

*Updated 2.1.2019*

Parterre Flooring Systems 5mm Loose Lay Luxury Vinyl Plank is a long lasting, easy-to-install floor with the real look of wood plank in its patterns and texture. The product is ideal for new construction, and renovation; both residentially and commercially.

The purpose of this manual is to provide specific instructions for the installation of Parterre Flooring Systems 5mm Loose Lay Luxury Vinyl Plank. You may reference Parterre Tile, Plank and Sheet Installation Guidelines for instructions pertaining to storage, material handling, subfloor preparation, jobsite conditions and post installation protection at [parterreflooring.com](http://parterreflooring.com). If there are other questions about a specific issue not covered in this manual, please contact Parterre Technical Support by phone 888.338.1029 or email [techsupport@parterreflooring.com](mailto:techsupport@parterreflooring.com).

**IMPORTANT:** Always dispose of cleaning chemicals correctly according to local and state requirements.

## **ADHESIVE**

Parterre 5mm Loose Lay Luxury Vinyl Plank requires the installer to use the recommended adhesive on only the perimeters of the installation area. This will allow the installation space to have a stable border when installing the planks loosely within the area.

## **DETERMINING SLAB POROSITY**

The flooring contractor must determine slab porosity to choose the preferred adhesives trowel notch and procedures for proper open time. Ensure surface is dust free prior to performing the following test. Permit surface to dry completely before performing additional activities.

To determine if a subfloor is porous, place two droplets of water in various areas. If the subfloor is porous, the water will be absorbed within 45-60 seconds.

## **PARTERRE UNIVERSAL ADHESIVE**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Versatile for nearly any flooring installation, Parterre Universal is a pressure sensitive adhesive that is strong with moisture, guaranteeing up to 99% RH when used in new construction and up to 95% RH for use in pre-existing buildings. Universal is FloorScore® certified and Color Ready™ for an easy installation process..

### **SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION**

Follow all manufacturer's recommendations and industry standards regarding sub-floor preparation. Moisture tests are required on all concrete sub-floors regardless of grade level or if the concrete is freshly poured or is classified as an older slab. Moisture testing should be performed by ASTM F1869 Calcium Chloride tests with moisture levels not to exceed five (5) pounds per twenty-four (24) hours per one thousand (1000) square feet, or ASTM F2170 In Situ Relative Humidity test with readings not to exceed eighty (80) percent on existing slabs. New construction projects or green slabs can have a moisture vapor emission rate of up to eight (8) pounds per twenty-four (24) hours per one thousand (1000) square feet or 90% when tested in accordance with ASTM F2170. The maximum pH levels should not exceed a reading of 10. Additional information about these tests and results can be obtained through Parterre's Technical Service, reaching the department by phone 888.338.1029 or email [techsupport@parterreflooring.com](mailto:techsupport@parterreflooring.com).

### **DIRECTIONS**

Refer to all manufacturer's recommendations and approvals prior to installation. This adhesive is for indoor use only. For best results install at 70°F (+/- 5°) and 50% R.H. (Relative Humidity) (+/-5%). Spread adhesive using the recommended trowel (see trowel guide below). When installing over a porous substrate, the flooring can be laid into wet or dry adhesive. For a wet lay installation, spread the adhesive and wait approximately 10-15 minutes to allow the adhesive to flash off. Laying in wet will allow for movement of the flooring until adhesive has set. When installing tile or vinyl plank it is recommended to let the adhesive dry to the touch before installing. When installing over a non-porous substrate, the

adhesive must be allowed to dry completely (dry to the touch) before laying flooring (see recommended trowel guide when installing over non-porous substrates). The dry time will depend on the temperature and humidity of the environment. Once the flooring is installed, roll the whole installation with a 100 lb. three-section roller to assure adhesive has made proper contact with flooring.

### RECOMMENDED SUBSTRATES

- Concrete
- Properly Prepared Gypsum
- Advan Tech
- Fiber Cement Underlayment
- Properly Prepared VCT (Single Layer)
- Portland Based Underlayments
- APA Approved Plywood
- Terrazzo
- Radiant Heated Sub-floors
- Properly Prepared Sheet Vinyl (Single Layer, fully adhered)

### RESTRICTIONS

1. This product is for interior installations only.
2. Do not install when MVER is over 8 lbs. per 1,000 square feet per 24 hours; per ASTM F1869.
3. Do not install when relative humidity is over 90%, per ASTM F2170.
4. Do not install when ambient temperature is not between 60°F & 95°F.
5. Do not install when ambient relative humidity is above 65%. The dimensional stability of some vinyl flooring products is very sensitive to fluctuations in ambient environment conditions. Parterre is not responsible for installation issues caused by dimensional changes in flooring.

It is the sole responsibility of the installer to determine the suitability and compatibility of the adhesive for the user's intended use.

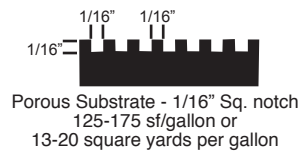
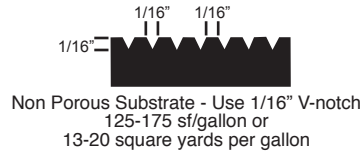
### CLEAN-UP

Remove wet adhesive immediately with a damp cloth. Use mineral spirits to remove dried adhesive.

