ELEMENT tier

Recyclable PVC-free Flooring

TIER ELEMENT PVC-FREE INDOOR FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

2G and 5G installation

Version D1.3

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GREENGUARD GOLD
PRODUCT CERTIFIED FOR LOW CHEMICAL EMISSIONS
UL.COM/GG
UL 2818

www.tierflooring.ca

A PRODUCT BY EVA-LAST
INSPIRED BY NATURE, DESIGNED FOR LIFE.

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Introduction

Thank you for selecting TIER Element PVC-free indoor flooring. In these guidelines we aim to assist you in successfully completing an installation that will last as long as the TIER products, themselves.

The guidelines allow for temperature fluctuations of up to 27°C (81°F) from the temperature at the time of installation and an air humidity range of 30 to 60%. The occupied use temperature range is assumed to be between 15°C (59 °F) and 27°C (81 °F). For more detailed information, please refer to the **TIER Technical Data Sheet (TDS)**.

Building codes and standards may differ between jurisdictions or counties. Before installing TIER flooring, ensure that the application is rational and complies with local regulations and building codes or consult a suitably qualified expert. Ensure that the choice of TIER flooring products is suitable for the intended use. It is recommended that TIER flooring is installed by a professional installer to ensure compliance with the installation and warranty requirements.

Key installation points

- Installation should be carried out in accordance with applicable local regulations.
- Use suitable safety or protective equipment wherever necessary.
- Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project. All work involving water or moisture should be completed before flooring installations. Installation onto a wet subfloor will most likely cause cupping, raised tips/ edges, or telegraphing of core and cap.
- Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for grade, color, finish, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. If the floor is not acceptable, contact your supplier immediately to arrange for replacement. No claim on surface defects will be accepted after installation.
- Check door and door frame clearances and that the floor levels between rooms are even before installation.

Subfloor preparation

- Subfloors must be debris-free, rigid, level, dry, and structurally sound.
  - Permissible deviations of the subfloor should not exceed 3 mm (0.12″) at any point on a 3 m (10′). In most instances, a self-leveling screed will be required prior to installation of your TIER product.
  - Newly laid concrete subfloors must be cured for 28 days for every 25 mm (1″) of depth.
  - In all instances, use a 6 mil (0.15 mm / 0.006″) poly vapor moisture barrier between the subfloor and the TIER flooring.
  - Overlaying of existing floors should be avoided.
  - Unless the subfloor is perfectly level - a self-levelling screed must be applied.
    - See the **latest full installation guide** for specific allowable flooring.
  - The installation surface should provide a barrier to moisture and be fully cured before installing TIER flooring.

Moisture control:

- Use a 6 mil (0.15 mm / 0.006″) poly vapor moisture barrier over concrete or other subfloor situations when moisture is above 3.5%.

Underlay:

- Do not install TIER Element on soft under floors like carpet or foam mats.

Subfloor preparation - continued

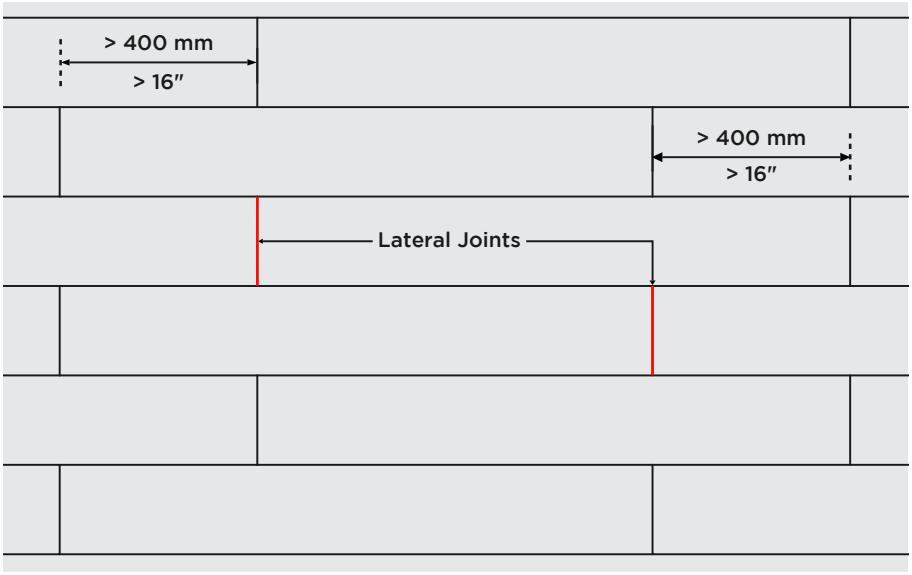
Expansion gaps

- It is recommended that the TIER flooring is acclimatized for 48 hours prior to installation by cross-stacking unopened cartons in the installation area at room temperatures between 15°C to 27°C (59°F to 81°F). The boards should be kept at this temperature range before, after, and during installation.
- Install the boards at the same temperature range to which they were acclimatized. Do not install cold or frozen boards.
- After installation, maintain the room temperature within the same range to prevent damage. Excessively high or low temperatures may cause damage to the floor, which will not be warranted.
- Should the operating temperatures fall outside of this range, please see the full installation guide and expansion tables for more information.
  - Do not expose TIER flooring to temperatures exceeding 60°C.
- Recommended expansion gaps around the perimeter of the room and all other fixed objects:
  - In temperature-controlled environments between 15°C to 27°C (59°F to 81°F):
    - For continuous runs of up to 30 m (100′) leave a 12.5 mm (0.5″).
    - In continuous runs of less than 10 m (32.8′) long, the expansion gap can be reduced to 6.5 mm (0.25″).
  - In rooms without temperature control (limiting changes in temperature to +- 20°C):
    - Limit continuous runs to 10 m (32.8′), using room expansion gaps every 10 m (32.8′) and providing for a 10.0 mm (0.4″) expansion gap.
  - Expansion gaps must be kept clean of any debris and covered using appropriate skirting, transitions, or similar.
    - Skirting should not be nailed through the flooring and the expansion gap kept clear.
  - The skirting must allow space for the boards to contract and prevent debris and water from entering the expansion gap.
- T-moldings are required between room transitions for rooms longer than 30 m (100′).
  - Additional expansion space is needed for rooms greater than 30 m (100′) in length/width.
  - If the temperature difference between rooms exceeds 10°C, it may be necessary to use an expansion gap to prevent uneven expansion.
- Ensure that any underfloor heating operates within 15°C to 27°C (59°F to 81°F). Or adjust the expansion gaps accordingly. Turn off underfloor heating during installation, ensure the floor matches room temperature, then gradually increase the temperature in 5°C increments post-installation, ensuring at least 12 mm (0.5″) separation between the heating system and the product.

