

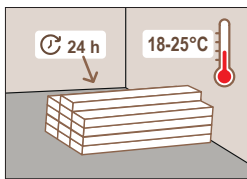


INVICTUS®
GREAT FLOORING · INVINCIBLE PERFORMANCE

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES MAXIMUS CLICK

Invictus Maximus Click is a luxury vinyl floor, suitable for commercial and residential use. It is not suited for installation outdoors nor in rooms that will be continually wet. It is essential that these installation guidelines are followed carefully to ensure a quality fit.

1. PREPARATION

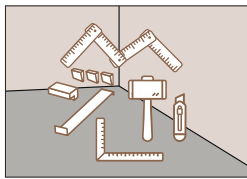


TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

For both transport and storage the floor boxes must be stored on a flat surface. Boxes must be stored inside. Do not store the cartons in very cold (<2°C) or very warm (>40°C) or humid places.

ACCLIMATISATION

It is important to **store the planks for at least 24 hours before installation, at room temperature (18-25°C)** in the room where the installation is to take place. Your Invictus floor should be stored flat in its packaging, in small neat piles, max. 5 boxes high. To condition, the boxes must be kept away from direct sunlight, heaters or air vents. This room temperature should be maintained throughout the installation and for least 72 hours after installation. The subfloor temperature should be above 15°C.



TOOLS

Utility knife and blades, rubber mallet, pencil, try square, tape measure / folding rule, spacers, tapping block, pull bar.
(Optional: guillotine)

2. AREAS OF USE & SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Maximus Click is **not suited for** outdoor use or in areas with large temperature variations. Protect your floor from long-lasting exposure to direct sunlight by using appropriate window coverings. Extreme solar radiation, heat and extreme temperature fluctuations can cause damage.

Ensure that the indoor temperature is always kept above 6°C and ideally between 18 and 25°C.

Subfloor preparation and floor installation should always comply with the applicable national regulations and installation standards.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

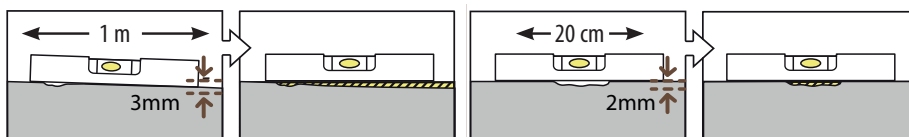
Careful subfloor preparation is essential for an excellent result. Roughness or unevenness in the subfloor could cause excessive wear on high spots or indentation on lower spots. Remove all traces of plaster, paint, glue, oil, grease, etc. and vacuum.

The subfloor must be hard, clean, dry and smooth.

The following are not approved substrates: rubber or other compressible underlays, rubber, cork or asphalt tiles, cushion backed resilient flooring; Textile floor coverings (such as carpet, needle felts, etc.) must be removed.

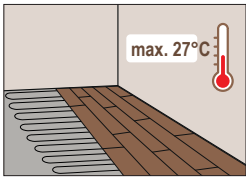
Maximus Click can be installed on: ceramic, porcelain, marble and granite tiles. They must be properly bonded with intact grout joints and free of cracks or loose tiles. Tile surface and grout joints should be free from coatings and dirt. Wood, laminate and linoleum floor coverings are approved, provided that they are smooth, even, dry and clean.

Although Maximus Click is not susceptible to damage from moisture, **subfloors must be checked for moisture problems**: excessive subfloor moisture is an ideal breeding ground for mold, mildew, fungus and mites - all of which can contribute to an unhealthy indoor living environment. If excess moisture is found in the substrate proper remediation steps should be taken before installation.



Make sure **floor level deviation is a maximum of 3 mm per m, and 2 mm per 20 cm.** (If these margins are exceeded, the subfloor must be evened out with a suitable filler or levelling compound. Any isolated highpoints / ridges should first be removed in order to avoid damage to the product.)

If you are not certain about the quality or suitability of your subfloor for the installation of Maximus Click, then contact your dealer, who will be more than happy to help you.



UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Maximus Click is suited for use with **warmwater** underfloor heating and **also electric heating systems** with a maximum performance of 70 W/m². It is important that the **temperature at the subfloor surface does not exceed 27°C**. Only underfloor heating systems with heating components – hot water or electric – embedded in the subfloor are suitable. Heating films/wire or other systems that are placed on top of the subfloor are not suitable. The heating elements **must be fully embedded in a well-bonded and suitable levelling compound**. The floor must be fully supported by the heating system, to achieve a homogenous temperature of the floor.

