

Vinyl flooring Eco Balance PUR Advice section

PARADOR

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Please also pay attention to the technical data sheets, which you can download on our website (www.parador.de), as well as to the instructions on the pack leaflets.

Useful information

Vinyl

The term vinyl covers plastics made of polyvinyl chloride, better known as PVC. This thoroughly researched plastic is one of the oldest plastics of all and is used in the household and medical areas among others. This knowledge makes it possible to create a floor covering that can exactly meet the requirements placed on a modern floor.

Vinyl from Parador shows off wood and stone decors in different plank formats, whose deep, authentic textures make them barely distinguishable from real wood. Our vinyl is "Made in Germany". Permanently high quality is ensured by constant internal and external quality checks and goes well beyond statutory requirements.

It goes without saying that all substances used for Parador vinyl floors are harmless in order to guarantee our customers the ultimate safety for their health and the environment. That is why only raw materials are used that are familiar, have been sufficiently tested and rated as harmless by independent bodies.

The high quality and harmlessness of Parador vinyl floors is confirmed by numerous certifications. You can see an overview of the certificates on the technical data sheets and product catalogues, which can be downloaded at www.parador.de.

Eco Balance PUR

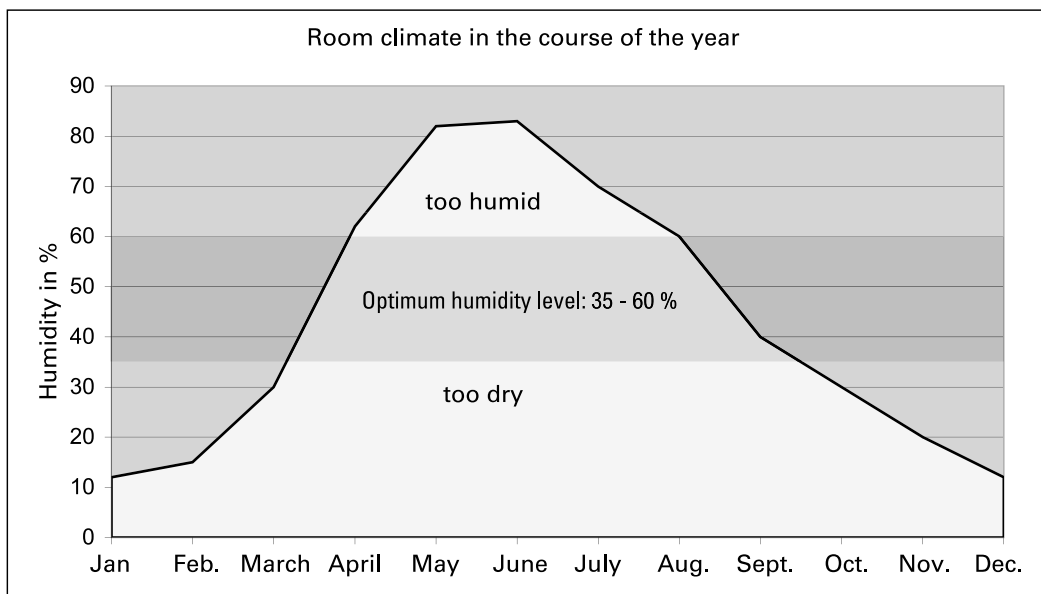
Eco Balance PUR is a highly innovative floor covering developed by Parador. PUR in this case stands for polyurethane; a plastic that constantly surrounds us in everyday life (e.g. on the dashboard and the seats in the car, in mattresses and upholstered furniture or in balls used for football). Unlike standard vinyl or laminate flooring, Eco Balance PUR is even quieter, extremely scratch-resistant and has an unbelievably authentic look and feel. Naturally the strict quality controls used at Parador also apply to Eco Balance PUR.

Application options of Parador resilient floors

With resilient floors from Parador, you have opted for a new generation of flooring. The particularly robust Parador vinyl and PUR floors have a resistant surface and are also very easy to look after. They are very quiet, pleasantly warm and, due to their low installation height and installation-friendly click geometry, ideally suited for renovation work. These floor coverings are suitable for use in living and in commercial areas (in accordance with the wear classes of the respective product).

Whether you opt for the vinyl with HDF core board, a stable core of highly compressed fibre-board, for the particularly thin and moisture-resistant vinyl made of solid material, or for the particularly sustainable Eco Balance PUR is of little importance.

As long as the product has an HDF core board, the core board is a hygroscopic material. That means that the material can absorb moisture and release it again. On the one hand this can have a regulating effect on the room's climate, but it can also lead to the disadvantage that the material swells (gets bigger) when it absorbs moisture or shrinks (gets smaller) when it emits moisture. Whether it swells or shrinks depends directly on the indoor climate. If the climate is too dry, then hygroscopic material (here: HDF core board) shrinks (gets smaller); if the indoor climate is too damp, then it swells (gets bigger). The HDF core board on resilient floor coverings also shrinks and swells. Particularly in the winter months, when the room humidity is often much too low (see illustration), the natural shrinkage of the material can lead to gaps forming. Conversely, when it is too damp, if the gap to the wall is not adequate or expansion joints are missing, the floor area may start to bulge. Please make sure not to fall below or exceed the ideal value of humidity as shown in the diagram.



Product composition

Resilient floor coverings from Parador can be allocated to various groups. When it comes to vinyl floors, a basic distinction is made between vinyl with an HDF core board and vinyl made of solid material. Eco Balance PUR also has an HDF core board.

Vinyl with an HDF core board is particularly easy to install and features integrated impact noise insulation with a cork layer on the back.

Vinyl made of solid material is distinguished by a particularly low installation height, which makes it especially renovation friendly. As it has no wood components, vinyl made of solid material is suitable for damp rooms and can be installed in the bathroom without any problem.

Vinyl with HDF core board

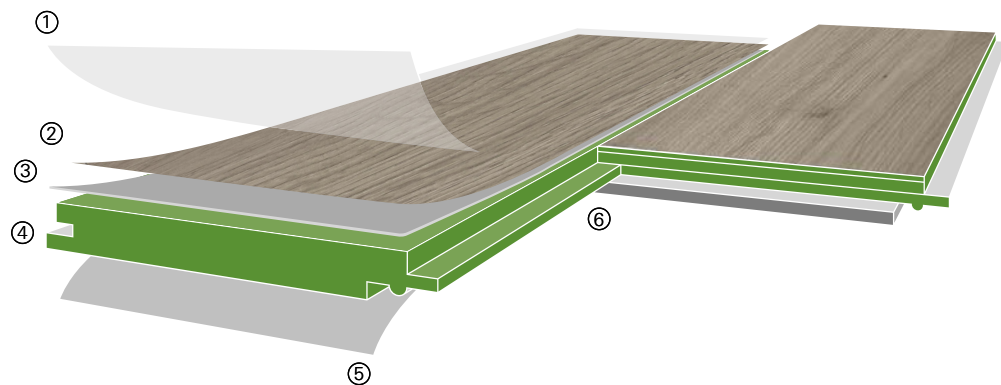


- ① Transparent, durable UV coating
- ② Transparent vinyl wear layer
- ③ Printed vinyl decor layer
- ④ Vinyl support layer
- ⑤ HDF-core board with click connection
- ⑥ Cork layer for impact noise insulation
- ⑦ Safe-Lock® PRO

Vinyl made of solid material



- ① Transparent, durable UV coating
- ② Transparent vinyl wear layer
- ③ Printed vinyl decor layer
- ④ Stabilisation layer
- ⑤ Vinyl support layer with click connection

Eco Balance PUR

① PUR layer

② Decor layer printed with elaborately reproduced decors

③ HDF core board

④ Cork balancing layer for impact noise insulation

⑤ Patented click mechanism

⑥ Safe-Lock® PRO

Collections: Basic, Classic, Trendtime

Besides the different composition of the products, the technical properties vary within the individual BASIC, CLASSIC and TRENDTIME product collections. The technical properties can be taken from the technical data sheets (download at www.parador.de). Alternatively you will find all the product features as an overview in our product catalogues.

