

### Click Lock Plank Installation Guide

**Please note:** This is only a guide and we always recommend that you use professional installers for our products as incorrect installation or preparation of the subfloor would void warranty. Installation should be in accordance with Australian Standards – AS 1884 – 2012 Floor Coverings – Resilient Sheet and Tiles – Installation Practices.

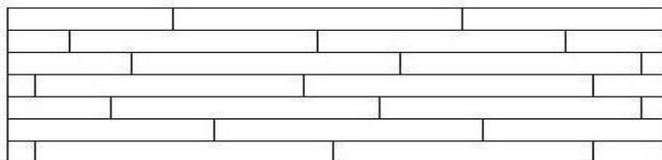
#### **Basic Tools Required for the Installation:**

Stanley Knife, Tape Measure, Straight Edge, Square & string/chalk Line.

#### **Installation steps to Click Lock planks:**

1. Take all the planks out of the box and stack them in piles of about 5 boxes high and allow them to acclimatize and level out for 24 hours prior to laying them between a recommended controlled temperature of 18°C– 28°C (Do not attempt installation in severe conditions if it's less than 10°C or more than 35°C). Ensure the surface in which you lay them on is level/straight.
2. Make sure you thoroughly clean your floor from all contaminants, (Sweeping, vacuuming & damp mopping may be required).
3. Repair any damaged areas, holes, gaps and indentations by using a compound or anything recommended by your specialist. The floor will need to be level throughout the area that will be covered with the Click Lock Vinyl Planks.
4. Plan out the direction the planks will be laid as well as the starting point and think about how you will stagger the planks and what lengths you will be using. **Please note:** Do not use a piece shorter than 6 inches for the staggering of the planks.
5. To ensure your wall is straight, use a string line/chalk line from one end of the wall to the other to ensure your planks begin straight when they are being laid. It is recommended to start laying the first row from the left corner of your wall, however, you can begin laying at another point if you are required to. Make sure to measure the total width between the walls divided by the width of the plank to ensure the last piece is reasonable in size when laying it down.
6. Begin by removing existing molding/skirting and undercut the jambs so planks can slide underneath for a clean finish. Alternatively, you can run them up to the molding/skirting and cover the expansion gap with beading. Regardless of the option you choose, a minimum 7-10mm gap will need to be left around the edges of all permanent fixtures including walls, door frames, pipes and cupboards etc. Subflooring that consists of timber may require larger gaps due to the fluctuation of heat and movement under the floor. If the floor will be in direct sunlight or subjected to direct heat for periods of time it may be ideal to leave larger expansion gaps between the wall and the floor as surface temperature from the sun could exceed the planks expansion resistance. Distances of 12m or more will also require an expansion gap, this allows the floor to maintain its ability to expand and contract with temperature change.
7. Lay the first row with the short end tongue side facing towards the wall, if you begin from the corner of the wall don't forget to leave a 7-10mm expansion gap between the floor and the wall.
8. Interlock short ends by inserting the tongue side into the groove edge at an approximate angle of 20°. The planks should have a near seamless appearance and are not easily pulled apart when clicked in correctly. Be careful not to force the planks into place or to alter the angle when joining each plank together, otherwise you risk damaging the click mechanism and gaps may appear at the damaged sections during colder months
9. Ensure your first row is straight before commencing with the second row as this is vital to sustain a straight line in successive rows. To cut the planks, use a straight edge or a plank and place it on the marked area where the cut needs to be made. Keep the front image facing upright score the plank with your Stanley knife and snap it down on a hard edge.
10. Begin laying the second row inserting the tongue side into the groove edge of the first row at an approximate 20° angle making sure the cut ends face the wall. At this point you need to use different size pieces to begin staggering the floor to create a random appearance, you can potentially use the last cut piece from your first row as the first piece for your second row. Keep in mind the piece you are using is not to be less than 6 inches as all the joins in the floor need to be apart by a minimum of that distance.

#### **Example:**



**CORRECT  
METHOD**

11. Continue installing the remaining rows following the same instructions above and keeping note of all the requirements. Once all the flooring is laid you can then re-install the molding/ skirting. If you have undercut the jambs or laid the planks up against the molding/skirting, you can install beading to cover the gaps around the perimeter for a clean finish. Be careful not to secure the skirting or beading to the Click Lock or to lay the skirting or beading to tightly against the Click Lock, this can stop the Click Lock from expanding and contracting from the edge of the wall as its supposed to and gaps can appear where the boards are clicked together.

## **Tips to remember:**

Due to the nature of vinyl, it does expand and contract. Serfloor Click Lock has a fiberglass core which helps to minimize expansion and contraction however, some movement can be expected to occur once your floor is laid and it climatizes to its environment. On some occasions gaps or peaking may appear between boards if temperature fluctuations have occurred. The amount of movement a floor experiences is influenced by humidity, installation methods and the sub floor the vinyl product has been laid on. Some maintenance may be required to tighten up the boards after installation

Here are some useful tips to help you achieve the best finish for your floor.