Maximus Click is not suitable for reversible heating/floor cooling systems.

The underfloor heating **must be switched off 48 hours before installation and also during installation**.

48 hours after installation, you can re-start the underfloor heating, by **gradually increasing** the temperature by $\pm 5^{\circ}\text{C}$ daily, up to a maximum floor temperature of 27°C. Ideally, avoiding full operating temperature for 7 days. (Follow the current standard of EN1264-2). **See separate document 'Underfloor heating Protocol' on our website.**

Always take care of gently heating-up and cooling-down of the heating system. Rapid temperature changes may lead to joints and openings of the floor. Avoid hot spots and thermal blocks on the surface.

DIFFERENT SUBFLOORS

Concrete/screed

Let new concrete dry sufficiently. The moisture content of the subfloor must be **less than 75% RH** at min. 20°C.

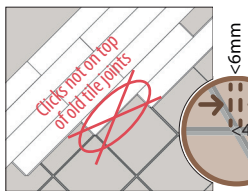
Residual moisture content from the subfloor:

For unheated screeds: < 2.0 CM% in case of cement & < 0.5 CM% in case of anhydrite

Underfloor heated screeds: < 1.5 CM% in case of cement & < 0.3 CM% in case of anhydrite

Always record and keep your moisture content results.

Repair surface imperfections with an appropriate repair compound and check if a primer or sealer is needed. Vacuum the subfloor afterwards to remove all debris.



Tiles

Check the subfloor for moisture problems. The joints of the Maximus Click floor covering should never be aligned with the underlying tile joints. It is not necessary to fill the grouts of a ceramic tiles subfloor with joints when these do not exceed 6 mm in width and 4 mm in depth.

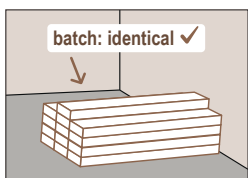
Wooden subfloor

Make sure the subfloor is level and with little flexibility. Fix down all loose boards/parts. Do not install Invictus Maximus Click on wooden subfloors with excessive movement or deflection.

Underlay

Invictus Maximus Click has an integrated sound backing layer. Do not use an extra underlay underneath your Maximus Click floor, as this would lead to openings in the joints or irreparable damage to the locking system. In cases of doubt regarding subfloor condition, seek professional help or contact your retailer.

3. BEFORE YOU START



Ensure that your flooring is the correct design and color and **check all boards for visible defects**, both before and during installation.

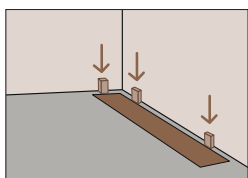
Planks with defects may not be used. Installation of flooring implies acceptance of materials.

Use only a single production batch number for each installation, as we cannot guarantee a shade match between different batches.

Always keep the production batch number (printed on the box), together with your order form/invoice.

Consider saving a few planks for any potential future repairs.

Make sure that you mix panels from different boxes, in order to minimize shade variations. This will ensure a more natural looking floor.



Maximus Click should be **installed 'free floating'**. This means that there must be **an expansion gap** between the floor and walls and for any permanent fixtures (columns, pipes,...). The floor should be able to contract and expand freely, so may never be screwed or nailed down to the subfloor. When installing in more than one room, you must use appropriate **profiles at doorways**. Also if the area is longer and/or wider than 20 m (normal conditions) and 8m (extreme conditions), see below. Your retailer will be able to supply the suitable profiles.

Always acclimate the floor during 24 hours and allow the necessary expansion gap (see table) against vertical surfaces and all fixed objects. Maximus Click is not suited for unheated rooms, keep room temperature **between 10°C and 35°C** at all times. **Avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight**. Protect your floor from direct heat by using **window shades/curtains**. Protect your floor also from any **other direct heat sources** f.e. a wood stove / fire place.

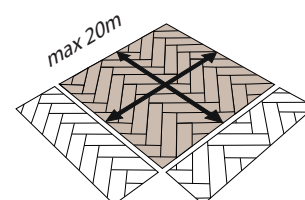
The floor installation must be **the last operation in the construction project**. Heavy furniture, such as kitchen cabinets cannot be installed on top of floating flooring, as this restricts the floor's ability to expand. Do not fix door hardware or other objects through vinyl floating floors.