Subfloor preparation - continued

Board measurements and installation

- Work from different boxes at the same time to avoid repetitive patterns.
- The distance between consecutive lateral joints of adjacent boards **must be a minimum of 400 mm (16″).**
  - Do not cut profile planks shorter than 400 mm (16″).



- Do not cut the planks less than 50 mm (2″) wide.
  - To comply with this, sometimes both the first and last boards must be cut.
- When removing or adjusting a TIER floorboard, carefully raise both boards either side of the joint simultaneously. Avoid bending or damaging the profiled edges of the board.
- Do not pin TIER flooring down with any heavy objects, especially kitchen counters or floating islands. The flooring should be installed after any kitchen installation. TIER is a “floating floor” and, therefore, needs to be able to expand and contract naturally.

Pre-installation

Standards

Be sure to comply with applicable standards and manufacturer specifications. Check that your choice of product is suitable for its intended application. For further product specification and information visit www.tierflooring.ca.

Safety

Refer to the applicable Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for additional information. Please do not hesitate to contact TIER Flooring Americas, LLC should you require any additional assistance.

Always wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the various activities involved in installing TIER flooring.

Pre-installation - continued (Safety)

Be mindful of the following:

- Cutting TIER boards may result in fine particulate matter. Consequently, ensure you:
  - Work in well-ventilated areas.
  - Wear dust masks during cutting and cleaning.
  - Wear safety goggles while cutting.
- Cut boards may have sharp edges. Use appropriate caution when handling cut boards or when using a flooring guillotine, laminate cutter, utility knife, or similar.
- Clean workspace thoroughly. Wet-wipe, mop, or vacuum surfaces. Do not dry sweep as this can disperse dust. Avoid using excessive amounts of water when cleaning. Ensure debris is not left on the subfloor or in any expansion gap. Use of drop sheets may assist.

Storage and handling subfloor

- Take care when lifting, placing, or removing boxes from pallets or other surfaces.
- Ensure the mass handled does not exceed safe limits as defined by applicable local legislation.
- Dropping the boards (and any high impact load in general) can result in damage to the profile or surface of the boards.
- During transportation use corner protectors where strapping is required.
- All boxes of TIER product should be stored completely under cover, protected from heat, and/or exposure to direct sunlight as this may cause damage to the product.
- All boxes should be securely stored, avoiding over-stacking and/or eccentric stacking.
- When storing boards, a pallet or flat surface should be used to support the full length of each box.
- No product should be exposed to water or a high moisture content environment.
- Retain excess boards in the event of unforeseen accidents. Store these boards internally in a cool, dry area. Ensure the boards are laid flat, fully supported, and off the ground.
- Before installation, visually inspect all materials in optimal lighting conditions to confirm the product is the correct design, color, pattern, and is free from defects.

Subfloor

- Subfloors must be debris-free, rigid, level, dry, and structurally sound.
- Permissible deviations of the subfloor should not exceed 3 mm (0.11″) at any point on a 3 m (10′) area. In most instances, a self-leveling screed will be required prior to installation of your TIER product.
- The installation surface should provide a barrier to moisture and be fully cured before installing TIER flooring.
- Overlaying of existing floors should be avoided.
- Unless the subfloor is perfectly level - a self-leveling screed must be applied.
- Newly laid concrete subfloors must be cured for 28 days for every 25 mm (1″) of depth.
- In all instances, use a 6 mil (0.15 mm / 0.006″) poly vapor moisture barrier between the subfloor and the TIER flooring.
- Avoid overlaying an existing floor covering. Where possible, remove the existing floor covering and restore the subfloor to a condition suitable for TIER flooring installation.
- Subfloors should be constructed to ensure the protection of TIER from moisture or vapor from the ground. Where structures do not provide adequate moisture protection, moisture barriers must be used.

For concrete subfloors:

- Excess water in the base (above any membrane) must be allowed to evaporate. New bases take time to cure, typically 28 days for every 25 mm (1″) of base thickness.
- The flooring should not be laid until the moisture content of the base is less than 4% (mass/mass).
  - The preferred non-destructive test for assessing floor moisture is the insulated hygrometer test procedure as described by Annex B of SANS 10070. This test effectively measures the moisture leaving the floor, from which the moisture content of the floor can be estimated. Resistance type moisture meters are not recommended for the estimation of floor moisture.

Pre-installation - continued (Subfloor)

For timber subfloors:

- Timber subfloors need careful assessment to determine whether they are acceptable for TIER flooring.
- Timber subfloors that have a moisture content exceeding 18% at any point should not be covered.
- A timber subfloor susceptible to rising moisture (e.g., floors at ground level) should not be covered with TIER flooring. A suspended timber subfloor at ground level can only be covered if the ventilation of the space below the floor complies with SANS 10043.
- In the case of new installations, the timber subfloor must comply with SANS 10082. Before a timber subfloor is installed, the moisture content of the substrate shall be equal to the moisture content it will eventually attain in normal service.
- The surface onto which TIER is installed must be a rigid and level surface. In most instances, a self-leveling screed will be required prior to installation of your TIER product. Adequate drying time must be allowed for.
  - Permissible deviations of the subfloor should not exceed 3 mm (0.11″) at any point on a 3 m (10′) area.
  - Small imperfections in certain surfaces can be corrected with patching compounds or by sanding.
  - Larger imperfections in the surface need to be corrected using a standard or self-leveling screed.
- Never leave any debris on the subfloor prior to the installation of TIER flooring.

