



Clic Enhanced Resilient Tile

UNICLIC® INSTALLATION

Clic Step—Urban Patina
Living Local

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General Guidelines

'Clic' Enhanced Resilient Tile (ERT) is constructed with the patented Uniclic® tongue and groove design that locks the planks together to form a tight and durable joint that limits moisture from passing through the seams. 'Clic' ERT is installed as a floating floor and adhering product to the substrate is not recommended. Not recommended for wet areas or bathrooms.

WARRANTY NOTE: Exclusions apply with respect to rolling loads. If you have frequent or heavy rolling conditions, 'Clic' products can be glued down to help reduce the risk of joint separation from rolling load traffic; however, our warranty excludes any problems associated with rolling loads.

Owner/Installer Responsibility

Examine flooring for color and quality prior to installation. If material is unacceptable, contact the seller immediately. Undesirable pieces should not be installed as flooring warranties do NOT cover materials with visible defects once they are installed. Owner and Installer are responsible for final inspection of flooring quality and grade. Purchase an additional 5% of flooring to allow for cuts and an additional 10% to 15% if installing diagonally.

WARRANTY NOTE: Installer should provide owner with one carton end label from product installed and recorded moisture test results for warranty purposes. Owner should also retain carton label, moisture test results and invoice for their records. Excess flooring should be stored flat in a climate controlled area for repairs in the event of future damage.

Job Site Conditions

- It is the responsibility of the Owner and Installer to ensure job site environmental, substrate and subsurface conditions meet all requirements as outlined in installation instructions prior to substrate testing and flooring installation. Manufacturer declines all responsibility for product performance or installation failure due to structural, substrate or environmental deficiencies or jobsite conditions.
- Resilient flooring installation should be scheduled after all other trades have completed their work.
- All areas where product will be installed must have a fully operational HVAC systems for at least 10 days prior to substrate moisture testing or flooring installation and remain in operation during and after installation with constant temperatures maintained thereafter. Conditions at testing should be at the same temperature and humidity level expected during occupancy. The temperature should never fall below 55°F for the life of the installation. Portable heaters will not provide consistent or adequate heat. Never use kerosene heaters.
- Proper acclimation of the room, substrate, flooring material, adhesive and all installation accessories are critical to the success of long term flooring performance. Installation over cold substrates will interfere with product dimensions by affecting the size of the floor and increase the potential for indentation, joint fracture or separation. The substrate temperature must be between 65°F and 85°F at the time of installation, and the humidity below 65% for 48 hours prior to, during, and after pre-installation testing and installation. All substrate preparation and testing procedures must conform to appropriate ASTM F 710, ASTM F 1869 and ASTM F 2170.



- Un-opened cartons of flooring should be stored flat and neatly stacked in the climate controlled installation area for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation to allow product to acclimate. Open cartons just prior to installation.
- When installing flooring from two or more cartons, check the pattern, color and run (lot) numbers on the carton label to ensure they are all the same.

Tools & Materials

- Carpenter square
- Cutting board
- Tape measure
- Utility knife
- Scrap piece of ERT flooring material for tapping to tighten joints
- In Situ RH Moisture Meter
- pH testing kit
- Small Hand Roller (Seam Roller)

Optional:

- Mohawk ActiveSound™ Underlayment for sound transmission reduction

Subfloor Preparation

- Proper preparation of the subfloor is a major part of a successful installation. Roughness or unevenness of the subfloor may telegraph through the new floor. All subfloors should be smooth, flat and dust free with the tolerance not exceeding more than 3/16" in a 10' span. All subfloor and underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water-resistant Portland-based patching compound.
- Concrete subfloors must be dry, smooth and free from dust, solvent, paint, wax, grease, oil, asphalt sealing compounds and other extraneous materials. The surface must be hard and dense and free from powder or flaking. The floor should have a reading of 95% RH or less (ASTM F2170) with a pH range between 8 and 9.
- Holes, grooves, expansion joints and other depressions must be filled with a Portland-based underlayment and troweled smooth and feathered even with the surrounding surface.
- Concrete underlayments with a radiant heating system are acceptable, provided the temperature of the subfloor does not exceed 85°F at any point.
- When installing over existing ceramic tile, substrate surface should be made smooth by applying a Portland-based patching or leveling compound to smooth.



