

# A|LVT Glue Down Installation Instructions

## **STOP and read before proceeding!** **It is important to properly install your A | LVT flooring!**

### MATERIALS

A|LVT Luxury Glue Down vinyl tile is suitable for all interior floor surfaces, above, on or below grade, and over concrete or wood substrates.

A|LVT Luxury Glue Down vinyl tile is manufactured under ISO 9001:2000, Quality Management Systems and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. Suitable for recycling and for under floor heating.

### MOISTURE TESTING

It is essential to conduct a moisture test and alkalinity test on all concrete floors. A|LVT recommends using the relative humidity test method (ASTM F2170). Moisture test results should not exceed 75% RH. Follow all test manufacturer instructions and instructions based on the ASTM F2170 method for determining relative humidity in concrete floor slabs using in situ probes. Alkali readings should be a maximum pH 10. All slabs on or below grade level must be known to have intact vapor retarder directly beneath the concrete in conformance with ASTM E1745. Please consult the appropriate Henry adhesive technical instructions for additional moisture and alkalinity limits for your project.

If the concrete exceeds moisture limitations, the installation should not proceed until the problem is corrected. A moisture problem can be corrected by installing an appropriate Ardex moisture mitigation system such as Ardex MC Rapid. Contact an Ardex Americas representative for the proper system for the installation conditions. After the system has been applied, re-test to ensure that the problem has been corrected. No testing is necessary after installing an Ardex MC system. It is important to note that a moisture test indicates conditions at the time of testing only.

Please note that new concrete subfloors contain a high percentage of moisture and must be allowed to dry out. The drying time will depend on several conditions, such as the type of concrete used, average air temperature, thickness and location of the slab. The addition of fly ash to the concrete can adversely affect the long term performance of adhesives. This drying time can be reduced by the application of an Ardex MC system. Please contact your Ardex or A|LVT representative before proceeding.

### STORAGE AND HANDLING

During this preliminary moisture-testing period, A|LVT Luxury Glue Down vinyl tile should be present at job site to allow an appropriate period for product to acclimate. Remove material from packaging, spread out if possible and allow to condition in room where installation is to take place at a constant temperature of 65°F-79°F for a period of 24 hours prior to installation. This temperature should be maintained during installation, and for a 24-hour period after installation.

### SUBFLOORS

1. A|LVT Luxury Glue Down may be installed over non-porous surfaces and other areas depending on site conditions. Please consult your Aproduct Representative for your particular application.
2. All supporting surfaces shall be structurally sound, solid, stable, level, plumb and true to a tolerance in plane of ¼" in 10 feet (6 mm in 3 m) for floors. They shall be dry, clean and free of dust, oil, grease, paint, tar, wax, curing agent, primer, sealer, old adhesive or any deleterious substance and debris which may prevent or reduce adhesion.
3. Mechanically sand, bead blast or scarify the substrate to completely remove all paint, loosely bonded topping, loose particles, construction debris, old adhesive and any contaminant that may prevent or reduce adhesion.
4. Remove any trace of strong acid or alkali from the substrate prior to the application of the surface product and/or the adhesive.
5. The supporting surfaces shall be dry. The moisture emission shall not exceed 75% RH for concrete. For wood underlayment, the moisture content should meet the requirements of the wood manufacturer and/or flooring manufacturer, generally 8-10% using a "Delmhorst Wood Moisture tester".
6. In all cases, the structural design of the floors shall not allow a deflection of more than 1/360 of span under live or dead loads.

