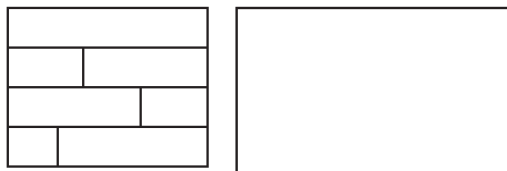




LOOSE-LAY

PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION, CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE



PLANK & TILE

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT SUPERSEDES ALL PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC INSTALLATION DOCUMENTS PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED FOR ASPECTA™.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is ideal for use in both new construction, renovation projects and with raised floors or any other project where speed of installation is required. Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is easy to install. Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is a collection of high quality, dimensionally stable, heterogeneous vinyl planks & tiles specifically designed for loose-lay installation. Aspecta™ Loose-Lay comes with a TPU (Thermoplastic Polyurethane) anti-slip backing layer, providing stronger plank adherence and stability. The combination of a glass fibre reinforced middle layer with multiple “hot-pressed” layers, makes Aspecta™ Loose-Lay unprecedented in strength, performance and overall quality. Aspecta™ Loose-Lay planks & tiles are produced in accordance with the EU-norm EN ISO 10582.

INTENDED USE

- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is perfect for use over raised access floor panels for easy access or temporary installations.
- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay may require the use of a tackifier or full bonded glue during installation. Some exceptions may apply, see more information under Installation in this manual.
- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay can be installed over many substrates including concrete (see general subfloor preparation), raised panel floors, suspended wood, and metal.
- Do NOT install Aspecta™ Loose-Lay flooring in non-temperature-controlled rooms or any exterior application.
- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is compatible with underfloor heating systems. Follow the applicable European, national and local standards (Germany: DIN 18365 and EN 1264-2) when installing Aspecta™ Loose-Lay in areas with underfloor heating. The operating temperature on the surface of the flooring should not exceed 27°C.
- Contact your Aspecta™ representative if you are unsure about any part of the installation.

PRE-INSTALLATION

- Check the quantities, colour and batch numbers before beginning the installation. Locate the batch number on the short end of the carton. It is the eight-digit number separated by decimal points.

BATCH NUMBER/MANUFACTURE DATE

29.10.2018
DAY.MONTH.YEAR

- Boxes of Aspecta™ Loose-Lay should be removed from the pallet and separated from one another as part of the acclimation process. Ensure that the heating/air conditioning is fitted and operating. Alternatively, temporary heating or cooling may be used to maintain a constant temperature within the specified range.
- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay must be stored flat and kept away from direct sunlight, heaters, or air vents for proper conditioning. Aspecta™ Loose-Lay Tiles and Planks, adhesive/tackifier and subfloor must be allowed to stabilize to a constant temperature between 18°C-27°C (64-81°F) for a period of at least 24 hours before, during and after installation. If flooring material and adhesive/tackifier have been stored outside of this temperature range, then it is recommended that acclimation between 18°C-27°C (64-81°F) is increased from 24 hours to 48 hours!

GENERAL SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

For a professional, high-quality installation result, it is imperative good subfloor preparation is followed. The subfloor must be structurally sound, smooth, dry, and level with no undulations. Use best practices and follow the standards as outlined in BS 8203 in the UK and VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany. Always follow all applicable European, national or local standards.

CONCRETE SUBFLOOR

- Existing concrete subfloors must be free of foreign or loose matter and any grease and wax. Chemicals or solvents should not be used to remove existing adhesive residue. All surface imperfections or irregularities must be corrected prior to installing Aspecta™ Loose-Lay.

CERAMIC/TERRAZZO/STONE FLOORS

- Repair or remove any loose flooring. Fill voids, cracks, and grout lines with a leveling compound.

RESILIENT FLOORS

- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay flooring can be installed over one layer of existing resilient flooring as long as the flooring is securely fixed and not free floating. The subfloor should be clean and free of any dirt, grease, or dust.

WOOD FLOORS

- Subfloor should be secure with no deflection. The subfloor should be clean and free of any dirt, grease, or dust. Do NOT install over wood floors installed directly over concrete. Fill all joints and smooth any rough areas. For best results, we recommend installing a minimum of 6mm exterior grade plywood on top of the existing wood floor.

RAISED ACCESS FLOORS

- Inspect the subfloor thoroughly. The access panels should be structurally sound, smooth, level, clean, dry and free of any dirt, grease, or dust. The raised access panel manufacturer should follow the standards in accordance with EN12825 (or equivalent). The raised panels should meet the following standards,
 - The entire raised access floor should be leveled within +/- 1.5mm over a span of 5mtr.
 - Gaps between panels should not exceed 1mm
 - Lipping of panels and the height differences between adjacent panels should not exceed 0.75mm