- Any wood and wood composition panels should be APA rated and approved, and intended for subfloor use, providing they are smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection.

NOTE: If the subfloor has excessive vertical movement (deflection) before installation of the flooring, it is likely it will do so after installation of the flooring is complete. Our warranties DO NOT cover any problems caused by inadequate substructures or improper installation of said substructures.

- Product can be installed over most existing hard surface floor coverings provided the existing floor surface is smooth, or can be made smooth. Existing floors must be solid; fix any loose areas. For existing resilient floor, it may be required to apply an embossing leveler over a deeply embossed floor. Cushioned or multiple layer resilient flooring are NOT suitable subfloors for installation.
- Product may be installed over existing ceramic. Remove any loose tiles and fill with appropriate Portland-based floor patching compound. Scarify the surface of the tile, then fill grout joints to the level of the surface of the ceramic tile with patching compound, carefully following the floor fill manufacturer's instructions for mixing, priming and spreading material over ceramic tile.
- Metal and Painted Floors: Remove any loose paint or rust.
- Existing adhesive residue needs to be removed and/or encapsulated. Never scrape adhesive residue unless it is confirmed to be asbestos free. Then scrape all ridges and puddles of adhesive down to the concrete.

NOTE: Never use liquid chemicals to remove old adhesive. Solvents and other abrasive chemicals used to clean the sub floor can damage the backing of Mohawk Loose Lay if not properly removed, and can affect the product's performance.

- Other Floors: Consult Mohawk Technical Services at 800.833.6954.

ASBESTOS WARNING! DO NOT MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES. Previously installed resilient floor covering products and the asphaltic or cutback adhesives used to install them may contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of asbestos or crystalline dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the previously installed product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures.

Installation

The advantage of Uniclic® product is that it allows you to choose your own starting position, direction and can work one plank or tile at a time.

Pre-Installation

- Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry before installation.
- Check the tongue and groove to assure it is free of debris or damage.



Installation

1. Snap a chalk line for your first row to follow.
2. Determine if the starter row will need to be cut. If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in width, proceed. Perimeter planks should not be less than 1/2 the width of the plank.
3. Identify tongue/short side of plank. Tongue side should start facing the wall if working left to right. You may also start with the groove side facing the wall if this is easier for you, but you must work right to left. Regardless of direction, be careful to leave a 1/4" expansion space around the perimeter of the room.
4. Check the groove on each plank to ensure it is clean and free of debris.
5. Continue to the next plank by dropping and locking the end of the new plank into the end of the existing plank.
6. Press the end joint into place with hand and roll with a hand roller or seam roller to ensure a fully compressed tight fit.
7. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row, or the reverse if working right to left, lifting slightly to engage lock. Rotate downward, clicking together for a tight fit. Use a hand roller or seam roller to press/lock the compressed fit end joint.
8. Work across the length of the room installing planks with the long side seam first, then sliding back to drop the end joint into place. Roll ends to ensure a tight fit. It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square, as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the installation. Check square-ness and straightness regularly.
9. Cut the last plank in the second row and leave an expansion gap of around 1/4". Planks may be cut with a utility knife using the "score and snap" technique. The leftover of this plank may be used to start the third row if it is a minimum 6" long.
10. Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with end pieces of minimum 6". Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the tapping block in order to avoid damages on the planks.
11. When fitting under door casings, cabinets, etc., the flexibility and convenient connection of Uniclic® becomes evident. If necessary, a flat pull bar may be used to assist in locking the planks. If needed, remove the locking profile on the groove in order to slide the plank into place and apply seam sealer to the edges to glue planks together.
12. When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, 'Clic' Enhanced Resilient Tile/Plank can be cut easily and cleanly using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer this pattern to the plank.
13. Protect all exposed edges of the flooring by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Make sure that no plank will be secured in any way to the sub floor.