Defining the needed width of the expansion gap :

room width or length in m	needed expansion gap in mm
≤ 5	6
6	6
8	7
10	8
15	10
20	12

In **normal** room conditions :

room temp. between 10°C and 35°C, no direct sunlight through unprotected glass on the floor
Transitions must be used if the area is longer and/or wider than **20 m**.



room width or length in m	needed expansion gap in mm
≤ 5	10
6	10
8	12
10	not allowed*
15	not allowed*
20	not allowed*

In **extreme conditions**: room temperature between 6°C and up to 60°C :

f.e. glass enclosed sunrooms, rooms with big temperature fluctuations (>5°C in 12 hrs)

Transitions must be used if the area is longer and/or wider than **8 m**. Installation temperature of maximum 35°C allowed!

Note: Ideally, use Maximus dryback in these conditions: we have an extended range with the same designs and colors, very well suited for these kind of conditions.

Note: for temperature-controlled rooms or conservatories: make sure the cold air is not pointed directly at the floor.

* use an expansion profile

4. INSTALLATION

Decide your installation direction: normally the planks/tiles are installed perpendicular to direct sunlight sources, including large windows, doors, etc.

Measure the room carefully. Proper planning and layout will prevent narrow plank/tile widths at the walls. Calculate how many full rows will fit; the remaining space should be halved to know the width of the first and last row. If this width is less than 150 mm. The number of full rows should be reduced by one and the width of the cut planks in the first and last rows is increased accordingly.



Your Maximus Click boards **can be cut using a sharp metal blade** and ruler or use a guillotine. Cut the boards decor side up.

Do not use tapping blocks or other tools common to hardwood and laminate installation to prevent damage to the locking mechanism.

A small (15cm) piece of scrap flooring with the tongue joint intact can be used as a tapping block and locked into the joint groove before tapping.

Use a small brush to clean the joints prior to locking, as debris will cause failure of the joint after interlocking the pieces



START THE INSTALLATION

It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square, as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the installation. Check regularly for straightness and make sure all planks are fully locked. If slight gapping is noticed, **disassemble** the row:

Lift up the entire row in the same angle as you did during installation. Then disassemble by sliding apart the planks on the short side.



1ST ROW: For the required expansion gap: place **spacers of the necessary thickness (see table, point 3. Before you start)** at each side and position the first plank with tongue side facing the wall.



Take another plank, drop the short side of this plank onto the short side of your first plank.



Once these two planks are properly aligned, use a **rubber mallet** to slightly tap the joints on the short side to secure the locking. Keep the force used to a minimum.

Continue the 1st row by laying the short-edge tongue onto the previous plank short-end groove and pressing the joint down with the mallet. Maintain an expansion gap of 6mm minimum (see table) from the walls. For the last plank: measure the length of the last plank to fit and cut it to the correct length.



2ND ROW: Install the 1st plank of the 2nd row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the first row. This is done with a low angle (20°-30°) and then angling down. Make sure there are no gaps.

The remaining part of the 1st row can be used as 1st plank in the 2nd row, provided that this piece is at least 30 cm long.

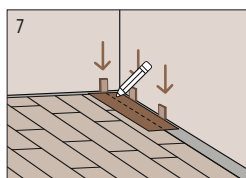


2nd plank in the 2nd row: angle its long side into the first row and slide the plank to the left until the short sides are in contact. Lower the plank down ensuring the planks are perfectly aligned: the installing plank is not resting on the surface of the adjacent plank nor should there be gaps between the two planks. Press the joint down with the thumb to properly align the joint. Then tap with the rubber mallet.



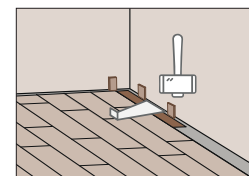
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Install the remaining planks in the same manner: angling the long side, sliding until the short sides are in contact and then locking the short side. Remember to ensure the locking of the joints with the rubber mallet. Continue this process across the room, using the cut-offs each time as starter pieces. This will help in obtaining a random appearance.

