



LUXURY VINYL

DIRECT GLUE DOWN FLOORING



ALWAYS CHECK STAINMASTER.com FOR THE LATEST INSTALLATION, WARRANTY AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTALLER TO ENSURE THAT THE MOST CURRENT DOCUMENTS ARE USED DURING INSTALLATION OF STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ LUXURY VINYL FLOORING.

GENERAL GUIDELINES – DIRECT GLUE DOWN VINYL FLOORING

All instructions and recommendations should be followed for an ideal installation.

- 1. IMPORTANT:** Deliver to job site and acclimate all material, including maintenance products, at 65° – 85° Fahrenheit (18° to 29° Celsius) for a minimum of 24 (recommended 48) hours prior to installation.
- The space where flooring is to be installed shall be held at 65° – 85° Fahrenheit (18° to 29° Celsius) for an additional 48 hours after installation, and never drop below 65° Fahrenheit (18° Celsius) from this point forward. *Dramatic temperature changes should also be avoided.*
- Store cartons of tile and/or plank with cartons stacked one on top of the other. Do not store on end or sides, or allow cartons to bend during storage or transportation.
- Install STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ flooring only after the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage a finished plank installation.
- Inspect your shipment of luxury vinyl flooring to ensure that all cartons are of the same lot / manufacturing run. Contact **Dixie Group 866-873-2875** with any discrepancies or assistance with locating this information.
- To minimize shade variation, mix and install planks from several different cartons.
- All subfloor/underlayment patching must be done with a non-shrinking, water-resistant Portland cement patching compound.
- Use an adhesive recommended for vinyl flooring. Consult with your retailer for more information.
- To prevent damage, flooring should be installed after all other major renovations. Fiber reinforced floor protectors are recommended to prevent any damaging while moving large and heavy items.
- Prior to laying floor, the area should be dry, smooth, level, structurally sound, and free of all contaminants, including, but not limited to: dust, solvents, paint, wax, oil, grease, residual adhesive, adhesive removers, curing, sealing, hardening or parting compounds, alkaline salts, excessive carbonation or laitance, mold, mildew.

SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

Proper subfloor preparation is critical for successful installation. Rough or uneven subfloor may telegraph through the flooring, resulting in an unsightly surface. Detailed instructions for subfloor testing and preparation, including a list of approved subfloor substrates can be found in the Addendum on the back side.

All substrates regardless of composition **MUST** be smooth and flat to within $\frac{3}{16}$ " (4.75mm) or achieve an "F32" rating by use of mechanical grinding/sanding or suitable Portland cement-based patching and leveling compounds.

WARNING!

DO NOT SAND, DRY SWEEP, BEADBLAST, SHOTBLAST OR USE ANY OTHER MECHANICAL MEANS TO PULVERIZE EXISTING TILE FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUT-BACK" OR ANY OTHER ADHESIVES. THESE PRODUCTS MAY CONTAIN ASBESTOS FIBERS AND/OR CRYSTALLINE SILICA. AVOID CREATING DUST. INHALATION OF SUCH 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 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.

INSTALLING STAINMASTER® PETPROTECT™ LUXURY VINYL FLOORING

Adhesives

Adhesives recommended for vinyl flooring are designed to be used on most interior installations over most concrete and wood substrates, and other approved substrates that are properly prepared and leveled.

Trowel-grade method

This method requires a trowel with a u-notch $\frac{1}{16}$ " x $\frac{1}{32}$ " x $\frac{1}{32}$ ".



1. For porous substrate installation, the adhesive should be allowed to dry to the touch sufficient to prevent slippage. Loss of adhesion can result if the flooring is not installed within the working time listed on the directions of the adhesive.
2. For non-porous installation, allow the adhesive to dry to the touch with no transfer of adhesive to the finger (approximately 20–30 minutes) and install the flooring within 60 minutes.

Do not install flooring into wet adhesives on non-porous substrates.

