

# Installation Instructions

## Hybrid Plank 2G

### ATTENTION:

Please review all of the information before installing this product. Safe working practices must be followed throughout the installation. PPE should be worn as required. Warranty claims are subjected to following the installation instructions and care & maintenance recommendations.

### A. GENERAL

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1. Hybrid planks are suitable for use in residential settings or commercial areas such as hotels, conference rooms, healthcare, childcare, education, small offices, small department stores, boutiques, and lobbies. This product is designed for internal installation only – it is NOT to be installed in areas that have potential for flooding, such as bathrooms, laundries, areas with a floor waste, saunas, or outdoor areas. This product is not suitable for installation in garages. ALL Hybrid / Rigid Core products installed in wet areas including bathrooms and laundries do not meet the National Construction Code (NCC) and Australian Standard 3740:2021
2. Inspect all planks in good lighting before installation. Defective planks must not be installed, otherwise it is recognised as acceptance of all visual and obvious defects.
3. Hybrid planks grow and shrink with temperature changes. It is important to condition and install the flooring between 15-28°C to prevent excessive growth and contraction during periods of high and low temperatures.
4. Special attention needs to be given to areas where direct sunlight from floor to ceiling windows can significantly raise the temperature of the floor. It is recommended that blinds, tints or window curtains are used to protect the floor from the heat of the direct sun.
5. Adhesives, silicone, and caulking compounds are not to be used for this product as it is a click floating system. Adhesives or any other materials that restrict expansion and contraction of the floor raft will void warranties.
6. Do not install kitchen benches, cabinetry fittings or heavy items on top of the Hybrid planks. This will pin the floor in place and prevent it from floating freely.
7. Install a 200-micron plastic sheet over rough subfloors such as chipboard to ensure the product's backing does not get caught on the rough subfloor and provides the required movement capability required for a floating floor.
8. Dunlop Flooring strongly recommends that installation is to be carried out by a professional installer.
9. Maintaining the temperature within the recommended installation temperature is crucial. Special attention needs to be given to the properties that are closed for extended periods.

### B. PREPARATION

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#### Acclimatisation

10. It is best practice to acclimatise planks on site where they will be installed for 24 hours prior to installation. The temperature must be kept between 15-28°C and relative humidity (RH) between 40-65%. The temperature of the boards, room and subfloor must also be kept between 15-28°C during installation. Store and transport cartons on a flat surface in neat stacks.

#### Subfloor

11. All substrates must be, structurally sound, plain, smooth, clean, and dry (Australian Standard AS1884:2021).
12. Structurally Sound: This product can be installed onto concrete subfloors and existing timber sub floors, provided they are not cushioned and are dimensionally stable (Refer to Timber Sub floor section). Hybrid Planks can be installed over existing PVC, Linoleum and Ceramic Tiles. Carpet, carpet underlay and/or existing



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floating floors are not a suitable subfloor. Foam underlays, floating floor underlays are not to be used with hybrid planks as it may compromise the locking system. Hybrid comes with its own built-in underlay, no additional underlay required.

13. Plain: Deviations in any subfloor level must not exceed 2mm under a 1 lineal metre straight edge. Raised points must be sanded/ground down and depressions filled using levelling compound.
14. Smooth/Abrupt deviation tolerance: Must not exceed 1mm over a 150mm straight edge on concrete, wood and slate subfloors. Raised points must be sanded/ground down and depressions filled using levelling compound.
15. Clean: Ensure the subfloor is clean, the subfloor should be vacuumed thoroughly to remove any loose materials, prior to installation.
16. Dry: It is essential that the moisture content of any subfloor complies with Australian Standard 1884:2021 a maximum of 80% relative humidity (RH) for concrete subfloors and 10 – 14% moisture content for wood subfloors. A high reading of RH or Moisture Content (MC) will result in an installation failure.
17. If proper testing is not being performed, install a continuous damp-proof PE Film (builders' plastic) of 200 micron between the subfloor and Hybrid LVT flooring.
18. A new concrete floor must dry at least 1 week per 1cm thickness up to 4 cm. Thickness over 4 cm require twice as much drying time. For example, a 6 cm concrete subfloor must dry at least 8 weeks. As the drying times are dependent on climate conditions and the ventilation of the building, these timings are only indicative.
19. Timber sub floor: Hybrid planks can be installed on particleboard or strip timber subfloors; however, the installation of a 200-micron black builders' plastic must be installed under the Hybrid Planks to ensure the product's backing does not grip on the fibrous subfloor. Existing timber floors should be securely fixed, to minimise the risk of squeaking.
20. Tile sub floor: For existing Terrazzo, Marble, Slate and other textured non-porous surfaces, the surface should be plane and smooth. For existing Ceramic and Porcelain Tiles grout joints wider than 1mm and deeper than 1mm should be filled with an appropriate levelling compound. The floor must be sound and firmly fixed, and any loose or powdery material removed from the joints. Any loose tiles should be removed and repaired to a structurally sound condition.
21. Heated sub floor: Always refer to the underfloor heating system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance on installing Hybrid flooring and the compatibility with their system. It is not recommended to install hybrid plank flooring over an electrical underfloor heating system. For Hydronic underfloor heating systems, the following instructions should be complied with, (a) Before installing over the newly installed heating system, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the subfloor (b) Once this has been completed, switch off the heating system for installation of the flooring (c) It is recommended that the heat be applied in a gradual manner after installing the flooring (d) Ensure the surface temperature never exceeds 28°C.
22. 3mm Rubber & Cork acoustics underlays: Hybrid flooring is a floating floor which must float freely on the sub floor. A cork or rubber crumb acoustic underlay may cause friction with the foam backing on the planks. 200-micron black builders' plastic must be installed under the Hybrid Planks to ensure the product's backing does not grip on the cork or rubber underlay. Dunlop Flooring recommends 3mm Advantage 3 underlay.
23. Hybrid Planks are manufactured to a consistent length with a limited pattern repeat. To achieve the most natural and realistic finish the planks should be laid randomly across the floor. This will result in a more natural looking floor, minimising pattern repeat.
24. The boards should be fitted to run the length of the longest, straightest wall. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways. Before laying commences, carefully measure the length and width of the rooms and hallways, plan the layout so the floors look balanced and ensuring borders are not less than half a plank width from the wall.

