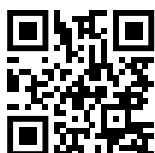




Glue Down Vinyl Flooring

TIER OPTIMA INSTALLATION GUIDE

VERSION: A2.0 02/07/2026



Scan this QR code to
download the latest version
of this document

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



CONTENTS

1. Introduction	3
2. Product information	3
3. Scope & intended use	3
4. Critical Installation Warnings and Common Mistakes	4
5. Health, Safety and PPE	5
6. Storage, Handling and Acclimatisation	5
7. Required Tools and Materials	6
8. Product Inspection Before Installation	6
9. Subfloor Requirements	7
10. Moisture Testing	7
11. Adhesive and Ancillary system requirements	8
12. Layouts and Key Measurements	10
13. Underfloor heating	13
14. Installation step by step	14
15. Cleaning and maintenance summary	16
16. Troubleshooting / Common Installation issues	17
17. Related documents and references	18
18. Disclaimer and copyright	19

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing Tier Optima Indoor Flooring.

This guide provides essential information to support the correct installation of Tier Optima gluedown indoor flooring. It is intended for competent installers, contractors, specifiers, and project teams responsible for ensuring that site conditions, subfloor preparation, adhesive selection, and installation practices meet the required standards.

A successful gluedown installation depends on the complete floor system, not the flooring product alone. This includes the substrate, moisture conditions, screeds, primers, moisture barriers, adhesives, site conditions, workmanship, and protection during adhesive curing.

Always use this guide together with the selected adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Adhesive manufacturers are responsible for their own product requirements, including substrate preparation, application method, open time, tack time, working time, rolling, curing, and warranty conditions.

2. Scope and Intended Use

This guide applies to the installation of Tier Optima gluedown indoor flooring for internal applications only. It does not apply to outdoor installations, continually wet areas, unstable substrates, unresolved moisture issues, or installations outside the limits stated in the Tier Optima Technical Data Sheet and warranty.

For installations in South Africa, refer to SAWLFA gluedown vinyl flooring guidance and SANS 10070 as key industry references. These cover site readiness, moisture testing, acclimatisation, subfloor preparation, adhesive application, rolling, and aftercare. Where this guide, SAWLFA guidance, SANS 10070, local regulations, project requirements, or adhesive manufacturer instructions differ, follow the most stringent requirement.

3. Product Information

The following information is provided for product identification and installation reference only. For full technical performance data, always refer to the Tier Optima Technical Data Sheet.

Profile ID	Core Thickness (mm)	Wear Layer (mm)	Total thickness (mm)	Width (mm)	Length (mm)	Mass (kg/board)	Use Class
TIER Optima Glue down	2.0	0.5	2.5	186	1 220	1.13	Class 33 Heavy commercial

Note:

Before installation, check that the product supplied matches the project specification, colour, quantity, batch, and product documentation. Do not install incorrect, damaged, or visibly defective material.

TIPS:

- Complete the system:** Success depends on product, substrate, adhesive and installation working together
- Follow the guides:** Always follow this guide and the adhesive manufacturer's instructions
- Protect your warranty :** Correct installation protects performance, durability and warranty

4. Critical Installation Warnings and Common Mistakes

Do not begin installation until the site, substrate, product, and adhesive system have been checked and confirmed suitable. Before cutting or installing, inspect all flooring under good lighting. Check that the product, colour, batch, quantity, and condition are correct. Do not install visibly damaged, defective, incorrect, or unsuitable material. Installation may be treated as acceptance of the product condition.

Do Not Install If

- The substrate has not been moisture tested or exceeds the allowable moisture limits.
- There is rising damp, moisture ingress, active leaks, or unresolved water damage.
- The substrate is not dry, clean, smooth, sound, stable, or correctly prepared.
- The adhesive and ancillary system has not been confirmed as suitable for the product, substrate, and site conditions.
- Wet trades, dusty works, or other construction activities are incomplete.
- The building is not enclosed, weather-tight, or within the required temperature and humidity limits.
- The flooring product is visibly damaged, defective, incorrect, or from incompatible batches.
- The area is exposed to excessive heat, direct sunlight, or extreme temperature variation without suitable protection.
- The flooring would bridge structural movement joints.
- The installation is outdoors, in a continually wet area, or outside the approved application limits.