### Concrete Subfloors

1. Concrete substrates shall be free of sealer or curing compound. The substrate shall be cured for a minimum of 42 days and tested for moisture emission using the relative humidity method (ASTM F2170). Test results shall be no more than 75% RH prior to the installation of the floor covering.
2. Concrete substrates shall be finished using a flat trowel. The surface shall be sound, true and level to a tolerance in plane of ¼" in 10 feet (6 mm in 3 m) for floors. Concrete Floors not meeting these tolerances should be leveled with Ardex K10 self-leveling underlayment before proceeding with the floorcovering installation.
3. The installer shall be responsible to complete a humidity test and provide the general contractor and/or the architect with the written results prior to the execution. A humidity test has to be done at least 96 hours (4 days) prior to commencing work and the results shall not exceed 75% RH with the relative humidity test (ASTM F2170).
4. All new concrete surfaces should be steel trowel finished. A moisture barrier with a permeance of less than 0.2 metric perms as measured according to the ASTM-96 standard must be present under concrete slabs that are on or below grade. This barrier must be resistant to deterioration as well as to puncture during construction and must remain intact and continuous.
5. Any repair to the concrete substrate shall be made using the proper surface preparation product specified in sub-paragraph 2.1. Where self-smoothing surface preparation material is required, the concrete shall be bead blasted or scarified. Where a fast setting screed mortar or fast setting polymer-modified premixed mortar, the concrete shall be scarified. Repair any surface defects using Ardex SD-f, SKM, or GPS.
6. Neutralize any traces of strong acid or alkali prior to application of the surface preparation product or the adhesive.

### Wood underlayment

1. Particleboard, strand board and flake board are not RFCI-recommended underlayments, therefore are not recommended for use as a substrate for A|LVT flooring.
2. Plywood substrate and underlayment shall be group 1, exterior grade plywood, CC plugged or better conforming to APA classification and U.S. Product Standard PS 1-95 or a select or (SEL TF) COFI classified.
3. The installation of wood underlayment shall comply with ASTM F499-84 standard.
4. All wood underlayment shall be new and acclimated for at least 24 hours to the job site conditions prior to installation.
5. When required, the wood underlayment shall be filled and patched to correct seams, cracks, indentations and other subfloor irregularities using the proper products. Ardex GPS, Ardex SKM, or Ardex Feather Finish: fast setting cement-based polymer modified patching compounds are recommended. If floor leveling is required, level the floor using Ardex GS4 Self leveling underlayment. Other types of levelers, such as calcium sulfate/plaster/gypsum based compounds are not recommended.

### ADHESIVES

1. Use an A|LVT approved adhesive when applying A|LVT Luxury Glue Down over porous subfloors, such as concrete or wood. Install using the "wet set" method with Henry 422, Henry 640, or Henry 622 adhesive. When installing "King Size" (10" x 60") A|LVT, you must use Henry 640 (wet set only).
2. Please consult your A|LVT representative regarding your particular application.
3. Do not install over concrete floors that are excessively cold or radiant-heated with floor temperatures that exceed 85°F (25°C). Radiant heating should be turned off 12+ hours before commencing installation.
4. **Spread the adhesive with the recommended notched trowel** to assure enough adhesive coverage to achieve 95% transfer to the backing of the floor covering.
5. Follow all instructions for the appropriate A|LVT Henry adhesive for your application. Position the plank at the proper position in the adhesive without sliding and pressing firmly down, paying special attention to the tile edges and corners and that the ends of the planks are staggered for best visual appearance. Periodically check by lifting a tile to make sure that at least 95% of the adhesive pattern has been transferred to the back of the plank or tile. If adhesive starts to set up or skins over, scrape it up and reapply fresh adhesive.
6. A|LVT Luxury Glue Down installed in the same area shall be in matching production numbers.
7. Roll each section in both directions immediately upon completing with a minimum 100 lb. three section roller or a hand roller in smaller areas. Re-roll the entire area after one or two hours. Promptly remove adhesive smudges with a clean cloth dampened with water while adhesive is still fresh and mineral spirits when dried.
8. Ensure that all tile and planks are free from general traffic for at least 24 hours after installation.
9. Do not wash or polish the floor for a minimum of 48 hours after installation.

10. The manufacturer or supplier will not be liable for any loss, damage, or complaint of any kind if the specific laying procedure described in this guide or the recommended adhesive instructions are not followed.

