

## 5G Click Floating Floor Installation Instructions

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All areas where Product will be installed must have a working heat and air conditioning source, operational for a minimum of one week prior to installation and remain in operation during and after installation. Install flooring perpendicular to direct sunlight sources, including large windows, door walls, etc. Use of suitable window coverings during the times of most direct sunlight is strongly recommended. Conditions should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during normal use. This item should be installed in an indoor, climate-controlled location between 65° - 85° F (18° - 29° C). It should NEVER be installed outdoors. This item must be acclimated in climate-controlled locations for 24-48 hours before starting installation. Store cartons lying flat at all times and protect from direct sunlight during acclimation. This item should only be installed after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage a finished plank installation. During the installation, mix and install planks from several different cartons to minimize shade variation. The finished plank installation should be protected from exposure to direct sunlight. Do not use tapping blocks, adjustable spacers or other tools common to hardwood and laminated flooring installation. These tools will damage the vinyl flooring and prevent proper locking of the joint mechanism. This item cannot be installed with full spread adhesives. The use of any sort of adhesive during the installation will void the product warranty.

*\*\*Improper accumulation of floating Market Place EVP may result in gapping, buckling, or joints which are difficult to engage properly. Improper locking of the mechanism may cause one or more of the following conditions in your flooring; joints to be distressed resulting in a 'peaked' appearance; delamination due to ledging; separation of joints from normal environmental temperature changes; cupping or side joint failures.*

Responsibility for the suitability of USGH INC. flooring and accompanying products for each individual installation cannot be assumed by USGH INC, since USGH INC. has no control over the installer's proper application. Should an individual plank or tile be doubtful as to appearance or dimension the installer should not use this piece. USGH INC. will send replacement in a timely fashion.

### **SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS**

While Market Place EVP is water resistant, it is not a moisture barrier. It is still a good idea to make sure your concrete is cured and tested for moisture, and that a 6mil plastic moisture barrier is installed under the flooring. As for wooden sub floors make sure at least a 6 mill plastic covers 100% of the crawl space. Moisture won't damage Market Place EVP, but it can get in the walls and structure of the home. A couple of extra dollars and a few extra minutes is a small investment for the added protection and peace of mind.

Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, USGH INC. recommends to leave a ¼” expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor.

Although this floor is designed to be a “floating” floor installation, proper preparation of the sub floor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the sub floor may telegraph through the new floor, resulting in an unsightly surface, excessive wear on high areas, indentations on low areas, and failure of locking mechanism on high and low areas. All sub floors should be smooth and flat with the tolerance not exceeding more than 3/16” in a 10’ span. All sub floor and underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water resistant, cement-based patching or leveling compound.

Use good common sense installation practices, and you’ll have a successful installation that results in a beautiful floor.

### **PRE-INSTALLATION JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS**

USGH INC. cannot be held responsible for site conditions.

Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish, sheen, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. **If flooring is not acceptable, contact your supplier immediately and arrange for replacement.** USGH INC. cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the job site and sub floor meet the requirements of these instructions. USGH INC. is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory job site and/or sub floor conditions.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project.

Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 18” (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of a minimum of 6 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6” (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. When necessary, local regulations prevail.

### **PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS**

All Subfloors must be:

- Dry
- Structurally sound
- Clean: Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- Level: Flat to 3/16” per 10-foot radius

Wood subfloors must be dry and well secured. Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland Based leveling patch.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, and should have 6-mil polyfilm between concrete and ground. Subfloor should be flat and level within 3/16" per 10" radius. If necessary grind high spots down and level low spots with a Portland leveling compound.

Ceramic Tile, resilient tile and sheet vinyl must be well-bonded to subfloor, in good condition, clean and level. Do not sand existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos.

