# **GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

The installation of Identity by Belgotex LVT is straightforward and follows the same guidelines that apply to all quality resilient LVT floors. Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation.

Please inspect the product prior to installation. Check that the colour correspond to those ordered, the quantities are correct and there is no visible damage to the product. Check the vinyl planks or tiles during installation for any visible defects. Do not install any planks or tiles that display imperfections.

Identity by Belgotex LVT can be installed on concrete, timber, stone and many other sub-floors, which have been suitably prepared. Site conditions must follow the relevant national regulations (NZ AS 1884:2013).

It is important to keep a consistent temperature during the life of the product; dramatic changes in temperature can affect the product and should be avoided in order to maintain the serviceability of the product. This is particularly relevant where the temperatures drop below 13°C/55°F; when bringing the room back to normal temperature you must increase the temperature in no more than 5°C/41°F increments over a period of at least 24 hours to ensure the tiles remain serviceable.

Identity by Belgotex LVT must also be acclimatized for a period of 24 to 72 hours before, during, and after installation. Failure to do this can cause issues with the LVT which will not be covered under our warranties.

Identity by Belgotex LVT is not suitable for external installation or unheated locations.

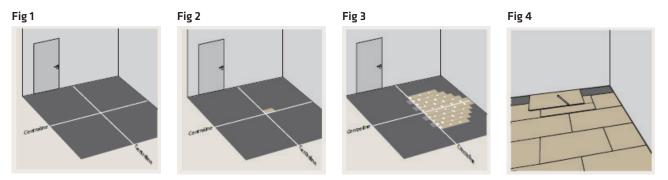
We recommend that you always use product from a single batch for each installation as we cannot guarantee a colour match between batches. Cartons should be stored and transported on a flat surface in neat stacks, always store the cartons flat and never put them upright. Do not store the cartons in very cold (less than 2°C/35°F) or very warm (more than 40°C/104°F) or humid places.

Planks, adhesive, and sub-floor must be allowed to stabilize to a consistent temperature between 18°C and 25°C (64°F and 77°F) for a period of 24 hours before and after installation.

Following installation, Identity by Belgotex LVT should be protected from heavy traffic for 24 hours and must not be washed for 48 hours. Always follow the relevant manufacturers' recommendations when using their proprietary materials for sub-floor preparation.

Once the flooring has been installed it needs to be protected if there is further building work to be completed as building related products such as gib dust, paint, heavy furniture, etc., can damage the flooring and warranties will not apply.

When installing planks, the centre line must be determined and checked to ensure good size cuts will be fitted at the perimeter. The positioning of the centre line will determine a start point from which to start the installation from and will minimize small cuts or perimeter tiles (see Fig 1-4).



# SUBFLOOR OVERVIEW:

Careful sub-floor preparation is vital for an excellent floor appearance and good tile adhesion. The sub-floor must be hard, smooth, clean, dry, free from defects and fit for purpose. When needed, scrape off and clean up old adhesives. Make sure the sub-floor is flat and free from fat, grease or chemical substances. A suitable levelling compound should be used to ensure that no irregularities show through to the surface of the finished floor.

The selection of suitable materials, including smoothing and levelling compounds and any ancillary products is dependent upon the end use of the completed flooring, and must be agreed by the supplier of the preparative materials and the flooring contractor. Any proprietary materials used for floor preparation must be used following the manufacturers' recommended instructions.

Direct-to-earth concrete and stone sub-floors must have an effective damp proof membrane (DPM). Follow manufacturer's detailed instructions for the installation of a surface DPM and the use of levelling compound

# The finished appearance of a design floor will be as good as the quality of the base over which it is installed. Any irregularities in the sub-floor will show through the finished floor.

Floor laying work should not begin until the installer has assessed and approved the sub-floor or conditions. Serious defects should always be reported at once to the appropriate party and corrected before installing the floor or covering.



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# SUBFLOOR OVERVIEW (CONT.):

#### Adhesives

It is recommended that a 1.6mm notched trowel be used for all installation of Identity by Belgotex LVT Planks, it should also be noted that a sufficient tack time for the adhesive be allowed and depending on conditions this working time can be between 15-40 minutes. Please check with Gilt Edge Industries for correct adhesives and tack / working times. The planks being installed will need to be rolled upon completion of each phase of the floor and a final roll over once the job has been completed.

In all cases, the sub-floor must be sufficiently dry and assessed for moisture and conform to the NZS AS 1884:2013 Standard.

#### **Concrete Floors**

As per NZS AS 1884:2013 Appendix A2.1 for concrete sub floors the on slab or in slab test (using a hygrometer) shall be used, if it is determined that moisture content exceeds 75% RH then the concrete floor will either be required to dry until it reaches 75% RH or an approved moisture barrier be applied.

