



Installation instructions Floorify Planks & Tiles

Version: 01/09/2019

EN

To obtain an optimal result, we recommend reading the following installation instructions carefully and follow them closely.

WHERE CAN YOU INSTALL FLOORIFY?

Floorify Planks & Tiles are designed for **residential** and **project-based** use **indoors**. The product is not designed for outdoor use.

Floorify Planks & Tiles can be installed on various **hard, flat, non-resilient subfloors** such as concrete, sand cement, anhydrite, wood, chipboard, MDF or ceramic tiles. The subfloor must meet the prescribed conditions (see “preparation”).

Floorify Planks & Tiles are waterproof and can be used as floating floor covering in **damp rooms** such as bathrooms, toilets or kitchens. Floorify Planks & Tiles are not suitable as floor covering for walk-in showers (or other rooms with integrated water drainage), saunas, swimming pools or other wet areas.

Floorify Planks & Tiles can be installed on a subfloor with traditional water-based **floor heating and cooling** and/or on a thermostat-regulated electric floor heating processed in the subfloor or in a minimum of 9 mm equalization. This is on the condition that the temperature on the surface of the subfloor does not exceed 30°C. The use of electric underfloor heating is not recommended if it has not been incorporated in 9 mm subfloor / leveling and/or has an on/off switch instead of a continuous system.

Floorify Planks & Tiles must be installed as a **floating floor system**: the floor panels must be able to expand and shrink freely at any time in response to changes in temperature. You may never glue, nail or attach the floor panels to the subfloor, to walls or to any other part of the room.

You install the Floorify Planks & Tiles **glueless**: the floor panels are equipped with a click system so that you can click them together easily (see “installation” for more details).

Floorify Planks & Tiles should always be placed on top of a **suitable high-quality underlay** such as the Floorify Comfort underlay. The Floorify Comfort underlay was specially developed for use in combination with the Floorify Planks & Tiles collection. That is why the Floorify Comfort underlay guarantees optimum performance of your Floorify Planks & Tiles:

- Levels (within the flatness tolerances of the subfloor – see “important technical information)
- Prevents grinding caused by grit or pebbles
- Increases impact resistance and walking comfort
- Can be combined with both floor heating and floor cooling
- Insulates the transit sound (ΔL_w 21 dB or ΔL_{in} 10 dB)

In the case of damage or accelerated wear of the floor caused by the use of an underlay other than the Floorify Comfort underlay, the warranty given by Floorify will lapse.

IMPORTANT TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Flatness tolerances subfloor	Inclination max. 5 mm over 2 walking meters.
Underlay required	Yes. Recommendation: Floorify Comfort underlay.
Vapor-proof membrane 0.2 mm	Not required. Recommended for installation in bathrooms or damp rooms.
Acclimatization.	Allow to acclimatize horizontally for a minimum of 12h in the room to be processed or until the material has reached the ideal installation temperature of 18°C-25°C.
Expansion joints	5 mm expansion joint around all walls, pipes and objects in rooms up to a maximum of 20 x 20 m or 400m ² . Additional expansion joints must be provided in larger rooms.
Expansion requirements for door openings or thresholds	Only required if the temperature difference between adjacent rooms are larger than 12°C or if the adjacent rooms together are larger than 20 x 20 m.
Click system	Traditional glueless system under license of Unilin. Insert horizontally: yes Insert vertically: yes Tongue in groove: yes Groove in tongue: yes
Glued installation	Not recommended.
Floor heating	Suitable. Maximum temperature of the surface of the screed is 30°C.
Maximum permitted percentage of residual moisture in the subfloor	Cement bonded subfloor: 2.5% Cement bonded subfloor with underfloor heating: 2% Anhydrite: 0.5% Anhydrite with underfloor heating: 0.3%
Installation on ceramic tile floor	Suitable when the joints are no wider than 5 mm and/or no tiles or edges protrude upwards.
Installation in apartments (transit noise)	Floorify Planks & Tiles (4.5 mm) in combination with the Floorify Comfort underlay (ΔL_w 21 dB of ΔL_{in} 10 dB).
Cutting/sawing	Stanley knife: yes (see "preparation") Jigsaw with trespa or metal saw blade: yes Electric saw with trespa or metal saw blade: yes Hand saw with trespa or metal saw blade: yes Laminate or PVC cutter: yes
Heavy elements on the floor	"Non-moving" weights of max. 1000kg in total whereby the pressure is evenly distributed and does not exceed 50kg/cm ² at any point.
Optimal temperature and relative humidity	During installation: 18°C-25°C During life cyclus: 2°C-40°C Relative humidity: 40%-80%

Version 01/09/2019 – This document replaces all printed and electronic installation and technical recommendations that were previously distributed by Floorify NV.

