

# LOOSE-LAY LVT TILES & PLANKS (hardBAC)



## Installation Guide

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This guide is for experienced installers. Adherence to these procedures should result in a quality installation. Quadrant will not be responsible for poor workmanship, problems created by improper site conditions or installation, improper subfloors, improper applications, adhesives, varnishes and the use of maintenance products not recommended, or detectable defects verifiable prior to installation. Quadrant will be responsible, within the scope of the product specifications and warranties, for defective materials, but that does not include materials installed with defects identified prior to installation. If these instructions do not cover a particular site condition or if you require further information please contact Customer Services.

### Pre-Installation

Care should be taken when handling boxes to avoid damage. When stored, boxes should be stacked flat & square, with no overhang, and stacks should not be so high that they become unstable or place undue pressure on the bottom boxes. Boxes should never be stacked on their side. Protect the flooring from extreme temperatures.

Boxes are individually labelled with Quality, Colour & Batch Number. Batches should not be mixed in the same area unless authorised by the specifier.

The product must be conditioned in its packaging in the area in which it is to be laid for a minimum of 48 hours before installation. The ambient temperature within the area during conditioning and installation should not exceed 25°C or fall below 15°C and Relative Humidity should be maintained between 40% and 70%. These conditions must be maintained throughout the installation and for a minimum of 48 hours after installation. Only remove outer packaging when ready to install the materials.

The product should not be installed over electrical (dry) underfloor heating systems. They are suitable for use over hot water (wet) systems. The system should be switched off at least 48 hours prior to installation, and remain switched off throughout, and for 48 hours after, the installation. Subsequently the surface temperature should be gradually increased to operating temperature and should never exceed 27°C. Bear in mind that rugs placed on top of the flooring may act as heat accumulators increasing the surface temperature of the floor beyond the recommended limit.

The product is for indoor use only.

The product should not be installed in areas subject to extreme temperatures or strong, sustained sunlight unless permanently glued to the subfloor using a 2 part polyurethane adhesive such as [Uzin KR430](#).

The product should not be installed over a separate acoustic underlay. Selected items in our range are supplied with an integrated acoustic underlay. For further information contact Customer Services.

The product should not be installed in permanent wet areas. They can be installed in areas where spillages frequently occur, however care must be taken to avoid liquids penetrating under the planks where they can create conditions for the growth of fungus and mould.

Prior to beginning the installation all other trades should have their work completed and the area should be clear, clean and dust free.

Inspect the materials in daylight for any visible faults or damage and report any visible faults to Quadrant immediately and do not install the affected materials.

For the best results we recommend mixing tiles or planks from different boxes before installing as this minimises pattern repetition and results in a more authentic installation.

### Subfloor Preparation

Subfloors should be prepared in accordance with BS 5325 or corresponding national and European standards.

All traces of previous floorcoverings and adhesives must be completely removed to reveal the original subfloor. Only in limited cases where the existing flooring is solid and non-absorbent (for example ceramic tiles) can our flooring be installed over an existing floorcovering, subject to suitable preparation of the surface.

The subfloor must be level, clean, dry, smooth, crack-free and free from surface contaminants. The surface should be moisture-free. Subfloors that do not meet these criteria will require additional surface preparation to ensure a perfect installation.

Our modular products are suitable for installation directly onto raised access floors providing the panels are clean, smooth and dust free, and the panels are level and horizontally aligned. Any discrepancies in levels and any surface defects are likely to show through the flooring and prevent joints from settling properly.

The final appearance of your flooring depends on the quality of the subfloor.

### Laying Pattern

For each product we recommend specific laying patterns. The laying pattern represents the direction and stagger of the tiles or planks when installed. The specifier should select the preferred option from those recommended by Quadrant and advise the installers accordingly. The recommended laying patterns for each product are detailed on the Product Specifications which can be viewed or downloaded from our website at [www.quadmod.com](http://www.quadmod.com).

### Adhesives

We recommend modular products are installed loose-lay with tackifier adhesive. We specifically recommend F Ball & Co and Uzin adhesives, however other manufacturers' adhesives may be used providing they are of a similar specification and quality. Always follow the manufacturers recommended application methods when applying adhesives. Our recommended adhesives for hardBAC Tiles and Planks are:

- [F Ball & Co Styccobond F41](#)
- [Uzin U2100](#) | [Uzin Universal Tackifier](#)

### Installation

Measure the area to find the best setting out point that would utilise a maximum size perimeter tile or plank. In some cases, due to doorways or partitions, the starting point is not the centre of the room. After selecting the starting point, snap chalk lines to bisect this point at right angles. In order to check the right angle mark a point exactly 3 metres from the starting point along one of the chalk lines and 4 metres on the bisecting line. The measurement between the two should be exactly 5 metres.

Adhesive should be applied strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations to the whole floor area to receive modules. It is advisable to restrict the application to an area that can be completed without long interruption. Particular care should be taken when applying adhesive to raised floor modules to avoid surplus adhesive collecting in the joints between the panels.

After the adhesive has dried begin the installation at the intersection of the chalk lines. Complete the installation one quarter area at a time laying the modules firmly and accurately along the anchor lines. Remaining modules in the quadrant should be installed using the stair step method.

A tight installation without compression is required, however care should be taken to avoid exerting excessive pressure when butting one tile against another. This can result in peaked or buckled joints.

As each module is installed ensure that the installation remains square and conforms to the chalk lines. Failure to maintain a square, accurately registered installation leads to stepped joints and gaps between modules which results in visible seams.

Perimeter modules should be cut from the back using a straight edge and a sharp blade. With the tile face side down, accurately measure and mark the module on the backing. Using a knife and straight edge, cut through the backing.

On completion of the installation the floor should be rolled with a 50kg roller to ensure the modules are firmly bedded into the adhesive.

To avoid disruption do not walk on or move furniture onto the floor until the area is completely anchored. Protect all completed areas as necessary to avoid damaging the flooring.

### Post-Installation

It is advised not to use the floor until the adhesive has fully cured. As a guide foot traffic should be avoided for 24 hours and furniture movement avoided for 48 hours after completion. Do not drag heavy objects across your floor and always place some kind of protection between an object and the floor when performing movements.

Before using your flooring we recommend you vacuum and mop the entire area thoroughly to remove all dust and dirt.

Protect your flooring immediately after installation to avoid unnecessary damage by other trades.

The Health and Safety Executive advises the thermal environment of a workplace where the activity is light and mainly sedentary, should conform to the following criteria, tending towards the lower limits: an operative temperature of 20°C to 24°C during winter and 23°C to 26°C during summer. Levels of relative humidity in the range of 40 to 70% are recommended. At higher temperatures, the relative humidity should be at the lower end of this range.