Wear class:

The products in the BASIC range have wear class 31 (WC 31 for short). This equates to suitability for commercial or public areas with low usage.

The products in the CLASSIC and TRENDTIME range have wear class 33 and 42. Floors of wear class 33 are suitable for commercial or public areas with high usage. Floors of wear class 42 can be used for industrial usage with medium wear.

Wear layer:

The top layer of the vinyl plank is the almost transparent wear layer, which is additionally sealed with a UV-protective film. It protects the decor layer underneath from damage and has a direct influence on achieving the above-mentioned wear classes.

The products in the BASIC collection have a wear layer of 0.3 mm; the products in the CLASSIC and TRENDTIME range have a wear layer of 0.55 mm.

Accessories

Underlays

Comprehensive information about underlays can be found in our catalogues and online under www.parador.de.

When installing resilient floor coverings, we recommend using an underlay, as this compensates for slight uneven areas in the subfloor and has a positive effect on the floor's acoustics.

The underlays in the Akustik-Protect range are suitable for resilient floor coverings:

Akustik-Protect 100

- › integrated moisture barrier
- › good impact and ambient noise insulation*

Akustik-Protect 200

- › improved ambient noise insulation compared to Akustik-Protect 100

Akustik-Protect 300

- › integrated moisture barrier
- › even better properties than Akustik-Protect 100 and 200
- › as well as an aluminium coated adhesive strip to seal transitions

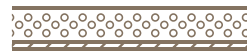
Akustik-Protect 100



Akustik-Protect 200



Akustik-Protect 300



Vinyl with HDF core board has integrated impact noise insulation from the cork layer on the back.

When installing on mineral subfloors, an additional form of moisture protection using a PE film is essential so that no moisture can get from the subfloor into the HDF core board. In the case of subfloors and underlays made of wood-based materials (e.g. OSB or chipboard), using a PE film is also essential. With these underlays (please make sure the subfloor is smooth), it is also necessary to glue the end edge.

ATTENTION: The underlays Plan-Protect, Uno-Protect, Duo-Protect and Smart-Protect are unsuitable for vinyl made of solid material! Please only use the underlays from the Akustik-Protect range.

Skirtings

For a perfect finish, the Parador assortment includes the right decorative skirting board to match every floor design. Special plastic clips with integrated cable routing are available for fastening it to the wall. Caps and corners round off the assortment.

Tools

You will need the following tools and aids for laying Parador resilient floors:

tape measure or hinged ruler, craft knife, pencil, handsaw, Parador spacer wedges, Parador MultiTool, hammer, drill and jigsaw, crosscut saw or circular saw.

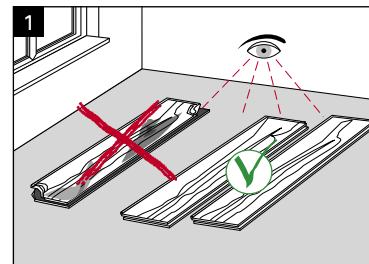
*Impact noise is directed downwards, so is perceived in the rooms below; ambient noise is directed upwards and is perceived in the room where it occurs.

Basic rules for installation

Please note that the same basic rules apply to Eco Balance PUR as to vinyl with HDF core board.

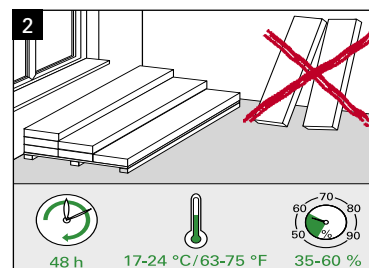
Checking the planks are intact.

The flooring elements should be checked thoroughly for material defects before and during installation. Claims cannot be made on installed goods. Planks with visible defects or damage must not be installed. Assembly should only take place under daylight or with adequate lighting, as otherwise any damage or faulty planks cannot be detected in some circumstances.



Acclimatisation before installation

The flooring elements must be acclimatised over a period of at least 48 hours at a room temperature of at least 17 °C and a relative humidity of 35 – 60 % in the room where they are being installed. That means that the sealed packages must adjust to the climate conditions in the room. If there are major climate differences between the storage and installation area, the acclimatisation period should be extended. If the climate conditions are almost the same, the period can also be shorter. Please store the packages flat on an even base without opening them. It is essential that you comply with these points, especially in new builds where the humidity is usually very high. It also makes sense to store the packages on storage timbers or a pallet. In any case, please take care that the flooring elements lay flat and do not bend.

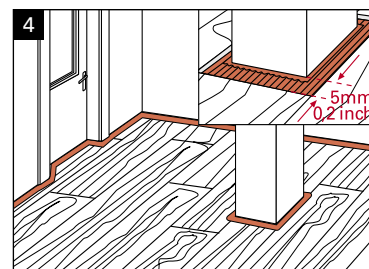
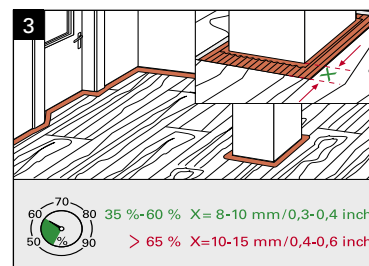


Maintaining expansion joints / wall clearance

The core board used for vinyl with an HDF core board and for Eco Balance PUR is a wood-based product, which, like natural wood, is also subject to swelling or shrinking depending on climate conditions. The installed floor with HDF core board therefore needs to be kept a suitable distance away from all fixed components, in other words walls, supports, radiators etc., which is known as the wall clearance or expansion joint. Furthermore, expansion joints must be maintained when a defined installation area is exceeded. Too small a wall clearance is the most common installation error. This often only becomes noticeable in summer, as the increased humidity and temperature in the summer months makes the floor expand. The expansion joint and wall clearance should be at least 8 mm* for vinyl with an HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR, more on larger areas. The rule of thumb is: per metre of floor keep at least a 1.5 mm expansion joint at both sides of the room (example: Room width 5 m = min. 8 mm wall clearance on each side).

Expansion joints or wall clearances should also be maintained with vinyl made of solid material. These should be at least 5 mm.

Even if the installed material only abuts a single point in the room, the floating material may start to push up and warp. "Popular" weak points in this case are door frames, joints to stairs, radiators and end rails. Heavy objects like kitchen units and cupboards (the floor can only move to one side) require a wall clearance twice the size on the opposite side. We recommend setting up heavy objects and fitted furniture (kitchens, fitted units, aquariums etc.) before installation and only installing the floor just underneath the base. This makes it easy to take the floor back up at any time. The expansion joints are covered by skirting boards at the walls and in other areas by special floor profiles.



*Note: at least 15 mm in case of a relative humidity of >60 %.

