

## **General Instructions for Residential domestic vinyl (Market distributors & installation)**

The information provided is for the purchasing of cushion vinyl from Polyflor New Zealand, we suggest & recommend that the purchaser use a professional installer in order to obtain the best results.

We recommend that the purchaser check the colour, pattern and design are correct before installation, Polyflor NZ can provide images or samples upon request showing the colour, pattern & design or they can be viewed on our website [www.polyflor.co.nz](http://www.polyflor.co.nz).

### ***Consideration should also be taken into account for the following.***

- Placement of vinyl into high traffic areas, or areas which may be subject to heavy focused loads.
- Placement of rubber or latex back mats onto the vinyl.
- Extreme heat.
- UV light through windows, indoor ranch sliders (over time this can cause shrinkage and fade)-ensure that there is UV protection on the windows, doors and ranch sliders.

### **Storage**

The residential vinyl flooring must be stored indoors and protected from the weather. The storage area must be dry and free from direct sunlight with an ambient temperature between 10°C and 30°C. To avoid the vinyl flooring becoming yellow, ensure that the storage area is free of any contamination or pollution. Take care to avoid rough handling. If the material is pre-cut and then stored for some time, it must be rolled face out around a cardboard tube before installation, not piled-up or flattened under a heavy weight. Two-metre-wide rolls should be stored upright and securely fastened, rolls above two metres should be stored horizontally and not stacked.

### **Visual inspection**

Before installation, always check that the product is the one you ordered in terms of specification, design, and colour. At the same time carefully inspect the material for any visible damages and defects. Although our rolls are inspected before leaving the factory, it can happen that defects are not detected. In such case, contact Polyflor NZ for assistance.

### **Sub floor Preparation**

Our residential domestic vinyl collections can be laid on wood, concrete, and many other properly prepared sub floors and one key factor to ensuring an excellent finished appearance is to ensure careful subfloor preparation.

The information provided in this document includes general recommendations on how to prepare various types of subfloors.

The selection of all materials including moisture migration systems, self-levelling compounds, floor patch products, wood underlayment's and any other ancillary products are dependent upon existing conditions.

The application of subfloor preparation materials must be in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and all warranties & guarantees pertaining to the suitability & performance of any preparation or ancillary product rests with that material manufacturer and or the flooring contractor.

**Polyflor New Zealand recommends Kiesel Moisture barriers, Kiesel patching & self-leveling compounds, and Kiesel Adhesives; along with Polyflor NZ plywood and/or any products which conform to the EC1 label.**

#### Kiesel Primers & Moisture barriers

- Okatmos EG20 primer
- Okatmos UG30 primer
- Okapox GF Epoxy primer & moisture barrier
- Okatmos DSG primer & moisture barrier

#### Kiesel Floor levellers

- Servofine F333 patching, ramping & smoothing
- Servoplan R300s patching & ramping
- Servoplan BF850 bulk fill & levelling compound
- Servoplan Ki1 premium self-levelling compound
- Servoplan P200 Plus self-levelling compound
- Servoplan S444 fibre reinforced levelling compound

#### Kiesel Adhesives

- Okatmos Star 100
- Okatmos Star 100 Plus
- Okatmos Star 110 Plus
- Okatmos Star 150 pressure sensitive
- Okamul PU Polyurethane resin adhesives

Please contact Polyflor NZ for more information or view our web site details  
[www.polyflor.co.nz/kiesel/](http://www.polyflor.co.nz/kiesel/)

For all other adhesives check with the manufacturer for guidance on [EMICODE 1](#)

## **Conditions**

Subfloors must be absolutely level, clean and free from grit, dust, grease, oil, polish & old adhesive. Solvent-based products, petroleum, pigmented materials on or in the subfloor can permanently stain vinyl floor coverings, that's why the subfloor must be free from paint, varnish, oils, solvents, wax, hardening compounds in mastic, asphalt and other similar materials. Imperfections in the subfloor will affect the final appearance and performance of cushioned flooring. Any particles that could compromise the quality of bonding with the adhesive must be removed. It is essential that the subfloor is dry. Dampness can cause discolouration to the flooring.

The humidity of the subfloor must meet the standard technical requirements valid in New Zealand where the flooring is to be installed. If in doubt, take a hygrometer reading to check the level of dampness. A maximum hygrometer reading of 75% RH is recommended.

## **Concrete floors**

Concrete floors will need to be checked for moisture as per NZS/ AS 1884-2013 standards, should a reading higher than 75% (+-5) RH be recorded then a surface DPM (moisture barrier) or similar must be used. Use a levelling compound if the surface is uneven, rough, or cracked. It is usual to apply 3-6mm of levelling compound to produce the desired level of smoothness. Concrete floors should be tested for alkalinity.