Aerosol spray-grade adhesive method

1. Recommended spray adhesive can be used on porous and non-porous substrates. Non-porous substrates may require a lighter application of adhesive and should be tested in a small area before beginning installation.
2. Spray pattern should be enough that one 22 oz. can produces a spread rate of 150 ft² for a permanent application and 185 ft² for a pressure sensitive application.
3. To apply the adhesive, shake the can well then point the can downwards

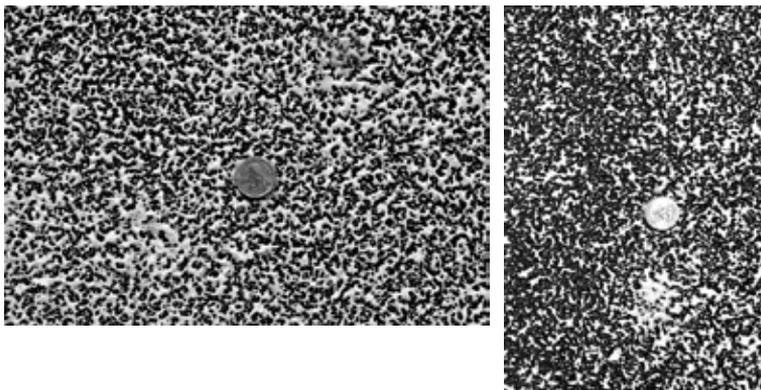
towards the floor. Press the side of the nozzle tip as you slowly walk back and forth to achieve full coverage (details of application listed in the "Installation of Flooring" Section below); **do not use a sweeping motion**. Clean up all drips when complete.

4. Allow the adhesive to dry completely to the touch with no transfer to fingers. Open time will vary according to spray pattern, substrate and ambient conditions.

5. Working time should not exceed 4 hours, so be cautious as to how large of an area is sprayed.

Coverage patterns: 150 ft² 185 ft²

(A quarter is shown in the picture for reference only).



Layout

1. Planks are best in appearance when lying parallel to the longest walls in the room.
2. Determine the center of the room by measuring each wall and marking the center of the walls. Chalk a line connecting the two opposing walls, measure to ensure the center point. At a right angle to the chalked line's center point, chalk another line out to the other walls.
3. Dry lay a section of flooring from the center line to one wall to determine that the pattern is centered and fit. Measure the border cuts along the wall and compare to the following criteria, then adjust where necessary:
 - a. Planks should never be less than 9 inches long or less than half of the width of the plank. Avoid small pieces in border areas and adjust the center lines to achieve the proper pattern.
 - b. Tiles should not be less than 6" in length or width. Avoid small pieces in border areas and adjust the center to achieve the proper pattern.
 - c. Tiles are designed to be laid in any fashion with the most popular being point-to-point and ashlar patterns. All tile sizes and patterns look best when the layout is balanced in the installed room.
4. Direct Glue Down products can be cut using a tile cutter or a utility knife. Keep knife blades sharp for easy, accurate and safe cuts. Fit planks to walls, columns, door jambs, etc. using the same methods other floor tiles; overlap, pattern scribe, wall scribe and free hand.
5. If necessary, light heat may be applied to achieve a cut. To do this, use the minimum heat setting of a standard hair drier and apply heat only to the back of the product. Cut carefully using a sharp utility knife.

Installation of flooring

1. It is recommended that you not work on the freshly installed flooring. Thus, start installing flooring from the wall opposite of the exit, and work towards that exit. Only spread enough adhesive that can be utilized before the initial set or tack. See adhesive container label for approximate times and further instruction.
2. Spread adhesives using the proper trowel notch; more adhesive is not a good thing with LV products.
 - a. **Plank installation:** Before spreading adhesive, strike a parallel chalk line to the centerline of the length of the room approximately 2' to 3' from the wall. Actual position is to be determined by the layout of the planks, ensure that the pattern is followed from your initial starting point determined in the dry layout performed earlier. If necessary, relay part of the pattern from centerline starting point to determine the exact measurement of the parallel line.