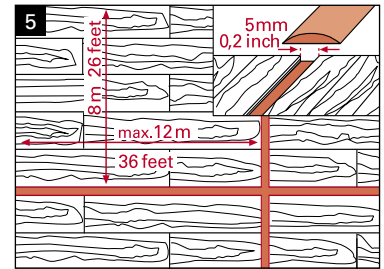
Layout of expansion joints

As the vinyl floor will swell or shrink depending on climate conditions, further expansion joints and movement joints of at least 8 mm (for vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR) or at least 5 mm (for vinyl made of solid material) are necessary under the following conditions:

- › larger areas (over 8 x 12 m)
- › irregular shaped areas
- › installation from room to room in doorways

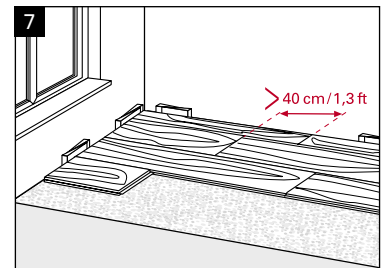
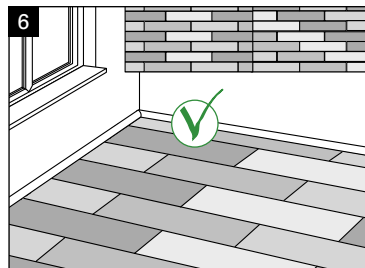
These movement joints are covered with appropriate transition profiles.

Note: The installer is always liable if expansion or movement joints are omitted.



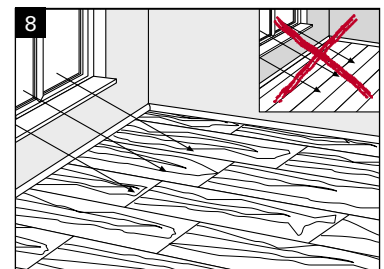
Installation pattern

Flooring elements can either be laid in a regular or random fashion. In each case, care should be taken that the head joints are offset from row to row by at least 40 cm (half the length for tile format).



Installation direction (incidence of light and room floor plan)

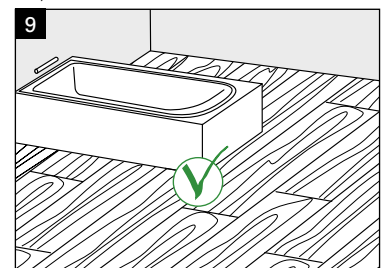
For optical reasons, the planks should be laid parallel to the incidence of light, i.e. the long side runs in the same direction as the light entering the room. If there is more than one window, please go by the largest window. If the floor plan of the rooms is very unusual, the direction of installation should also be judged according to how the room is divided. For optical reasons, the long sides of the floor should be at right angles to the long side of the room. This makes the room appear squarer and bigger instead of long and "tube-like".



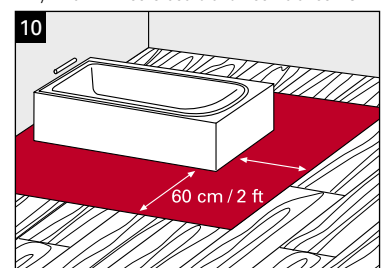
Installation in areas where water splashes and permanently damp areas/wet rooms

Vinyl made of solid material is suitable for installation in areas where water splashes or permanently damp rooms. It is recommended to glue the whole area. Care should also be taken that standing water is quickly removed. The edges should be sealed, for example with silicone if gluing the whole area. With a floating installation, a sealing tape or a sealing cord must also be inserted between the floor and silicone. Vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR must not be installed in areas where water can splash on the floor. Standing water penetrates the HDF core via the edges and causes permanent damage. In permanently damp areas or damp environments, these products should not be installed, as the risk of moisture penetrating cannot be ruled out. If vinyl with HDF core board or Eco Balance PUR are nevertheless installed in bathrooms, care must be taken that the floor is not installed in areas with splashing water (shower, bathtub, toilet, wash basin) and that the damp is always within the normal range of between 35% and 60% relative humidity. The formation of puddles and the effects of damp must be prevented at all costs at the edges and in the joint areas as well as on the surface.

Vinyl made of solid material:



Vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR:



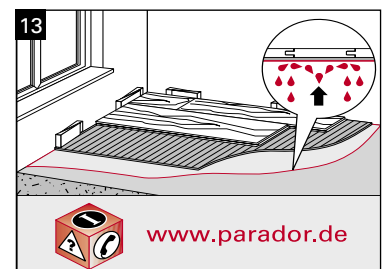
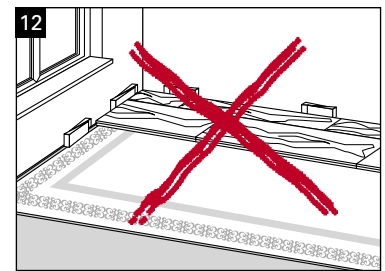
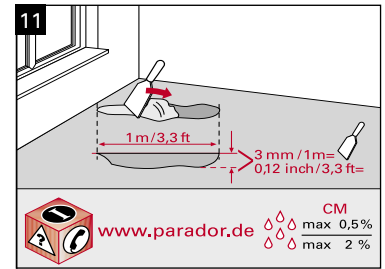
Subfloor requirements

- › The basic requirement for installing resilient floor coverings is a firm, clean, dry and even subfloor.
- › Uneven areas of more than 3 mm across 1 m must be evened out with a suitable filler.
- › When installing a resilient floor with HDF core board on old wood planks and particle boards, loose planks, for example, must be screwed to the substructure to reduce any creaking. The floor should be laid at right angles to the lengthways direction of the wood planks. It is not recommended to install vinyl made of solid material here.
- › For reasons of strength and from a hygienic point of view, carpets are not suitable as a subfloor and must be removed.
- › We only recommend an installation on older PVC, CV or linoleum coverings if the floors are glued in place, have no loose areas and there is no underfloor heating. A suitable underlay must be installed to compensate for uneven areas.
- › When installing on tiled floors, please bear in mind the required evenness of the subfloor. If the height differences in the joint area are small enough, a resilient floor with HDF core board can be installed combined with an underlay from the Akustik-Protect range. We generally recommend levelling out the tiled floor with a suitable filler. This method should be selected particularly when installing vinyl made of solid material, otherwise the joints of the tiled floor may push through the solid material. Although this does not have a technical impact on the floor in case of just slight uneven areas, it can have an impact on its look.
- › Screeds must not exceed the following moisture levels:

	Anhydrite screed	Cement screed
without underfloor heating	max. 0.5 CM %	max. 2.0 CM %
with underfloor heating	max. 0.3 CM %	max. 1.8 CM %.

Generally speaking, the screed moisture must be determined using a measuring device. With a flowing screed, please keep to the manufacturer's specifications about drying time.

For a resilient floor with HDF core board, with **mineral substrates,*** as a precautionary measure a 0.2 mm thick PE film must be placed underneath as a moisture barrier (allow strips to overlap by at least 30 cm, apply adhesive tape, allow to protrude at the edges to form a trough and cut off the excess with a knife after attaching the skirting board). Or you can use Parador underlays with impact noise insulation and integrated moisture protection (Akustik-Protect 100 and 300). If moisture keeps on rising from the subfloor, please seal the floor area with a suitable liquid sealer.



* Mineral substrates include concrete, screed and stone, for example.

Installation variations

1. Floating installation

If the resilient floor is installed without a fixed connection with the subfloor, i.e. only the planks are joined to one another, we call that "floating installation". Parador floors can be installed quickly and easily thanks to the simple click technology and are designed for floating installation. The floating installation is the most popular installation method.

