carefully check planks for any defects before installation. Any plank that has been installed will be deemed acceptable to the owner. Check that all ITEM NUMBERS are the same and that you have purchased sufficient material to complete the job. Remove any traces of glue or residue from the previous flooring.

New concrete floors need to dry out for at least 60 days prior to installation. Wood plank floors require a plywood subfloor. All nail heads must be driven down below the surface. Securely nail all loose boards. Scrape, plane or fill uneven boards, holes or cracks using floor-leveling compound if sub-floor is uneven - over 3.2 mm (1/8") within a span of 1.2 m (4'). If installing over existing tile, use a floor levelling compound to skim coat grout lines. Make sure the floor is smooth, clean, and free of wax, grease, oil or dust, and sealed as necessary before laying planks.

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TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Utility knife, tapping block, rubber mallet, spacers, pencil, tape measure, ruler, safety goggles and hand saw (for door frames, not cutting product).

INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW

Start in a corner by placing the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall. Use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion space of 8-12 mm (3/8"-1/2^M) between the wall and the flooring. **Diagram 1.**

NOTE: This spacing must also be maintained between the floor and all vertical surfaces, including cabinets, posts, partitions, doorjambes and door tracks. You will also need to use transition strips in doorways and between rooms. Failure to do so may cause buckling or gapping.

Insert the end tongue of the second plank into the end groove of the first tile at an angle of approx. 15-20 degrees. When lowered the plank will click into place. The planks should be flat to the floor. **Diagram 2.**

WARNING: Failure to properly line up the end joint and attempting to force it in while out of alignment could result in permanent damage to the end joint.

Continue connecting the first row until you reach the last full tile. Fit the last tile by rotating the tile 180° with the pattern side upward, place beside the row. Draw a line across the new plank with a pencil, score with an utility knife and snap off. Attach as described above. **Diagram 3.**

It is important to ensure that the planks in the first row are straight before beginning installation of the second row. Use a rubber mallet and tapping block.

INSTALLING THE SECOND ROW

Begin the second row with the offcut piece from the first row to stagger the pattern. Pieces should be a minimum of 150 mm (6^M) long. Remember to use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion space of 8-12 mm (3/8^M-1/2^M) between the wall and the flooring. **Diagram 4.**

NOTE: It is faster to assemble planks into a new row at the ends and then attach the entire row to the previous row on the long sides.

To start your second row, lay your first plank on the subfloor. Take your second plank, and insert the end tongue into the end groove of the first plank at an angle of approximately 15-20 degrees. When lowered, the plank will click into place with light pressure. The planks should be flat to the floor. Make sure gaps are as small as possible. Continue assembling the planks this way until you have your second row complete.

To attach the second row to the first row, tilt and push the side tongue into the side groove of the first row at an angle of approx. 15-20 degrees. When lowered, the planks will click into place and be flat to the floor. To ensure a strong seated joint, carefully use a rubber mallet and tapping block to lightly tap into place. Line up edges carefully. Continue laying remaining rows in this manner. **Diagram 5.**

INSTALLING THE LAST ROW

To fit the last row, start by using the offcut piece from the previous row. Lay the plank on top of the previous row. With the tongue to the wall, use a ruler to draw a cutline. Don't forget to allow room for spacers. Cut the plank and attach into position. **Diagram 6.**

DOOR FRAMES AND HEATING VENTS

Door frames and heating vents also require expansion room. First cut the plank to the correct length. Then place the cut plank next to its actual position and use a ruler to measure the areas to be cut out and mark them. Cut out the marked points allowing the necessary expansion distance on each side. **Diagram 7.**

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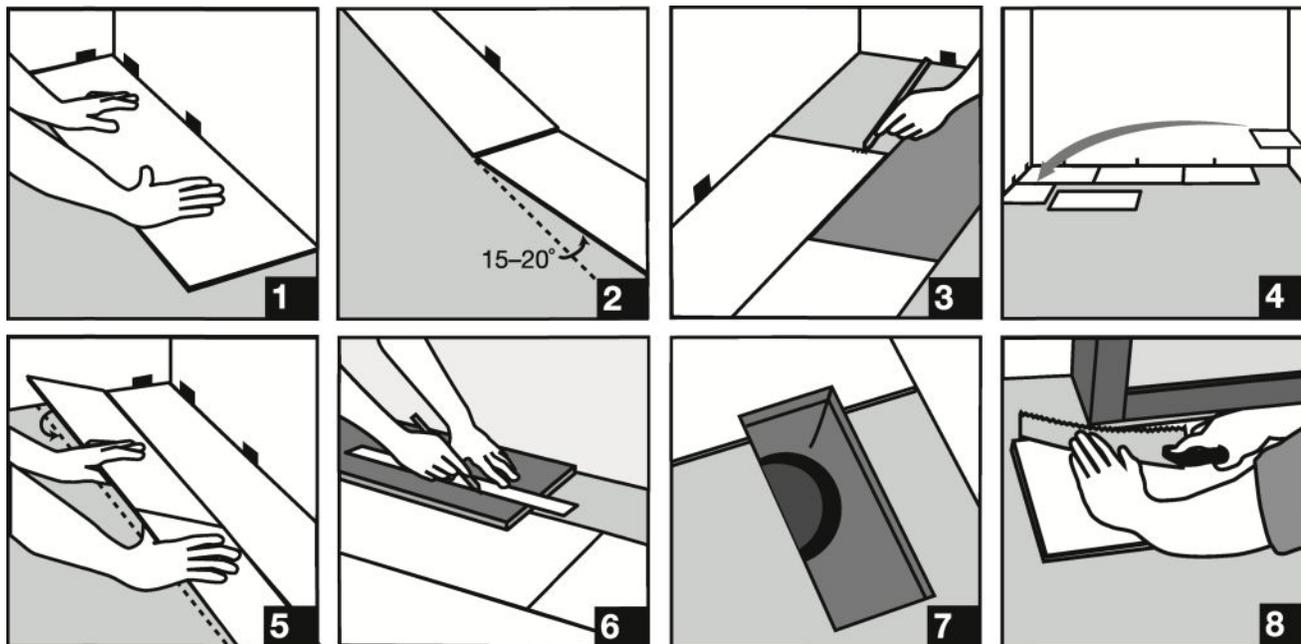
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You can trim door frames by turning a plank upside down and using a handsaw to cut away the necessary height so that the plank slides easily under the frames. **Diagram 8.**

Remove the spacers once the floor is completely installed.



CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. Use drapes or blinds to minimize direct sunlight during peak sunlight hours.

- Water leakage over or around the outer edges of the flooring may damage a wood subfloor, so clean up water as soon as possible.
- Sweep regularly to remove surface grit and dust. Use a damp cloth or mop to clean up any dirt and footprints. CAUTION: Planks are slippery when wet.
- Never use wax, polish, abrasive cleaners or scouring agents as they may dull or distort the finish.
- High heels can damage floors.
- Do not allow pets with undipped nails to scratch or damage the floor.
- Use non-staining protective pads under heavy furniture, chairs and tables.
- Use doormats at entrance ways to protect the floor.
- If other trades are in the work area, a floor protector is highly recommended to help protect the finish of the floor.

It's a good idea to save a few planks in case of accidental damage. Planks can be replaced or repaired by a flooring professional.

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