- b. **Tile installation:** Before spreading adhesive, strike lines parallel to the centerline approximately 2 tile widths from center on either side of the centerline. Tiles are best installed in a pyramid or grid by starting in the center of the room and working to the walls in sections. Keep the dry layout in mind when setting up the initial glue lines.
- c. Spread adhesive in an area that can be installed within the working time of the adhesive. Some slippage of the plank/tile may occur with a "wet" method. Be careful to follow layout lines and allow adhesive to set before rolling. See Section above for proper adhesive installation and use.
- d. After determining the starting point and spreading your adhesive; lay the flooring by tightly butting the edges of the pieces together, making sure that the runs are parallel to your centerline or layout lines.
- e. Be sure to stagger all end joints by at least 6" or the width of one plank. Vary the length of your planks during installation to ensure that end joints are not bunched and a randomness is achieved in the pattern.
- f. If you need to be directly on freshly laid planks, use of a kneeling board is recommended to evenly distribute weight across the planks and keep them from creeping in the wet adhesive.
- g. During installation, roll the floor with a 3-section 100 lb. roller to ensure proper transference of adhesive to the plank backing.
- h. Continue in this manner spreading only enough adhesive that can be safely installed within the working time of the adhesive.

Installing with grout

Product Handling and Limitations

1. Store grout indoors in a cool, dry location and keep away from excessive heat. Maintaining temperature range of 60° – 100°F (15° – 38°C) during use and drying.
2. Grout is freeze/thaw stable to –10°F. If grout does get frozen, slowly bring material back to room temperature and mix per instructions.
3. Follow all instructions, cautions, limitations, storage recommendations and usage recommendations of the grout manufacturer. Consult with grout manufacturer for latest instructions on use of their product. Use of a rigid rubber float is recommended.
4. Grout joints shall be a minimum of 1/16" and not greater than 3/16". Use spacers for consistency. Remove all spacers prior to applying grout.
5. Be sure you have the proper amount of grout before beginning the job. Approximate coverage of grout with STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl Direct Glue Down is shown in the table below.

Tile Size	Grout	Joint	Width
	1/16" (1.59 mm)	1/8" (3.18 mm)	3/16" (4.76 mm)
18" x 24" x .10" (457 x 610 x 2.5 mm)	1230 sq. ft. (114.27 m ²)	615 sq. ft. (27.87 m ²)	200 sq. ft. (18.58 m ²)
6" x 48" x .10" (152 x 1219 x 2.5 mm)	640 sq. ft. (59.46 m ²)	320 sq. ft. (29.73 m ²)	210 sq. ft. (19.51 m ²)

6. Tiles must be clean and well bonded to the substrate before grout is applied.
7. Wait 24 hours after installation to apply grout.
8. Do not use epoxy grouts, such as STAINMASTER™ Stain Proof Grout.

Installing the Grout

1. Area, including joints, must be clean, dry, and free of dirt, dust and debris.
2. Begin grouting in one corner of the work area away from the exit, working across the room and backwards toward the exit.
3. Grout no more than 10 square feet (3 square meters) at a time.
4. Using the rigid grout float, put a small amount of grout on the long edge of the float and firmly press the grout into the grout joint. **Do not work the grout across the face of the tile in a circular or swishing motion.** Continue to work in this manner around the edges of the tile in your working space.
5. Joints should be fully filled and free of gaps and voids. Grout should be flush with the bottom of the bevel or just below the edge of the finished edge of the tile.

6. Use the short edge of the grout to remove excess grout from the joints. Hold the float at a 90° angle and move diagonally down the length of the grout joint. Excess grout should be returned to the container for continued use.
7. Grout should be continually cleaned up during grouting. Use a clean, non-abrasive sponge specifically designed for grouting. Grout sponge should be damp-dry for optimal cleaning- do not introduce large amounts of water on the grout joints.

Initial grout cleaning (during installation for the small work area)

1. For best results, wait 10 minutes before beginning clean-up to allow the grout joint some time to firm up so it is not pulled out of the joint during clean-up process. Do not wait longer than 40 minutes.
2. To clean, first soak sponge in cool clean water. Wring out most excess water, then pat the surface of the tile with the damp sponge to loosen the film. Next, rinse the sponge in water a second time and wring out excess water completely.
3. Use the damp sponge in a light, circular motion to smooth joints and clean film from the tile. Avoid using excessive amounts of water on the grout joints.
4. Turn sponge over to a clean side and draw diagonally across tiles to remove any remaining film.
5. For optimal results, follow these final clean-up steps: moisten a towel with clean water, wring out excess, then drag a damp towel across surface diagonally. This will pick up remaining film.
6. If a light haze remains after cleaning, do not attempt to remove it with the sponge. Instead, leave the haze on the surface and remove the next day with a damp sponge. Haze will easily come off of most tile surfaces.