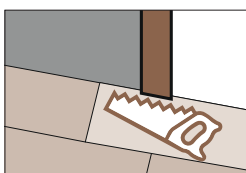


To install the last row:

Place another plank upside down up to the wall and mark the plank. Cut the marked plank to size and fit in place. This method should be repeated for each plank until the last row is complete. You can use a pull-bar and rubber mallet to ensure the last rows are well connected. You can walk on your Invictus floor immediately after installation.



NOTE

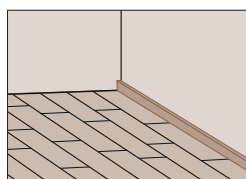


Door frames need to be undercut to allow for possible expansion of the finished floor under the door frames.

Lay a plank face down next to the door frame. Saw the door frame just above this plank.

Then slide the last plank under the door frame. Use the pull-bar to firmly close the click connection.

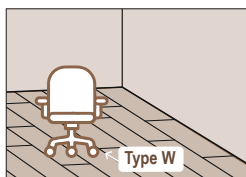
5. FINISHING



Use Invictus accessories for a perfect result. Skirtings have to be attached to your wall, never attach them directly onto the installed floor. Permanent sealing products (acrylic or silicone) should never be used to seal up the gap between the floor covering and skirting/scotia's/profiles. Joints on fixed building elements (door frames, heating pipes, etc.) should never be completely sealed with elastic filler, but use filler twine. Profiles, doorstops and suchlike should not be screwed through the floor covering into the subfloor.

6. MAINTENANCE

For more detailed information: please read our 'INVICTUS MAINTENANCE & CARE GUIDE' online

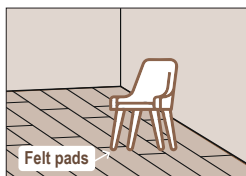


DOORMATS

To keep your floor in good condition, it is important to place **non-rubber backed doormats** at all entrances, to keep dirt, sand and water off of the floor. Placing doormats will eliminate abrasive particles driven by footwear and will extend the life of your floor.

Do not use rubber-backed mats, as long-lasting contact with rubber can cause permanent discoloration.

Never place doormats on a wet floor.



FELT PADS / NO RUBBER

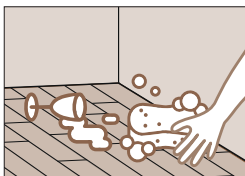
Use protective caps on furniture legs. Rolling office chairs should be fitted with soft, **non-rubber casters**, to avoid permanent damage to your floor. **Use felt or protective pads**, especially for furniture or other items that contain rubber and directly touch the floor (f.e. fitness appliances). Prolonged contact with rubber will cause permanent discoloration.

Use a **suitable desk mat** to protect your floor from damage due to castor chairs. Periodically clean castor wheels and check for wheels that may be broken (and if so, replace immediately).



MOVING FURNITURE

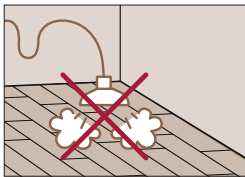
Avoid dragging or sliding heavy items or furniture across the floor. Use protective boards or appropriate furniture movers designed for use over hard surface flooring to move your furniture.



CLEANING

Initial Cleaning

First remove all dirt and dust from the flooring with a brush or vacuum cleaner. Then clean with water and a neutral pH detergent, until the water stays clean. We recommend to use our Invictus PU Cleaner, other cleaning products may contain agents that damage resilient floor surfaces.



Regular cleaning

Daily/ weekly maintenance by sweeping, vacuum or dust mopping or using a damp mop. (do not use vacuums with metal heads).

Regularly sweeping removes loose dirt or grit as these can cause fine scratches.

When required, use a solution of clean water and our Invictus PU Cleaner. Do not flood the floor with water. Rinse thoroughly and soak up residual water.

Always wipe up spills as soon as possible, to reduce the risk of slipping and possible staining.

Do not use chlorinated solvents. Never use wax or varnish coating. Never use maintenance products that contain wax or oil.

(furniture polish spray should be avoided as they can cause slippery floors)

Never use a steam mop.

7. WARRANTY INFO AND CONDITIONS

Warranty for first user

If you notice a defect, contact your dealer within two weeks with your original purchase receipt. For more detailed information: www.invictus.eu

8. LEGAL INFORMATION

This document presents the general installation instructions, based on the latest available information. For the best result, and to ensure the validity of the warranty, these instructions should be followed carefully.