Moisture/vapor barriers

- Use a 6 mm (0.24″) poly vapor moisture barrier over concrete or other subfloor situations when moisture is above 3.5%.
- Check door and door frame clearances before installation to ensure that the flooring combined with the barriers does not conflict with the door frame levels.
- Where structures do not provide adequate moisture protection, a suitable moisture/vapor barriers must be employed.
- Various barrier types are commercially available ranging from polyolefin sheeting to liquid/fluid-applied solutions. When using fluid/liquid solutions, such as X-Shield VaporStop HB, the manufacturer's guidelines must be adhered to. The type and thickness of polyolefin sheeting will depend on the conditions of the subfloor and should be determined by a suitably qualified person. In general, a 6 mil (0.15 mm / 0.006″) polyethylene sheet is suitable for typical scenarios.
  - Joints of the sheeting should be minimized. Where joints are required, ensure the overlap of the adjacent sheets is a minimum of 200 mm (8″). The overlapping seams should be continuously taped over with a suitable tape. The sheets should also run a minimum of 50 mm (2″) up the walls, and, behind the skirting (since this can influence the choice of skirting).
- Do not install TIER Element on soft under floors like carpet or foam mats.

In-floor radiant heat

- Compatibility and installation guidelines:
  - This product can be installed over in-floor heating systems with a minimum separation of 12 mm (0.5″) from the product. The maximum operating temperature should never exceed 85°F (30°C). It is recommended to use an in-floor temperature sensor to avoid overheating.
- Preparation before installation:
  - For newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity before installation to force out any residual moisture from the cementitious topping. The maximum moisture content should not exceed 3.5% (CM method).
  - Turn off the heating system 24 hours before, during, and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant-heated subfloors. Ensure the room temperature is between 60°F (15°C) and 80°F (25°C) during installation.
- Post-Installation:
  - Once the installation is complete, gradually turn the heating system back on, increasing the temperature in 5-degree increments until reaching normal operating conditions.
  - Refer to the radiant heat system manufacturer's recommendations for additional guidance.

Pre-installation - continued (In-floor radiant heat)

Important warning:

- Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath the flooring. Using electric heating mats that are not embedded and applied directly underneath the flooring will void the warranty.
- Wheelchairs and other mobility aids can add stress on rigid floating flooring joints and can cause failure of the fastening system. The torque from the wheeled mobility aids can damage the click joint.

Planning and site preparation

General notes

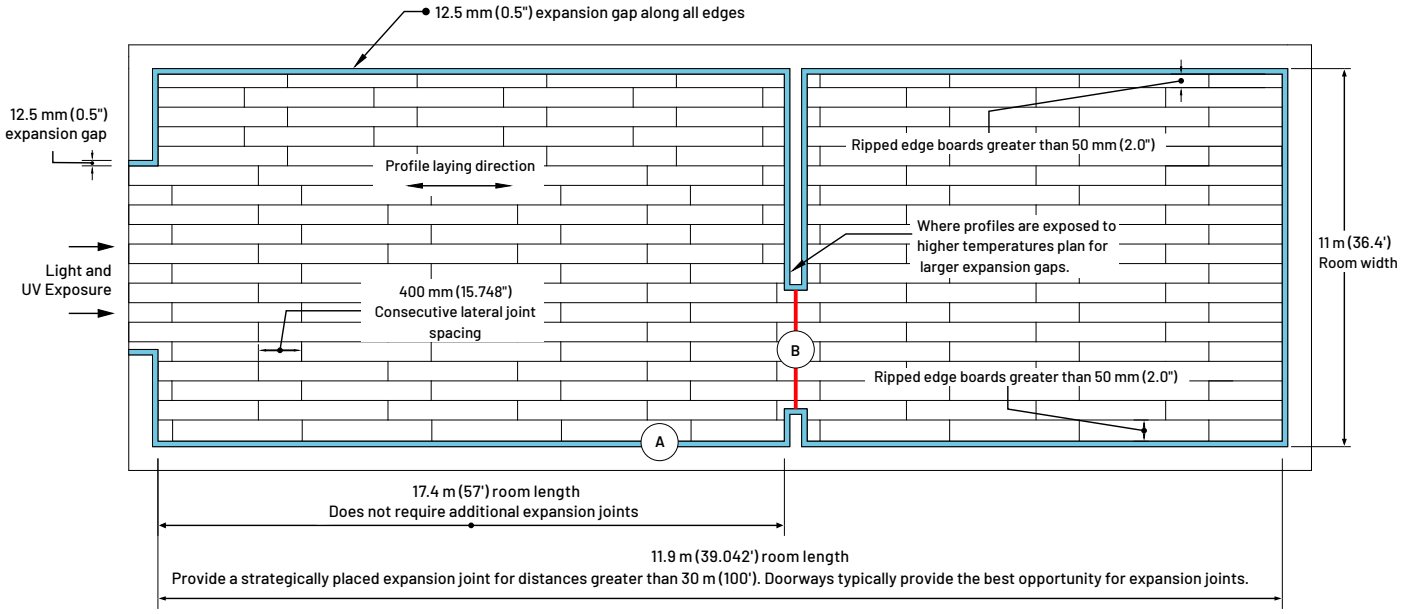
- Ideally, the preparation and installation of the flooring should not begin until all other trades have completed their work to avoid damage to the flooring or any necessary subfloor preparation. If this is not possible, heavy-duty drop sheets can assist in protecting the subfloor and/or flooring.
- In temperature controlled rooms, for runs longer than 30 m (100′) or rooms larger than 30 m x 30 m = 900 m^2 (127′ x 127′ = 9,687′^{2}), it is necessary to install the flooring in smaller sections interspersed with expansion joints.
- Use transitions for runs longer than 30 m (100′).
- It is often useful to install expansion joints at doors or similar intersections to avoid unsightly transitions within the rooms. Check door to door frame clearances before installation as well as room levels.
- Attempt to pass TIER flooring beneath door frames where possible, ensuring there is space between the frame and the floor to prevent the floor from being pinned down. If this is not possible, cut around the doorframe and install skirting, as one would with intersections of the floorboards and walls. Ensure there are suitable expansion gaps where necessary.
- Install permanent fixtures prior to the installation of TIER flooring, providing for requisite expansion joints and similar.
- Avoid placing heavy objects on top of floating installations of TIER flooring, as this will result in pinning the floor down, which can cause product issues or failures.

