



# Residential Installation Guide — Luxury Vinyl Tile Click

## Mohawk Residential Installation Guide — LVT Click

### Materials Required for Installation:

- Tape Measure
- Utility Knife
- Small Hand Roller (Seam Roller)
- Square Ruler
- Chalk Line
- Scrap piece of LVT/P material tapping to tighten joints

### Acceptable Underlayments

Mohawk's LVT Click Products can be installed directly over most existing floor coverings, except for carpet, laminate, floating floors systems and cushioned vinyl flooring.

- **Wood Underlayment**  
*Can go over virtually any sound wood underlayments/subfloors. Always fasten underlayment in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. For "special needs" glue down applications (steps, ramps, landings, etc.), Mohawk recommends underlayments that are underlayment grade and warranted by the manufacturer. Any failure of the underlayment or flooring as a result of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk.*
- **Concrete**  
*Moisture levels of concrete slabs before, during and after installation must be 8 lbs. or less per 100 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.)*
- **Radiant Heated Floors**  
*Radiant heated floors must be approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications. The subfloor temperature should not exceed 85°F (29°C) and the system should be turned off 24 hours prior to and after the installation. Note: Mohawk does not recommend the use of Kalm underlayment with radiant heated floors.*

### Storage and Handling

Acclimate the flooring a minimum of 24 hours before installation in the area it is to be installed. Conditions between 65° F and 85° F (18° C and 29° C) are required before, during and after installation. Cartons should be evenly stacked no more than five high on a flat surface and away from any heating/cooling ducts or direct sunlight.

### Subfloor and Wall/Door Preparation

*Note: Do not install cabinets on top of floating LVT. The surface beneath the floor must be sufficiently prepared in advance to guarantee a successful installation of the flooring.*

- Fill any low spots in the subfloor greater than 3/16 inch in 10 foot span with a Portland cement leveling compound.
- Ceramic tile and embossed flooring will require skim coating with a Portland based patch to avoid bottom up pattern telegraphing.
- Remove any existing floor molding. Removal of wall baseboards is optional as a quarter round can be installed to avoid baseboard removal.
- Undercut doorjamb so the ¼ inch expansion space is maintained, allowing the LVT to slip under doorjamb/case molding.
- Sweep the subfloor clean. The floor must also be free of all contaminants.

**PLEASE NOTE** warranty exclusions with respect to rolling loads. If you have frequent or heavy rolling conditions, click products can be glued down to help reduce the risk of joint separation from rolling load traffic; however our warranty still excludes any problems associated with rolling loads.

## Start of Installation

It is the installer's responsibility to inspect the flooring prior to installation to ensure that there are no visual defects. *Do not install flooring with visible defects. If visible defects are present, contact your retailer immediately.*

- Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry before installation.
- Check the tongue and groove to assure it is free of debris or damage.
- To achieve maximum appearance, mix planks from two to three cartons from the same production.

The advantage of Mohawk LVT Click product is that it allows you to choose your own starting position, direction and can work one plank/tile at a time.

### **Walls are not always straight. Snap a chalk line for your first row to follow.**

Maintain a ¼" (½ cm) expansion space around all walls. Quarter round or baseboard molding will cover this expansion space. **IMPORTANT:** Maintain the ¼ inch space around cabinets, pipes, toilet flanges and any obstacle in the floor.

- For **plank installation**, we recommend staggering the end joints a minimum of 6 inches.
- For **tile installation**, we recommend staggering the end joints a minimum of 3 inches.

**NOTE:** Do not install four corners together, as this will not provide a stable installation.

## Clicking Planks/Tiles Together

To click the end joint of the plank/tile together, click the short side of the plank/tile vertically into the previous one by pressing it by hand and rolling it with a hand roller or seam roller to ensure a fully compressed tight fit.

To click the length joint of the plank/tile together, place long joint together, lifting slightly to engage lock. Rotate downward, clicking together for a tight fit. Use a small hand roller or seam roller to press/lock the compression fit end joint.