Additional Instructions/Notes

IMPORTANT: Maintain a 1/4" expansion space around all walls, cabinets, pipes, toilet flanges and any immovable object in the floor. Baseboard molding will cover this expansion space.

- For plank installation, we recommend staggering the end joints a minimum of 6 inches.
- For tile installation, we recommend staggering the end joints a minimum of 3 inches.
- Never allow nails or screws, including door stops, to enter into the ERT flooring or the expansion zone around the flooring perimeter, as it will prevent proper expansion and contraction of the structure and flooring.
- Do not install four corners together, as this will not provide a stable installation.

Plank Replacement

In cases of severe damage, tiles may be replaced by cutting the bad piece out using a utility knife. To insert a replacement tile, cut the tongue off the new piece and use a seam sealer on only the sides of the tile, adhering the new tile into place.

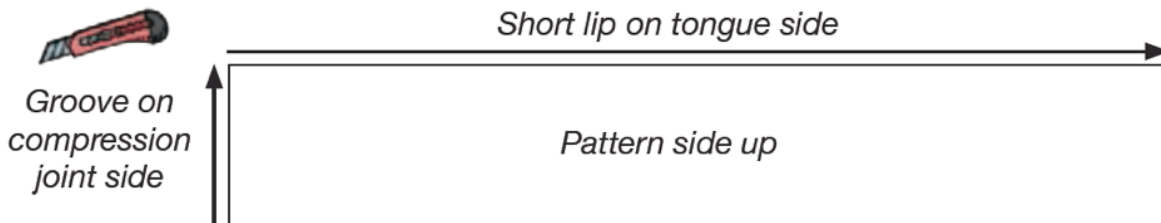
Plank Replacement

1. Score top of damaged plank/tile with a utility knife. Make two triangle cuts near the end joint and then connect the points with one long cut in the middle of the plank/tile. (See diagram below)



Score Tile As Shown

2. Use an awl or screwdriver to tap down through plank/tile on scored triangle cut points.
3. Lift and remove damaged tile.
4. With the pattern side facing up on the new replacement plank/tile, trim off the short lip on the tongue side and the groove on the compression joint side, making it flush with the edge of the plank/tile. Be careful not to damage the finish surface of the tile.





5. Cut several pieces of acrylic double face tape made for vinyl floors and slide under the edges of the existing floor on the two edges where the replacement plank/tile will have its lips cut off. Tape should face sticky side up; leave the paper on the side facing down on the floor.
6. Using water resistant PVA (polyvinyl acetate) glue, run a small bead on the groove edge of the planks/tiles on the existing floor where the replacement plank/tile will rest that has the lips cut off.

NOTE: The long tongue of the replacement plank/tile and the uncut compression fit end joint will not need tape or seam adhesive as you will be using the plank's/tile's locking mechanism.

7. Install replacement plank/tile by sliding the long groove of the replacement plank/tile under the tongue of the floor plank/tile until the finish edge of the replacement plank/tile is tight against the finish edge of the floor plank/tile, and the compression end joint is lined up. Rotate down, locking the long tongue joint and roll the compression end joint to lock into place with a small or hand roller.
8. Wipe any excess sealer that comes to the surface of the tiles with a damp cloth and follow with a dry cloth to assure all sealer is removed from tile surface.
9. Keep foot traffic off the replaced plank/tile for 24 hours.

NOTE: Mohawk Group will not be held responsible for problems that may arise from use of alternative seam sealers. Please contact the seam sealer's manufacturer with issues

We continuously make technological advancements that improve product performance or installation techniques and methods. To confirm you have the most recent installation instructions, please visit our website at www.mohawkgroup.com or contact Technical Services at 800.833.6954.