Site planning

- Measure the room carefully to determine if the room is square. If it is not, the outer (particularly the last) floorboards will need to be cut to match the edges of the room. In some instances, it may be necessary (or more aesthetically pleasing) to cut both the first and last boards.
- Measure the width of the room and calculate the width of the last row of boards. If it is less than 50 mm (2″), cut both the first and last rows of boards to equalize the widths of the first and last rows.
- Remember to allow for expansion gaps in these calculations.
- Decide which side of the room will have the last line of floorboards. It may improve the final appearance to have this line at the outer edge of the room, away from adjacent rooms.
- When installing multiple connected rooms, it is best to start in a passage or in the center of the connecting rooms and work towards the outside of the rooms.
- Plan your board laying direction. It is common practice to install TIER flooring in the direction that natural light enters the room that is typically perpendicular to a window.

Planning and site preparation - continued

Below is an example of planning a floor laying pattern:



Calculating board ripping requirements

Step 1: Effective room width = Room width – 2 x Expansion gap (12.5 mm (0.5") minimum (A).

Step 2: Number of boards (round down) = Effective room width ÷ Board width (B).

Step 3: Determine the last board width = A - (B x Board width).

Example:

Step 1: Room width = 3,700 mm - (10 mm x 2) = 3,675 mm (12.14′ – (0.5″ x 2) = 12.1′).

Step 2: Number of boards required = 3,675 mm / 181 = 20.33 boards (12.1′ / 0.6′ = 20.33 boards).
Round down to 20 Boards.

Step 3: Last board width = 3 ,680 mm - (20 x 181) = 55 mm (12.1′ – (20 x 0.6′) = 0.2″).

If the last profile width is wider than 50 mm (2″) then only the last requires ripping.

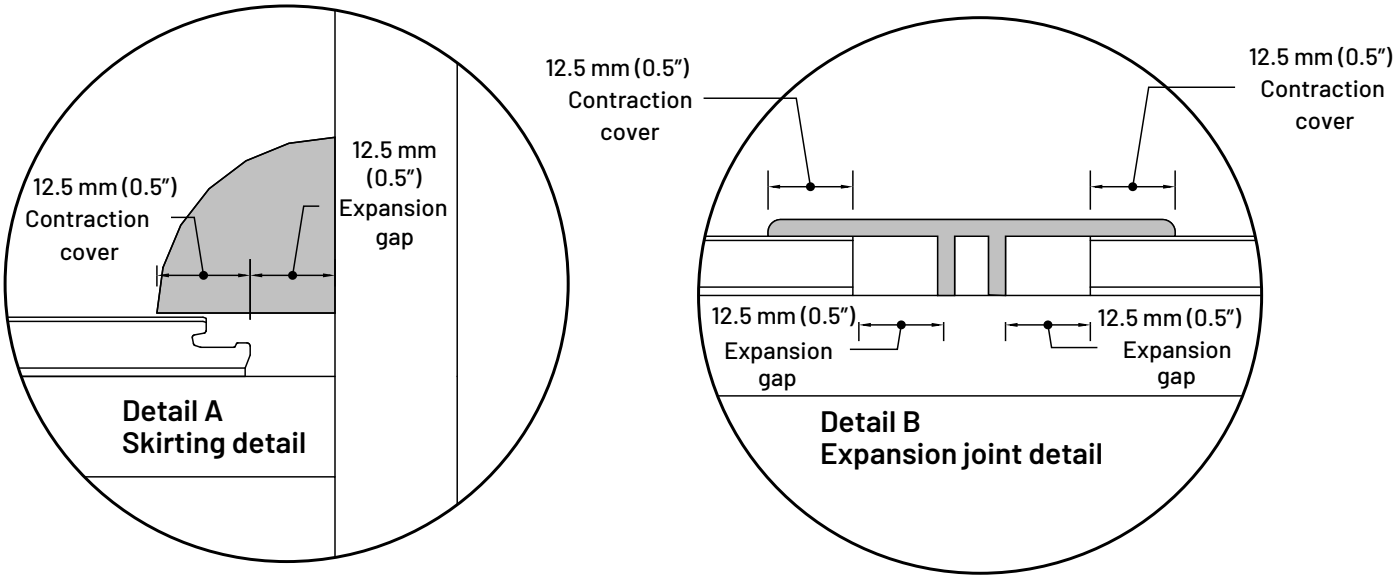
Expansion and contraction

General guidelines for TIER expansion gaps

Skirting, transitions or similar

It is possible to calculate the exact gap based on the specific installation temperature to optimize the required gap. For more details on calculating this, please refer to the "Excessive temperature fluctuations section".

- Use skirting, transitions, trims, or the like to cover the gaps around the edges of the floor or at doorways and similar intersections. This helps create a clean and finished look while accommodating for the necessary expansion and contraction.
- Ensure that the skirting is wide enough to cover the expansion gap while still providing adequate space for the floorboards to contract.
  - When installing at temperatures of 27°C (81°F), allow for a contraction gap of 12.5 mm (0.5″). Since this is the maximum planned temperature, the expansion gap may be reduced. To simplify installation, choose a trim that can provide enough coverage for the board installed at its highest or lowest operating temperature. This means allowing for a total movement gap of 25 mm (1″), accounting for both expansion and contraction (12.5 mm {0.5″} each).
  - **Skirting (or similar) must not be nailed or fixed to the floor.** The skirting (or similar) must not pin down the floorboards but should prevent debris and water from entering the expansion gap.
  - Silicon, rubber seals, and other flexible sealants can be used to prevent water ingress if needed.



Expansion and contraction - continued

Excessive temperature fluctuations

The general guidelines above offer practical installation parameters based of typical conditions. However, for applications outside of these conditions it may be necessary to calculate specific requirements based on actual expected temperature ranges.

To estimate movement expected:

- To allow for an appropriate expansion gap (**ΔL**) for a room length, multiply the length of the room in meters or feet (**L**) by a coefficient of 0.06 **α** (0.033) and by the maximum difference in temperature between the maximum and minimum temperature and the acclimatized installation temperature of the boards (**ΔT**):
- **ΔL = L x α x ΔT**
  - Use the same method to estimate maximum contraction size (when boards are fully contracted).
  - To determine the width/coverage of the skirting, add the expansion and contraction estimates together.