### **INSTALLATION TOOLS**

For all installation methods:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- Crosscut power saw
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape
- Rubber mallet
- ¼" spacers

Acceptable subfloor types:

- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least ½" thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- OSB (at least ¾" thick)
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood or laminate floor
- Ceramic tile
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl

### **STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION**

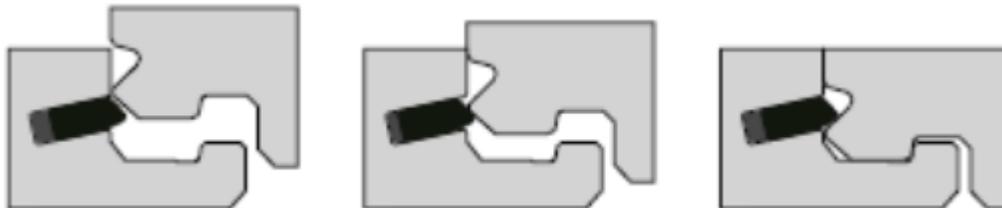
Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, USGH INC. recommends to leave a ¼" expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor.

Work from several open boxes of flooring and "dry lay" the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying textures, colors, and sheens, and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. **Remember, it is the installers' responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.**

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank or tile. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks or tiles to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is out of straight.

You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 8" (20 cm) for planks, and equal to 12" (51 cm or a half piece) for tiles. For plank installations, when cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. For tile installations, always begin a row with either a full tile or a half tile so that the joints are consistently staggered in a "brick work" type pattern. Always begin each row from the same side of the room.

Market Place EVP is designed with an angle/drop mechanism with a secure locking clip, which is installed differently than the traditional angle/angle installed floating floor. The Market Place EVP flooring requires that the top or long sides be installed first by engaging the joint at a shallow angle (25°), and then sliding the piece to line up the short or right side drop lock mechanism. The end joint with the Market Place EVP drop mechanism should be carefully placed with the top side lightly touching the adjoining plank. After engaging the top/long side joint at a shallow angle, the end/side joint can be firmly pressed into place until it 'clicks'.



**NOTE: The Market Place EVP drop lock joints cannot be 'lifted' or angled apart when removing or repositioning a plank. To remove a plank, first disengage the top/long angle joint by lifting at a slight angle while pulling the complete rows away from each other. Then simply 'slide' the drop joint apart along the floor. Failure to slide this joint apart will damage the drop lock mechanism and prevent proper re-installation of the affected plank.**

### **In-floor Radiant Heat:**

Market Place EVP can be only installed using the floating method.

- **Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation** when installing over radiant heated subfloors.
- Floor temperature must not exceed **135°**.

**Warning: Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath Market Place EVP floors. Using electric heating mats that are not embedded and applied directly underneath Market Place EVP floors could void the warranty for your floor in case of failure. It is best to install Market Place EVP flooring over embedded radiant floor heating systems and adhere to the guidelines listed above.**

### **AFTER INSTALLATION**

- Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. In order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use rosin paper and only use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor (other blue tapes may damage the finish). Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the rosin paper to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. **DO NOT USE** plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.
- Dust mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.
- It is suggested that you clean the floor using a recommended ph neutral cleaner.
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, etc.)

### **Protection and Maintenance of Your Floor**

Lasting beauty can be achieved through purchasing a quality floor covering and providing proper on-going maintenance.

- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential affects on the floor covering.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile-oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
- 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 castors or wheels must be easy swiveling, large surface non-staining and suitable for resilient floors. **Do NOT** use ball type castors as they can damage the floor.
- Use floor protectors under furniture.
- Use walk off mats at entrances to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked on to the floor.

- Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt. Do NOT use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off.
- Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding.
- Clean up spills immediately.
- Damp mop as needed using clean water and a diluted floor cleaner. DO NOT use harsh cleaners or chemicals on the floor. Do NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools. Do NOT use detergents, abrasive cleaners or “mop and shine” products.
- Vinyl flooring, like other types of smooth floors, may become slippery when wet. Allow time for floor to dry after cleaning. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances or wet feet.