Installation Guide

General Information
Acrylx is a fully waterproof Uniclic floating floor with excellent acoustic and thermal properties,

made lightweight and rigid core to assist installation over uneven subfloor surfaces. However, It is essential that these installation instructions are followed to ensure a quality fit.

The click profile is extremely stable and strong when installed. Product must be handled with extra care when transporting and must be packed properly to avoid the click profile from getting damaged. If shipping to job sites product should be palletized and shrink wrapped. Warranty will not cover shipping damages.

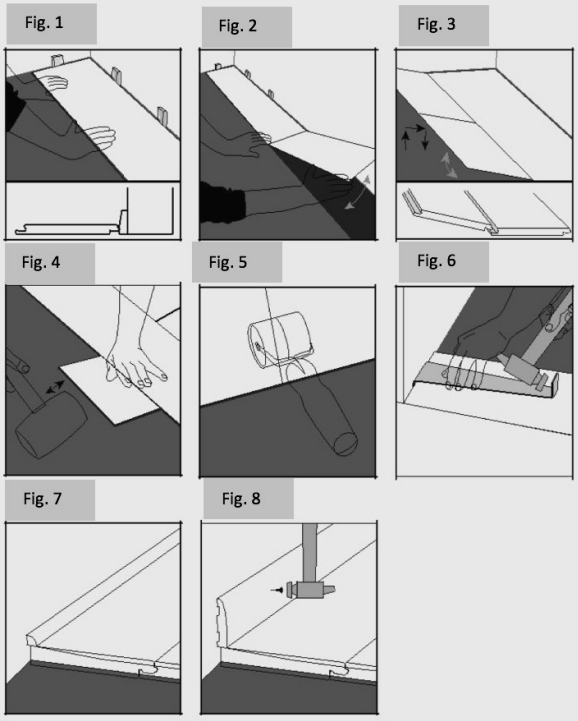
Tools
For a successful installation, the following tools will be necessary: pencil, utility knife, ruler/straight edge, carpenters square. Cutting saw, hand roller, pull bar, and rubber mallet are optional.

Acrylx is **not** suitable for outdoor or wet room installations.

Expansion Gap
A minimum ¼" (6.35mm) expansion zone is required around the perimeter of the room as well as against any fixed objects. ½" (12.7mm) expansion zone around the perimeter for rooms over 100' in either direction. The zone accounts for the normal movement of the floor system. A T-Molding must be used for commercial spaces measuring greater than 100' in either direction. T-Molding is not required in residential installation.

General
One of the benefits of Acrylx is that it does not need to be acclimated in residential installations and for commercial installations 24-48 hrs. is recommended. The room temperature should be between 50°F and 100°F before and during installation. Be sure to use Acrylx tiles/planks of the same color lot for best color matching. Mix tile from several different cartons to blend minor shade variations.
Note: All Warranties and guarantees regarding the suitability and performance of any products, if not supplied by Acrylx, rests with the material manufacturer or the installation contractor and **NOT** with Casabella Floors. Install following standard methods of measuring and laying out and cutting resilient tile/plank flooring. Stagger Tiles/Planks do not align end Joints next to each other and work out of 3 cartons and mix tile or planks.

1. Install the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall, fit 5mm spacers between the plank and wall (Fig. 1).
2. Lay the first row, ensuring the short edges are clicked together (Fig. 2).
3. Using a knife and straight edge, cut the last piece of the row to size, making sure that there is a ¼" gap between the end of the row and the wall.
4. Start the second row by clicking the tongue into the groove holding the plank at an angle (approximately 30°), then push the tile or plank firmly into the groove of the first row (Fig. 3).
5. Install the next plank by clicking the tongue and groove together along the short edge. Ease the tongue and groove together on the long side by angling the tiles/planks together. Continue to install tiles/planks across the room until the row is complete. Use a rubber mallet and Tapping block to securely fix the planks together (Fig. 4 & 5). A pull bar can be used to pull the product together around the edges of the room (Fig. 6).
6. Repeat sections 4 and 5 until the installation is complete.
7. When installing convex corners, round corners or complex profiles, mark the shape on the plank and cut using a cutting saw.



Once the floor is fitted, remove the spacers; sweep the floor with a soft brush. Fix the skirting boards or suitable edge trim to cover the expansion gaps. These should be fixed to the wall and not the floor (Fig. 7 & 8).