NOTES:

- If excess water is used in the sponge during clean-up, minor cracks or pinholes can develop. If the grout is over-worked, it may appear to shrink down into joint. Should any of these things occur, simply apply a second coat to the affected areas. You must allow your initial application to cure for 24 hours prior to your second application.

Restrict traffic on the finished grout for 24 hours (light foot traffic) and 72 hours for heavy traffic and pets. Allow 7 days for grout to achieve final cure which includes hardness and stain resistance. ALLOW 7 DAYS BEFORE EXPOSURE TO WATER.

Final Clean-up (if any haze exists)

- a. If a haze exists on the day after installation, simply wipe it clean with a damp sponge.
- b. If a sponge is not effective, use a soft, white scrub pad in a circular motion to remove the grout haze from the face of the tile. A small amount of mild detergent in warm water should be used also.
- c. Use a damp, clean sponge or white towel to wipe off the remaining grout haze, rinsing the sponge/towel often and changing the water often.

AFTER INSTALLATION

1. Be sure planks are set, flat and have tight edges.
2. Re-roll the entire installation along the perimeter and where adhesive was used with the 3-section 100 lb. roller. If necessary, weigh down any loose planks overnight to ensure bond.

Note: Adhesive can be carefully reactivated using a heat gun after drying to re-install planks.

3. Clean adhesive residue from the face of the flooring:
 - a. Wet adhesive residue can be wiped away with a clean, white cloth dampened with warm, soapy water. Do not use a soaked cloth as excess water can seep between the seams leading to adhesion failure.
 - b. Dry adhesive residue can be cleaned with a clean cloth and mineral spirits or denatured alcohol, used sparingly. Carefully follow the directions on the chemical's container. Improper use of any chemical can harm the finish of the flooring product. Do not pour soapy water, mineral spirits or denatured alcohol directly on the flooring.



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- c. Epoxy or urethane adhesives must be clean while wet according to the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, generally found on the container label.
4. Adhesives should be cured according to the following guidelines:
 - a. No foot traffic should take place for a minimum of 12 to 24 hours after installation. Failure to adhere to this guideline may result in shifting of planks, oozing of adhesive through seams or permanent indentations.
 - b. Do not allow heavy loads, rolling traffic, furniture or fixtures on the floor for 24-48 hours after installation.
 - c. The product warranty will be voided in the event that these are not properly followed.
5. In the event that the flooring installation is not the last portion of the construction project. Wait 24 hours then utilize a reinforced fiber protective board or a heavy kraft paper (min. 60 lbs.) and cover the floor. Failure to wait 24 hours before covering can impact adhesive curing.

MAINTENANCE

1. Wait 7 days after installation is completed and thoroughly clean the floor using a neutral pH cleaner. Rinse the floor thoroughly and allow to dry.
2. If necessary, a slow (175rpm) buffer can be utilized with a white, non-abrasive pad to remove heavier deposits.
3. Sweep, vacuum or dust mop the floor as needed to remove dust, dirt and grit. In high traffic areas, this may be a daily or twice daily procedure. Use only vacuums that do not have bristle beater bars.
4. Clean liquid spills immediately to prevent the possibility of stains, slips, or falls.
5. Damp mop the floor as needed to remove dirt and stains.
6. Use a neutral pH cleaner and a red pad if needed to remove ground in dirt. Soft bristle brushes can also be used on flooring with embossed surfaces.
7. Check STAINMASTER.com for more information on stain cleaning.

PREVENTATIVE STEPS

1. Use mats at all entry areas to keep dirt, sand and water off of the floor. Mats should have a non-staining back. Rubber backed mats are not recommended. Clean the mats on a regular basis.
2. Furniture shall use protective glides (of at least 1" in diameter) or felt pads to minimize the chance of indentations or scratching to the surface of the floor. Do not use narrow chair glides.
3. When moving heavy furniture, appliances or fixtures, use protective boards or appropriate furniture movers designed for use over hard surface flooring.