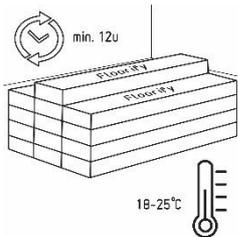
FLOORIFY NV, Kruisboommolenstraat 30A, B-8800 ROESELARE, BELGIUM - sales@floorify.com

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

It is important to always store and/or transport the boxes with Floorify floor panels on a solid surface, in neat stacks, lying flat (so not overhanging) and never vertically.

Store your Floorify floor indoors and never in very cold (less than 2°C) or very warm (more than 40°C) rooms.

PREPARATION



Acclimatization and de-stressing. To guarantee a pleasant installation experience, it is essential to store the floor horizontally for at least 12h before installation, or the time it takes for the material to reach the ideal installation temperature of 18°C-25°C. This also allows the material to “de-stress” any tension it has sustained during transport or storage. Maintain this temperature for at least 24h both during installation and after installation.

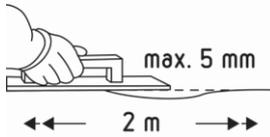
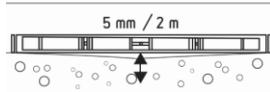
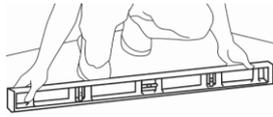


What do you need? Hand and/or jigsaw and/or electric saw, Stanley knife, Floorify Comfort Underlay, pull bar, measurer, pencil, rubber hammer, spacers, professional rigid/pvc/laminate cutter (not necessary).

Subfloor. A decent subfloor preparation is needed to obtain an excellent result. Remove all traces of plaster, paint, glue, oil, grease etc. The subfloor must be clean, dry, even and firmly fixed. Remove all remaining dirt and vacuum the subfloor. Furthermore, the subfloor cannot be soft, damaged or loose laid.

What to do with different types of subfloors?

	Remove?
Carpet	Yes
Needlefelt	Yes
Cushion vinyl	Yes
Floating laminate	Yes
Floating parquet	Yes
Ceramic tiles	Not necessarily
Glued PVC	Not necessarily
Glued VCT	Not necessarily
Glued linoleum	Not necessarily
Glued laminate	Not necessarily
Glued parquet	Not necessarily

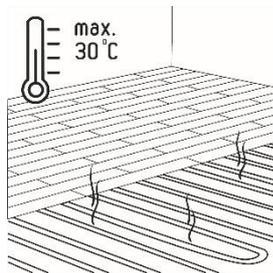


Unevenness. Roughness or unevenness in the subfloor can cause an uneven floor surface and thus cause accelerated wear of the floor or the click system. That is why the subfloor should not have larger inequalities than 5 mm over 2 walking meters. Thanks to the strong Rigid Core in combination with the Floorify Comfort underlay, you can bridge these slight bumps.

Are the unevenness larger? Then you can use another type of underlay with a higher leveling capacity or you can level out the subfloor with a suitable leveling product. Ask your dealer or installer for advice.

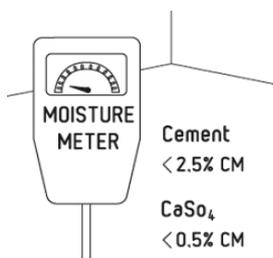
Moisture. Although the Floorify Planks & Tiles are insensitive to moisture, they are not intended for use as a moisture-inhibiting or waterproof system. In the case of moisture, the subfloor must be made vapor-tight before the floor is installed. Ask your glue or leveling supplier if there are structural moisture problems. Moisture under the floor can lead to unhealthy mold formation and/or to push up the floor panels.

If you are unsure of the quality or suitability of your subfloor for the installation of your Floorify floor, contact your dealer or installer. He will gladly help you out.