**CAUTION:** Mineral spirits are flammable. Read and follow all precautions on the container label.

**TROWEL RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**TROWEL RECOMMENDATIONS:**



**TECHNICAL DATA**

Base Polymer	<i>Acrylic Polymer</i>
Color	<i>Light Straw</i>
Solids	<i>70-75%</i>
VOC	<i>Content</i>
pH	<i>7.5</i>
Consistency	<i>Paste</i>
Trowel Ability	<i>Light, Easy</i>
Shelf Life	<i>One Year in Unopened Container</i>
Storage	<i>40°-95°F</i>
Application Temperature	<i>65°-95°F (18°-35°C)</i>
Traffic Restrictions	<i>Foot Traffic after 12 hrs, Heavy Traffic after 24hrs</i>
Open Time	<i>Up to 2 hours (non-porous substrate)</i>
Freeze Thaw Stability	<i>5 cycles @ 20°F</i>

**WARRANTY**

Parterre Flooring Systems offers a limited warranty for this product when used in accordance with printed specifications. A copy of the limited warranty can be obtained by calling technical service.

**LAYOUT OF PRODUCT**

The layout of large commercial installations (large open areas, hallways, etc.) of Parterre 5mm Loose Lay, may require the use of a transit, laser or other tools with minimal deviation when striking accurate guidelines.

Preplanning should enable the layout to be done economically, minimizing waste. When possible, install the length of the plank parallel with the incoming source of light, and/or the longest room dimension.

Installations in long hallways with adjoining rooms should be carefully planned so that at least one half the plank width remains when the cuts are made at the wall, cabinet or fixed obstacle. Your layout should be positioned so equal cuts are on the opposing walls and in doorways with as wide of a cut as possible, allowing for a balanced installation.

Plank width may have to be altered in the doorways of adjoining rooms to avoid small cuts at the walls of these areas. These decisions should always be approved by the architect, designer or end user.

Often, in smaller rooms, the perimeter is highly visible. Care should be taken to attempt uniform cuts on opposing walls where the length of the plank is parallel with the wall. Try to make the cuts as large as possible for best results when installing the product. The simplest method to ensure equal cuts on the opposing walls is to measure the distance between those opposing walls and be sure to convert to inches.

***See below for a step by step example on measuring the distance between the walls prior to installation:***

**Step 1.** If the total width of the room is 148”.

**Step 2.** Next, divide the total width of the room by the width of the plank (for example: 7.25”). By dividing the total width of the room (148”) by the width of the plank (7.25”), the installer will receive an answer of 20.41”. This number will be the number of planks (in width) required to span the entire width of the installation area.

**Step 3:** The installer will need to determine how to make equal cuts at least half the width of the plank for best performance. To do so, it is necessary to multiply the partial plank that will be left over (0.41”; this is taken from the total of 20.41” wide planks needed from the calculation above). Then, multiply the partial plank calculation by the width of the plank (7.25”). In this example, the answer is just under 3” (2.97”).

**Step 4:** Next, add the above calculation of 3” to the width of one plank (7.25”), resulting in an answer of approximately 10.25”.

**Step 5:** Finally, take the answer of 10.25” and divide by 2, giving the starting cut of approximately 5.125” wide. The final width of the cut on the opposing wall will be approximately 5.125” as well, depending on how straight the walls are.

Layout of planks in length should be installed with a minimum of 6" offset with adjacent rows at the end seams. Do not create a pattern with the offset when working from row to row. Offsets should be random to avoid creating a pattern that not only takes away from the aesthetics but can become an unnecessary burden for the flooring installer, attempting to maintain the integrity of the pattern throughout the installation. Often, the remaining cut from an end cut of a plank may serve as the starting cut in the next row. Make sure your end cuts and starting cuts are no less than 6" in length.

## **INSTALLATION OF PRODUCT**

Before installing the product, verify that all the cartons are clearly marked with the same batch/run numbers to avoid any problems during installation. In addition, always work from at least two cartons at a time blending the planks from those cartons to ensure minimal shade variations creating a consistent, uniform installation in shade, gloss and pattern.

The starting point may be accomplished by striking a line on the substrate parallel to the longest, straightest wall. The installer will accomplish this by adding the dimension of the width of the starting plank that must be cut (see information above for determining cut width) to the width of an uncut plank, then add 1/8" to that total.

Measure this distance on opposite ends on the long, starting wall; then use a chalk line and strike a straight line the entire length of the wall. Continue around the perimeter of the room by striking lines 12" from each wall, fixed vertical surface or cabinet until you reach the original starting line again.

Using the correct trowel notch, spread the recommended adhesive between the line and the wall. This technique not only simplify placement of starting planks, but will be critical for a tight, precise installation after starting.

Allow the adhesive to dry 30-45 minutes depending on temperature and humidity. Once the adhesive becomes clear, the installer must cover the area with the plank flooring within 2-4 hours.