IMPORTANT BEFORE INSTALLATION

- Before laying the first rows, check that the cut planks or tiles closest to the walls are more than 30cm long and 10cm wide, depending on the total layout.
- During the installation process it must be ensured that a minimum expansion joint of 3 mm is maintained between the floor and all adjacent components. In the case of room sizes exceeding 10x10 mtr (100 m²), expansion joints with a minimum width of 4 mm must be maintained.
- Before starting the installation, check if the wall is straight enough to place planks or tiles directly. If not, trace a chalk line a few centimeters away, place your first row along the line and use a scribe. Then, you can place back your first row against the wall.
- Cut the last plank or tile of a row to the correct length either by using a scribe or another plank (overlapping method).
- To install the second row, place the left-over panel of at least 30cm in length and continue with full planks or tiles. Make sure that the end joints are offset by at least 30cm in the individual rows to achieve the best installation result.
- To install the final row, the distance between the wall and the row installed should be measured and transferred to the panel using a scribe (just like for the first row), when the wall is not perfectly straight. The last row installed should be as close as possible to half a panel's width.

INSTALLATION

- Aspecta™ Loose-Lay is designed to be installed without adhesive in areas up to a maximum of 20m², except for areas that are subject to big temperature fluctuations or very high traffic (including heavy rolling-loads). In this case a high grab tackifier glue or permanent (full bonding) acrylic adhesion method is required!
- For installation, measure and cut full tiles or planks perfectly net, as to not leave an expansion space or force fit into position.
- In all areas, bigger than 20m², and areas subject to big temperature fluctuations or very high traffic, Aspecta™ Loose-Lay must be glued down with tackifier or permanent acrylic adhesive!

LOOSE-LAY	TACKIFIER	PERMANENT FULL BOND
Up to 20m ² with no rolling loads, no temperature swings, no direct sunlight, and no subfloor heating.	Rooms larger than 20m ² , no rolling loads, no temperature swings, no direct sunlight.	For areas larger than 20m ² , with rolling loads, temperature swings, direct sunlight and subfloor heating.

- A complete wet transfer of the acrylic adhesive to the tile/plank backing must be carried out to ensure a permanent bond between the planks and the adhesive. Follow adhesive manufacturers recommendations.
- Before selecting a smoothing leveling compound, check what type of traffic the floorcovering will be subjected to once installed. Latex smoothing compounds are not suitable for areas with heavy traffic, especially heavy, narrow wheeled traffic (see EN 12529, Castors and wheels). Check levelling compound compatibility and follow the instructions of the levelling compound manufacturer.
- Whatever the installation or gluing method, upon completion of the installation, roll the floor in two directions at right angles to each other with a 45kg roller with overlapping passes. This ensures good contact between tiles, adhesive and substrate.
- **Note:** exclusion of liability (adhesives, levelling compounds, etc.) Although Aspecta™ may list a selection of adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp-proof membrane manufacturers and types, we do not guarantee the products listed. The list of products and manufacturers is not guaranteed complete or current.
- Aspecta™ will accept no liability for any of these products failing to perform in conjunction with any of its products. It is the responsibility of the adhesive, levelling compound and surface damp-proof membrane manufacturer and flooring contractor to ensure the products are used appropriately and applied in accordance with the manufacturers' recommendations.
- In locations with large external windows, it is necessary that the heating effect of sunlight is minimized using external canopies or by fitting thermal reflection film to windows. Avoid installation in verandas and winter gardens. Prolonged direct sunlight can result in discoloration. Excessive temperature might cause plank expansion.
- **When having problems during installation please stop the installation and contact Aspecta™ representative for a solution or input.**

IMPORTANT AFTER INSTALLATION

- Use matting system to remove all dirt from the bottom of shoes to prevent excessive dirt and moisture being drawn onto the floor from entrances. Carpets or cleaning mats with rubber backings should not be placed on vinyl tile because of chemical reactions (migration) that could cause yellowing.

GENERAL CARE & MAINTENANCE

ROUTINE CARE & MAINTENANCE

- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum daily. Do not use vacuums with any type of beater bar assembly as this may provoke scratches.
- Lightly damp mop with a neutral pH cleaner. Remove excess soil by carefully scrubbing with a soft nylon brush, microfibre mop or sponge and a neutral pH cleaner.
- Remove scuffs using a neutral pH cleaner and a soft nylon brush or sponge.
- Heavily soiled floors may require an occasional deep cleaning using a neutral pH cleaner, spray bottle and a low -speed floor buffer not exceeding 175 RPM. Fit the buffer with a red or white scrubbing pad, spray the cleaner solution onto a manageable area of the floor and scrub. Remove the dirty residue by damp mopping with clear water.
- Caution: Do not flood the floor.
- Remove standing water, urine, and other liquids promptly. Follow cleaning with a neutral pH cleaner.

PREVENTIVE CARE

- Use only flat felt or soft plastic glides covering the total surface under furniture legs or free-standing display units and fixtures to prevent indentations and scratches.
- Use broad surface non - staining casters at least 50mm in diameter on rolling fixtures or furniture.
- Do not use vinegar, polishes, waxes, oil soaps, abrasive cleaners, harsh detergents, or solvents.
- Do not use steam cleaners.
- Do not subject floor to flood or to standing liquids, including urine.

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