

Loose lay design floor covering with interlocking system

EXPONA PUZZLE

EXPONA PUZZLE is a particularly dimensionally stable and loose lay LVT floor covering for use in heated interiors. Due to its excellent dimensional stability, the flooring may be laid directly on existing hard floors or other existing substrates that are dry, level, clean and stable. The all-round interlocking dovetail connection ensures a secure locking of the floor covering elements and allows limited use in areas with dynamic load (traffic).

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

When installing design floor coverings always follow current standards for the installation of floor coverings (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany and other relevant national standards), also best current installation practice incorporating the latest technical developments should be employed. Subfloor preparation and use of correct subfloor materials are essential if the performance benefits from the floor covering being used are to be fully realized. On receipt of materials, check that colours correspond to those ordered and that there is no damage or visual defects in the material. In particular, check that the material is from one batch. Claims for visual defects can only be accepted prior to installation and cutting.

2. TESTING AND PREPARATION OF SUBFLOORS

Subfloors should be tested and prepared according to current standards for the installation of floor coverings (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany, and other relevant national standards). Prior to laying, ensure that the subfloor surface is clean, dry, even, smooth, and free from cracks. Make sure that the subfloor does not suffer from rising damp or hydrostatic pressure. Prior to installation the moisture content of the subfloor must be established to ensure that it conforms to the parameters set in the relevant national standards.

In installations where underfloor heating is used, current standards should be followed (Germany: DIN 18365 and EN 1264-2). Maximum working temperature on the surface of the flooring is 27 °C. Suitable subsurfaces for laying include, e.g., permanently bonded PVC, linoleum, parquet, stone flooring, metals and laminate systems. The requirements of DIN 18202 Tolerances in Structural Engineering must be fulfilled.

3. INSTALLATION

When installing design floor coverings always follow current standards (VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 in Germany, and other relevant standards), also best current installation practice incorporating the latest technical developments should be employed. To achieve best results, site conditions should be as described in DIN 18365 for Germany: minimum floor temperature of 15 °C, minimum room temperature of 18 °C and a maximum moisture content of 65 %.

It is strongly recommended that the floor coverings and adhesives are stored and conditioned for at least 48 hours in the areas where they are to be installed before laying. It is advisable to plan the layout of the room to maximize the visual appearance of the installed floor. Traditionally the starting point for tiles is the centre of the room. If the room is irregular in shape it may be necessary to square up the tiles off the most important wall or a specific feature. Measure the room concerned in both directions. Mark a chalk centreline, ensuring that it is square to the wall with the main doorway, loose lay the tiles to check that no small cuts will be required at the perimeter, then chalk another line square to the first one and repeat the process of loose laying to ensure that no small

perimeter cuts are required. Please use only a pencil or white chalk and note that coloured chalk, felt pen, drawing pen, ink, stamping ink or ballpoint pen may cause permanent discolouration of the floor due to migration.

a. Loose lay a row of tiles to one side the centre line. If the perimeter tile would be too small (min. 150 mm), move the starting point so that it straddles the centre line. Repeat along the other centre line.

b. To install the tiles, place them into position by aligning the dovetail joint with those on the adjacent tile and then install carefully using a rubber hammer, starting at the corner and working along the edge. This will ensure the joint is a tight and smooth connection between the tiles.

c. To cut the floor covering with a trapezoidal utility blade from the upper side. Due to the reinforced glass fibre layer, it will then be necessary to use a hooked blade to completely cut through the material. The product can also be cut with a suitable guillotine cutting tool.

d. Ensure a gap between the covering and the wall (approx. 2 mm, areas larger than 10 x 10 m, require the inclusion of a 5 mm expansion joint) when cutting the last row of tiles. The wall gap is covered with a skirting board. Ensure that the freedom of the movement of the floor is not impeded by the skirting board.

LOOSE LAYING & BONDING

EXPONA PUZZLE is usually laid loosely on the existing substrate, therefore, the use of adhesives or adhesive tapes is not necessary. The interlocking dovetail joint ensures sufficient locking of the loosely laid flooring elements and is designed for light to medium traffic. It is important to lay the floor covering without any tension. There is no need to use adhesives or adhesive tapes for installations less than 500 m² with light traffic. For areas which will experience medium traffic or the area is in excess of 500 m² then apply a two-part adhesive to secure the floor covering every 10 rows of tiles in both directions. For areas with medium traffic rolling loads or that exposed to high temperature fluctuations (e.g. floor-to-ceiling windows) a full application of adhesive is recommended.

Where the aforementioned loads exceed 30 kg / cm² (up to a maximum of 50 kg / cm²), EXPONA PUZZLE must be fully bonded with a two-part adhesive. This also applies to areas with high temperature fluctuations resulting from direct sunlight, e.g. floor-to-ceiling windows, overhead glazing or conservatories. The calculation of the specific wheel pressure can be requested from the technical department at objectflor when specifying the floor covering.

CAUTION

sharp braking / steering movements / accelerations lead to irreparable scorings on the surface of the floor covering. The running surfaces of the wheels must be cleaned regularly as sharp-edged soiling adhered to the wheels (for example grains of sand) leads to scratches / damage to the surface of the floor covering.

Please follow our current cleaning and care instructions!