Common Installation Mistakes to Avoid

- Installing over an uneven, dusty, contaminated, damp, or poorly prepared subfloor.
- Skipping moisture testing or ignoring high moisture readings.
- Installing before the building is enclosed, weather-tight, and stable.
- Failing to acclimatise the flooring correctly.
- Using an unsuitable adhesive, primer, screed, moisture barrier, or application method.
- Opening or spreading adhesive before the layout, tools, product, and site are ready.
- Installing before the adhesive reaches the correct tack, or after it has skinned over or dried too far.
- Spreading more adhesive than can be covered within the working time.
- Failing to roll the floor correctly.
- Allowing adhesive residue to dry on the flooring surface.
- Allowing traffic, furniture, heavy loads, rolling loads, or cleaning before the adhesive has cured.



Note:

Where this guide, SAWLFA guidance, SANS 10070, local regulations, project requirements or adhesive manufacturer instructions differ, follow the most stringent requirements

5. Health, Safety and PPE

Refer to the Tier Optima Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before handling, cutting, or installing the product. Also refer to the SDS and technical instructions for all adhesives, primers, screeds, moisture barriers, cleaners, and other ancillary products used during installation.

Tier Optima flooring is supplied as a finished solid board. Normal handling poses minimal exposure risk; however, dust generated during cutting, sanding, drilling, or other processing must be controlled.

Always wear appropriate PPE for the task being carried out, including:

- Safety glasses or goggles.
- Cut-resistant gloves when cutting or handling cut boards.
- Knee protection during floor installation.
- Suitable respiratory protection where dust, fumes, vapours, or airborne particles may be present.
- Additional PPE required by the adhesive, screed, primer, or moisture barrier manufacturer.
- Work in a well-ventilated area. Use local extraction when cutting, sanding, grinding, or mixing. Do not dry sweep. Remove dust using a suitable filtered vacuum, wet-wiping, or damp-mopping where appropriate.

Adhesives and ancillary products may contain hazardous ingredients. Follow the manufacturer's SDS for ventilation, fire safety, skin protection, vapour control, curing, clean-up, and disposal.

When using contact adhesives or other solvent/reactive adhesives, allow the correct flash-off time and do not trap adhesive vapours between the flooring and substrate. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's SDS and technical instructions.

Keep the work area clean and free from loose debris, dust, offcuts, adhesive residue,

6. Storage, Handling and Acclimatisation

Handle cartons carefully. Do not drop or expose to impact. Follow safe lifting practices.

• Storage requirements:

Store indoors, fully under cover.

- Keep cartons flat, level, and fully supported.
- Store in a clean, dry, well-ventilated area.
- Protect from direct sunlight, heat, moisture, and high humidity.
- Keep cartons off the ground and away from wet or contaminated surfaces.
- Do not place heavy materials on top of cartons.
- Stack cartons securely to prevent bending, crushing, or distortion.
- **Do not:**
 - Store cartons upright or unevenly supported.
 - Store in garages, damp areas, or any space with uncontrolled temperature or humidity.

• Adhesives and ancillary products:

- Store in sealed containers, upright, in a cool, dry area.
- Protect from sunlight, moisture, and freezing temperatures.
- Follow the manufacturer's storage and handling instructions.
- Do not use expired products or materials that show signs of deterioration.
- Reseal containers after opening and use within the recommended timeframe

Acclimatisation:



- Leave unopened cartons in the installation area for at least **48 hours** before installation, maintaining a temperature between **15 °C and 29 °C** during acclimatisation, installation, and adhesive curing unless otherwise specified by the adhesive manufacturer.

7. Required Tools and Materials

The tools and materials required will depend on the substrate, adhesive system, site conditions, and project requirements. Always confirm final requirements with the selected adhesive, screed, primer, and moisture barrier manufacturers before installation.