## PROTECTION & MAINTENANCE

1. Protect the floor covering installation against dirt and other trades.
2. Do not allow traffic over the installation until at least 24 hours after work completion.
3. Do not wash the floor thoroughly with water before 30 days. Wipe with a well-wrung damp mop during the first month to allow adhesive to cure.
4. Temperature and humidity during and after the floor covering installation will have a direct effect on the drying time of the adhesive, therefore ensure that room temperature is kept at a minimum of 65°F (15°C) and relative humidity of no more than 65% for a period of at least 72 hours after the completion of work.
5. Daily removal of dirt and dust is essential to prevent particles from wearing the surface of resilient floors. Sweeping, dust mopping, and vacuuming (no beater bar or brush roll) are the recommended ways to remove soil and particles that can result in worn appearances. Never use vacuums with beater bars on A|LVT flooring.
6. Periodic wet cleaning will be necessary to help maintain the floor's beautiful appearance. Pre-vacuum (no beater bar) or dust mop before wet cleaning. Appropriate vinyl floor cleaning equipment and cleaning agents (neutral PH cleaners) are recommended from local distributors and supply companies. Always follow the cleaning manufacturer's instructions for damp mopping. When possible, expedite drying with air movers or fans.
7. Avoid using heavy or abrasive cleaners on A|LVT Luxury Glue Down flooring, including, but not limited to: bleach, ammonia, steam, vinegar, or soap-based cleaners. Always test your cleaner in an inconspicuous area, or on an A|LVT sample piece reserved for testing, prior to applying.
8. Improper use or maintenance of A|LVT Luxury Glue Down flooring will void our warranty.

### 10 YEAR RESIDENTIAL WARRANTY FOR 8 MIL WEARLAYER

Our 10 year limited residential warranty for A|LVT Luxury Glue Down means that for 10 years, from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through when installed and maintained according to instructions supplied with each carton. This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims. The guarantee is for replacement or refund of the material only. Claims for wear must show a minimum dime size area. High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are **not covered** by this warranty.

### 15 YEAR RESIDENTIAL/ 5 YEAR LIMITED COMMERCIAL WARRANTY FOR 12 MIL WEARLAYER

Our 15 year limited residential warranty/5 year limited commercial warranty for A|LVT Luxury Glue Down means that for 15 years [for residential applications] or 5 years [for limited commercial applications], from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through when installed and maintained according to instructions supplied with each carton. This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims. The guarantee is for replacement or refund of the material only. Claims for wear must show a minimum dime size area. High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are **not covered** by this warranty.

### 25 YEAR RESIDENTIAL/ 10 YEAR LIMITED COMMERCIAL WARRANTY FOR 20 MIL WEARLAYER

Our 25 year limited residential warranty/10 year limited commercial warranty for A|LVT Luxury Glue Down means that for 25 years [for residential applications] or 10 years [for limited commercial applications], from the date of purchase, your floor will be free from manufacturing defects and will not wear through when installed and maintained according to instructions supplied with each carton. This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims. The guarantee is for replacement or refund of the material only. Claims for wear must show a minimum dime size area. High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are **not covered** by this warranty.

### A|LVT / SystemOne™ FULLY INTEGRATED SUPPLEMENTAL WARRANTY – UP TO 10 YEARS

SystemOne™ is a complete flooring installation solution backed by the most comprehensive full replacement warranty in the industry. ARDEX Americas, the leading manufacturer of high-performance substrate preparation products, and The W.W. Henry Company, one of the world's largest manufacturers of premium flooring adhesives combine to offer the SystemOne™ Total Solution providing the ultimate peace of mind for architects, specifiers, facility managers, building owners, contractors and flooring installation professionals. A|LVT recommends using the SystemOne™ complete flooring installation solution in conjunction with A|LVT Luxury Glue Down vinyl tile to ensure a lasting and durable installation. PLEASE VISIT [ARDEXAMERICAS.COM](http://ARDEXAMERICAS.COM) for more information regarding SystemOne™, applicable products, and warranty levels.

PLEASE CONTACT AN A|LVT REPRESENTATIVE WITH ANY INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS. [INFO@APRODUCTUS.COM](mailto:INFO@APRODUCTUS.COM) / (888) 203-0054