2. Completely glued

In special cases (e.g. at the request of the user) it may be necessary to completely glue the floor, although in principle the flooring elements are designed for a floating installation. Vinyl made of solid material needs to be completely glued e.g. on continuous areas of 10 x 10 m as well as in bathrooms (for hygiene – not technical reasons) and in areas with strong sunshine, such as conservatories, shop windows, large window areas and in areas where an indoor air temperature of 18 – 30 °C or an underlay temperature of min. 15 °C cannot be permanently guaranteed. For this purpose, please see the chapter "Gluing the whole area". Vinyl floors with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR are not suitable for gluing over the whole area.

3. Installation on underfloor heating

Parador vinyl and Eco Balance PUR are suitable for floating installation on hot water underfloor heating systems. For installation on electric underfloor heating, please bear in mind the following information:

- › installation only with systems that have temperature sensors and controllers
- › no installation on older design electric underfloor heating systems (installed before 2000)
- › no installation on night storage heaters

On the technical data sheets you will find further information, for example about the heat transmission resistances of our resilient floor coverings. For installation/application purposes, please observe the chapter "Installation on hot water underfloor heating systems".

4. Use of floor cooling

According to prevalent expert opinions, cooling a room by up to 5 °C is easily possible at a maximum relative humidity of 65 % (according to the workplace directive, the lower floor temperature limit of 19 °C should also be maintained in "normal" house building. People are more prone to ill health in areas with cold floors). The Parador floor coverings can be used without restrictions if these specified conditions are complied with (whilst bearing in mind the main Parador installation and fitting instructions).

Assembly

Preparation

Once you have taken note of the basic rules and the underlay is installed, it is possible to start with the actual installation of the resilient floor.

In order to achieve an even appearance of the first and last row, measure the width of the room at right angles to the direction of installation and work out the width of the first and last row of planks (in each case at least $\frac{1}{2}$ plank width) (Figure 1).

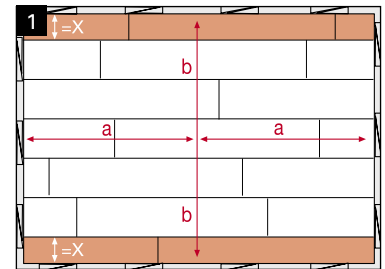
Install elements mixed from several packs so that you get an even decorative appearance across the area.

The last element of each row is cut to length and the remaining piece, which should not be shorter than 20 cm, is used to start the next row.

The cross joints should be offset from row to row by at least 40 cm (half the plank length with tile format) ("random bond").

Please bear in mind when gluing the whole area that any expansion joints (so-called construction joints) in the subfloor must also be adopted in the top layer.

Please check each plank in daylight or adequate lighting for defects before installation and only lay planks that are in perfect condition.



Assembling vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR

For assembly purposes, please also take note of the instructions on the pack leaflet in particular. A Parador installation video is available on the Internet.

If the wall is not straight, adopt the contours of the wall e.g. with the Parador MultiTool and trim the first row of planks accordingly (Figure 2).

The first row of planks is laid so that the groove of the end side and the long side (former tongue side) face the wall (Figure 3).

Start in the left-hand corner of the room. The required wall clearance is at least 8 mm and is achieved using the Parador spacer wedges.

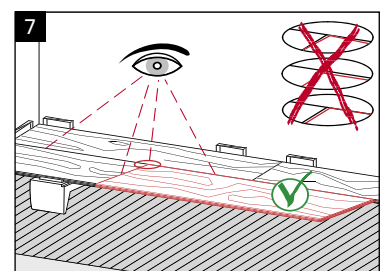
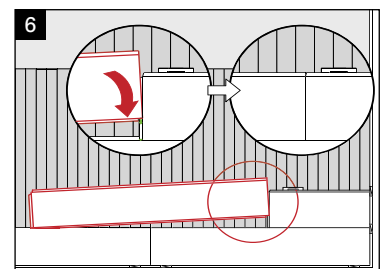
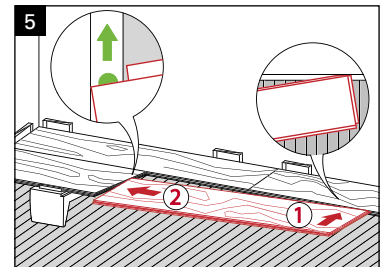
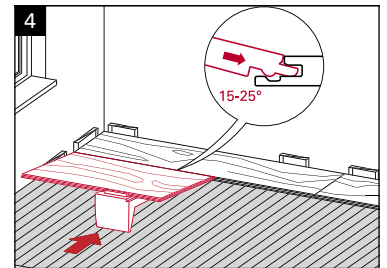
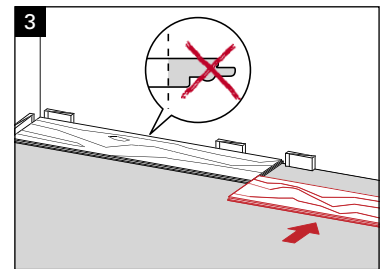
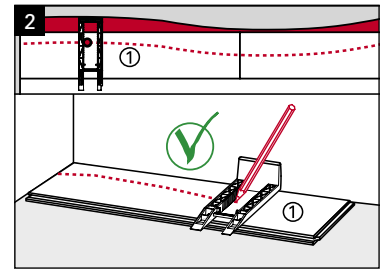
Start by pushing together the end joints of the first row of planks.

Align the long sides of the planks.

Please insert the first plank of each subsequent row diagonally into the long edge of the installed row (angle 15 – 25°) and position the Parador MultiTool (Figure 4).

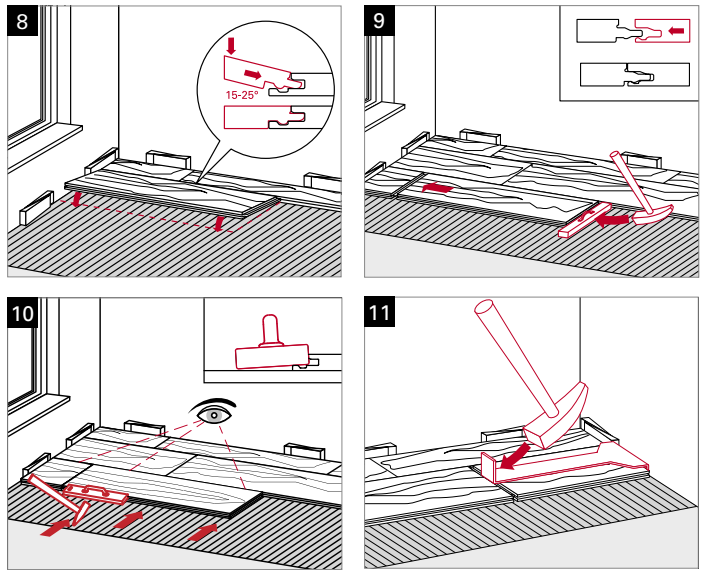
To install the subsequent planks, please proceed as follows:

- › Place tongue on the end side into the groove on the long side
- › Place groove on the end side up to the level of the green dot on the tongue on the end side (Figure 5)
- › Pull/push plank up to the installed row in one movement (Figure 6)
- › Check whether all joints are closed (Figure 7)
- › The continuous use of the Parador MultiTool ensures an optimal angle setting



Alternatively, from the second row onwards you can use the following installation technique:

- › Push the plank on the floor up to the first row
- › Tilt the plank slightly (15 – 25°) up to the click-in point (Figure 8)
- › The plank clicks in when lowered, resulting in a tight fit with no play
- › Set in place, i.e. by hitting with a hammering block (Figure 9 and 10)
- › After measuring and cutting the piece on the end of the row to length, this is inserted carefully (bear wall clearance in mind) (Figure 11)

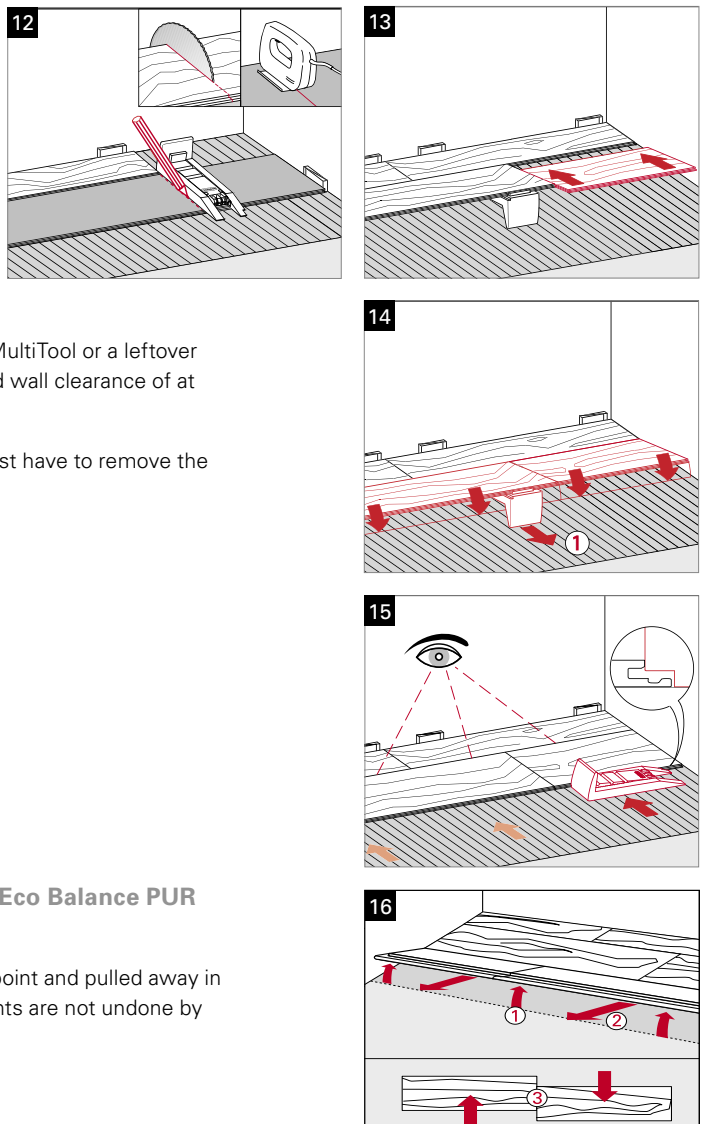


If you are using a jigsaw to cut the elements, it is best to guide the saw along the bottom of the plank. If using a bench saw, place the plank on the bench with the decor side facing up. In this way you will get the best quality cut (Figure 12).

If, when fitting the piece on the end of the row, it is no longer possible to place it at the level of the green dot, push this end piece on the tongue of the end edge into the long edge (Figure 13), remove the Parador MultiTool and lock the long edge in place (Figure 14). Check that all joints are closed and use the Parador MultiTool as a hammering block if necessary (Figure 15).

Cut the last row of planks to the required size by using e.g. the Parador MultiTool or a leftover piece of plank to transfer the width. Please also bear in mind the required wall clearance of at least 8 mm in doing so.

The floor is ready to walk on as soon as it has been installed. Now you just have to remove the spacer wedges and attach Parador skirting boards with clip technology.



Dismantling instructions for vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR

To take up the planks without damaging them, proceed as follows:

The complete row of planks is lifted on the groove side past the click-in point and pulled away in one piece. After that, lay the row of planks back on the floor. The end joints are not undone by pulling longways, but by pushing the planks crossways.

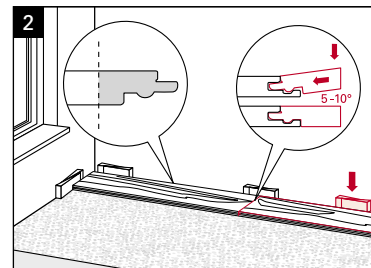
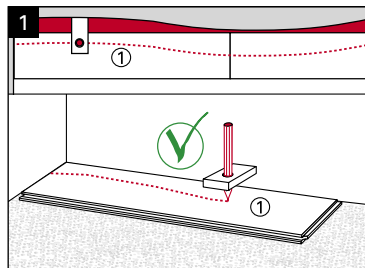
Assembling vinyl made of solid material

For assembly purposes, please also take note of the instructions on the pack leaflet in particular.

The first row of planks is laid so that the tongues of the end and long side face the wall. Start in the left-hand corner of the room.

The required wall clearance for vinyl made of solid material is 5 mm and is achieved using the Parador spacer wedges.

If the wall is not straight, adopt the contours of the wall and trim the first row of planks accordingly (Figure 1). Start by joining together the end joints of the first row of planks. Align the long sides of the planks (Figure 2).



The first plank of the second row is then joined on the long side as follows (Figures 3 – 7)

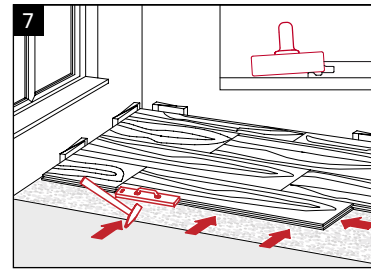
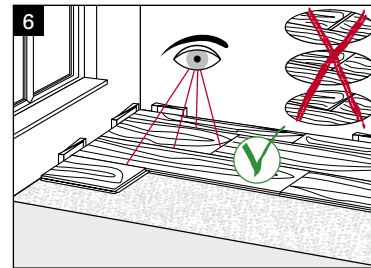
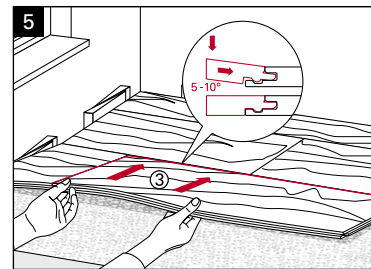
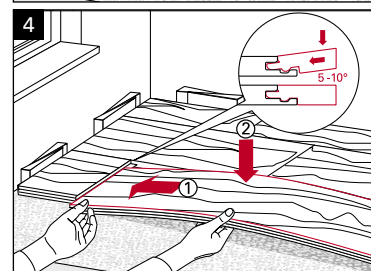
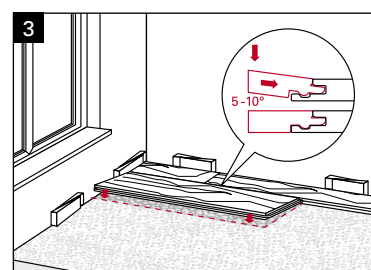
- (1) Push the plank on the floor up to the first row.
- (2) Tilt the plank slightly ($10 - 15^\circ$) up to the click-in point.
- (3) The plank clicks in when lowered, resulting in a tight fit with no play.
- (4) Set in place, i.e. by hitting with a hammering block

The following plank, like all the rest, is then clicked in place in the same way on the end side (Figure 4).