4. Protect the floor from direct sunlight by using appropriate window coverings.
5. Use chair mats at desks to prevent damage from chair legs or casters.
6. Avoid use of metal or razor scrapers to remove dirt, residues, or other marks from flooring. This will damage the protective wear layer of the vinyl flooring.

Accredited Organizations for Standard Practices

American Concrete Institute (ACI)
 P.O. Box 9094
 Farmington Hills, MI 48333
www.concrete.org

APA – The Engineered Wood Association (APA)
 7011 S. 19th Street
 Tacoma, WA 98466-5333
www.apawood.org

ASTM International
 100 Barr Harbor Drive
 West Conshohocken, PA, 19428-2959
www.astm.org

Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI)
 115 Broad Street, Suite 201
 La Grange GA 30240
www.rfci.org

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ADDENDUM

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The latest versions of all listed Standards, Guides and Work Practices shall be used in all cases.

ASTM F 710	Standard Practice for preparing Concrete floors to receive resilient flooring.
ASTM F 1482	Standard Practice for Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayment's to Receive Resilient Flooring.
ASTM F1869	Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride.
ASTM F 2170	Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs using In Situ Probes.
ASTM F2419	Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring.
ASTM F2471	Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Lightweight Cellular Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring.
ASTM F2659	Standard Guide for Preliminary Evaluation of Comparative Moisture Condition of Concrete, Gypsum Cement and Other Floor Slabs and Screeds Using a Non-Destructive Electronic Moisture Meter.
ASTM F2678	Standard Practice for Preparing Panel Underlayments, Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments, Thick Poured Lightweight Cellular Concrete Underlayments, and Concrete Subfloors with Underlayment Patching Compounds to Receive Resilient Flooring.
ACI 302	Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction.
RFCI	Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings.

APPROVED SUBSTRATES

The following are approved substrates for installation of STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl Direct Glue Down product . See the next section for proper testing and substrate preparation prior to installing your floor covering.

- Above, on or below grade concrete without hydrostatic pressure, excess moisture or alkalinity.
- Above or on grade lightweight concrete, properly prepared and without hydrostatic pressure, excess moisture or alkalinity.
- Above or on grade Gypsum concrete surfaces, properly prepared and sealed, and without hydrostatic pressure, excess moisture or alkalinity.
- APA registered underlayment, sanded face exterior grade with minimum rating of C-C plugged face.
- APA registered exterior grade plywood sanded face with ratings as follows: APA A-B, A-C, B-B, B-C, C-C plugged face.
- APA Approved / Rated OSB panels, minimum 23/32" thickness, properly installed. Must follow all OSB installation guidelines and only use recommended adhesives.
- Properly prepared and well bonded existing resilient floor covering, single layer only.
- Cement Terrazzo, ceramic tile, marble – see adhesive for proper preparation.
- Certain metal floors – see adhesive for proper types and preparation. May require use of a 2-part epoxy; contact **Dixie Group 866-873-2875** for assistance.
- Old adhesive residue.
- Radiant heated floors where heat does not exceed 85°F (29°C).
- Acoustical sound control underlayments branded or specifically recommended on www.stainmaster.com.

The following are not approved substrates for installing STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl Direct Glue Down product :

- Epoxy terrazzo. • Rubber, cork or asphalt tiles.
- Textured or cushion backed resilient flooring. •“Sleeper” floor systems.
- Plywood floors that have been installed directly over a concrete slab.
- Luan, particle or chip boards, CCA (pressure treated), oil treated or other coated plywood. •CDX or other plywood with knots or open defects.
- Underlayment made of pine or other soft woods.
- Masonite™ or other hardboard underlayment. •Hardwood flooring.
- Paint, wax, oil, grease, residual adhesive, mold, mildew, and other foreign materials that might prevent adhesive bond. •Other uneven or unstable substrates.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

Although this flooring is not susceptible to damage from moisture, excessive subfloor moisture should be remediated to prevent growth of mold, mildew and fungus, which can contribute to an unhealthy indoor living environment. All substrates must be properly prepared and tested according to the following guidelines.