## **Floor boarded timber floors / Tongue & Groove**

When organizing or planning for Tongue & Groove then the 5 key areas listed below will need to be applied per NZS/ AS 1884-2013 standards & best practice guidelines NZ flooring industry 2019.

### ***The timber floor will need to be***

- Clean, Sound, Flat (Plane), Smooth & Dry

## **Structural sheet floors (particleboard, strandboard or plywood)**

Best practice techniques to prepare structural sheet boards for resilient floor coverings recommend that an approved board underlayment (minimum 4.75mm) or a cementitious reinforced fibre type be applied with a minimum 3mm.

## **Wet areas**

The building code (E3 internal moisture) identifies a bathroom, laundry, toilet, or a kitchen (areas with taps) as wet areas where moisture may accumulate or be generated.

Any board underlayment with timber content is affected by moisture or changes in climatic conditions. When used in areas of humidity or bathroom areas, only recommended flooring grade board underlayment for these areas should be used. While vinyl floor coverings provide an impervious surface, there are steps needed to be taken as part of the installation process to provide the board underlayment with protection from any water splash and/or accidental water overflow.

### **Acclimatisation**

The residential domestic vinyl must be conditioned for 24 - 48 hours prior to installation, at a temperature of 18 - 29°C. They should then be left for a further 24 – 48 hours, after installation & before use. It is recommended that the material is pre-cut (accurately) to fit the room 24 hours prior to installation. Roll the material face out again but be careful not to damage the surface while handling the roll (do not roll the material face in, until taking it into the room for installation). Before installation, we recommend that the cushioned floor is laid flat and left for 2 hours at a room temperature of +18°C. If it is not possible to do this then the flooring should be loosely rolled and left in the room where it is to be installed for at least 24 hours. This will make the material more flexible and easier to handle.

Sheets of two-metre-wide floor covering should be rolled loosely and stored in an upright position for acclimatisation.

Sheets of four-metre-wide floor covering should be cut to size and laid flat for acclimatisation.

### **Laying direction**

Plan the direction and order of the sheets before installation, to ensure that if any joints are required, they do not coincide with doorways or main traffic areas. In large, well-lit rooms, sheets should run parallel to the incoming light. In long narrow rooms (like corridors) sheets can be installed along the length of the room. In square rooms, it is best to lay the rolls parallel to the entrance light, while in long and narrow rooms it is better to have them installed lengthwise. When you are installing 2m rolls next to each other it is important that these are all from the same batch.

### **Pre-cutting**

Ensure the maximum width and length of the rooms are measured correctly and include any recess or doorways with allowances for waste. To avoid unnecessary joints in the vinyl it is important to purchase the widest width available. If more than one piece is required to fit your room, you will need to allow for pattern match along the join. It is also important that each piece is cut from the same mother roll. This will ensure that you have true colour match along the seam. If pieces are cut from different rolls, please check that these have the same batch number. If not, we will not be able to accept responsibility for any colour variation. Rolls selected from the same batch must be installed in sequence, starting with the roll with the lowest batch number. Pay particular attention if the design needs to be laid in a reverse direction.

### **Pattern matching**

Do not crease or fold the vinyl sheets as this can lead to permanent damage. Do not write on the back of the vinyl sheets with a pen or felt tipped marker. If necessary, use a soft graphite pencil. Ensure that all the sheets are installed in the direction they have been printed (this should be the direction in which the rolls have been unrolled).

When cutting to size, consider the nature of the design and pattern.

In the case of plank and tile designs, we recommend that every sheet should be installed in the same direction, for all-over designs, we recommend that every other sheet is rotated through 180°.

If more than one roll of the same colour is required, all the rolls must be from the same batch and installed in the same order as they are numbered. We cannot guarantee a colour match between different batches.

### **Installation**

Once acclimatisation, laying direction, pre-cutting, pattern matching etc has been determined and the floor has been prepared to NZS AS 1884-2013 the vinyl can be installed using our recommended adhesives.

Ensure correct adhesives & floor preparation products are used as using incorrect materials (ie contact, latex based ) may cause irreplaceable damage, this would be considered outside our warranties.

Once the vinyl is laid onto the adhesive then you should apply pressure from a heavy roller starting from the centre and working out to the edges.

Should you require further information regarding the above general instructions please contact Polyflor New Zealand on 0800 765 935, or visit our website [www.polyflor.co.nz](http://www.polyflor.co.nz).

### **Reference material**

- New Zealand Floor covering standards NZS AS 1884-2013
- Best practices resilient floor coverings 2019
- Beauflor
- Polyflor New Zealand

END