INSTALLATION, SUBFLOOR AND UNDERLAYMENT REQUIREMENTS

Subfloors: In general, all subfloors need to be Structurally Sound (Study, Flat within limits, within moisture limits, free or debris and with no Flex.)
Concrete: For Acrylx products under 4.0mm thick, the subfloor needs to be flat with no low or high spots exceeding 3/16" in 10' radius and cracks or seams no greater than 1/4 in width. Any subfloor flatness exceeding the 3/16" in 10' or cracks or seams exceeding ¼" in width should be sanded and/or floated or patched using a Portland cement based patching or leveling compound. **For Acrylx products 4.0mm thick or over,** the subfloor needs to be flat with no low or high spots exceeding ¼" in 10' radius and cracks or seams greater than 1/2" in width. Any subfloor flatness exceeding the 1/4" in 10' or cracks or seams exceeding 1/2" in width should be sanded and/or floated or patched using a Portland cement based patching or leveling compound. All concrete (new and old) must be tested for moisture. The installer is responsible for moisture testing. Concrete moisture vapor emissions should not exceed **8lbs** ASTM F1869 or **90%RH** (ASTM F2170) with a **PH limit of 9. Subfloor moisture vapor emission limits are in place to prevent the potential growth or harmful mold and bacteria below the Acrylx flooring.**

Lightweight concretes: Concretes in the lower end of this range are generally used for thermal and sound insulation fills for roofs, walls, and floors. The higher densities are used in cast-in-place walls, floors, roofs, and for pre-cast elements. The minimum density of the concrete should be greater than 90lbs per cubic foot. The minimum compressive strength of recommended concrete should be 3,500 psi. Because Adhesive is not used and Acrylx is a floating floor. Gypsum based underlayment products are approved with or without the G-Core backing. Strength and integrity are the most important factors of any subfloor or underlayment.

Older Gypsum based subfloors have a chalk like consistency and can breakdown over time

creating granular debris. Damaged or degraded materials under any floating or rigid system can create an acoustic issue. Acrylx has very good acoustic properties however, the breakdown of supporting or subfloor material is always something to be cognizant of. **Wood subfloors**: Plywood: Minimum ½" or greater, exterior grade. Other wood subfloors should be standard double layer construction, with a finished thickness of at least 1" and should have 18" of well-ventilated air space underneath. Crawl spaces should be insulated and protected by a vapor barer. Do not install vinyl flooring over a sleeper type subfloor, or over plywood that is directly over a concrete slab.

Radiant Heat: Heating components/elements must have minimum of 1/2" separation from the Acrylx flooring for approval of installation. Heated subfloors should be operational for at least 3 weeks prior to installation. This is to drive out existing moisture, calibrate temperature settings which will avoid any subfloor condensation issue from excessive temp and humidity swings during installation. Maximum operating subfloor radiant heating temperature should not exceed 85°F.

Quarry tile, terrazzo, and ceramic tile: Fill and level low spots, grout lines, holes, chips and seams based on concrete guidelines above with a Portland cement based patching or leveling compound for strength and integrity.

Existing Resilient Floors: The preference is to always to start with a clean new surface, Acrylx can be installed over one layer of existing resilient flooring material if it is structurally sound, bonded tightly with no loose or cracked tiles, planks or sheeting. The exception is any tile, plank or sheet that is of a cushion construction. The cushioned flooring material must be removed or covered.

Acoustical Pad: Acrylx is also available with G-Core closed cell foam backing system. Acrylx without the G-Core system can be installed over approved acoustical padding.

- When installing non-G-Core backed Acrylx over acoustical padding, follow all acoustic padding manufacturers installation guidelines for installation of their product.
- If adhesive is required for the installation of the acoustical padding, follow the adhesive manufactures installation guidelines for their product.
  Note: When installing Acrylx over any approved acoustic padding, install Acrylx perpendicular to the acoustical padding product seams.

Material Handling and Storage

Store Acrylx in a consistent temperature environment. Excessive temperature swings immediately prior to installation have the potential of causing condensation between the subfloor and Acrylx which, could promote the growth of harmful mold or bacteria. A consistent temperature during storage is always recommended for any product.

