

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

**These installation guidelines apply to the DECOCLICK product only.**

**All instructions and recommendations should be followed for a satisfactory installation.**

**Tools:** Tape Measure, Utility Knife, Tapping Block, Pull Bar, ¼"(6.35mm) Spacers, Square ruler,

- The floor covering should be stored and installed in a climate controlled location with an average temperature between 65° - 85°F (18°-29°C).
- Acclimate material a minimum of 24 to 48 hours prior to installation in the room/ location where the installation will take place.
- Do not store directly on concrete, allow for air circulation. Do not open the cartons but spread them out and protect corners from damage.
- Failure to follow these guidelines may result in an installation failure (i.e. flooring may expand or contract, resulting in gapping). DECOCLICK Plank is an interior product and must be installed in a temperature controlled environment, maintained between 65 and 85 degrees F (18°-29°C). Please keep in mind a concrete floor can be up to ten degrees colder than the actual room temperature.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods; such exposure may result in discoloration, and excessive temperatures can cause the flooring to expand and lift off of the subfloor. During peak sunlight hours, the use of the drapes or blinds is recommended.
- Regardless of new construction or remodeling projects, keep flooring stored in rooms that are not being worked in and only install product after all other trades have completed work that could damage the flooring.
- To minimize shade variation, mix and install planks from several cartons.
- Inspect all planks for damage before installing. Claims will not be accepted for flooring that has been cut to size and/or installed.
- All subfloor patching must be done with a Portland based compound and allowed to dry completely prior to installing flooring.
- Installation – This product can be installed on, above, or below grade.
- DECOCLICK locking technology is water/moisture resistant and reliably secures the flooring panels on all four sides. However, excessive moisture in the subfloor could promote mold, mildew, and other moisture related issues like the trapping of moisture emissions under the flooring, which may contribute to an unhealthy indoor environment.
- LG HASUSYS does not warrant nor is responsible for damage to floor covering due to moisture related issues.

## II. SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

**All subfloors must be clean, flat, dry and structurally sound. The correct preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor covering, resulting in an unsightly surface and may cause excessive wear on high spots. Subfloor must be flat – 3/16" in 10' span (4.7mm in 4m).**

CAUTION: Some types of nails, such as common steel nails, may cause discoloration of the vinyl floor covering. Recommendations for attaching underlayment panels are not included. Solvent based construction adhesives are known to stain vinyl floor coverings. All responsibility for discoloration problems caused by the use of the above mentioned products is not the responsibility of LG HAUSYS, but rests with the installer and the underlayment panel manufacture.

### A. Wood Subfloors

1. Wood subfloors must be suspended at least 18" (460mm) above the ground. Adequate cross ventilation must be provided, and the ground surface of a crawl space must be covered with a suitable vapor barrier.
2. Wood subfloors directly on concrete or installed over sleeper construction are NOT suitable for the installation.
3. All wood and wood composition panels, including plywood, OSB, flake board and particle boards, can be used providing they are smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection.
4. A 1/4" (6.4mm) underlayment panel should be installed over the subfloor if the surface of the wood subfloor is not smooth. LG HAUSYS recommends underlayments that are APA underlayment grade and warranted by manufacturer.

### B. Concrete Subfloors

1. Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds and other extraneous materials. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
2. New concrete slabs must be thoroughly dry (at least six weeks) and completely cured. The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.
3. Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions must be filled with a Portland cement-based underlayment and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.

4. Concrete floors with a radiant heating system are satisfactory, provided the temperature of the floor does not exceed 85°F(29°C) at any point. Before installation, turn on the heating system to eliminate any residual moisture.
5. Moisture levels of concrete slabs before, during and after installation must be 8 lbs. or less per 1000 square feet per 24 hours using an anhydrous calcium chloride test according to ASTM F1869 and pH must be between 5.0 and 9.0; or, if using ASTM F2170 in- situ probes should be less than 90% RH (relative humidity). In some instances, it may be necessary to adhere the LVT to "Special needs" areas (steps, ramps, landings, etc.).

### C. Existing Floor Coverings

1. DECOCLICK can be installed over most existing hard-surface floor coverings provided the existing floor surface is smooth, or can be made smooth.
2. Ceramic tile should be made smooth by applying a cementitious overlay such as patching or leveling compound to smooth out grout joints.
3. For existing resilient floor, it may be required to apply an embossing leveler over a deeply embossed floor. Heavily cushioned vinyl flooring or vinyl flooring consisting of multiple layers are NOT suitable subfloor for installation.
4. Installation is NOT allowed over any type of carpet.
5. Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor may affect the new floor covering.