Important: When clicking in planks on the end side, make sure that the gap to the long side of the previous row of planks is as small as possible. Then tilt the planks slightly on the long side ($10 - 15^\circ$) and at the same time push towards the long edge of the previous row of planks (Figure 5).

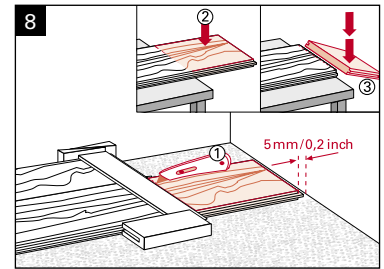
Make sure that the planks fit flush and are actually clicked in (Figure 6).

To do so, use the hammering block to finally lock in the end and long side (Figure 7).



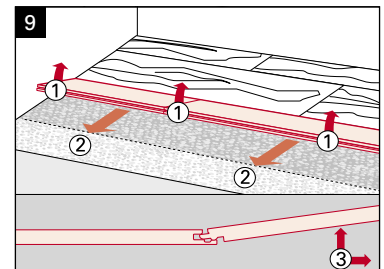
Please measure the end piece of a row of planks accordingly with a square and use a craft knife to score the decor surface bearing in mind the required wall clearance (Figure 8). The plank can now be simply broken over an edge along the cut. Cut the last row of planks to the required size by using a leftover piece of plank to transfer the width. Please also bear in mind the required wall clearance of 5 mm.

The floor is ready to walk on as soon as it has been installed. Now you just have to remove the spacer wedges and attach Parador skirting boards with clip technology.



Dismantling instructions for vinyl made of solid material

To take up the planks without damaging them, please proceed as follows: The row of planks is taken up by lifting the long side of each plank past the click-in point and pulling it back a few millimetres. The end edge joint is then unlocked in the same way.

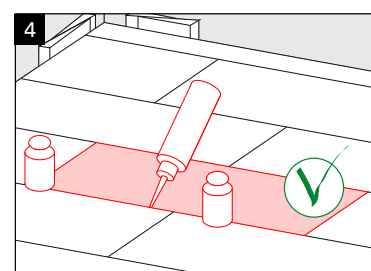
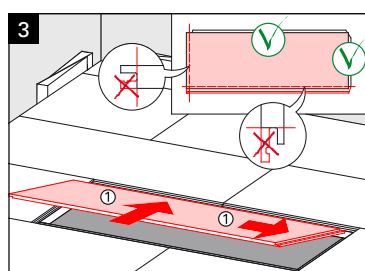
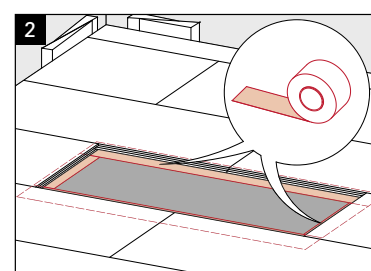
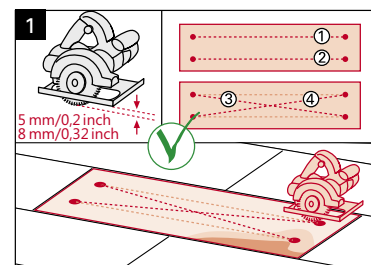


DIY tips

Swapping a damaged plank

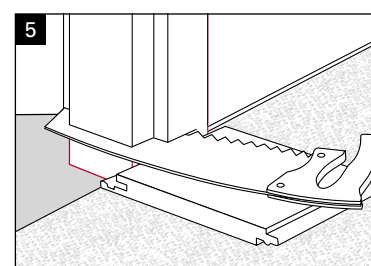
In the event of a damaged vinyl or Eco Balance PUR plank in the middle of a room, it is possible for you to replace this with some handicraft skill. To do so, please cut right through the damaged plank (Figure 1) and remove the damaged plank. Use the plank height of your installed resilient floor covering as guidance. Apply adhesive tape along the cut edge (Figure 2). To do so, please slightly lift the installed area and place a wide adhesive strip with the sticky side facing up half way under the installed area. Remove the parts of the click geometry highlighted in Figure 3 from a new, undamaged plank.

Now insert the adjusted piece of plank into the gap from above and press the planks firmly around the edges onto the adhesive tape. You can achieve additional stability by applying plastic adhesive to the edge beforehand. Place a weight onto the replaced plank so that it lies flush with the adjacent planks. Place the weight beyond the plank area.



How to shorten a door frame

Lay a leftover piece of plank incl. underlay with the decor side facing down against the frame and saw it off along the plank as shown.

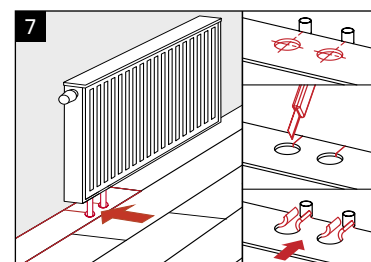
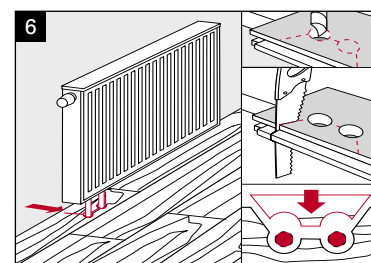


Pipe holes

Make the diameter of the pipe holes 10 mm bigger than the pipe (play/movement joint). Mark the holes, drill out and saw off at an angle of 45° as shown (in case of HDF core board). Glue the sawn out piece. Do not forget the wall clearance here either (Figure 6).

For vinyl made of solid material, it is sufficient to drill the pipe hole as described above and to cut from the hole to the edge of the plank with a craft knife.

You can then bend the plank apart, place it around the pipe and bend it back (Figure 7).



Value retention

General information

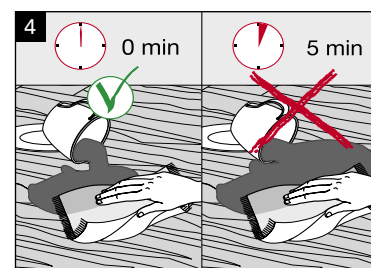
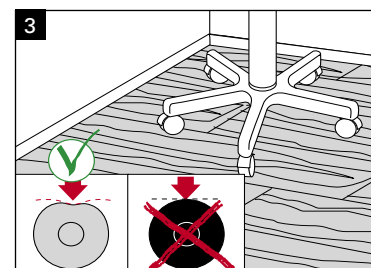
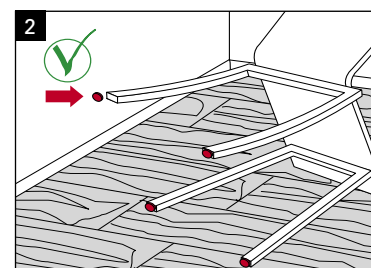
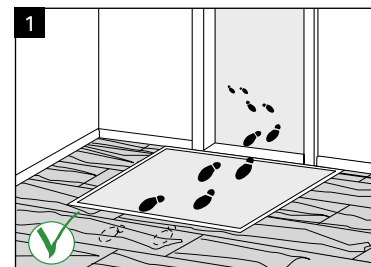
General information for retaining the value of your resilient floor:

- › 35 – 60% relative humidity is ideal for Parador resilient floors and also recommended for people's well-being.
- › Avoid sand and dirt as both act like sandpaper.
- › Immediately wipe up liquids resting on the floor.
- › Only wipe with a slightly damp cloth.
- › Do not use any abrasives, floor wax, steam cleaners or polishes. Among other things, they tarnish the floor's appearance.
- › Avoid intensive sunshine. Use a suitable light shield if necessary.
- › Do not use steam cleaners.

