

Allure Plank and Tile Installation Instructions

1. **Tools needed:** Measuring tape, utility knife (or vinyl cutter), straight edge, hand roller, 75 to 100 lb. floor roller, sharp shears for cutting around irregular objects and also a heat gun (painters gun) or hairdryer for reheating planks or replacing planks.
2. **Material needed for installation:** Most installations require 10% overage for cutting (waste) and mistakes but that can vary depending upon the room size and layout. It is always recommended to have extra planks available after the installation is completed for future needs or replacement. Make sure the correct # of cartons and pattern/color name (match the PO) are on the job site and also make sure all of the cartons are from the same run # (dye lot). The run # is located on the ends of the cartons. Some slight color variation can happen from run to run. Always make sure the customer is ok with the color variation if different dye lots are on the job site before the installation begins. Always install planks/tiles from more than one box at a time (min. 3 cartons).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

3. **Conditioning Allure prior to installation:** Allure must be acclimated in the room of installation for a minimum of 48 hours with the temperature between 65-85F (18-30C) before, during and after installation. The buildings HVAC should be turned on for at least two weeks before installation. Product should be stored in a dry area and stacked no more than 3 high with at least 4" of airflow around the cartons. Do not leave next to heat or cooling ducts. Leave the planks inside the cartons to insure the Grip Strip remains clean. Keep dust, dirt and foreign particles from contaminating the Grip Strip.
Following these steps is CRITICAL for adhesive performance during installation!
Failure to follow these guidelines will void the warranty.
4. **Allure installation limitations:** Allure is for interior installations and only in temperature controlled environments. You can not install Allure in Solariums/Sunrooms, over Carpets, or any Exterior Application including seasonal porches, camping trailers and boats. Avoid long term exposure to direct sunlight. Failure to properly shade Allure from the effects of the sun can damage (buckle) the floor. Allure is not intended for use on stairs or any vertical surface.
Failure to follow these guidelines will void the warranty.

IMPORTANT NOTE - Heat and cold resistant: Our adhesive can not get down to 15F (-10C) or not higher than 95F (35C) for an extended period of time. Long term exposure to freezing cold or hot tropical temperature will damage the floor or cause the adhesive to fail.

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5. **Subfloor Preparation:** Allure can be installed over most existing floors including wood, vinyl, linoleum, ceramic tiles and concrete. All subfloors must be sound, solid and have little flexibility. Tolerance is 3/16" over 8'.

6. **Approved Subfloors:**

- **Concrete:** Any large cracks or voids must be filled with a cementitious patching/leveling compound. (over 1/8" x 1/8")

Please note: Allure is water resistant and will withstand holding water for short periods of time if the product is installed properly. Allure is not flood proof! Allure is not meant as water proofing material nor a solution for moisture. Moisture intrusion is a totally different situation that can arise with new and old concrete that exhibits very high levels of hydrostatic pressure in combination with very high levels of alkalinity. This combination provides a substance that is highly corrosive. No floor covering including Allure can withstand the long term corrosive nature of this chemical. Hydro static pressure exceeding 8 lbs using the calcium chloride test method and or a P.H test indicates alkalinity levels in excess of 9, steps must be taken to separate Allure from the source of the corrosive effect of this chemical. Excessive moisture in the subfloor can cause mold and mildew, and other moisture related issues including but not limited to trapping of the moisture emissions under Allure. Under these circumstances the concrete needs to be treated with a floor sealer that seals the concrete under the 8 lbs. or a moisture/vapor barrier (6 mil poly) is installed. This is necessary to avoid the corrosive effects. Newly poured concrete floors must cure for a minimum of 90 days. ***It is the responsibility of the home owner and the installer to make sure that any moisture or alkalinity issues are resolved prior to installing Allure.***