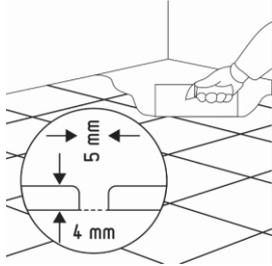
Underfloor heating. You can use Floorify Planks & Tiles on a subfloor with traditional water-based floor heating and cooling and/or on thermostat-regulated electric floor heating incorporated in the subfloor or in a minimum of 9 mm equalization. This is on the condition that the temperature on the surface of the subfloor does not exceed 30°C. The room temperature must remain constant at 18°C-25°C before, during and at least 24h after the installation of your floor. The floor heating system can then be gradually increased, with a maximum of 5°C per day until an agreeable temperature is reached.

Always check the suitability of the floor heating or cooling system in the manufacturer's instructions.

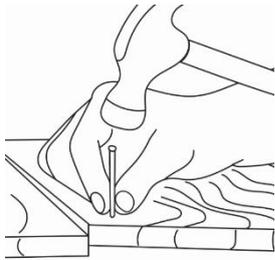


Preparation in case of concrete/screed subfloor. Let new concrete dry sufficiently. The moisture content of the subfloor must be less than 2,5% CM in case of cement and 0,5% in case of anhydrite. In case of floor heating, results must be respectively 2% CM and 0,3% anhydrite. Always record and keep your moisture content results.

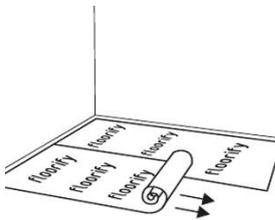
Repair surface imperfections with an appropriate repair compound and check if a primer or sealer is needed. Vacuum the subfloor afterwards to remove all debris.



Preparation in case of tile subfloor. Check the subfloor on moisture problems. Check that no tile edges protrude upwards. It is not necessary to fill the grouts of a subfloor of ceramic tiles with joints, when they not exceed 5 mm width and 4 mm depth.



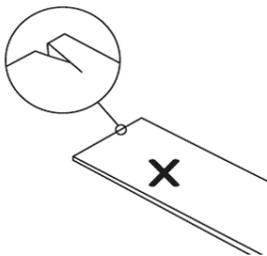
Preparation in case of wooden subfloor. Remove any existing floor covering on top of the wooden subfloor first. No sign of mould and/or insect infestations should be present. Make sure the subfloor is level and nail down any loose parts. If not sufficiently level, it is mandatory to apply an appropriate wooden levelling board or levelling compound on top for a perfect subfloor preparation. The crawl space under the plank floor must be sufficiently ventilated. Remove any obstacle and make sure there is enough ventilation (min 4 cm² total ventilation openings per m² of floor). The moisture content of the wood must not exceed 10%.



Floorify Comfort underlay. You should always install the Floorify Planks & Tiles on top of a suitable high-quality underlay such as the Floorify Comfort underlay. The Floorify Comfort underlay was specially developed for use in combination with the Floorify Planks & Tiles collection. That is why the Floorify Comfort underlay guarantees optimum performance of your Floorify Planks & Tiles (see “where can you install Floorify”).

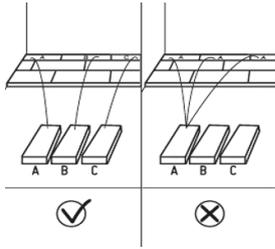
In high-moisture areas, such as bathrooms, we recommend applying water-tight foil beneath the underfloor. Although Floorify Planks & Tiles are completely water-resistant, water can always seep in between the joints or beneath the edge of the floor, permeating the underground and causing damage.

PRECAUTIONS



Production number. Check the production number on the short side of the package or the bottom of each floor panel and check if all the material is from the same production number. Small colour variations in the same production number contribute to the natural look of your floor. To avoid striking colour variations, do not install material of different production numbers on large surfaces in the same room (unless checked in advance).

Visual check. Check in optimal light conditions, before and during installation, all floor panels on visible defects. Panels with defects must not be used.

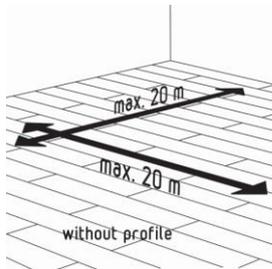


Mix. It is important to mix floor panels from different boxes together so that not too many identical, lighter or darker panels together.