To tap along the entire length of plank or tile to properly seal the joint, **use a small scrap piece of plank/tile** with the lock on the edge. Lock groove-to-tongue or tongue-to-groove for this application. Lock the scrap piece to the area requiring tapping, and lightly tap the edge of the material. This will bring the tile edges tight together. **Do not use a tapping block.**

Cut the plank/tile by scoring through the top wear layer with a utility knife then snap the plank/tile across the score.

Install adjoining rows as you did the first; one piece at a time. Holding the plank/tile at a slight angle, place it against the profile in the first row. Rotate the plank/tile down to secure the length joint ensuring there are no gaps along the joint.

The adjoining planks/tiles are aligned by sliding the long joint into position, shifting it to properly match the end joint against the previous plank/tile. Repeat until you reach the final row of material.

To install the final row of planks/tiles, you will usually need to cut them. We recommend the following: lay a panel on top of the last row installed. Lay another plank/tile against the edge of the wall. Mark the plank/tile underneath. Cut the plank/tile through the wear layer and snap along the score. Install the last row leaving ample expansion space.

## Additional Notes

### Molding and Transitions Installation

- All molding and transition strips need to provide a ¼ inch expansion space to allow expansion and contraction of the subfloor. Ensure moldings and transition strips will not pinch the flooring.
- Never allow nails or screws to enter into the LVT flooring or the expansion zone around the flooring perimeter, as it will prevent proper expansion of the structure and flooring.

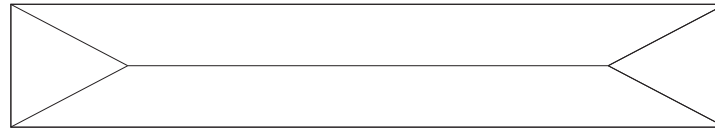
## Treads, Risers and Ramps

Glue down method is required on all treads, risers and wheelchair ramps. Install the riser after installing the tread. Install stair nose moldings afterwards to protect the edge of the LVT.

## Plank Replacement

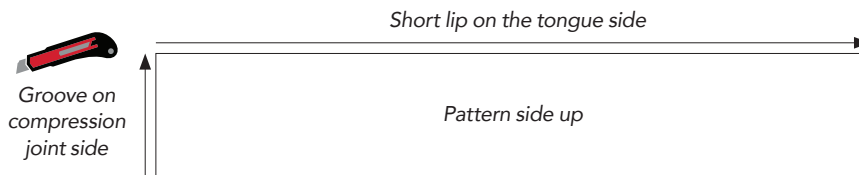
Should one of your planks/tiles become damaged and need to be replaced, follow these simple instructions:

1. Score top of damaged plank/tile with a utility knife. Make two triangle cuts near the end joint and then connect the points with one long cut in the middle of the plank/tile. (See diagram below)



SCORE TILE AS SHOWN

2. Use an awl or screwdriver to tap down through plank/tile on scored triangle cut points.
3. Lift and remove damaged tile.
4. With the pattern side facing up on the new replacement plank/tile, trim off the short lip on the tongue side and the groove on the compression joint side, making it flush with the edge of the plank/tile. Be careful not to damage the finish surface of the tile.



5. Cut several pieces of acrylic double face tape made for vinyl floors and slide under the edges of the existing floor on the two edges where the replacement plank/tile will have its lips cut off. Tape should face sticky side up; leave the paper on the side facing down on the floor.
6. Run a small bead of seam sealer on the groove edge of the planks/tiles on the existing floor where the replacement plank/tile will rest that has lips cut off.
  - **NOTE:** The long tongue of the replacement plank/tile and the uncut compression fit end joint will not need tape or seam adhesive as you will be using the plank's/tile's locking mechanism.
7. Install replacement plank/tile by sliding the long groove of the replacement plank/tile under the tongue of the floor plank/tile until the finish edge of the replacement plank/tile is tight against the finish edge of the floor plank/tile, and the compression end joint is lined up. Rotate down, locking the long tongue joint and roll the compression end joint to lock into place with a small or hand roller.
8. Wipe an excess sealer that comes to the surface of the tiles with a damp cloth and follow with a dry cloth to assure all sealer is removed from tile surface.
9. Keep foot traffic off the replaced plank/tile for 24 hours.

\* Mohawk will not be responsible for problems that may arise for seam sealers. Please contact the seam sealer's manufacturer with issues.