Tools

- **Site checks and setting out:** moisture meter, 3 m straight edge, tape measure, chalk line or laser line, and carpenter's square.
- **Cutting and fitting:** sharp utility knife or flooring knife, straight edge, flooring guillotine, laminate cutter, jigsaw, multitool, or other suitable cutting tools.
- **Subfloor preparation:** broom, vacuum cleaner, scraper, floor grinder, sander, scarifier, dust extraction equipment, and clean cloths, where required.
- **Adhesive application:** adhesive trowel with the notch size specified by the adhesive manufacturer. A minimum of 1.5 x 1.5 x 1.5 mm V-notched trowel at no less than 4 mm spacing may be used as a typical reference for vinyl / LVT adhesive application if not specified by the adhesive manufacturer.
- **Rolling and finishing:** hand roller, 45–68 kg three-section flooring roller, and spacers where required and not specified by adhesive manufacturer.
- **Self-levelling or screed work, where required:** mixing drill and paddle, measuring bucket, smoothing trowel, self-levelling rake, spike roller, and spike shoes.

Materials and Consumables

- Tier Optima gluedown flooring.
- LVT Adhesive confirmed as suitable for Tier Optima, the substrate, and the site conditions.
- Primer, moisture barrier, patching compound, smoothing compound, or self-levelling compound, where required.
- Adhesive clean-up products recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Transition profiles, trims, skirtings, or finishing accessories, where applicable.
- Suitable floor protection for use after adhesive cure, where required.



Do not substitute adhesives, primers, screeds, moisture barriers, or trowel notch sizes without confirmation from the relevant manufacturer.

8. Product Inspection Before Installation

Inspect all flooring before cutting or installing.

Check that:

- The correct product has been supplied.
- The colour, design, and finish match the project specification.
- The quantity supplied is sufficient for the installation.
- Planks are free from visible damage, defects, contamination, distortion, or shade issues.
- Multiple cartons are opened and visually checked under good lighting before installation.
- Any concerns are reported before the product is cut, glued, or installed.



Do not install incorrect, damaged, visibly defective, or unsuitable product. Installation may be treated as acceptance of the product condition.

TIP:

Spare planks: Keep spare planks for future repairs. Store them flat, indoors, and in a dry area protected from heat, sunlight, and moisture.

9. Subfloor Requirements

Tier Optima gluedown flooring must only be installed over a substrate suitable for resilient gluedown flooring. The substrate must be:

- Dry, clean, smooth, sound, stable, flat, and correctly prepared.
- Free from dust, grease, oil, paint, wax, curing compounds, loose material, old adhesive residue, and other contaminants.
- Suitable for the selected adhesive and ancillary system.

Flatness Requirement

The subfloor should not vary by more than 3 mm over 3 m, unless a stricter requirement is specified by the adhesive, screed, smoothing compound, or levelling compound manufacturer.

Before Installation

- Repair cracks, voids, rough areas, high spots, low spots, and weak or friable areas.
- Remove or correctly treat old adhesive residue.
- Identify the substrate type before selecting the adhesive system.
- Confirm whether primer, sealer, smoothing compound, self-levelling screed, or moisture barrier is required.
- Confirm that all preparation products are compatible with the selected adhesive and ancillary system.

Do Not Install Over

- Structural movement joints without a suitable joint or transition detail.
- Loose, weak, dusty, damp, contaminated, uneven, or unstable substrates.
- Carpet, foam, acoustic underlay, loose underlay, or soft intermediate layers.
- Specialist substrates unless approved by the adhesive or substrate-preparation manufacturer.



Specialist substrates may include timber, ceramic tiles, terrazzo, metal, painted surfaces, coated surfaces, magnesium boards, gypsum-based products, or existing floor finishes.

10. Moisture Testing

Moisture testing must be completed before installation. Do not install Tier Optima gluedown flooring if:

- Moisture readings exceed the limits allowed by the selected adhesive system.
- There is rising damp, moisture ingress, active leaks, or unresolved water damage.
- The source

If serious moisture issues are found, installation must not proceed until the cause has been assessed and resolved by a suitably qualified person.

Moisture test methods, acceptable limits, and reporting requirements must be confirmed against:

- The adhesive manufacturer's instructions.
- Applicable local standards.
- Project specifications.
- Substrate type and site conditions.

Moisture readings must be recorded before installation. Readings taken during quoting or early site inspection must not be treated as final approval, as moisture conditions may change before installation.

11. Adhesives and Ancillary system requirements

The full adhesive and ancillary system must be confirmed before installation begins. This includes the adhesive, primer, sealer, screed, smoothing compound, self-levelling compound, moisture barrier, trowel notch, working time, rolling method, and curing requirements.

Tier Optima must be installed using a system suitable for resilient gluedown vinyl / LVT flooring, the substrate, site conditions, and intended use of the area.