Start the installation on the starting wall by positioning a full plank 1/8" from wall at the end of the plank, while positioning the side edge of the plank into the adhesive. Be sure to follow the chalk line precisely the entire length of the plank. Then, roll immediately with a seam roller.

Continue installing individual planks end to end while keeping each plank's edge on the chalk line. When you must cut

the end of the last plank, measure the length required and subtract 1/8" for expansion at the wall, fixed vertical surface, or cabinet. Use a new utility blade in a utility knife to score the plank's surface while following a straightedge or square to ensure a straight score. Fold the balance down, then cut from underneath to complete the cut. Position the last plank, and roll.

The fall off from the previous plank will start the final row next to the wall as long as it is at least 6" long. Measure the distance from the first row of plank's edges, and then deduct an 1/8" from those plank's edges to determine the width of plank making the fill. Again, use a straightedge to score the top of the plank, fold and cut from underneath. Position that plank, then continue cutting and placing until the end of the row. Roll installed planks with a three-section minimum 100 lb. roller.

Remember to install the next row, but make sure your starting plank is at least 6" long. Stagger the end seams randomly from the adjacent row by at least 6". Use your hand roller to embed the start of each row and the last plank in each row uniformly into the adhesive. Keep the end and side seams tight and net with pressure by working off the installed flooring. When finishing the installation, use 1/2" Styrofoam in 2' x 8' sheets as walking/kneeling boards to avoid any movement of the installed planks. Finish the room by measuring your cuts and reducing by 1/8" using the same technique for cutting.

Once the entire room has been installed, roll all the perimeter adhesive bands using your three-section minimum 100 lb. roller.

Immediately install all reducer/transition strips at unprotected or exposed edges that could be easily damaged where the flooring stops. If for any reason the reducers or transition strips are not available to install, use sacrificial tile remnants or scrapes at the exposed edges by temporarily taping them in position to avoid aggravating damage that may require a tile replacement to finish the job. Then, install shoe molding or quarter round at the perimeter to cover the 1/8" expansion gap at the walls, fixed vertical surfaces, and/or cabinets.

## **POST INSTALLATION PROTECTION**

Confirm or equip all furniture, appliances, carts and any other moveable equipment with soft, wide, non-staining casters or floor protectors with a minimum diameter of 1" that is engineered to protect hard surface flooring from indentation from static loads.

Always use runways made from at least 1/4" plywood or 1/4" Masonite™ to protect flooring from damage that may occur when moving heavy objects across the flooring. You may also use furniture moving aids or specialty equipment designed specifically for the use of moving large objects without damage to the floor. AIRSLED® would be an example of this type of equipment.

If the project is still under construction the floor should be protected from other trades during construction. Be cautious with protective coverings over installed floors that might stain, yellow, or stick to the flooring. To avoid large chards, stones, construction debris or heavy soil, tape the paper's edges with a releasable, non-staining, non-yellowing tape. Also, if large plywood formats are to be used on the paper, tape its edges again to the paper to avoid an accumulation of dirt or debris under the plywood's edge. Heavy traffic could embed the debris into the flooring's surface causing permanent damage.

Avoid flooding or washing the newly installed product until the adhesive has fully cured-approximately 5-7 days, or longer depending on room temperature and the temperature of the underfloor. Stripping is not required nor recommended for initial cleaning.

Please note that the initial cleaning of the installed product is essential before occupancy. Failure to clean thoroughly and properly at this time will make routine maintenance more difficult.

Sweep or vacuum thoroughly to remove all dust, dirt, loose grit, soil and debris. Spots of adhesive can be removed with a clean, white cotton cloth and dampened with paint thinner or mineral spirits. Always use caution when handling flammable solvents.

If the flooring was subjected to excess dirt, soil and heavy traffic before the initial maintenance, use Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner mixed according to label instructions with clean potable water. Use any water/cleaning solution conservatively and do not use abrasive cleaners.

Use a standard scrubbing machine or an automatic scrubber equipped with the proper color of pad for the soiling to be cleaned. Be sure to test to make sure the pad selected does not damage the flooring tile's surface.

Rinse using a clean mop and clean water. Change rinse water often to avoid leaving a dirty residue. Wet vacuum, fan dry or simply allow it to dry naturally without any traffic.



## **PRECAUTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS**

Parterre 5mm Loose Lay Luxury Vinyl Plank should only be installed in environments and spaces that are environmentally controlled at all times with temperature ranging no more than a low of 65°F and no greater than 85°F. Relative humidity should be no less than 30% RH and no greater than 65% RH. Never install this product at windows with extreme exposure to the sun. Temperature fluctuation at the surface of the floor could cause extreme movement causing unacceptable gapping or expansion resulting in peaking at the seams.

Also, never install this product in heavy commercial environments exposed to heavy rolling loads, constant movement of furniture or heavy foot traffic. You may reference Parterre Flooring Systems Tile and Plank installation guidelines for instructions pertaining to fully adhered installations for these situations.

If there are other questions about a specific issue not covered in this manual, please contact Parterre Technical Support by phone 888.338.1029 or email [techsupport@parterreflooring.com](mailto:techsupport@parterreflooring.com).