Steps to determining expansion and contraction gaps

1. **Determine the maximum and minimum temperatures of the room.**
   While indoor temperatures typically follow building standards, maintaining a livable temperature (typically between 15°C to 27°C [59°F to 81°F]) in spaces such as large halls, entryways, enclosed patios, sunrooms, or rooms with large windows may experience greater temperature fluctuations. To ensure proper installation, consult historical temperature data from reliable sources like local weather websites to determine potential extremes. Although indoor temperatures rarely drop below freezing or match outdoor highs, checking the maximum and minimum change in temperature can provide guidance when accounting for these variations in relation to the room.
2. **Determine change in temperature.**
   a. Expansion gap temperature = Maximum room temperature – Ambient temperature
   b. Contraction gap temperature = Ambient temperature – Minimum room temperature
3. **Calculate the expansion and contraction.**
   a. Use a linear coefficient of expansion to estimate board movement. For TIER, this coefficient is +- 0.055 mm/m/°C. The formula to calculate the expansion and contraction is:

Required gap size = Length of the board in meters (inches) x 0.055 mm/m/°C or (0.033 in/in/°F) x change in temperature.

4. **Use the following table to determine the maximum change in temperature, multiply the gap size per meter (or foot) by the length of the room.**

Required gap size = Length of the room in meters (feet) x corresponding gap in mm (in) based on temperature change.

Gap size per meter of room per temperature change (gap size (mm) /m/°C)*												
Temperature change (°C)	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
Gap size per meter (mm)	0.28	0.55	0.83	1.1	1.38	1.65	1.93	2.2	2.48	2.75	3.03	3.3
Gap size per foot of room per temperature change (gap size (") /'/°F) *												
Temperature change (°F)	41	50	59	68	77	86	95	104	113	122	131	140
Gap size per foot (")*	0.003	0.006	0.010	0.013	0.016	0.019	0.023	0.026	0.029	0.033	0.036	0.039
***When using the table to determine imperial units add 32° to F to adjust the temperature scale.**												

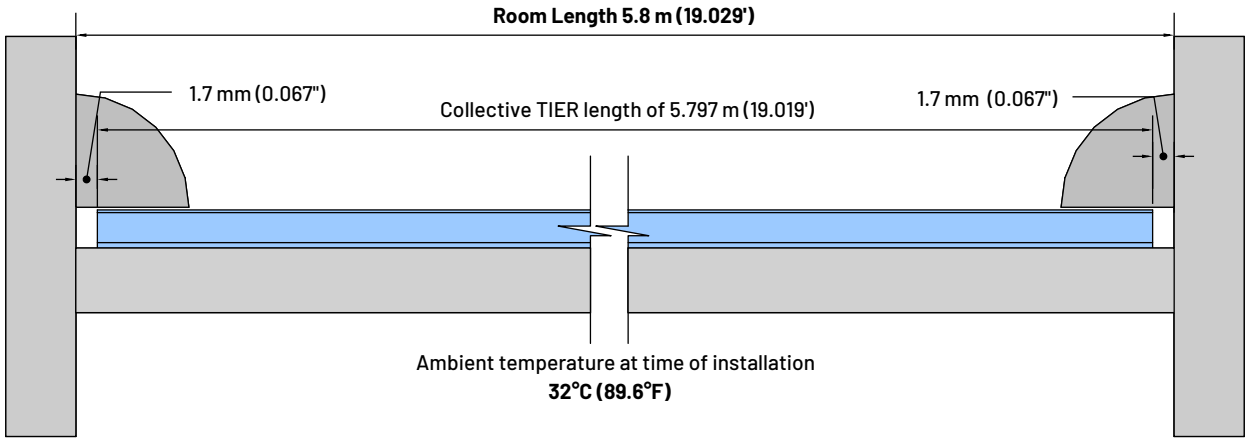
Expansion and contraction - continued

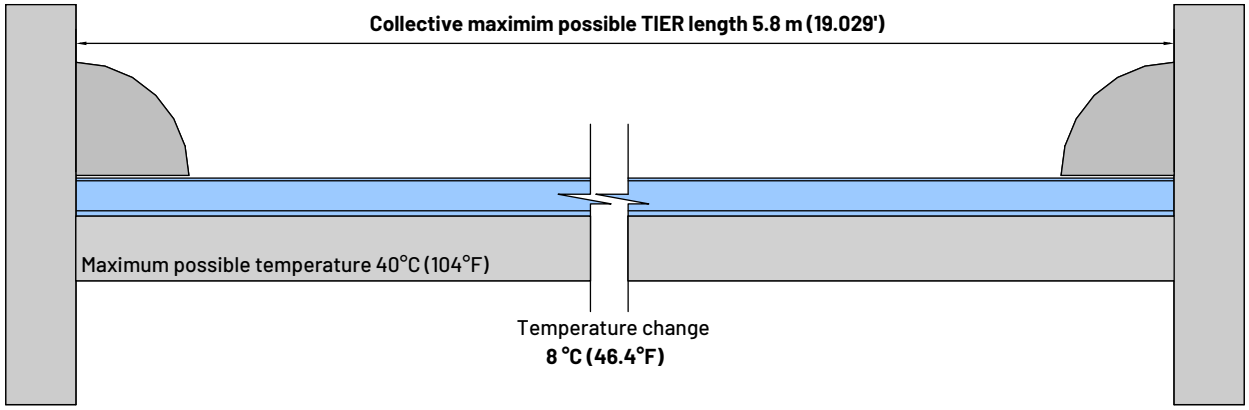
Using previously provided example conditions:

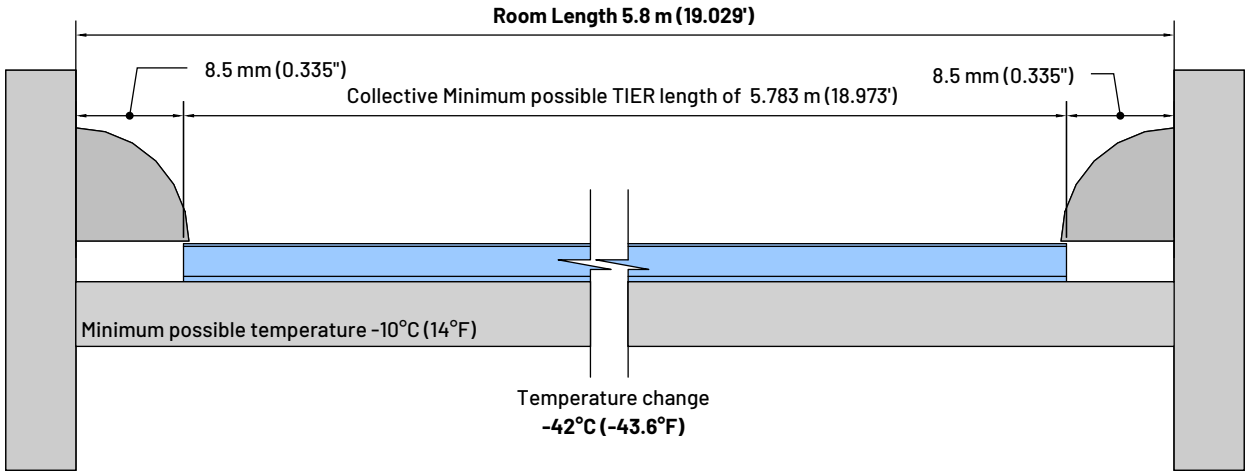
Room length is 5,800 mm (229″)

- Installation temperature is 32°C (90°F), with an expected maximum of 40°C (104°F) and minimum temperature of -10°C (14°F).
- A 4 mm (0.18″) expansion gap is sufficient given the room's proximity to the expected maximum temperature.
- A 17 mm (0.7″) contraction gap is required due to the low minimum temperature anticipated.

Both calculations are for the total gap for the room and would typically be shared across both sides of the room.







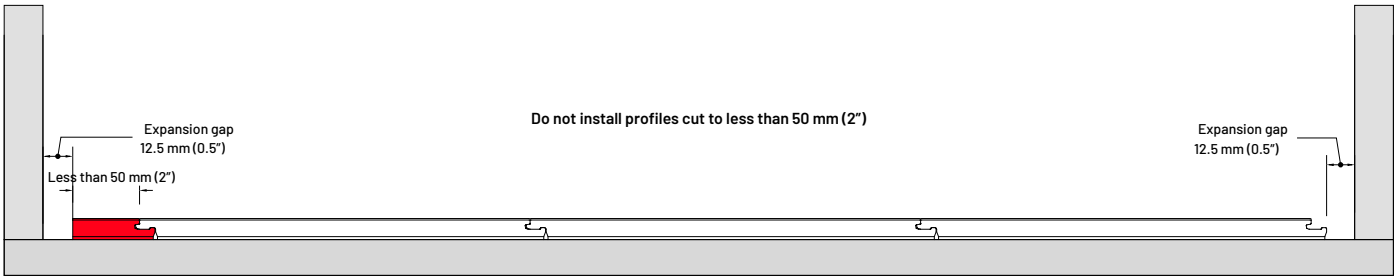
Working with TIER flooring

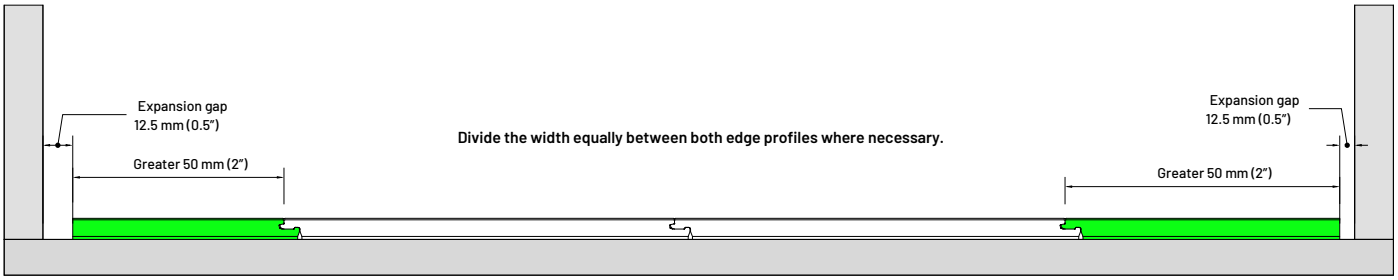
Tools

For a successful installation, the following tools will be necessary – pencil, utility knife, flooring guillotine or laminate cutter, tape measure, ruler/straight edge, carpenter's square, table saw, spacers, pull bar, and rubber mallet, tapping block, hole saw.

Cutting

- To cut a TIER floorboard, use an indoor flooring guillotine, laminate cutter, or utility knife.
- Use appropriate caution when cutting TIER floorboards, as parts are sharp.
- Do not use boards cut shorter than 400 mm (16″).
- Estimate the width of the last floorboard. If this is less than 50 mm (2″), start the first line of floorboards by cutting them in along the length so that the last line of floorboards will be wider than 50 mm (2″).

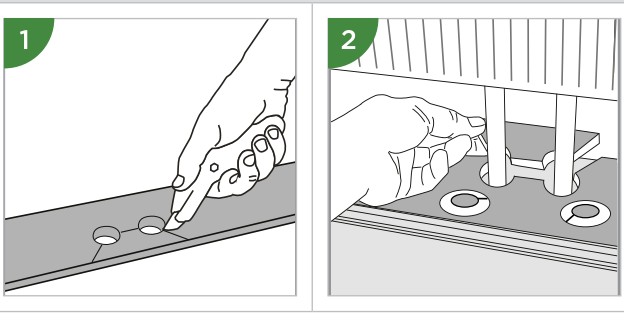




Installation process

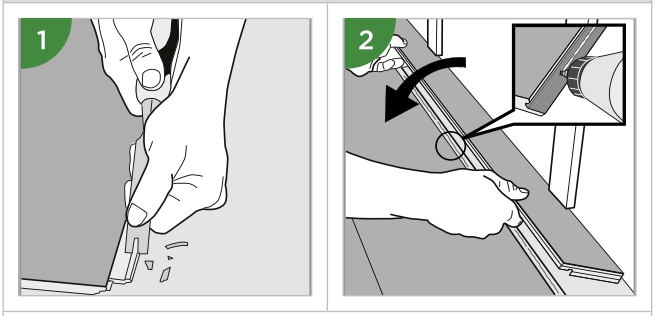
Installation process - Angles

Installation around radiators and heating pipes 2G and 5G



Drill holes twice the size of the pipe's diameter, remove a piece of the panel, slot the board into place, and attach the small panel piece with an appropriate adhesive.