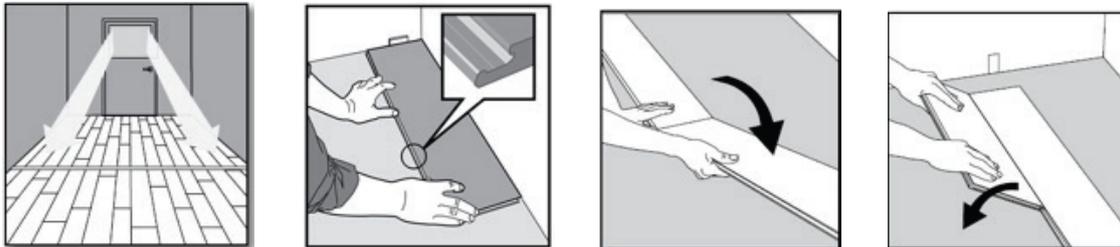
## III. INSTALLATION

**DECOCLICK plank flooring is designed to be installed utilizing the floating method only. Never secure the planks to the subfloor. Do not install cabinets or fixed objects on top of the flooring. Proper expansion space is required. Undercut all doorjambs. Do not fasten wall moldings and or transition strips to the planks.**

1. Before you start with the installation, it is important to determine the layout of the flooring. Proper planning and layout will prevent having narrow plank widths at wall junctures or very short length pieces at the end of rows.
2. As with all plank products, install the planks parallel to the longest exterior wall.

3. Determine if the starter row will need to be cut. If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in width, it will be necessary to cut off the unsupported tongue so that a clean, solid edge shows towards the wall.
4. Installation of the product must start from the left side of the room, working to the right when working in front of the planks or facing the starting wall.
5. Install the second plank in the row by angling the end tongue into the end groove of the first plank. Be careful not to bend the corner of the plank. Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 5/16"(8mm) from the wall. Start the second row by cutting a plank to the desired length. Keep in mind that the plank must not be shorter than 6" (15cm) to achieve the best appearance.
6. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. This is best done with a low angle of the plank. Maintain pressure into the side seam as you rotate the plank to the subfloor. Install the second plank in the second row by inserting the short end tongue into the previously installed plank groove. Align the plank so that the long side tongue tip is positioned just over the groove lip of the plank in the first row. Working from the end seam, at a low angle, insert the long tongue into the groove of the adjoining plank. Very little force is required to seat the tongue into the groove. You should feel the tongue lock into the groove.
7. Work across the length of the room installing planks along the wall in the first row and then aligning the planks in the second row. It is critical to keep these two rows straight and square, as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the installation. Check squareness and straightness often.
8. Cut the last plank in the first row and leave an expansion gap of around 5/16"(8mm). Planks may be cut with a utility knife using the "score and snap" technique. The leftover of this plank may be used to start the third row if it's a minimum 6"(15cm) long.
9. Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with end pieces of minimum 6"(15cm). Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the tapping block in order to avoid damages on the planks.
10. When fitting under door casings, etc., the flexibility and convenient connection of DECOCLICK becomes evident. If necessary, a flat pull bar may be used to assist in locking the planks.
11. When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, planks can be cut easily and cleanly using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer this pattern to the plank.
12. Protect all exposed edges of the flooring by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Make sure that no plank will be secured in any way to the sub floor.

13. Protect the finished flooring from exposure to direct sunlight.



#### IV. REPAIRS

**In the unlikely event that DECOCLICK LVT is damaged for whatever reason, the simplest method is to disconnect the planks carefully (protecting the tongue and groove edges) until the damaged plank can be removed. Then replace the damaged plank with a new one and reassemble the disconnected planks. This typically works for planks that are closest to the two long walls of a room. For damaged planks that are not close to the perimeter, you may have to remove the damaged planks and insert new pieces without the short and long end grooves.**

1. Using a sharp utility knife and a straight edge, cut out the center of the damaged plank by leaving approximately 1"(2.5mm) strip attached to the adjacent planks.
2. Carefully cut back from the four corners of the plank to the inside edges in space left by the cut out plank.
3. Remove the plank edges carefully from of the adjacent planks making sure the tongues and grooves of the adjacent planks are not damaged.
4. using a utility knife, remove the tongue strip on both the long and short ends of the replacement plank. In addition, remove the groove strip of the short end of the replacement plank.
5. Place some double-sided carpet tape along the three sides of the adjacent planks where the tongues and the groove of the replacement plank have been removed. Only the top side release paper of the carpet tape should be removed. The bottom side release paper should NOT be adhered to the subfloor.
6. Position the replacement plank by engaging the groove of the long side into the tongue of the adjoining plank and pushing down on the other three sides. The carpet tape will hold the replacement plank in place with its adjacent planks. Use a hand roller to further secure the tape.