Laying direction. To achieve an optimum visual result, it is best to install the panels parallel to the longest wall and/or to the light in the room.

Glueless installation with click system. Floorify Planks & Tiles come with a mechanical locking system that enables a glueless installation of the floor. The flooring panels can be simply clicked together thanks to the clever shape of the tongue and groove.

Floating installation. Floorify Planks & Tiles must be installed as a floating floor system: the floor panels must be able to expand and shrink freely at any time in response to changes in temperature. You may never glue, nail or attach the floor panels to the subfloor, to walls or to any other part of the room.

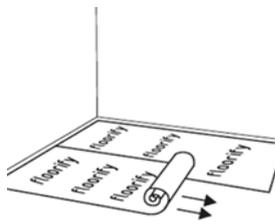


The maximum recommended surface area to install is 20 walking meters (both in length and width). The expansion and contraction is linear, so the larger the surface, the greater the joint must be. Is the surface longer or wider? Then place a transition profile as an interruption when it is necessary to install over a large length or width.

Lay-out. Measure the (most important) room to become a balanced lay-out. By measuring, you will be able to determine if the first row needs to be cut. The first and last row should not be less than five cm wide.

Doors. Before installing, check whether doors can still be opened or closed after installation of your Floorify floor. The total thickness of a Floorify floor + Floorify Comfort underlay is 6 mm – 6.5 mm, depending on the chosen format.

INSTALLATION



Underlay. First, start left in the corner of the room and fit the Floorify Comfort Underlay. The underlay should be installed progressively together with the installation of the floor. Always place the strips of the underlay side by side and make sure that they do not overlap. Never lay a double layer of underlay.

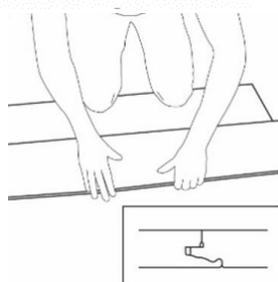
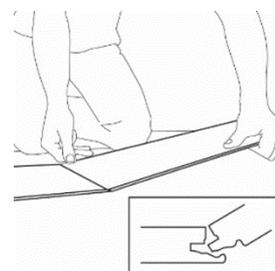
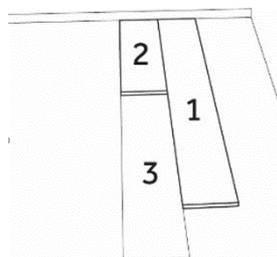
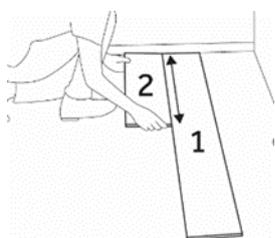
Installation of the first two rows.

We pay a lot of attention to the installation of the first rows because it is extremely important that they are perfectly aligned.

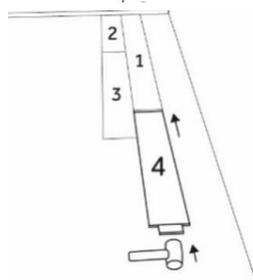
Start with the first (complete) floor panel in the upper left corner of your room.

Then take an incomplete floor panel (minimum 1/3 and maximum 2/3 of a panel) as first panel for the second row. Hold the panel at an angle of ± 30 degrees with the tongue in the groove of the first panel of the first row and then lower it. The panels will click automatically into each other.

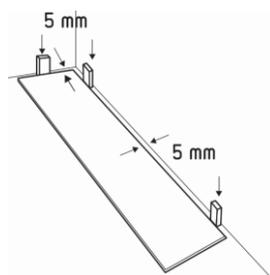
Take a third floor panel of your choice. Place the panel at an angle of ± 30 degrees on the short side with the tongue in the groove of the other panel on the second row and then lower it.



Now there's a narrow gap visible between the panel of the first row and the one on the second row. In order to close the gap, lift panel three at an angle of ± 30 degrees. While holding the panel in this position, slide then the long side of this panel into the groove of the first panel (on the first row). Then carefully lower panel three. The panels will now click into each other. (Also see the tip we explain in 'next rows' when having difficulties with the tongue-and-groove system.)