- **Wood subfloors:** including Hardwoods, Plywood, OSB, Luan, Particleboard & Chipboard are approved, but must be sturdy flat and have little flexibility.
- **Quarry Tile, Terrazzo and Ceramic Tile:** Allure can be installed over these floors but any embossing or grout lines exceed 1/8" you must level the floor first with a cementitious/leveling patching compound.
- **Radiant Heated floors:** Electric and Hydro systems are acceptable. Subfloors should have been operational for at least one week prior to installation to calibrate temperature settings. The temperature should never exceed 85F (30C) during and after installation. Radiant components must be a minimum of 1/2" below Allure flooring.
- **Existing Resilient floors:** tiles, planks, or sheet goods must be in good condition and thoroughly bonded to the structural floor. Must not be foam or cushioned back vinyl flooring. Deep embossing (1/8") must be skim coated with floor leveler.

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- **Note:** Existing resilient floors may contain asbestos fibers, which are not readily identifiable. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. It is the obligation of the installer and the home owner to ensure the practices used are safe, without risk to health, and meet all legal requirements.
- **Suspended wood floors:** must have minimum of 18" well ventilated crawl spacer underneath.

Proper Installation Techniques

Proper installation techniques: When installing **allure** it is vital for a successful installation that as much pressure is exerted when attaching plank to plank. Utilize a hand roller directly on the joined seam to create the proper bond between the Grip Strips as you attach each plank. After completion roll the entire floor in both directions with a 75 to 100 lb roller. Pressure is the key. To insure proper bonding of the material on the job site take two planks and attach together and roll with the hand roller and then pull apart. A bond should be observed throughout the whole Grip Strip. Adhesive legs or adhesive transfer should be seen on the Grip Strips. This will confirm the material has been acclimated properly and the temperature of the **allure** is ready for installation.

Installation

1. Lay a row of loose planks without securing them to each other first to determine if you need to adjust the length of the first plank to avoid a small piece of less than 12" on the opposite wall from where you started or measure the length of the room and divide by 36" (length of one plank). If the remainder is less than 12", calculate $\frac{1}{2}$ of the remainder and trim this amount off the first plank. The last plank should be the same length as the first one. To cut a plank, simply measure and mark the plank, then using a straight edge and utility knife, simply score the plank and snap. It's that easy!
2. Installation should start in a corner and proceed from the wall with the under-edge facing out away from the wall (Figure 1). Allow a gap of $\frac{1}{8}$ " minimum (2-3mm) for subfloor movement, which should be covered by molding. Trim off the top over-edge facing the corner wall (Figure 2).



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3. When securing two planks together, you should angle (45 degrees) the second plank into the corresponding edge. The over-edge always placed on top of the under-edge. Starting at one end of the plank, use one hand to hold the plank and the other hand to roll the edge into place for a tight fit. Be careful to keep the seams tight. You can push the plank slightly against the adjoining plank to create a tight seam, if necessary, after the connection has been made.
4. If your seam appears not to be tight, you can immediately pull apart the planks and reapply it. Slowly separate the top plank away from the bottom plank and simply reapply them—repeating Step #3. Be careful not to pull the planks apart too fast as you could rip or damage the Grip Strip. You have at least 10 to 15 minutes of “open time” in which you can re-work the seams before any damage occurs to the adhesive on the Grip Strip. The less pressure applied to **allure**, the longer this “open time”.
5. When installing the plank, it is strongly recommended to stagger the rows so that the short edge (6”) seams are not in a straight uniform line. We recommend the staggered random method (Figure 3). However you may want to try other “patterns” of planks to suit your taste. Allure can be installed with endless possibilities—your only limitation is your own imagination! Have Fun!!
6. Start the second row with the plank cut at about 2/3 length (2 feet). Simply measure and mark the plank, then using a straight edge and utility knife, simply score the plank and snap.
7. The over-edge butts up to the first row. Again, get one corner of the plank started tightly against the other and on a 45 degree angle roll the plank tightly into place. The remaining 1/3 piece can be used on the far wall, if the layout of the room permits (Figure 4).
8. Start the third row with the plank cut at 1/3 of a length (1 foot). Again, the leftover piece can be used at the opposite end of the row, if the layout of the room permits. Continue this pattern for the remainder of the rows to be installed. Always place the cut end of the first plank against the wall (Figure 5).