Concrete Subfloors:

1. Concrete Subfloors shall be in accordance with ASTM F710 (latest version) Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring.
2. Concrete slab construction shall adhere to industry standards for concrete mixing, curing and drying, to prevent moisture problems.
3. On-grade and below-grade slabs should be installed with a suitable vapor retarder directly underneath the concrete slab.
4. New concrete shall be properly cured and dried prior to the installation of the flooring. Curing agents, surface hardeners and other membranes or compounds shall be mechanically removed immediately after initial cure to allow the slab to properly dry before installation. Approximately 30 days per 1" of slab thickness.
5. All concrete substrates, regardless of grade or age of slab, must be properly tested using one of the methods outlined for warranty to apply. Acceptable test method is the ASTM F 2170 In Situ Relative Humidity. Testing shall be conducted according to the relevant ASTM documentation and instructions of the manufacturer of the testing equipment. RH % of the slab should not exceed 75%.
6. Concrete Alkalinity / pH Test shall be conducted in accordance with ASTM standards and instructions provided by the adhesive manufacturer. Acceptable level of pH in the substrate is 7.
7. Surface porosity testing shall be conducted according to ASTM standards or adhesive manufacturer's guidelines. If no such guideline exists, an application of a few drops of clean, potable water shall be placed on the surface of the concrete in an area the approximate size of a dime or 5/8". If the water is absorbed within 2-3 minutes then the surface shall be deemed to be porous. If the water beads or is not absorbed then the slab shall be treated as non-porous

8. Concrete slabs shall be clean prior to installing floor coverings. Remove all sealers, curing agents and compounds, grease, oil, adhesive removers, old adhesive residue, dirt, paint, etc. to ensure a clean bond surface for the adhesives.
9. Concrete floors shall be smooth and level to prevent irregularities, roughness or other defects from telegraphing through the new resilient flooring. The surface of the slab shall be flat to within 3/16" in 10 feet. Slopes shall be less than 1/16" in 2 feet. Uneven areas should be mechanically ground to smoothness.
10. Cracks, depressions or other similar irregularities should be leveled using a suitable Portland cement based patching compound. Follow the patch manufacturer's instructions regarding mixing and applications.
11. Overly porous, dusty, flaky or soft concrete surfaces are not suitable for resilient floor coverings. It may be necessary to mechanically remove the top layer concrete in such cases and/or these surfaces may need to be primed and covered with a cement based underlayment compound. Follow the patching or leveling compound manufacturer's instructions regarding preparation of the concrete surface, priming, mixing of the product, thickness of application and drying time for resilient floor covering installation.
12. Expansion joints, isolation joints, control joints or other moving joints in the concrete slab shall not be filled with patching compound or covered with resilient flooring.

Gypsum and Lightweight Cellular Concrete Substrates

Gypsum and lightweight concrete subfloors and substrates should conform to appropriate ASTM standards.

Unprimed gypsum and gypcrete surfaces may have a dusty surface and an open, porous surface, which will lead to an adhesion failure, if not properly sealed and treated. It is the responsibility of the installation contractor to obtain verification from the general contractor, architect, owner or party responsible for the site that the gypsum was properly sealed with the gypsum manufacturer's recommended sealer. If this data is not available conduct testing according to the appropriate ASTM Test Method for Gypsum Surfaces.

1. Conduct a surface porosity test to ensure that the surface is properly sealed. If the water is quickly absorbed stop the installation and contact Dixie Group 866-873-2875 or www.stainmaster.com.
2. Check moisture content of the gypsum substrate via the appropriate method according to the ASTM Standards listed above. Moisture content of the subfloor/substrate shall not exceed the adhesive requirements or 75% RH or 3 lbs./1,000 sqft./24 hrs. MVER. When using the D4263 Test Method, no discoloration of the surface should be found.
3. All patching compounds shall be recommended for use with gypsum, gypcrete or lightweight cellular concrete surfaces by the patching compound manufacturer. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding mixing, use and application.
4. All gypsum surfaces must be properly primed according to the gypsum manufacturer's instructions; or where applicable follow the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer if there is no recommendation from the gypsum manufacturer.