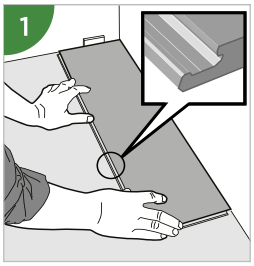
When angling the profile is not possible



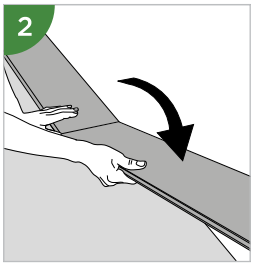
Remove the vertical locking strip with a chisel, apply an appropriate adhesive to the strip, and push panels together horizontally, placing spacers between the last board and the wall.

Installation process - continued

Installation process 2G

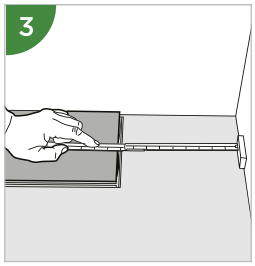


For the first plank of the first row, insert a spacer of the recommended thickness on the left and align the panel with the wall. Use a spacer for every three complete rows to assist with positioning.

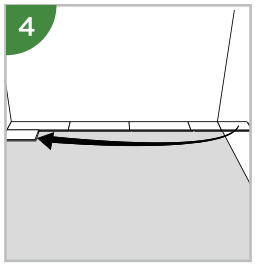


For the second plank of the first row, angle the short end against the previous plank and then fold it down.

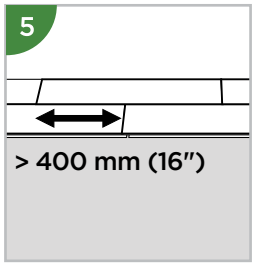
Continue this method to complete the first row.



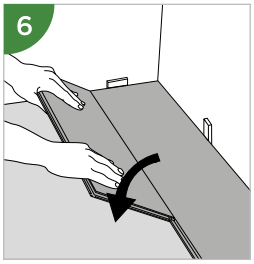
At the end of the first row, place a spacer against the wall and measure the length of the last panel to ensure it fits.



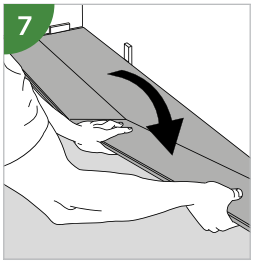
For the second row, ensure the first panel is at least 400 mm (16″) in length and place a spacer against the left wall.



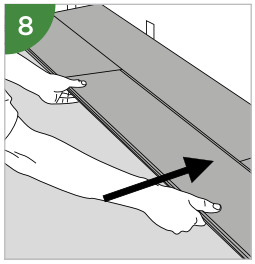
Maintain a minimum distance of 400 mm (16″) between consecutive lateral joints of adjacent boards and avoid cutting profiles shorter than 400 mm (16″).



When placing the plank, angle it against the plank in the previous row, applying forward pressure while folding it down simultaneously. As the planks begin to lock, leave the plank somewhat up angled, and consider using a wedge with an appropriate angle under the plank near the short side joint for support.

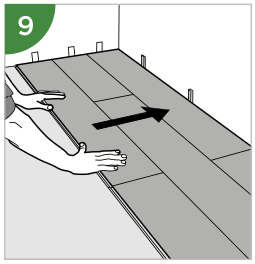


For the second plank of the second row, position the short end of the plank at an angle against the already installed plank and fold it down completely.



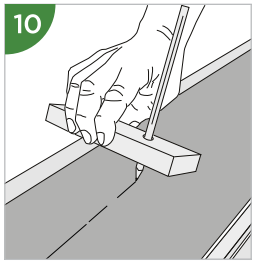
Push and slide the plank to align it with the first one in the row ahead, angling the board to ensure a snug fit. Once aligned, fold the first/previous plank down to a horizontal position.

If you are using a wedge for support, you can move it to the next short end joint.



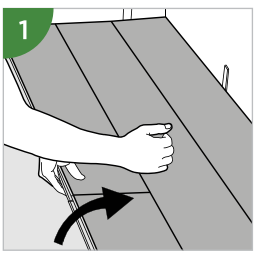
After completing rows two and three, adjust the distance to the front wall by placing spacers.

Maintain these spacers in position throughout the entire installation process and remove them once the installation is finished.

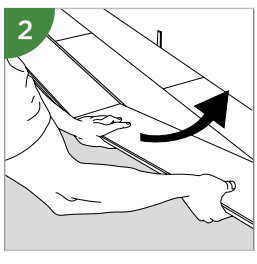


For the last row (and possibly the first row), ensure a minimum width of 50 mm (2″). Begin by placing a spacer against the wall before taking measurements. Create a simple drawing tool (a piece of wood with a hole). Use it to mark the panel along the wall, and then cut the panels lengthwise accordingly.

Dismantling panels 2G

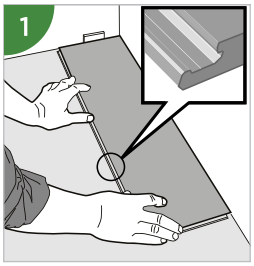


To separate the entire row, gently lift and release the entire row. Fold up the row and release the entire long side.

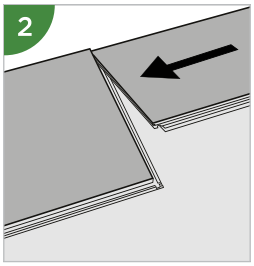


Disassemble the panels by angling the short sides vertically upwards.