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9. Fitting around irregular objects, no problem. Simply make a pattern out of heavy paper to fit around pipes or irregular objects. Place the pattern upon the plank and trace. Cut along trace lines using a utility knife or heavy duty scissors, and lay plank. The sheets of paper in between planks inside the carton make an excellent template.
10. After installation is completed, we recommend rolling the seams with a floor roller in both directions to insure bonding of both adhesive edges. You can rent a floor roller from your local Home Depot tool rental center.

IMPORTANT INSTALLATION TIP FOR ALLURE TILE: allure tile is installed the same way as described above. However, you can install two ways. One is the traditional lining up of the grout lines or you can install in a brick pattern where the grout lines line up in the middle of each tile.

Special Note: allure tile has 2 sets of grout lines (inner & outer). When installing the tile in a matching grout line pattern. You must pay special attention to the “outer” grout lines at the end of the tile planks. One is thinner than the other. It is highly recommended you match a thin grout line to a thicker grout line. It helps in maintaining the grout line to grout line look. It takes more time to install the tiles this way and will require installing from several different cartons at one time.

The alternative method to installing the tiles is in the brick pattern. This is faster and easier to install this way and also gives a beautiful design to the floor.

Be sure to ask the customer which way they prefer to have the tiles installed.

Allure Hidden Transition pieces

Allure Hidden Transition Strips: *(Available in HD USA stores only).*

Allow you to switch directions from N-S to an E-W room install by attaching the 36” long, by 1” wide Grip Strip. You attach it to the “over lip” creating another “under lip” of **allure**. This is used to transition from one room to another through a door way and the lay the planks or tiles in the same direction. It goes beneath the finished floor. It is “hidden”. Simply cut to length as needed. No matching colors or patterns of traditional “above the floor” transition pieces, used to transition two different types of flooring, is available at this time.

Care & Maintenance

Preventive maintenance :

- To avoid yellowing and damage to the floor, use NON-RUBBER backed protective mats in front of any doors leading to the outside. This helps get the sand and grit from getting on to your floors. Gritty Sand is any floor-coverings worst enemy.
- Install proper floor protectors (nylon or felt) on all furniture legs used on resilient flooring. Protectors will allow chairs to move easily over the floor without scuffing or scratching (felt protectors can pick up small grit and still cause slight abrasions). Clean protectors on a regular basis to remove any grit that may have become embedded on the bottom of the furniture leg. For any swiveled type office chairs and other rolling furniture, please install 2” wide non-staining flat casters. Do not use rubber casters.
- To keep your floor looking its best, dust mop or vacuum (hard surface vacuum attachment) your floor at least twice a week. Do it more often on floors with heavy traffic. Do not use a household dust cleaner of any kind as this may cause the floor to become slick or damage the finish. Simply sweep the floor as often as needed.
- Do not allow pets with unclipped nails to damage your **allure** floor. It may result in severe scratching to the surface. The same is true for any high heeled shoes that do not have proper tips on the heels.
- Pet urine can be harmful to **allure**. Clean as quickly as possible. Failure to clean quickly may result in damaging the floor.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. During peak sunlight hours, use drapes or blinds to minimize the direct sunlight on the **allure** floor. Most types of flooring will be affected by continuous strong sunlight. To avoid an uneven appearance, please consider relocations of any area rugs from time to time. In addition, excessive temperatures are not good for resilient floors. Some natural ventilation or intermittent air conditioning in vacant homes should be considered. Long term continuous inside temperatures over 95F (35C), combined with strong direct sunlight, will damage your **allure** floor and cause the installation to fail.