**Subfloor:** Timber subfloors such as yellow tongue, timber planks and chipboard are more inclined to move than Masonite, Plywood or a cement based or concrete floor. Timber subfloors expand and contract with temperature changes and this can have a direct impact on the vinyl floor. If you have a timber subfloor such as these, we recommend laying down Masonite or ply sheathing first to help minimize movement and then laying the vinyl floor over this.

**Temperature:** Click Lock is designed to move as whole floor space. Humidity will have the biggest impact on floor movement. High humidity in summer will cause the planks to expand. In winter low humidity can cause the floor to shrink. If the floor is not able to move properly as temperatures change, gaps or peaking can appear at the weakest points in the floor. The best way to help combat this is to ensure a 10mm gap is left around the outside of each room including doorframes, pipes and cupboards etc. The floor then uses this space to expand and contract. If this space is not there, the floor will still move, but instead of using the expansion gap you've provided it will find the weakest point in the floor, which is usually where the planks click together, and gaps or peaking will appear. This can happen on the long and short ends of the plank. If the span is more the 13m long (across a hallway for example) an expansion gap will be needed to break the span. This can be done in a doorway to help keep it neat providing the span from one expansion gap to the other is no more the 13m. Sometimes heavy objects on the floor will stop the floor being able to move, as will edging strips that are attached to the planks in door frames or where the floor meets other flooring such as tiles or carpet. If the floor is running through multiple rooms and gaps are not left around door frames, the planks can pull apart in or near the doorway. This is because, as the floor has moved its meet resistance from the door frame, the floor doesn't stop moving just because the doorframe is there, instead it will find the weakest point in the floor and the planks will begin to separate to accommodate the movement. In winter this show as gaps between the planks, in Summer the planks will bubble up or "Peak" which is why it's important to leave the expansion gap around the perimeter of the room to avoid future issues.

**Installation:** Installation methods can also be a contributing factor. A 10mm gap must be left around all edges of each room, including doorways, pipes and cupboards etc. Many people make sure they do this around the wall but forget areas around other edges or where the floors meet carpet or tiles. Sometimes people accidently glue the edge of their planks to the edging they use to cover the gap between the planks and the tiles or carpet. When the floor moves in this area it won't be able to do so at the edge, so it will find another avenue which is usually between planks nearby.

## **Basic Maintenance:**

- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove dust and dirt from the floor and avoid stains by cleaning any liquid and food products off the floor promptly.
- Mop the floor using a neutral detergent cleaner or simply just warm to hot water and squeeze excess water prior to mopping.
- Protect your floor from direct sunlight with curtains/blinds or any type of blockers to prevent colour fading for long life as our warranty will not cover this.
- You can use a Polish or Sealer for your floor using a Vinyl/PVC recommended solution, however, be aware this can make the floor slippery.
- Ensure all furniture and heavy appliances on the floor have soft felt pads to avoid scratching and damaging the floor as warranty will not cover this.

## **30 Year Residential Warranty:**

Our 30 Year Limited Residential Warranty for Serfloor Click Lock means that for 30 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 and in accordance with AS 1884 – 2012 Act.

- This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims.
- The guarantee is for a replacement or refund of the material only, no labor. Claims for wear must show a minimum area of 5% of the overall plank/piece that has been affected.
- High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are not covered by this warranty.
- Serfloor Australia does not warranty any colour fading so it is imperative you follow instructions on prevention in our care & maintenance section.
- All claims resulting from a manufacturing defect must be claimed prior to installation if problems are apparent contact your authorized dealer.
- If you wish to file a claim under warranty, contact the authorized dealer where the flooring was purchased.
- For further information regarding inclusions and exclusions in our warranty, please visit [www.serfloor.com.au](http://www.serfloor.com.au)

## **15 Year Commercial Warranty:**

Our 15 Year Limited Residential Warranty for Serfloor Click Lock means that for 15 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 and in accordance with AS 1884 – 2012 Act.

- This guarantee applies only to the original end user and proof of purchase is required for all claims.
- The guarantee is for a replacement or refund of the material only, no labor. Claims for wear must show a minimum area of 5% of the overall plank/piece that has been affected.
- High-heeled shoes, rolling carts, furniture and chairs without protective pads can damage the floor and are not covered by this warranty.
- Serfloor Australia does not warranty any colour fading so it is imperative you follow instructions on prevention in our care & maintenance section.
- All claims resulting from a manufacturing defect must be claimed prior to installation if problems are apparent contact your authorized dealer.
- If you wish to file a claim under warranty, contact the authorized dealer where the flooring was purchased.
- For further information regarding inclusions and exclusions in our warranty, please visit [www.serfloor.com.au](http://www.serfloor.com.au)