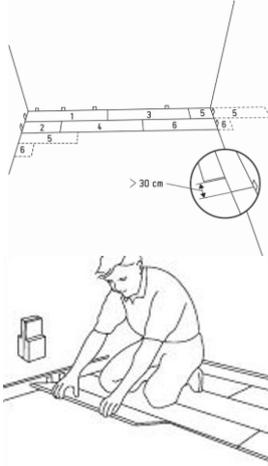
Place the fourth panel at an angle of ± 30 degrees with the long side in panel three using the tongue-in-groove system and then lower it. Then use a tapping block or tension to slide the short side of panel four and one into each other. (Tip: In case of installing the Floorify Tiles you can also use this installing method with the tapping block when installing the third floor panel.)



Repeat these operations until you reach the end of the first two rows. Then slide the whole nicely against the wall. Use spacers to respect the expansion joint of five mm. Do not remove these blocks throughout the installation for an optimal and linear straight result.

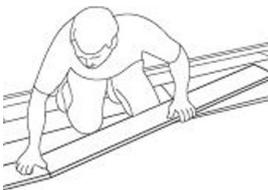
TIP: cutting/sawing.

It happens often that the last floor panel of each row is too long. Nevertheless, you can easily cut these with a Stanley knife: Lay the floor panel with the decor side up. Use a square bracket, measurer or another floor panel to cut along in a straight line. Slide with the knife two or three times over the piece to be cut. Then turn the floor panel and break off easily the cut off piece. Is the piece to be breached off too small? Then use a pair of pliers. If desired, you can also cut off the long piece of the panel with a hand electric or jigsaw. (type saw blade: steel blade with which trespas can be sawn.) The remaining piece can serve as the starting panel for the next row provided it is at least 1/3 of an entire floor panel.



Installation of the next rows.

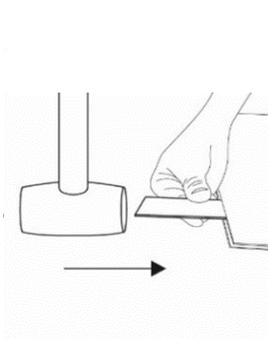
A remaining piece of a floor panel from the previous rows can serve as a starting panel for a next row provided it is at least 1/3 of an entire floor panel. Make sure that the ends of the panels in two consecutive rows are never laid the same. Always allow the end connections to be offset by at least 30 cm.



Place the long side of the first panel of the third row at an angle of ± 30 degrees against the already installed panel of the second row. Move the panel to be placed slightly up and down and exert a forward pressure at the same time. The panels will automatically click into each other.



To place the next panel of the third row, first click the panels together on the short side according to the previously described tongue-in-groove system and then lower the floor panel. Now there's a narrow gap between the panels of the current and those of the previous row.



Now close the gap: Hold the floor panel at an angle of ± 30 degrees and while keeping this angle, slide the tongue of the panel into the groove of the previous row of panels. Slide it until the gap between both rows is completely closed and then lower it gently. The panels will automatically click into each other.

TIP: When the angle-angle system on the long side is difficult.

With larger panels, making your own little tapping block can help you install the panels in an easier way. Cut a piece out of a remaining floor piece of about ten by ten cm and make sure that the tongue is retained.

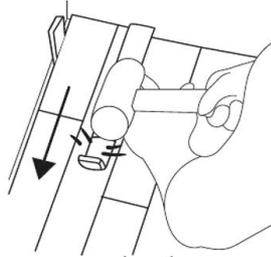
Then place this tapping block into the groove of the long side of the floor panel you wish to install. Use a rubber hammer to knock lightly against the tapping block and move it regularly over the entire long side of the floor panel to be installed. The right angle for lifting the tapping block in this operation is achieved by resting one finger underneath. This will ensure that the knocking with the hammer is also easier.

Note:

In case of difficulties while installing, it may be useful to first click together a complete row on the short sides. Then slide the entire row into the tongue (on the long side) of the previous row and use the above tip to click all panels together.

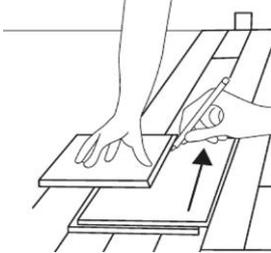
TIP:

Put a box of panels at the end of the row you are clicking into each other to make sure that the panels stay in place during installation. Always use spacers to respect the expansion joint of five mm and do not remove them during the whole installation.