Regular maintenance

- Food spills should be cleaned up as rapidly as possible with a quality liquid vinyl cleaner. Make sure the cleaner you choose is **NON-ABRASIVE**. We do not recommend powdered cleaners, oil soaps, dishwashing detergents, or other dusting products. Use a non-rinsing, biodegradable cleaner that leaves no residue or haze and requires no rinsing after application.
- Regular household dirt can be cleaned with your **allure** Single Step applied as indicated on the products label. Some hand wiping may be required to remove tough spots and spills. Always sweep or vacuum your **allure** floor before cleaning so that all loose dirt and particles are removed.
- **Do NOT WAX YOUR allure FLOOR!** The surface of your **allure** floor is very dense and nonporous; this prevents wax from penetrating and thus will build up a bed for yellowing and dirt collection. Use **allures** Single Step on heavy wear when you have experienced some loss of the original appearance over time. Your **allure** floor has been designed to be very easy to maintain, but you may prefer to add an occasional coat of the **allure** Single Step to renew and protect your floor. Not available in Canada. If you cannot locate the **allure** Single Step you can call 1-866-843-8453 option 6.
- Shoe marks, scuffs, fine scratches (pet nails) can be easily use a spot application of your **allure** Single Step Soft Satin Finish and a green scotch-brite pad.
- Regular household dirt can be cleaned with your **allure** Single Step applied as indicated on the products label. Some hand wiping may be required to remove tough spots and spills. Always sweep or vacuum your **allure** floor before cleaning so that all loose dirt and particles are removed.
- If **allure** Single Step is not available, then please ask your Home Depot representative for an equivalent product. Additionally, the **allure Single Step** is available directly from Halstead. See ordering additional products on page 9.
- If any individual **allure** plank seams or edges should release from one another, it usually can be corrected by applying warm air from a hair dryer or paint gun for 30 to 60 seconds at a distance of 8". Then roll the edges with a hand roller or maintain pressure until re-adhesion is effected. If the problem persists, contact your Home Depot representative or Halstead's Consumer Hot Line at 1-866-843-8453 ext 6.

First aid for your allure floor

1. You may remove chewing gum, adhesive, crayon, candle wax, and similar type substances by applying ice until it becomes brittle enough to crumble off. The residue may be removed with mineral spirits.
2. Extra deep heel marks, caster marks etc., rub with green scotch-brite pad dampened with **allure** Single Step.
3. For moderate to heavy stains caused by long standing water or other non-dye liquids: Rub with **allure** Single Step.
4. For dark spots caused by ink or other chemicals, clean spot as per #2 above. If not successful, then the effected plank should be replaced. See repair section.
5. Animal and diaper stains should be treated same as #3 above.
6. If you have any questions or concerns about caring for your **allure** floor please contact The Home Depot or call us at 1-866-843-8453 ext 6 or visit our web site at www.halsteadintl.com. You can also e-mail us directly at: Info@halsteadintl.com



25 year residential limited warranty

Halstead New England will furnish replacement flooring free of charge if there is a loss of original pattern or color under normal residential use of **allure** for as long as the purchaser continues to remain in the residence of the original installation provided the flooring is installed and maintained according to the instructions included. This warranty is nontransferable and pro-rated.

This warranty does not include labor or the cost of labor for installation of the replacement flooring nor does it include damage due to improper installation or maintenance, alkalis in the sub-floor or conditions arising from hydrostatic pressure, burns, tears, indentations, stains, or reduction in gloss due to normal use or exterior applications.

This warranty shall not include loss of time, inconvenience, incidental expenses (such as telephone calls) included in the removal or reinstallation of the affected material, and any other incidental or consequential damages.

Some states do not allow the exclusion of or limitations if incidental or consequential damages so that above limitation and exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other legal rights, which varies from state to state.

This warranty is in lieu of any other warranties expressed or implied.

This warranty service is available only by notice to Halstead New England through the dealer from whom the purchase was made. Notification must be accompanied by a copy of the original invoice and can only be authorized by Halstead.

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