Wood Subfloors

1. All wood substrates shall be prepared according to ASTM F1482-04 *Installation and Preparation of Panel Type Underlayments to Receive Resilient Flooring*.
2. All wood panels for use under STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring must be smooth, flat, structurally sound and free of deflection.
3. A combination of wood subfloor and panel underlayment construction shall be a minimum of 1" in total thickness.
4. There shall be at least 18" of well-ventilated air space beneath all wood subfloors. Crawl spaces shall be insulated and protected by a suitable vapor barrier.
5. Wood subfloors installed directly on concrete or over "sleeper" joist systems are not acceptable for use under STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring.
6. Panels designed as suitable underlayment shall be at a minimum 1/4" in thickness, dimensionally stable, fully sanded face to eliminate grain texture or show through, and have a written manufacturer's warranty and installation instructions.
7. Panels shall be installed according to manufacturer's instructions regarding stapling pattern, sanding and filling of joints, and acclimation to installed environment.
8. The warranty will not cover or accept responsibility for joint telegraphing, either as a "ridge" or "valley"; grain or texture telegraphing; discoloration of finished flooring due to materials used for filling of voids and defects in the face of the underlayment.

9. Unacceptable substrates shall be covered using a 1/4" or thicker panel underlayment recommended for commercial use. Follow underlayment manufacturer's installation instructions fully.

Existing Resilient Flooring

1. When installing STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring over existing resilient floors, the existing flooring must be:
 - a. Single layer only
 - b. Thoroughly stripped of all wax, floor finish, dirt and other contaminants that may affect adhesive bond
 - c. Be firmly bonded to the substrate
 - d. Flat and smooth with no curling edges or loose seams
 - e. Dry and free from excessive moisture. All concrete floors shall be tested for moisture regardless of age or grade level. Do not assume that an existing floor is free of moisture related issues. Conduct testing per Section 1.d above.
 - f. Must not be of a cushion back, loose lay, or perimeter bonded floor
2. Problems leading to or from indentations, telegraphing of old floor or adhesion release of old floor after the STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring is installed are not the responsibility of the manufacturer.

Old Adhesives

1. Adhesive residue shall be properly prepared prior to the installation of STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring. It is recommended that mechanical scraping or grinding be used as a primary means of removing old adhesive residue.
2. Residues include, but are not limited to carpet, vinyl, VCT, and/or wood flooring adhesives.
3. Black cutback/asphalt adhesives shall be scraped by hand to remove any loose patches, trowel ridges and puddles so that only a thin residue layer remains. This layer shall then be properly covered using a Portland based patching compound properly mixed with the manufacturer's recommended latex/acrylic additive.
4. If chemical/liquid adhesive removers are utilized, the manufacturer's recommended instructions for cleaning after use of the remover shall be followed fully. The manufacturer is not responsible for any adhesive failures, indentation, bubbling, or delamination of new flooring due to improper cleaning of residue left from liquid adhesive removers.

Other substrates

1. Cement terrazzo, epoxy terrazzo flooring, stained or painted concrete and metal floors may be suitable for installation and need to be properly prepared for adhesion. Most will need to be prepared with a suitable Portland-based cement patching compound, see manufacturer's recommendations for use and preparation of subfloor.
Dixie Group, PO Box 2007, Dalton, GA 30722 or call 866-873-2875 for these installations.
2. Ceramic, porcelain, marble and granite tiles are suitable as substrates when the following conditions are met:
 - a. Tiles must be properly bonded with intact grout joints and free of cracks
 - b. Surface of tile and grout joints should be free from sealers, coatings, dirt and contaminants.
 - c. Properly prepare the surface of tiles by grinding any high areas and using a suitable Portland-based leveling compound and primer to fill in all low areas. Follow leveling compound manufacturer's recommendations for surface preparation and application of product.
3. The following are not suitable substrate s for installation of STAINMASTER® PetProtect™ Luxury Vinyl flooring: rubber, cork, or asphalt tiles; and any other material covered in the sections above and listed as unsuitable.
4. Unsuitable substrates should be covered with an approved 1/4" wood underlayment or suitable Portland-based cement leveler or patching compound. Always follow the manufacturer's recommended practices when covering an existing substrate.