Consult the adhesive manufacturer for the correct adhesive system and installation requirements.

Confirm Before Selecting the Adhesive

Confirm that:

- The adhesive is suitable for Tier Optima or resilient gluedown vinyl / LVT flooring.
- The adhesive is suitable for the substrate type.
- The substrate moisture level is within the adhesive manufacturer's limits.
- Any required primer, sealer, screed, smoothing compound, self-levelling compound, or moisture barrier has been identified.
- All system components are compatible with each other.
- The system is suitable for the expected use of the area, including traffic level, rolling loads, point loads, direct sunlight, temperature variation, underfloor heating, or wet-use risk where applicable.



Do not assume that adhesive alone can correct an unsuitable substrate. The floor system must be correctly prepared before adhesive is applied.

Moisture Barriers

Where a moisture barrier is required, use a compatible liquid-applied moisture barrier or damp-proofing system approved by the adhesive, screed, primer, or moisture-barrier manufacturer.



Do not use loose plastic DPC sheeting or plastic film directly below Tier Optima gluedown flooring.

Continuation of Adhesives and Ancillary system requirements

Confirm Before Opening the Adhesive

Do not open or spread adhesive until:

- Site temperature and humidity are within the required range.
- The substrate has been moisture tested and approved.
- Substrate preparation is complete.
- Any required primer, screed, smoothing compound, self-levelling compound, or moisture barrier has cured and is ready for flooring installation.
- Flooring has been acclimatised and inspected.
- The layout has been planned, and reference lines are marked.
- The correct trowel notch has been confirmed.
- The required roller and hand roller are available.
- The installation team is ready to place flooring within the adhesive working time.



Once adhesive is opened or spread, the working time starts. Do not open adhesive while the site is still being prepared, cartons are still being checked, the layout is undecided, or tools are missing.

During Adhesive Application

- Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for:
 - Trowel notch size and adhesive coverage.
 - Open time, tack time, and working time.
 - Wet-lay or tack-off requirements.
 - Adhesive transfer to the back of the plank.
 - Rolling method, roller weight, and rolling time.
 - Cleaning adhesive residue.
 - Cure time before traffic, furniture, rolling loads, cleaning, or floor protection.
- Do not:
 - Spread more adhesive than can be covered within the stated working time.
 - Install into adhesive that has skinned over, dried too far, become contaminated, or no longer transfers correctly to the back of the plank.
 - Allow adhesive residue to dry on the flooring surface.



Remove adhesive residue immediately using the adhesive manufacturer's recommended cleaning method.

System Compatibility

- Do not mix adhesives, primers, screeds, levelling compounds, moisture barriers, or other ancillary products from different systems unless compatibility has been confirmed by the relevant manufacturers.
- Do not use expired adhesive or adhesive that has thickened, skinned over, separated, spoiled, frozen, overheated, or become contaminated.
- Eva-Last does not warrant the performance of third-party adhesives, primers, screeds, levelling compounds, or moisture barriers. These products must be selected, installed, and warranted according to their respective manufacturers' instructions.

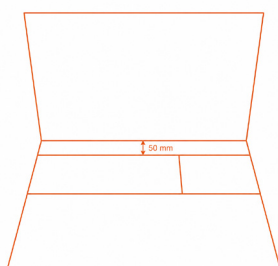
Plan the layout before opening or spreading adhesive. Once adhesive is opened or spread, the working time starts and the installation must proceed without unnecessary delay.

12. Layouts and Key Measurements

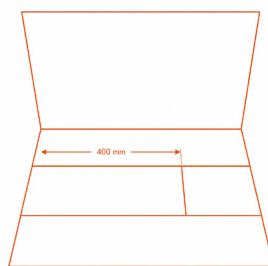
Before Spreading Adhesive

1. Dry lay several rows to confirm the layout, colour variation, plank direction, and joint stagger.
2. Blend planks from multiple cartons to achieve a natural appearance.
3. Check that the room is square and identify walls, doorways, passages, columns, pipes, and fixed objects.
4. Decide the plank direction. Flooring is commonly installed parallel to the longest wall or in the direction of the main natural light source.
5. Mark clear reference lines using a chalk line or laser line.
6. Plan the installation sequence so flooring can be placed within the adhesive working time.
7. The starting point may be adjusted to suit the room layout and practical installation sequence. Centre lines may be used to balance the floor visually, but installation should proceed from a controlled reference line that allows accurate placement, access, and adhesive working-time control.