Preventing damage

As with all other floor coverings, you should protect your new vinyl or Eco Balance PUR floor from dirt particles by using suitable dirt-trapping zones (mats). When using such mats, make sure they have a non-colouring rubber or latex backing. To protect the floors from scratches, suitable soft felt pads (light-coloured ones if possible) must always be fitted under chair and table legs and under pieces of furniture. Rollers on office chairs, file trolleys and roller containers should be fitted with soft treads/rollers (type W, EN 12529). In these heavily used areas, you can also protect the floor using suitable floor mats (available in office supplies stores). Avoid using tyres or protective covers made of black rubber, as these may lead to discolouration.

We recommend that you clean your resilient floor regularly with a vacuum cleaner (attached brushes) or broom. Cleaning with a slightly damp cloth should only be done in case of stubborn dirt. It is important in this case that the cloth is well wrung out and that no puddles form with standing water.



Cleaning at end of installation

Remove drilling dust and loose particles with a broom or vacuum cleaner. To finish, wipe damp with a suitable PU or floor cleaner (wring cloth out well and avoid puddles of standing water).

Initial treatment

It is not generally necessary to give the floor an initial treatment. If, however, you want to carry out an initial treatment after cleaning at the end of installation, a polymer dispersion can be used for a simple treatment, or you can seal it with PU sealant for a high quality treatment. Please note the corresponding gloss level of the care product and its other application instructions.

Additional/subsequent seal (over the whole area)

You can change the properties of your Parador floor and enhance it by giving it an additional seal. In some cases it may make sense (e.g. in doctors' surgeries and hair salons) to apply additional protection against damage or to increase the anti-slip class. This can easily be done with the aid of a PU sealant. You can also renovate or repair your floor covering with a subsequent seal if there is damage caused by scratches or differences in gloss level. Suitable PU sealants are available in Parador's accessories range. Please take note of the respective application instructions and labels provided by the supplier, as well as the technical information for retaining the value of resilient floor coverings.

Regular cleaning

Dust, fluff and loose particles can be removed with a broom or vacuum cleaner (attached brushes). Dirty marks are wiped off with a damp cloth. Floor cleaners, neutral and intensive cleaners make suitable cleaning products. Please do not use any alkaline cleaners or those that contain solvents or glycerine. Special PU cleaners are available in Parador's accessories range. In case of stubborn dirt, wipe the floor with a damp cloth using a PU cleaner. Make sure that no puddles of water form.

Stubborn dirt

Dirty marks caused by substances like shoe cream, varnish, tar, oil, grease, ink and lipstick are best removed using a cloth soaked in PU cleaner. In this respect, the relevant instructions of use should be observed. Please bear in mind that some skin disinfectants and wound care products may leave stains that cannot be removed. In such cases, a seal over the whole area is recommended as a preventive measure (see above).

Stain removal and levelling slight scratches

Apply some PU cleaner with a cloth to the area being treated and rub it dry after a few minutes. Repeat this process if necessary. To finish with, wipe with a damp cloth. Transparent acrylic touch-up sticks or a subsequent seal over the whole area are also suitable. When applying the care product, always keep to the instructions on the packaging.

Frequently asked questions

1. Can I lay resilient flooring on existing tiles?

In principle, a tile subfloor is suitable for installing resilient floor coverings. Please remember to lay down a 0.2 mm thick PE film. The tile floor must be even and must not have any protruding tile corners. Otherwise a suitable underlay must be used or the tile area filled. When installing vinyl made of solid material, the tile subfloor is to be levelled with a suitable filler. Please observe the notes about this topic in the chapter "Basic rules for installation".

2. Are resilient floor coverings harmful to health?

No, due to their soft structure, standing and walking on resilient floors is particularly kind to the joints. Only harmless raw materials are used in Parador resilient floors meaning that there is no risk to your health or the environment. Not only do we ensure the high quality of Parador floors through external and internal tests, but we also have ourselves checked and monitored by renowned institutes. We prove this with the numerous quality marks issued for our products, above all with the building inspection approval (conformity mark) from the German Institute for Building Technology (DIBT), the TÜV certification issued by TÜV Rhineland and the French A+ mark for rating the emissions given off into the indoor air.

3. How do I clean a resilient floor covering?

For normal maintenance care, a standard floor or universal cleaner is best suited. For further information please read the chapter "Value retention".

4. What are the benefits for me of a resilient floor covering?

Resilient floor coverings are particularly long-lasting, robust and easy-care floor coverings, which can be barely distinguished from real wood or stone in terms of look and feel. Due to their soft surface they make a very pleasant sound indoors and thus provide an enhanced feeling of comfort in the home.

5. How do I renovate a resilient floor covering?

A resilient floor covering is renovated by subsequently sealing the whole area of the floor with a special PU sealant. You can find further information in the chapter "Value retention".

6. Can I install resilient floor coverings in the bathroom?

Installing vinyl made of solid material in the bathroom is possible. It is recommended to glue the whole area. The humidity tends to be too high for using vinyl with HDF core board or Eco Balance PUR in wet areas and the risk of the HDF core board swelling from splashing water is too high. You can find further information in the chapter "Basic rules for installation".

7. Do heavy objects cause pressure points in resilient floor coverings?

The pressure and period of exposure are critical for pressure points developing. Very heavy furniture with a very small contact area, which is left in place for a long period, will leave pressure points behind on resilient floor coverings just as much as on other soft floor coverings. Increasing the contact area by placing something suitable underneath can effectively reduce this effect.

8. Can I also install vinyl made of solid material outdoors?

Vinyl made of solid material is an indoor product. It is not suitable for installation outdoors.

9. Can I install vinyl in rooms with large windows (floor to ceiling windows) or in a conservatory with strong sunshine?

For a floating installation, Parador recommends using vinyl with HDF core board for the above-mentioned areas. Due to the product composition, this product reacts less to temperature fluctuations than vinyl made of solid material.

If the installation of vinyl made of solid material is preferred or necessary due to its suitability for damp areas, the floor needs to be glued over the whole area.

The light fastness of the vinyl floor (this applies both to vinyl with HDF core board and vinyl made of solid material) has been tested according to test standard EN ISO 105-B02 and achieves at least level 6 (or higher) on the blue wool scale. Nevertheless, colour changes cannot be ruled out if continually exposed to high levels of sunshine.

Strong sunshine can lead to small joints appearing on the plank transitions.

In all cases, it is important that typical indoor temperatures persist all year round in the installation area.

Parador recommends heating the areas in question during winter and protecting them in summer from direct sunshine by taking appropriate precautions (e.g. roller blinds or shutters).

If the recommendations and conditions are not complied with, any guarantee or warranty claims are excluded on the part of Parador.

Checklist for gluing the whole area

The resilient floors made by Parador are designed for floating installation. On request or even advisable or necessary in certain situations (e.g. in conservatories or bathrooms), vinyl made of solid material can also be glued over the whole area. Vinyl with HDF core board and Eco Balance PUR are not suitable for gluing over the whole area.