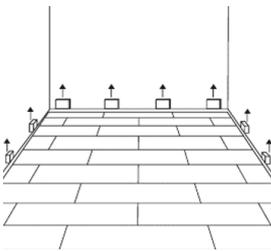


Installation of the last row.

Leave an expansion joint of five mm between the last floor panel and the wall. In order to respect the expansion joint, you will have to cut the floor panels in length. To install the floor panels of the last row, you can use a metal striking bar. Note: uneven slamming or slamming too hard can cause damage to the floor panels.

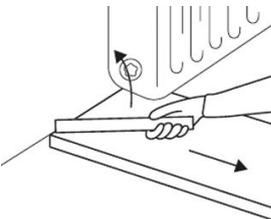


Panel width of the last row. Place the floor panel that you are going to install on top of the penultimate row. Put another panel on top of this panel, that lets you connect against the wall. Now use this last panel to mark the distance to the wall on the panel to be used and cut it.

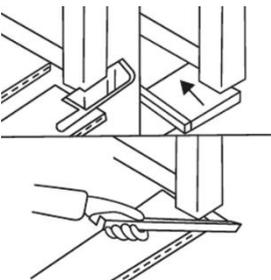


Finishing. After installing the last row, remove all spacers and install the skirtings. Attention: never attach the skirtings to the floor but always to the wall with the help of mounting glue. The floor must always be able to expand and contract under the skirtings. Never use a silicone sealant or other flexible paste to fill the minimum expansion joint of 5 mm.

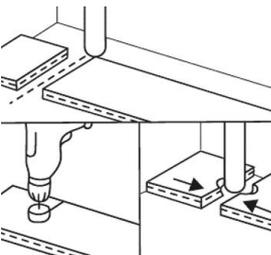
OBSTACLES



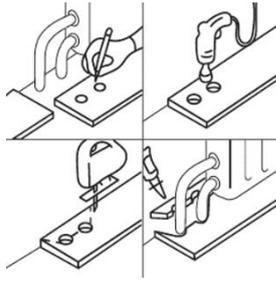
In places where it is difficult to tilt the panels (e.g. beneath radiator), use a pull bar to pull the floor panels together.



When the new flooring meets a threshold or a doorway, we recommend undercutting the mouldings. To secure the right cut, turn a panel upside down and place it on the floor up to the door frame. Then place the hand saw flat against the floor panel and simply cut through the frame. Remove the cut-out piece and vacuum away the debris. You can now simply click the panel in on the long side at the side of the undercut moulding. Use the pull bar to secure absolute tightness in the long and short joint.



In rows where there is a pipe, make sure the pipe falls exactly in line with the short side of two panels. Take a drill bit with the same diameter as the pipe plus five mm expansion gap. Click the planks together on the short side and drill a hole centred on the joint between the two planks. Now you can install the planks.



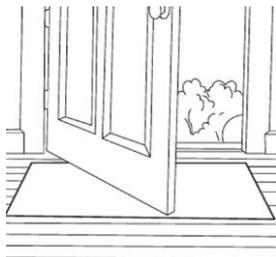
In case of a double pipe, drill a hole at each of the marked points that is equivalent to the diameter plus five mm expansion gap. If located on the long side, make a 45° cut from each whole to the edge of the plank. Then, using an appropriate glue along the cut edges of the piece you cut out, glue the piece into place. Be sure no glue comes between the cut-out piece and the subfloor.

MAINTENANCE

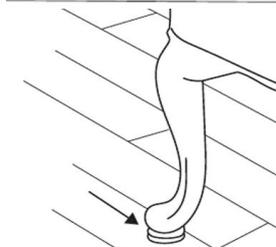
You can walk on the floor during and immediately after installation. Due to the extra coating of the top layer, special treatment after installation is not necessary. This coating protects your Floorify floor against dirt and makes maintenance easier.

Some preventive precautions.

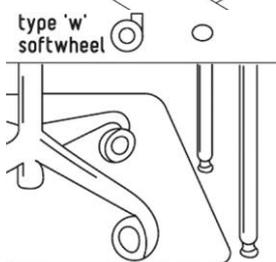
Some simple preventive precautions help you to maintain the view and maximize the life cyclus of your Floorify floor.