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### C. INSTALLATION

25. A perimeter expansion gap of a minimum of 10 mm is required around perimeter walls, permanent fixtures (benches, cabinetry, door frames, pipes, etc.). This gap can be covered with skirting, scotia or other profiles available. No fillers such as silicone or caulking agents are to be used in the installation of Hybrid Flooring, as it will not allow the floor to float, expand and contract as it is designed to do. Skirting boards and door frames must be removed or undercut to allow for expansion. Never attach the skirting boards or scotia to the floor. This method does not allow the floor to expand and contract under the skirting boards/scotia. A clear visible gap between flooring and skirting boards/scotia, trims must be maintained. Firm fitting of skirting boards/scotia can also restrict the expansion and contraction of the boards. It is recommended a scotia / skirting of 15mm – 20mm is used as the floor may contract during colder periods / seasons allowing for coverage. Dunlop Flooring offer a matching 20mm scotia for our Hybrid Plank ranges, that will cover these expansion gaps.

26. Compartmentalisation: In doorways/opening between adjoining rooms, the use of expansion joints must be utilised to compartmentalise the flooring to allow the area in the adjoining room to expand and contract independently. An individual raft cannot exceed 15m in length and 10m in width and must be compartmentalised by expansion joints.



*\*This is an example of compartmentalising the flooring. Please be aware every dwelling is different and requires individual consideration.*

### Installation steps

27. These planks utilise an innovative 2G Angle to Angle locking mechanism. For more information and installation videos please visit Valinge 2G install instruction.



28. It is recommended to use an angle of between 20–30° when installing long and short sides. The boards can be installed using angle technique either pulling or pushing the boards to engage.
29. Firstly, angle the short side male into the female by supporting the plank at an angle of 20 – 30 °, once engaged, lower the plank to the subfloor. Secondly, slide the board toward the long side of the next board you want to engage into. Push / Pull the short end forward to get as close as possible to the long side of the board you are going to connect to. This should be done as straight as possible to allow the short end joint to slide towards the long side of the board it is to be joined to, without friction or damage. Thirdly, once the long side of the plank being added is as close as possible and lined up / parallel to the long side of the plank it is to be joined to. Ensure the male is in the female the whole way along the long joint. Then engage by pushing or pulling into place. The board should now sit flat. Visually check for no gapping or lipping. Run your hand along the joins to ensure it is smooth and level.
30. Start with the first plank that will be installed in the corner. For planks of the first row, remove the click profile on the long side that will allow the plank body to sit directly next to the wall. Any side of a plank that is directly next to a wall, must have its click profile removed, to ensure the required expansion gap of 10mm is maintained.
31. To make the start of the installation easier, assemble the first 3 rows away from the wall. Then slide the first 3 rows at the wanted position close to the wall with the required 10 mm distance spacers in place. Take a string line and hold it alongside the installed planks to check and adjust the straightness of your installed

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first 3 rows. It is recommended to make added checks throughout the install.

32. Note: End joins should never be closer than 300mm to the end joins of parallel rows (offset). This weakens the stability of the floating installation and effects the aesthetics of the finished install.

### D. FINISHING OFF

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33. At doorways, a door threshold strip to be used to protect the edges of the floor and supply a decorative transition from one floor type to another.