- Acrylx must be stored lying flat and cartons never on edge. Check to make sure color and lot numbers are the same on jobs requiring more than one box on tile.
- Mix tile from several different cartons to blend minor shade variations.
- Moisture: Never install Acrylx in standing subfloor moisture. New concrete slabs must cure for a minimum of 90 days for full cure strength and integrity. Even existing concrete slabs can have moisture problems so conducting proper moisture test will also help assess other materials capabilities on site. To be sure, conduct a moisture test several days before installation. The installer is responsible for moisture testing. See subfloor section above for guidelines. MOISTURE GUIDELINES FOR THE FLOOR COVERING INDUSTRY available from the World Floor Covering Association, at 1-800-624-6880.

HVAC

Acrylx does not need to be acclimated residentially. However, the room in which the material will be installed needs to be at standard room temperature setting of 50°F and 100°F for a minimum

of 48hours prior to and during installation. This is to avoid any potential condensation between the subfloor and Acrylx due to large and fast temperature swings immediately after installation.

Removing Old Adhesives

Old asphaltic “cut-back” adhesives can stain Acrylx flooring. These must be completely removed, encapsulated or covered with plywood underlayment. Be sure to remove adhesive in dips, joints, etc. Some previously manufactured cutback adhesives contained asbestos fibers, which are not readily identifiable. Do not use power removal devices, which can create dust. The use of solvent-based adhesive removers is not recommended. NOTE: If d-limonene (citrus-based) cleaners/removers are used (Orange All), subfloor must be thoroughly rinsed. If complete removal of old adhesives or covering them with plywood is not possible, the use of a Portland Based Leveling or Patching Compound is acceptable. Please follow manufacturer’s instructions carefully. For “Recommended Work Practices for the Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings” write to the Resilient Floor Covering Institute, 966 Hungerford Dr., Suite12-B, Rockville, MD 20850.

Patching & Leveling

For best results, It is always our recommendation to use Portland cement based patching and leveling compounds. However, acrylic skim coat products are approved if warranted by that manufacturer over the substrate to which it's being applied. Self-leveling patching and leveling compounds can have very high moisture content and require longer curing time: up to 10 days.

Check with a moisture meter before starting installation. Note: Adding latex to levelers will normally make the floors NON-POROUS. If using adhesive, test for porosity and use the non-porous adhesive instructions if necessary. Follow all the manufacture’s requirements for moisture limits. Sand underlayment smooth after it is cured. The installer is responsible for cure times, moisture content, adhesive bonding, if being used and the structural integrity of a leveling or patch compound to meet the acceptable limits for surface deviation. Acrylx is very resistant to telegraphing but proper steps and attention to limitations regarding subfloor preparation need to be taken.

Because of Acrylx’s construction it can be installed in three season enclosed interior rooms and /or enclosed sunrooms because of its construction and tolerance to heat and cold. Please note constant exposure to sunlight can cause surface fading and discoloration over time.

Any questions regarding tolerances, exposure to heat and cold temperatures and installation should be directed to Casabella Technical support.

	Premier Home	Premier XL	G-Core XL
Subfloor Flatness	3/16” in 10 ‘ radius	¼” in 10’ radius	¼” in 10’ radius
Expansion Gap	¼ inch around perimeter	¼ inch around perimeter	¼ inch around perimeter
Vapor Barrier	Not Required	Not Required	Not Required
Underlayment Pad	Not Required-Ok to use	Not Required-Ok to use	Attached to Product
Room Temperature and Acclimation Requirements	Interior Room Temperature Requirement 50 F to 100 F during installation. Acclimation Residential use not required. Commercial use 24 to 48 Hrs.	Interior Room Temperature Requirement 50 F to 100 F during installation. Acclimation Residential use not required. Commercial use 24 to 48 Hrs.	Interior Room Temperature Requirement 50 F to 100 F during installation. Acclimation Residential use not required. Commercial use 24 to 48 Hrs.
Radiant Heat*	Approved	Approved	Approved
Glue down Installation	Not required or recommended	Not required or recommended	Not required or recommended
Transitions T Mold for large spaces	Not required residential	Not required residential Commercial required in rooms greater than 100’ in either directions	Not required residential Commercial required in rooms greater than 100’ in either directions
Installation over Existing Ceramic Tile	Recommended to fill grout joint 1/4" and over	Recommended to fill grout joint 1/2" and over	Recommended to fill grout joint 1/2" and over
Residential 3 Season Enclosed Room and/or Sun room**	ok	ok	ok

* Follow Guideline instructions in installation Manual

**Constant exposure to sunlight can cause surface fading and discoloration over time