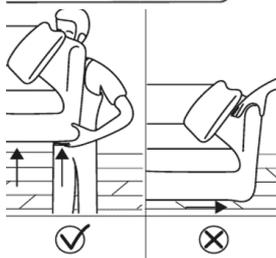
Cleaning mat. Most of the pollution comes from an external source. Avoid entering dirt, water and sand by placing an adapted foot mat, without a rubber back, on all entrances. This not only helps to prevent damage (accumulated dirt under sliding furniture can cause (light) damage in the form of scratches) but also facilitates maintenance and extends the life of your Floorify floor.



Protect sliding furniture. Protect furniture and chair legs with proper protective caps.



Place soft wheels (EN12590) that are suitable for vinyl/PVC floors and/or use a suitable desk mat under your (office) chairs and armchairs.



Never drag heavy objects or furniture over the floor, but lift them up.

Avoid discolouration. Every floor covering discolours under the (long-term) influence of sunlight, whether this is parquet, laminate, PVC/vinyl or carpet. This is caused by the UV radiation in the sunlight. Good sun protection is important to avoid discolouration.

Avoid contact with rubber. In the case of prolonged contact between vinyl/PVC and rubber, a permanent dark-brown discolouration may occur due to migration (such as a rubber ring under a trash can, rubber doormats, bicycles, etc.). Rubber caps under furniture can also cause streaks due to friction. We therefore recommend that you check all furniture and all utensils for rubber caps and provide them with the correct protection.

Fire. Do not bring cigarettes, matches or other hot objects into contact with the floor. These can cause permanent damage.

Cleaning and maintenance.

Floorify Planks & Tiles do not require maintenance after installation as is the case with parquet or linoleum. Thanks to the extra coating of the top layer, special treatment after installation is not necessary. This coating protects your Floorify floor against dirt and makes maintenance easier.

First cleaning after installation.

- First remove all coarse dirt and dust from the floor with a soft brush or vacuum cleaner.
- Clean the floor with water and a pH-neutral maintenance product such as the Floorify Conny Turbo.
- Repeat this at least twice or as much as necessary until the water remains clean.

Regular maintenance.

- Remove daily dirt with sweeping, dust wiping or vacuuming (vacuum cleaner with soft head).
- Remove stains and splashes with a damp cloth or mop.
- Mopping: leave the floor as dry as possible. Never use more than the prescribed amount of maintenance product.

- Stubbornly dried-in dirt: soak for 5 minutes and then remove with a mop.
- Never use maintenance products that contain wax or oil. Do not use vinegar, polishes, abrasives, corrosive detergents or solvents.

Periodic maintenance.

- Mop with a traditional mop or with a damp mop.
- You can use a little more water in combination with a neutral maintenance product suitable for vinyl/PVC floors (pH 7) such as the Floorify Conny vinyl/PVC cleaner.
- Never use maintenance products that contain wax or oil. Do not use vinegar, polishes, abrasives, corrosive detergents or solvents.

Remove stubborn stains.

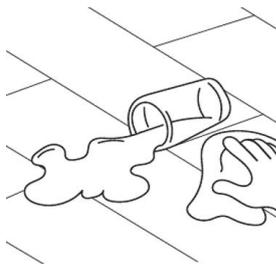
- First remove the loose dirt and dust from your floor with a soft brush or vacuum cleaner.
- Then mop your floor with water and an intensive cleaner such as the Floorify Conny Turbo.
- Leave on for 10 minutes and then remove any loose dirt with a clean, damp mop.
- Then mop your floor with clean water.



Steam cleaner. A steam cleaner has no adverse effect on your Floorify rigid vinyl/PVC floor. The impact of the temperature is volatile and short-lived and will therefore not have a negative effect on the click system, the décor, the colour or other product properties.

Please note: In the case of intensive cleaning, moisture can end up under the floor covering, which can possibly affect the subfloor (wood or anhydrite) in the longer term.

We therefore recommend the use of a steam cleaner with a wide nozzle in combination with a microfibre coat. Also make sure that you dry the floor completely after cleaning with a dry cloth or mop.



Maintenance product. Ask your dealer about the Floorify maintenance products. Other maintenance products can contain substances that can damage your floor.