

Tools Required

- Utility Knife
- Tape Measure
- Straight Edge
- Spacers

Do not use foam underlayment under QDI Surfaces® SPC Floors.

Prior to Installation

- Carefully check flooring material for any defects. Contact your supplier immediately if any defect is found.
- Room temperature should be no less than 65°F (18°C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation.
- Remove quarter round, baseboard molding or cove base.
- Undercut doorway molding the thickness of the flooring.
- Cartons must be stored horizontally at all times.
- Protect carton corners from damage.

Wood Substrates

Wood floors must be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1", free from spring/deflection. Top layer of plywood shall be 1/4" minimum thickness underlayment grade plywood. QDI Surfaces® recommended underlayments include; APA Underlayment Grade Plywood A-C, B-C or C-C Plugged, ACCU-PLY, SurePly, TECPLY, ULAY, C.S.A.(CanPly) or Proboard.

Concrete Substrates

QDI Surfaces® SPC Floors may be installed over on grade, above grade or below grade concrete subfloors. Concrete floors shall be constructed in accordance with the American Concrete Institute (ACI) 302.1 Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction. Finished and cured according to ACI and have a minimum compressive strength of 3500 PSI. Installation of a moisture vapor barrier is recommended prior to installing on or below grade slabs. Moisture vapor transmission shall not exceed 3 lbs./1000 sq.ft./24 hours ASTM F-1869 (Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test). Moisture may also be tested according to ASTM F 2170 (Standard test method for determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using Probes). When tested according to this method, the inner-relative humidity shall not exceed 75%. QDI Surfaces® SPC Floors may be installed over gypsum based underlayments.

Existing Floors

QDI Surfaces® SPC Floors may be installed over most smooth, single layer, hard surface existing flooring. Check flooring for any curled area around the perimeter or at seams and repair if necessary. A good quality cementitious based embossing leveler to smooth the existing floor is recommended.

Substrate Preparation

- All substrates must be dry, clean, smooth, level, free from any existing adhesive residues, and free from movement or deflection.
- The substrates must be level within 3/16" in 10 ft.(4.7mm in 3m)
- Fill and level all plywood seams or voids, concrete cracks, construction joints with cementitious patching compound.
- Sweep and/or vacuum substrate to remove all dust and debris.

Getting Started

1. QDI Surfaces® SPC Floor is a floating floor and should not be glued or nailed to the substrate, except in the case of stairs.
2. QDI Surfaces® SPC Floor is intended for indoor use only.
3. Determine in which direction the planks will be installed. To make the room appear large or if installing in a very small room or hallway, it is preferable to lay the planks parallel to longest room dimension.

Getting Started (Continued)

4. Do not install cabinet on planks.
5. Carefully measure the room to determine squareness and also to determine the width of last row of planks if less than 2" (50mm), exclude the tongue.
6. A minimum 5/16" (8.2mm) expansion space is required around the perimeter of the row and all vertical objects.
7. Inspect all planks for visible defects and damage before and during installation. Do not install damaged planks. QDI Surfaces® will not accept responsibility for claims on flooring installed with obvious defects. During installation, inspect the groove area and remove any debris which may prevent proper assembly of planks.

Installation

1. Begin laying planks from the left side of the starting wall and work to the right side. The tongue side of the plank shall face the starting wall.
2. Place 5/16" (8.2mm) spacers between the short and long side of the planks and the wall. Always position one spacer between the wall and where the planks join.
3. The end joints of the planks in the first row are assembled by inserting the tongue side into the groove side of the previous plank at a low angle. Gradually lower the plank down flat until the end joint closes, insuring that the planks are perfectly aligned. Install remaining full planks in the first row.
4. The last plank in the first row will need to be cut. Measure the distance between the wall and the surface of the last full plank, Subtract 5/16" (8.2mm) from this measurement to allow the spacer. If this measurement is less than 8" (20.3mm), the length of first plank in the row must be cut. This will allow for a longer plank at the end of the row. The first and last plank in each row must be at least 8" (20.3cm) in length. Planks are cut using a sharp utility knife and straight edge/carpenters square. Score the surface of the plank with a utility knife, and then snap the plank at the score line.
5. The remaining piece cut off from the last plank in the first row may serve as the first plank in the second row provided it is at least 8" (20.3cm) long. Always stagger end joints from row to row a minimum of 8" (20.3cm).
6. Install the long side of the first plank of the second row. Remember to place a 5/16" (8.2mm) spacer between the wall and the short side of the plank. Insert the tongue side into the groove side of the previous row at a low angle and lower flat to the substrate.
7. Install the second plank in the second row. Position the long side of the plank with the tongue side overlapping the groove of the planks in the previous row. Then angle the end joint into the previous plank. Angle the plank up and gently push forward until the plank locks into the previous row. Continue installing remaining planks in second row. It is important to make sure that the first two rows are straight and square as they can affect the entire installation.
8. Continue working from left to right, row by row. Be sure to maintain a 5/16" space around all walls and vertical objects and maintain a random appearance. Offset end joints a minimum of 8" (20.3cm).

Finishing the Installation

- After all planks have been installed, remove spacers from perimeter of room.
- Install transition moldings. Do not fasten any moldings through the flooring.
- Predrill and install quarter round or baseboard molding. Molding must be sufficient size to cover the 5/16" (8.2cm) space. Do not fasten moldings through the flooring, fasten into the wall.
- Use plywood to cover the top of the flooring when moving heavy furniture or appliances into position.
- Post installation temperature must be maintained between 65°F and 100°F. Relative humidity must be maintained between 40% and 70%.