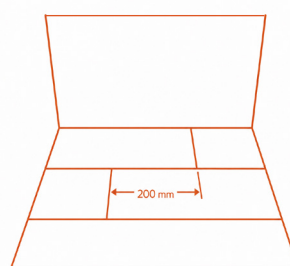
Key Dimensions



1. Do not rip boards less than 50mm wide.



2. Do not use cut planks shorter than 400 mm



3. Joint stagger and board placement

Continuation of Layouts and Key Measurements

Expansion gaps

- Where perimeter gaps are required, follow SAWLFA and SANS 10070 requirements, the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, project specification
- Do not bridge structural movement joints. Structural movement joints must continue through the flooring using a suitable joint or transition detail.
- Keep structural joints clean and free from adhesive, dust, debris, filler, or hard-setting sealants.



Cuts and Board Sizes

- Avoid narrow cuts against walls and fixed objects.
- Where the final row would be less than 50 mm wide, adjust the starting line or trim both the first and last rows to create a balanced layout.
- Avoid very short cut pieces. Do not use cut planks shorter than 400 mm unless required at perimeter details or approved by the responsible installer.
- Cut neatly around door frames, pipes, columns, and fixed objects while maintaining the required movement gap.



Joint Stagger and Board Placement

- Install planks with tight, neat joints. *
- Stagger end joints randomly by at least 200 mm.
- Avoid lining up end joints in adjacent rows unless the selected pattern specifically requires it.
- If directional arrows or printed orientation marks are present, follow the required direction unless the design or project specification states otherwise.
 - Do not force boards together in a way that causes peaking, distortion, adhesive displacement, or edge damage.
 - Do not begin adhesive application until the layout is confirmed, reference lines are marked, and all required cuts, tools, flooring, and installation materials are ready.



*Minor dimensional movement is normal in gluedown flooring and may result in small gaps forming between boards, particularly at board ends or in areas exposed to temperature variation. Correct site preparation, acclimatisation, adhesive selection and installation methods help manage this movement and minimise visible gaps.

Finishing Details

Complete the following checks before handing over the installation:

- Check that all planks are flat, aligned, and firmly bonded.
- Check that joints are tight, neat, and free from adhesive contamination.
- Roll the floor as required by the adhesive manufacturer. Use a hand roller at edges, corners, doorways, and confined areas.
- Remove adhesive residue immediately using the adhesive manufacturer's recommended cleaning method.
- Keep perimeter and movement gaps clean and free from adhesive, debris, filler, or hard-setting sealants.
- Fit skirtings, trims, transition profiles, or finishing accessories where required.
- Protect the completed floor from construction traffic, dust, impact, direct heat, and direct sunlight during adhesive curing.



Do not:

- Do not allow adhesive to dry on the flooring surface.
- Do not fix skirtings, trims, or profiles through the flooring in a way that restricts movement.
- Do not cover structural movement joints. Continue movement joints through the floor finish using a suitable joint or transition detail.

Post-Installation Restrictions

Follow the adhesive manufacturer's curing requirements before allowing traffic, furniture, cleaning, or protection materials onto the floor.

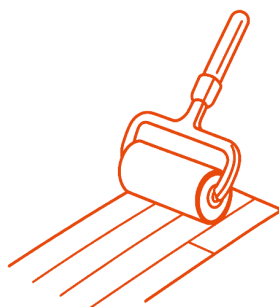
As a minimum, unless the adhesive manufacturer requires longer:

- Avoid unnecessary foot traffic for the first 24 hours.
- Use hardboard runways or suitable protection when moving heavy items after the adhesive has cured.
- Protect the floor from excessive heat, direct sunlight, water, dust, and construction traffic during curing.

Do not:

- Do not move furniture, appliances, heavy loads, or rolling loads onto the floor for at least 48 hours.
- Do not wet-clean or wash the floor for at least 48 hours.
- Do not drag furniture or equipment across the floor.
- Do not cover the floor with protective sheeting until the adhesive has cured sufficiently and the adhesive manufacturer confirms that covering is allowed.

Where the adhesive manufacturer's cure time differs from this guide, follow the longer or stricter requirement.



