

INSTRUCTION ON PVC FLOOR COVERING (ROLLED PVC FLOORING AND ROLLED “VINYL SW” COVERING) APPLICATION, TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

PVC floor covering is designed to be installed in residential and public buildings (groups A, B, V according to the classification established by the Russian Ministry of Health and Medicine). While installing PVC flooring the type of the premises must be considered, i.e. the range of application (residential, commercial and industrial) and expected intensity of use.

SERVICE LIFE. Full information about the service life depending on the type of premises and PVC floor covering collection is available at the manufacture’s website (<https://komitexlin.ru/>). If you follow the requirements of the present instruction the service life of PVC flooring will be minimum 10 years. Warrantee storage period is twelve months from the production date.

DELIVERY. PVC floor covering **can be delivered** by all means of transport in covered vehicles according to the shipping rules, valid for a particular means of transport.

All the measures providing protection against moisture, damage and pollution must be taken during transportation, loading and discharging. During long term delivery, loading and discharging at temperature less than 10°C it is prohibited to let the rolls fall or be submitted to distortion or pressure.

STORAGE. Rolls must be stored in a dry closed area at a minimum temperature of + 10 °C.

PVC floor covering rolls must be situated at least 1 m. from radiators. The rolls must not be stored close to organic solvents or substances that may contain them. Spooled rolls of PVC floor covering must be kept no more than 2 rows horizontally. In case of storage in specialized cells with shelves representing solid sheets spooled PVC floor covering rolls may be kept up to 4 rows high in a horizontal position.

We recommend selecting PVC floor covering with an allowance of 5-8 cm. in relation to length and width of the room, taking into consideration doorways and walls to avoid or minimize seals between the covering sheets. We also advise to take the vinyl covering from one batch to match the shades of the colour.

UNPACKING. Vinyl covering rolls should be **unpacked** indoors at a minimum temperature of + 15 °C. During the transportation at a temperature from 0 °C to +14 °C, unpack rolls not earlier than in 24 hours after delivery, and at a temperature below 0 °C - not earlier than in 48 hours after transfer to a warm room with a minimum temperature of +15 °C.

After cutting PVC floor covering into sheets, we advise to roll them face out on the tube with diameter of 70 mm to avoid fractures during spooling, storage and transportation. Don’t keep interposed several layers of the folded sheets after having cut the roll.

While cutting out the rolls of **PVC covering it is forbidden** to pull the sheet rubbing the pattern side on the subfloor to avoid damage of the face surface.

INSTALLATION. The installation of the PVC floor covering should be carried out in accordance with requirements of the set of rules 29.13330.2011 “Floors”, 71.13330.2017 “Insulating and finishing Coatings”.

PVC flooring must be installed in rooms with windows fixed, after the systems of heating, water supply, ventilation and electric power are assembled and tested and when finishing work (plastering, painting and facing work) that may cause moisture and dirt to get on the floor has been completed.

The subfloor must be dry, smooth, solid, without cracks, dust, grease or oil. We don’t recommend installing the new covering on the oil painted subfloor, on the old covering, on the chipboard or plywood that can distort at changing temperature and air humidity. The subfloor must have a good adhesive absorbing ability, that’s why never install PVC floor covering on painted, lacquered or covered with waterproof agent subfloor.

For leveling the subfloor we advise the following:

- to level **the concrete floor** with the leveling compound;
- to cover **the wooden floor** with high quality plywood sheets 8-10 mm thick or fiberboard, nailed at intervals of 150 mm, close up the holes with mastic or putty; we recommend to install plywood sheets checker wise.
- to strengthen and clean **the tiled floor**, to fill the tile joints with a leveling compound, treating with a suitable primer and to smooth out with a leveling compound no less than 3 mm thick to make the absorbent ground.
- to remove **carpeting**, clean the surface, treat with a primer and apply a leveling layer
- to remove **vinyl coverings** and adhesive residues from the base, to treat the subfloor with a primer and to apply the leveling compound.

The deviation of the base surface from the horizontal line should be no more than 2 mm at 2 meters length (according to the set of rules 71.13330.2017; measurement using 2 meters ruler/ tape measure.

The installation requirements. The constant temperature of 15 °C minimum must be maintained for 24 hours before the installation, during the process of installation and also within 72 hours after it. The relative air humidity must be no more than 60%.

Underfloor heating system. 3-4 days prior to installation heating must be turned off and switched on not earlier than in 72 hours after installation. The minimum temperature in the room when the heating system is switched off must be +15. Next, you need to gradually increase the temperature by 3-5 degrees per day until the desired temperature is reached. The maximum temperature at the junction of the floor covering and the floor base must not exceed 27 degrees.

At the installation of the floor covering, it is necessary to comply with requirements to humidity of the subfloor. Humidity must be no more than 4% for panels of floor separating constructions, no more than 5% for caps based on the cement, polymer-cement and gypsum binder and no more than 12% for caps made of fiberboard.

If PVC floor covering is installed on the wet subfloor, mold is likely to appear under the covering, which will lead to colour stains on the PVC flooring surface, air bubbles or other deformations.

The sheets of the covering are installed on the prepared subfloor. Attaching pieces, the abutting edges are overlapped to match the pattern (the overlap width of 2 cm. minimum). Only after this the covering can be cut along the perimeter with an overlap of 5-10 mm to the wall. In this position, the linoleum is kept for at least two days until any undulation disappears. The minimum temperature in the room must be +15 °C and maximum air humidity - 60%.