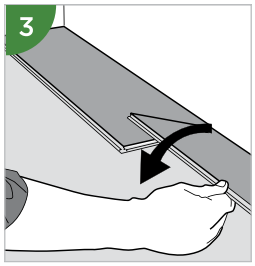
Installation process 5G



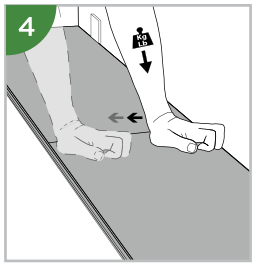
For the first plank of the first row, insert a spacer of the recommended thickness on the left and align the panel with the wall. Use a spacer for every three complete rows to assist with positioning.



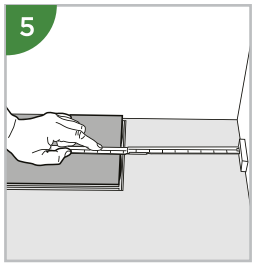
For the second plank, gently place the second plank against the wall, aligning the plank edges.



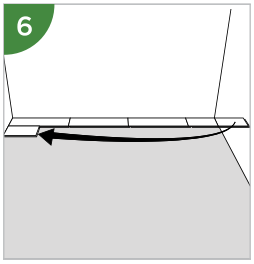
Start folding from the corner nearest the previous row, moving towards the center and then to the opposite long side, ensuring panels stay tightly adjacent.



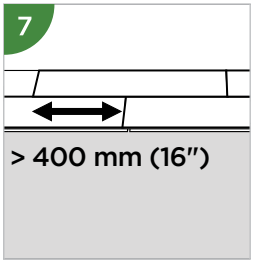
Following the fold, apply gentle pressure along the newly installed short end.



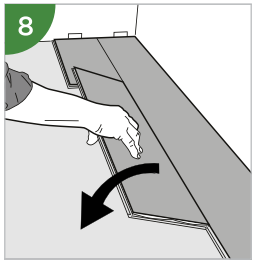
At the first row's end, place a spacer against the wall and measure the length needed for the final piece to fit.



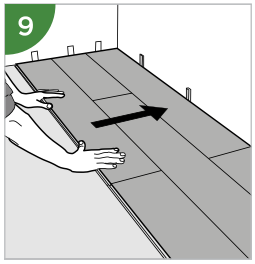
For the second row, ensure the first plank is at least 400 mm (16") in length. Place a spacer against the left wall.



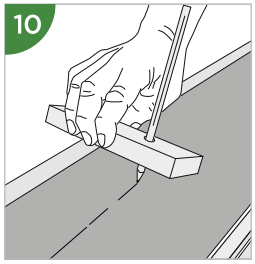
Ensure a staggered joint distance: the minimum gap between the short ends of panels in adjacent rows should not be less than the specified length.



For the second plank of the second row, align the panel closely with the previous panel's short end, then fold down in one smooth motion.

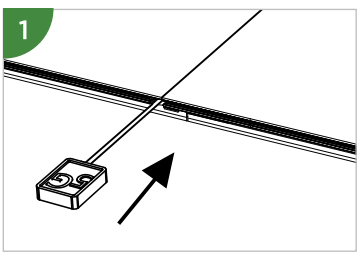


After installing 2 to 3 rows, adjust the gap to the front wall by inserting spacers.

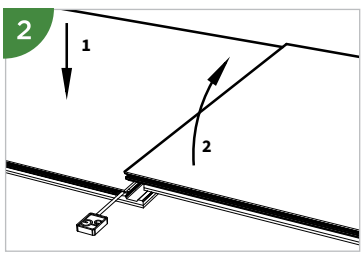


For the last (and possibly first) row, ensure a minimum width of 50 mm (2"). Before measuring, place a spacer against the wall. Use a simple drawing tool—a piece of wood with a hole—to mark along the wall. Cut the panels lengthwise, including the flexible tongues.

Dismantling panels 5G



Insert the 5G releasing tool into the groove of the board, itself.



Press down on the first board, while releasing the second board upward.
Note: Avoid folding the board upward along the shorter edge, as this may cause damage to the locking mechanism or the board itself.

Cleaning and care summary

Regular cleaning:

- Regularly sweep or vacuum to remove loose debris.
- For stubborn dirt, clean with a low-concentration mixture of water and dishwashing liquid. Remove excess water promptly.

Steam cleaning:

- A residential steam mop may be used provided the steam is applied to a microfiber pad and not directly to the floor.
- Set the steam mop to the appropriate setting for the TIER floor and do not exceed 60°C (140°F).
- Steam mop in the length direction of the planks only.

Spill management:

- Do not allow topical moisture to remain on the floor longer than the time specified in the product warranty.
- While TIER flooring is highly water-resistant, it is important to promptly clean up spills to prevent potential damage.

Chemical compatibility:

- Avoid using polishes and waxes as they have no effect on TIER flooring.
- Refer to TIER's Technical Data Sheets (TDS) for chemical compatibility information.

Furniture protection:

- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck, or furniture dolly, over hardboard runways.
- Frequently moved furniture should be equipped with felt pads to avoid scratching the floor.
- Heavy furniture and appliances should be equipped with non-staining large surface floor protectors.
- Furniture with casters or wheels must have wide, rubber, non-staining casters suitable for resilient floors. Do not use ball-type casters as they can damage the floor.
- Caster-wheeled chairs should have wide, rubber casters, and protective mats are required under office chairs.

Floor mats and protectors:

- Use non-staining mats. Rubber mats may discolor the floor.
- Use walk-off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked onto the floor.

Handling of oil and Petroleum products:

- Oil or petroleum-based products can cause surface staining. Avoid tracking asphalt driveway sealer or automobile oil drips onto the TIER flooring.

Temperature considerations:

- Do not expose TIER flooring to temperatures exceeding 60°C (140°F).

Floor safety:

- TIER, like other smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow the floor to dry completely after cleaning.

Moving heavy furniture:

- When moving heavy furniture, always lift it rather than dragging it to avoid scratching the floor.

Robotic cleaners:

- TIER flooring is suitable for use with robotic vacuum cleaners and robotic mops.

Maintenance tips:

- Following these guidelines will help maintain the beauty and durability of your TIER flooring.

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