Direct-to-earth concrete and stone sub-floors must have an effective damp proof membrane (DPM). Follow manufacturer's detailed instructions for the installation of a surface DPM and the use of levelling compound.

#### New Concrete

Must be allowed sufficient time to dry thoroughly as it will contain a high percentage of residual moisture. Apply levelling compound-minimum 3mm.

#### **Old Concrete**

Must be cleaned of all paint, grease, wax and any other foreign matter. Apply levelling compound-minimum 3mm.

#### **Timber Floors**

The electrical resistance test shall be done on all timber substrates according to NZS AS 1884:2013 Appendix A2.4 and that if a reading is above 16% then the floor shall be deemed to have high moisture content and should not be laid upon.

#### **Old Resilient Floors**

Existing tiles should be lifted and adhesive residues removed by scraping. No solvents should be used to remove old adhesive. Apply levelling compound.

#### Terrazzo/Stone

Repair worn or damaged areas. Degrease and apply levelling compound.

#### Timber/Particle Board/Strand Board

Must be overlaid with a minimum of 6mm (1/4") exterior or flooring grade plywood, fixed at a maximum of 150mm centres. A suitable feathering or finishing compound should be used to ensure joints are not visible when the installation is complete.

# UNDERFLOOR HEATING:

Identity by Belgotex can be used with traditional water based underfloor heating systems, provided there is a constant room temperature of 18°C for the acclimatisation period, installation and for 72 hours after installation, and the underfloor heating remains off.

24 hours after installation the underfloor heating can be gradually increased by increments of 5°C per day until it reaches the standard operating temperature conditions, with a maximum operating temperature of 27°C.

For the suitability of the system please check the manufacturer's instructions.

### **Electrical Underfloor Heating**

Consult under floor heating manufacturer and make sure the system is compatible with Luxury Vinyl Tiles.

### Special Note about High Heat Areas

In areas that may be subject to extremely excessive direct heat 50°C /122°F or above (e.g. floor to ceiling doors and windows) the installation contractor should consult with Gilt Edge Industries to ensure the correct adhesive is used. It is particularly necessary to keep the temperature during installation at a constant 18°-25°C (62°F - 77°F) prior to, during, and for 24 hours after installation. It would also be advisable to shade windows to ensure that constant temperature conditions are maintained hours after installation.

# If any of these guidelines are not followed, a warranty claim may not be accepted.

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# INSTALLING TILE AND PLANKS TO WET AREAS:

The building code (E3 Internal moisture) identifies a bathroom, laundry, toilet or a kitchen as a 'wet area' where moisture may accumulate or be generated (sanitary fixtures). To prevent structural damage to the subfloor and meet conditions for health and safety, internal areas that accumulate moisture are to be constructed in a way to prevent moisture build up and fungal growth. Finished surfaces must be impervious, maintain the integrity of the system, and use materials and finishes suitable for wet areas.

- Two key areas that affect floor coverings are water splash or leaked water. These are referred to in E3 as:
  - Containing accidental water overflow (flood, leak).
  - ► Water Splash (e.g. outside area of a shower or bath)
- Any sanitary fitting in a room has the potential of water overflow or create splash back. To comply with the E3 2.1, containing accidental water overflow may be achieved by using impervious floor coverings which are continuous and coved or joints sealed where they meet the edges/wall.
- Adhesive systems used in wet areas must be able to provide assurance when applied correctly that timber substrates will not be damaged by any moisture or water that may seep through joins or at the edges of the area/room.
- These adhesives have been typically of polyurethane or epoxy type in nature, however with advances in adhesive technology there may be other alternatives recommended by adhesive suppliers.
- The adhesive should be an approved fit for purpose system that is compatible with the floor covering. If installers are not familiar with the adhesive system specified, then they should contact the supplier for further information. This may involve training if the system requires it for warranty purposes.
- Adhesive systems used in a residential kitchen and laundry should be able to sustain an accidental overflow situation.
- Where loose-lay planks or tiles with no impervious joining system are installed into a kitchen and laundry area over a timber board underlayment or structural sheet: hese are referred to in E3 as:
  - The surface should be first sealed with an approved coating that would make the board surface impervious to any water penetration or accidental overflow situation.
- For future reference and warranties, the identity of the manufacturer for any adhesive system used should be recorded in the customer file or included in the quotation to the customer.

#### Edge Sealing in Wet Area

Sealing the tile/plank floor walls/upstand joints involves applying a thin bead of a suitable type and colour/clear silicone then smoothing off with a profiled tool.



Setting the bead width



Finished transparent bead



Silicone to the shower/ floor junction





After fitted any excess silicone that squeezes up is removed

If any of these guidelines are not followed, a warranty claim may not be accepted.