13. Underfloor Heating



Tier Optima gluedown flooring may be installed over underfloor heating systems, provided the full flooring system is suitable for this application. The maximum floor surface temperature must not exceed 29 °C.

Before installation, confirm suitability with:

- The underfloor heating system manufacturer.
- Where underfloor heating is present, confirm that the full adhesive and ancillary system is rated for underfloor heating before installation.
 - The adhesive manufacturer.
 - The screed, levelling compound, primer, and moisture barrier manufacturers.
- The project specification or applicable local standard.

System Requirements

- The heating system must be fully embedded within the subfloor.
- Do not install directly over surface-mounted electric heating mats.
- A minimum 12 mm separation layer must be provided between the heating system and the flooring, unless a stricter requirement is specified.
- The maximum floor surface temperature must not exceed 29 °C.
- An in-floor temperature sensor or suitable temperature-control system must be used to prevent overheating.
- Only adhesives, primers, levelling compounds, screeds, and moisture barriers rated for underfloor heating may be used.

Before Installation

- Construct and operate the heating system before installation in accordance with the heating system and screed manufacturer's instructions.
- Confirm that the subfloor moisture level is within the limits allowed by the selected adhesive system.
- Switch the heating system off at least 24 hours before installation, unless otherwise specified by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Maintain the installation area between 15 °C and 29 °C during acclimatisation, installation, and adhesive curing.
- Do not install over unresolved moisture issues, active leaks, rising damp, or insufficiently cured screeds.

During and After Installation

- Keep the heating system off during installation and for at least 24 hours after installation, unless otherwise specified by the adhesive manufacturer.
- After the adhesive has cured, restart the heating system gradually.
- Increase the temperature by no more than 5 °C per day until the target operating temperature is reached.
- Do not exceed the maximum floor surface temperature of 29 °C.



Thermal cycling may affect adhesives and ancillary products that are not rated for underfloor heating.



Minor dimensional movement is normal in gluedown flooring and may result in small gaps forming between boards, particularly at board ends or in areas exposed to temperature variation. Correct site preparation, acclimatisation, adhesive selection and installation methods help manage this movement and minimise visible gaps

14. Installation step by step

1. Inspect and Test the Subfloor

- Check that the subfloor is clean, dry, rigid, level, smooth, and free from cracks or contaminants.
- Test and record moisture readings before any installation work begins.



2. Prepare the Subfloor

- Remove dust, grease, loose material, old adhesive, paint, or residues.
- Repair defects, secure timber boards, and correct uneven areas using suitable levelling compounds.
- Allow all primers, moisture barriers, and screeds to cure fully before continuing.



3. Acclimatise Product and Adhesive

- Store unopened cartons and adhesives in the installation area for at least **48 hours**.
- Maintain site conditions between **15–29 °C (59–85 °F)** and **30–60% RH** before, during, and after installation.



4. Plan and Mark the Layout

- Find the centre of the room and mark chalk lines.
- Dry-lay planks to check layout, direction, cuts, and pattern balance.
- Avoid cuts less than 50 mm (2 in) wide or planks shorter than 400 mm (16 in).
- Avoid overlapping boards less than 200mm from edges.
- Leave an appropriate expansion gap around walls and obstacles. If unsure leave 6mm between walls, unless otherwise specified by the adhesive supplier



5. Apply Adhesive

- Use only approved vinyl/LVT adhesive suitable for the subfloor and site conditions.
- Apply adhesive with the correct notched trowel and only spread what can be installed within the adhesive open time.
- Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for tack time, wet-lay requirements, and curing.



6. Install Planks

- Start from the marked layout lines and place planks into the adhesive carefully.
- Keep rows straight, joints tight, and the pattern consistent.
 - Do not slide planks through adhesive, as this can affect transfer and bond.



7. Roll and Check Continuously

- Roll the floor in both directions using a **45–68 kg (100–150 lb)** roller within the adhesive working time.
- Check adhesive transfer, alignment, gaps, and dry spots as work progresses.
- Check occasional planks to confirm full adhesive transfer to the back of the plank.



8. Finish and Protect

- Trim edges neatly and maintain required expansion gaps at walls and fixed objects.
- Remove excess adhesive immediately using the adhesive manufacturer's recommended cleaner.
- Keep the floor free from traffic for at least 24 hours and avoid wet cleaning for 48 hours or as specified by the adhesive manufacturer.