Please observe the following tips:

- › As a surface area adhesive, only water and solvent-free, one or bi-component (1-C or 2-C) polyurethane adhesives recommended for this purpose by the adhesive manufacturer, or solvent-based adhesives in accordance with DIN 281, should be used. The adhesive manufacturer's specifications, particularly with regard to applying the adhesive, ventilation time, rolling, etc., must be observed.
- › With vinyl made of solid material, as a matter of principle, a wet bed gluing process (wet adhesion) is preferable to pressure-sensitive (semi-wet stage). Toothed spatula A2 is prescribed. For vinyl made of solid material, Parador recommends the solvent-free dispersion adhesive Sika Bond-130 Design Floor. (SikaBond-130 Design Floor is only designed for processing by professional users.) If you have special questions, please contact the adhesive manufacturer and be guided by the relevant technical leaflet.
- › The subfloor must be clean, dry, load-bearing, even and free of layers that reduce adhesion such as oil, dust and loose particles. Cement laitance, paint and other layers that reduce adhesion must be removed. Concrete and/or screeds must be sanded and vacuumed with an industrial vacuum cleaner. The usual rules of construction must be observed. The subfloor must meet the requirements of the applicable standards such as DIN 18 365 and DIN 18 202. In order to achieve a sufficiently absorbent and even subfloor, a cement-based filler (e.g. Sika R Level 300 Extra) is to be applied in a thickness of at least 2 mm. If installation is expected to take place on subfloors with underfloor heating, please check whether the measuring points are marked. The room temperature must be >18 °C, the temperature of the subfloor, floor covering and adhesive >15°C. Ideally, care should be taken that the relative humidity is 40 – 60 %. As already mentioned, the pre-treatment is also done according to the adhesive manufacturer's specifications.
- › Screeds must not exceed the following moisture levels:

	Anhydrite screeds	Cement screed
without underfloor heating	max. 0.5 CM %	max. 2.0 CM %
with underfloor heating	max. 0.3 CM %	max. 1.8 CM %
- › Depending on the product, an appropriate minimum gap must be maintained to all fixed objects (see notes about this in the advice section).
- › The general notes from the assembly instructions should also be observed when gluing the whole area. In particular, the planks must be acclimatised in the installation rooms.
- › You can find further information on the adhesive manufacturer's website (e.g. www.sika.de) or contact the Parador application technology department in case of doubt.

Inspection protocol for the trade

(template)

Mr/Mrs: _____ Order number: _____

Street: _____ Protocol number: _____

Postcode / town: _____ Date: _____

Installed on: _____

Pos.	Quantity (target)	Quantity (actual)	Item
1	_____ m ²	_____ m ²	Removing existing floor coverings/m ² Basis
2	_____ m ²	_____ m ²	Installing floor
3	_____ m	_____ m	Inserting profiles
4	_____ m	_____ m	Attaching skirting boards
5	_____ x	_____ x	Shortening doors
6	_____ x	_____ x	Shortening frames
7	_____ x	_____ x	Replacing planks

Special features / comments: _____

The installed floor was assessed in a standing position without oblique lighting or other forms of light refraction (e.g. back-light) and without deviating from the condition of use. The floor shows no signs of defects or damage. The cleaning and care instructions for the installed floor were handed over to the user / client.

Signature of end user and/or ordering party

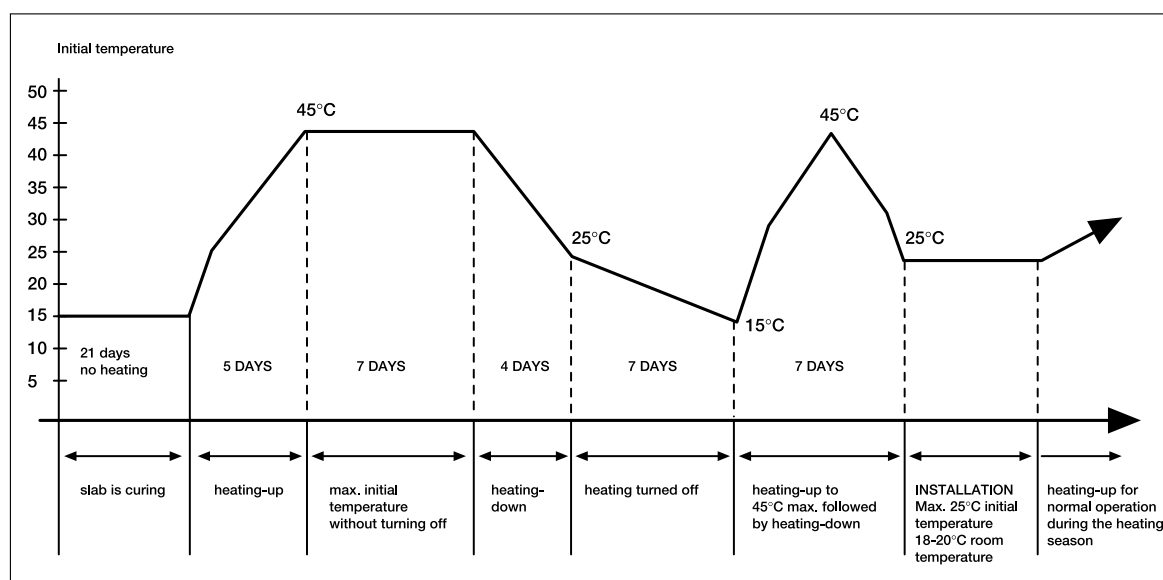
Place, date

Checklist for installation on hot water underfloor heating

As a matter of principle, all mineral substrates must be heated before installing resilient floor coverings so that damaging moisture can no longer escape. This heating process applies to all times of the year, winter or summer.

The screed must be professionally laid according to the generally acknowledged rules of the trade (DIN). It must dry out for at least 21 days before the heating process can begin. We recommend heating the screed according to the following diagram or using the "heating protocol" template. Please observe additional information given by your screed layer and heating engineer.

Heating diagram for a hot water underfloor heating system



Please bear in mind: The surface temperature of the resilient floor should ideally not exceed 25 °C (max. 28 °C).

Heating protocol for hot water underfloor heating installations

It is essential to keep a heating protocol for newly installed hot water underfloor heating systems.

1. a) Screed work _____ was finished on .
b) It is a cement ☐, anhydrite ☐ screed.
c) The thickness of the screed is _____ cm on average.
2. a) The underfloor heating system was put into operation on _____ and heated up to 45°C with a daily temperature increase of 5°C (supply temperature).
b) This maximum temperature was maintained for _____ days (target: 7 days) without being reduced at night.
c) From _____ to _____ (target: 4 days) the supply temperature was reduced by 5 a day.
d) From _____ to _____ (target: 7 days) the heating was switched off.
e) On _____ the heating was turned back on and on _____ the supply temperature of 45°C was reached.
- f) After reaching the supply temperature of 45°C, the supply temperature was reduced in stages of max. 10°C a day (max. 25°C) until the room temperature reached approx. 18-20°C for the installation of laminate and engineered wood flooring.
3. During the heating and cooling off period, were the areas ventilated but draughts prevented? ☐ yes
4. The last moisture measurements at the measuring points marked _____ showed % residual moisture.
(Permitted values: anhydrite screed max. 0.3 CM %, cement screed max. 1.8 CM %)
5. The heated floor surface is hereby approved for the installation of wear layers/coverings.

For the builder/client:

Place/Date/Signature/Stamp

The notes are used to advise the installer/heating engineer and the builder. Warranty claims cannot be derived from this. In case of doubt, corresponding regulations stipulated by the screed layer / heating engineer must be followed.

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Laminate flooring | Vinyl flooring | Engineered wood flooring
ClickBoard | Panels | Skirtings and accessories

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