Attention! While attaching sheets take PVC floor covering of one batch (width). The total amount of PVC flooring installed increases when using geometric patterns (planks, tiles and herring-bones) due to match of pattern repeat (repeat in width 100±20 cm. depending on the pattern). The pattern repeat shift (the pattern distortion at the joint) is allowed at the edges of PVC flooring sheets. In this case it is recommended to use the "counter docking method" (every next sheet cut from the roll turned on 180^o comparing to the previous sheet). During installation of PVC floor covering in one room or adjacent rooms pay attention to the possible difference in colour shades, take rolls from the same batch. At the installation of PVC floor covering in a big space take the rolls successively regarding the roll number. The batch number and the roll number are given in the identification tag.

We recommend gluing PVC floor covering along the entire surface with a specialized dispersion adhesive for PVC coverings. The use of solvent-based adhesives is prohibited. The adhesive should be applied with spatula A1 or A2 equally upon all the surface of the subfloor (consumption of adhesive: 250-400 g/m²). The consumption of adhesive depends on the subfloor surface, the adhesive characteristics and tools you apply it with. Install the covering, match the pattern and fold one half of the sheet. Next, gradually apply adhesive on the subfloor and glue one half of the covering and then, in the same way, the second half. The layer of adhesive must be dried a little, but not to the full. It is done in order to let the adhesive penetrate into the subfloor and depends on the subfloor absorbency, temperature and air humidity in the room, the adhesive applied and its thickness. It usually takes 5-10 minutes (drying time is given in the adhesive manufacturer's instruction). When installing the covering sheets with the help of adhesive it is necessary to monitor the degree of the substrate soaking. In case of uneven adhesive distribution on the covering substrate, stop the gluing and remove the adhesive residues from the subfloor surface and apply the adhesive again. Glue PVC floor covering to the subfloor over the entire surface except for the sheet joint (about 5 mm) necessary to make the final trimming. Press the sheets of the covering to the floor with a roller from the centre to the sides to remove air bubbles. If you install two sheets of PVC floor covering, roll the compression roller from the sheet joint to the sides and then cut the joint. Next, apply adhesive on the subfloor under the sheet joint, but not earlier than 3 days after the sheets of the covering are glued. After gluing cut the covering along the perimeter of the room. To cut the external corners, push the covering into the joint between the wall and the floor, make a little cross-cut along the corner of the wall down to the floor and then pull the covering apart.

To cut the internal corners gradually make diagonal cuts across the material corner till it fits precisely into the corner. To make the final trimming, press the covering with your hand to the wall. Next, cut excess material with a knife, pressing the covering to the wall with a metal ruler or a spatula. After cutting the flooring must not lay close to the wall. To avoid bending of the PVC covering, leave a gap of 5 mm along each wall.

PVC floor covering joints are sealed by a cold-welding method with the help of special adhesives. The manufacturer's instruction on cold welding is given on the adhesive package. Thermo-contact method by means of such devices as "Pilad" and "Master" can also be used. To install ANGARA, COMMERCIAL, SOLID, SPECTRUM, EVEREST, ELBRUS, FLEX LINE, RRO LINE AND ECO LINE hot welding method based on heating the PVC cord with a hot air gun is used. Welding prevents moisture from getting under the covering during the service life. The floor exploitation is allowed minimum in 72 hours after the abovementioned procedures.

Installation of PVC floor covering on a surface of less than 20 square meters can be carried out without gluing it to the subfloor, just fixing it with a double-sided adhesive tape. To do this cut the PVC flooring along the perimeter after it lays for some time. Then, fold back one half of the sheet and fix the double-sided tape along the sheet perimeter and also in places of intense loading, where the furniture and household equipment will be. After that, put the sheet on the tape so as to avoid air bubbles under the flooring. Next, fold back the second half of the sheet and repeat all the above-mentioned procedures with it. The manufacturer is not responsible for this way of installation (without using special adhesives all over the surface) and doesn't give any warranties.

MAINTENANCE. Sweep the PVC flooring with a broom or clean it with a vacuum cleaner and wash it with special detergents. Stains from shoe-polish, rubber traces, iodine, brilliant green and tar must be removed immediately by water solution of isopropanol (isopropyl alcohol).

Universal cleaning and bleaching agents, as well as other cleaning agents, containing abrasive substances and chemical solvents such as acetone, ethyl acetate and others must not be used for cleaning PVC floor covering. Maximum water temperature for washing the PVC floor covering is 40 °C.

Though PVC floor covering is water-resistant, it is recommended to take measures to avoid its long-term exposure to liquids, especially at the joints. During the long contact with a liquid the loss of PVC decorative layer is possible.

The contact of the covering with rubber leaves indelible stains on the surface, as well as substances containing bitumen and its derivatives. Rubber-based mats should be avoided.

To protect the covering against damage when moving furniture, we recommend using furniture glides made of felt, fabric or PVC. Cover sharp edges and legs of furniture with felt, fabric or PVC stickers or caps.

The constant contact of PVC flooring with abrasive materials, grease and oil is prohibited. We advise to put doormat in front of the entrance to avoid sand, stones from entering the room, it is advisable to use mats or grids.

It is necessary to put special plastic or other hard dense mats in location of tables and chairs on roller legs

Additional information on installation and also the relevant instruction on PVC flooring application, transportation and storage is given on the manufacturer's website (<https://komitexlin.ru/>)