15. Cleaning and maintenance summary

The following points apply after installation and adhesive curing.

General cleaning

- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove loose dirt and grit.
- Use a damp mop or microfibre mop where required.
- Avoid excessive water during cleaning.
- Clean spills promptly.
- Do not use harsh chemicals, abrasive cleaners, waxes, polishes, solvents, or unsuitable household cleaning products.
- Only use cleaning products suitable for vinyl / LVT flooring.



Do not expose Tier Optima flooring to temperatures above 60 °C.

Furniture and Floor Protection

- Fit felt pads or suitable non-staining protectors to furniture legs.
- Use wide, non-staining floor protectors under heavy furniture and appliances.
- Use protective mats under office chairs and frequently moved furniture.
- Avoid rubber-backed mats or rubber furniture protectors unless confirmed non-staining and suitable for vinyl flooring.
- Use walk-off mats at entrances to reduce dirt and grit.
- Lift furniture when moving



Use and Care Notes

- Avoid focused heat from heaters, appliances, or direct sunlight.
- Smooth floors may become slippery when wet. Allow the floor to dry fully after cleaning.
- Robotic vacuum cleaners and robotic mops may be used, provided they are suitable for vinyl / LVT flooring and do not use excessive water or heat.
- Residential steam mops should only be used if permitted by the Tier Optima Maintenance Guide and product warranty. Do not use steam cleaning during the adhesive curing period.



16. Troubleshooting / Common Installation Issues

The table below lists common installation issues, likely causes, and items to check. Where issues are severe, recurring, or unclear, stop work and consult the adhesive manufacturer, flooring supplier, or a suitably qualified flooring professional..

Issue	Likely Cause	Check
Planks lifting or debonding	Poor adhesive transfer, incorrect adhesive, contaminated subfloor, high moisture, adhesive skinned over before installation, or insufficient rolling.	Adhesive suitability, trowel notch, open time, tack time, moisture readings, subfloor preparation, and roller use.
Edges or corners lifting	Inadequate adhesive at edges, delayed rolling, adhesive drying too far, uneven substrate, or movement from heat exposure.	Edge adhesive transfer, hand rolling, site temperature, direct sunlight, and subfloor flatness.
Hollow spots or loose areas	Insufficient adhesive coverage, uneven adhesive ridges, low spots in the subfloor, trapped air, or poor rolling.	Adhesive spread, trowel condition, subfloor flatness, rolling method, and plank contact.
Telegraphing / visible imperfections through the floor	Uneven subfloor, trowel marks, cracks, debris, adhesive residue, or poor smoothing / levelling.	Subfloor preparation, flatness, surface smoothness, and removal of contaminants.
Gaps between planks	Temperature change, product movement, poor acclimatisation, incorrect adhesive system, insufficient bond, or installation under unstable site conditions.	Acclimatisation, site temperature, adhesive suitability, adhesive transfer, and exposure to direct heat or sunlight.
Peaking, buckling, or distortion	Boards forced together, no movement allowance, heat exposure, trapped movement at trims/skirtings, or adhesive displacement.	Perimeter gaps, trims, direct sunlight, board placement, and whether planks were forced into position.
Misaligned rows or uneven joint stagger	Poor layout planning, no reference line, rushing installation, or boards moved through wet adhesive.	Reference lines, dry-lay, installation sequence, and alignment check during installation.
Adhesive visible on surface	Excess adhesive, adhesive squeeze-out, incorrect trowel, late cleaning, or unsuitable cleaning method.	Trowel notch, adhesive quantity, cleaning timing, and adhesive manufacturer's clean-up instructions.
Surface staining or discolouration	Rubber-backed mats, unsuitable cleaners, adhesive residue, oil/petroleum contact, or chemical incompatibility.	Cleaning products, mats, furniture protectors, adhesive residue, and chemical exposure.
Scratches or surface damage	Construction traffic, dragging furniture, grit, poor floor protection, or unsuitable castors.	Floor protection, walk-off mats, furniture pads, castors, and site traffic control.
Slippery surface	Wet floor, cleaning residue, unsuitable cleaner, polish, wax, or detergent build-up.	Cleaning method, cleaning chemical suitability, rinsing, and drying.
Odour after installation	Adhesive not cured, insufficient ventilation, trapped adhesive vapours, incompatible system components, or incorrect adhesive use.	Adhesive type, ventilation, flash-off / tack time, cure time, and system compatibility.
Movement or failure near windows / hot areas	Excessive heat, direct sunlight, high surface temperature, or adhesive not rated for thermal movement.	Surface temperature, sunlight exposure, window protection, adhesive suitability, and movement gaps.
Failure after cleaning or early use	Wet cleaning too soon, traffic too early, furniture loaded before adhesive cure, or adhesive not fully cured.	Adhesive cure time, traffic restrictions, cleaning timing, and post-installation protection.



Do not attempt cosmetic repairs until the cause of the issue has been identified. Repairing the surface without correcting the cause may allow the issue to return.

17. Related documents and references

This installation guide must be read together with the latest versions of the applicable product, installation, safety, warranty, and system documents.

Tier optima documentation

- Tier Optima Technical Data Sheet.
- Tier Optima Safety Data Sheet.
- Tier Optima Warranty.

Installation and industry references

- SAWLFA gluedown vinyl flooring guidelines.
- SANS 10070, where applicable.
- Applicable local building regulations, flooring standards, and project specifications.



SAWLFA guidance should be used as a key South African industry reference for site readiness, moisture testing, acclimatisation, subfloor preparation, adhesive application, rolling, and aftercare.

Adhesives and ancillary document references

Refer to the relevant manufacturer's latest technical and safety documents for all products used as part of the flooring system, including:

- Adhesives.
- Primers and sealers.
- Screeds, smoothing compounds, and self-levelling compounds.
- Liquid-applied moisture barriers or damp-proofing systems.
- Cleaning products.
- Trims, transitions, skirtings, and finishing accessories, where applicable.

Always use the latest available version of each document. Where this guide, product documentation, SAWLFA guidance, SANS 10070, local regulations, project specifications, or adhesive manufacturer instructions differ, follow the most stringent requirement.



18. Disclaimer and copyright

Document disclaimer

The provided information is offered in good faith as accurate but without guarantee. Eva-Last® makes no warranties or representations of any kind (express or implied) about the accuracy, adequacy, currency, or completeness of the information, or that it is necessarily suitable for the intended use.

Compliance with this document does not guarantee immunity from breach of any statutory requirements, building codes or relevant standards. The final responsibility for the correct design and specification rests with the designer and, for its satisfactory execution, with the contractor. Appropriate warnings and safe handling procedures should be provided to handlers and users.

While most data have been compiled from research, case histories, experience and testing, small changes in the environment can produce marked differences in performance. The decision to use a material, and in what manner, is made at your own risk. The use of a material and method may therefore need to be modified to its intended end use and environment.

Eva-Last®, its directors, officers or employees shall not be responsible for any direct, indirect, or special loss or damage arising from, or as a consequence of, use of, or reliance upon, any information contained in this document, or other documents referenced herein. Eva-Last® expressly disclaims any liability which is based on or arises out of, the information or any errors, omissions, or misstatements herein.

Drawing disclaimer

All dimensions and specifications are offered in good faith as accurate but without guarantee. The information captured herein may not contain complete details. Eva-Last® makes no warranties or representations of any kind (express or implied) about the accuracy, adequacy, currency, or completeness of the information, or that it is necessarily suitable for the intended use.

Compliance with this document does not guarantee immunity from breach of any statutory requirements, building codes or relevant standards. The final responsibility for the correct design and specification rests with the designer and, for its satisfactory execution, with the contractor.

Utilisation disclaimer

Legislation may differ between jurisdictions. Before installing any Eva-Last® product, ensure that the application is rational and complies with the local regulations and building codes. Wherever necessary, consult a suitably qualified professional. Be sure to comply with material manufacturer specifications. Where manufacturers and building codes differ, revert to the building code requirements. Check that your choice of product is suitable for its intended application. For further product specification and information visit www.eva-last.com.

Copyright

If reprinted or reproduced or utilised in any form Eva-Last® should be acknowledged as the source of the information.

Eva-Last® periodically updates the information contained in this document as well as that of the Eva Last® documents that have been referenced herein. Before using this document, please refer to the Eva-Last® website (www.eva-last.com) for the most up-to-date documents. Please also refer to the applicable websites.

Contact information

Eva-Last

Email: info@eva-last.com

Website: www.eva-last.com