

# CALI<sup>®</sup> vinyl hang loose



Golden Walk Oak

**Installation Guide: Glue Down**

(888) 788-2254  
CALIFloors.com

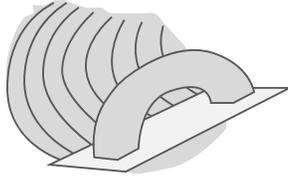
# GLUE DOWN INSTALL GUIDE

## CALI Vinyl Hang Loose Glue Down Pre-Installation

Before you begin installation, remember to P.A.C.E. yourself with the checklist below. Full installation instructions and maintenance guidelines can also be found online at [CALIFloors.com](http://CALIFloors.com)

**P**A C E

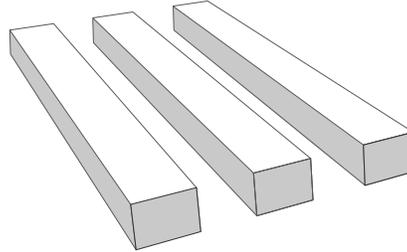
**PREPARE  
THE SUBFLOOR**



The subfloor must be dry, full cured, and free of hydrostatic pressure. See instructions below regarding moisture testing your subfloor. A moisture barrier may be necessary. Make sure the subfloor is flat, clean and free of debris.

**P**A C E

**ACCLIMATE  
FLOORING**



### Acclimate your flooring for 48 hours

Lay boxes flat on the floor as shown above. Acclimate your flooring in a temperature range of 65° to 85° for 48 hours as close to the center of the installation area as possible. Do not acclimate in direct sunlight or near vents

**P**A C E

**CONTROL  
ENVIRONMENT**

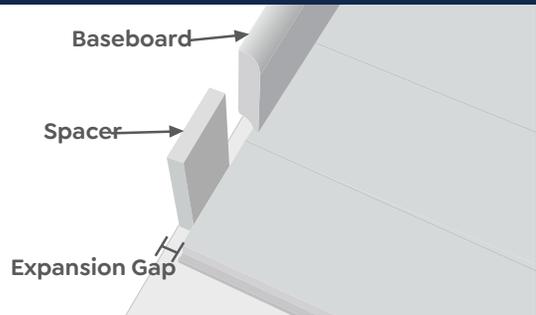


 65° - 85°F

Hang Loose can be used in areas ranging from 65°-85°

**P**A C E

**EXPANSION  
GAPS**



No Expansion space is required for Loose Lay, 1/8" expansion space required for full spread glue installation.

## CALI Vinyl Hang Loose Glue Down Pre-Installation

### Prepare Job Site, Acclimation, Control Subfloor Moisture, Environmental Conditions.

Proper installation & maintenance are key to achieving the best flooring results. It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to follow all guidelines provided by CALI for success. Please read through this document completely.

### Note: Flooring not used for its intended purpose will not be covered under warranty.

- Installer/Owner assumes all responsibility to inspect flooring before installation.
- During installation, it is the installer's responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, site relative humidity, temperature and subfloor moisture content. For a complete list of points to address prior to installation, refer to ASTM F1482 and ASTM F710.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry.
- Never nail or screw anything through a FLOATED floor.

### Transport, Storage, Acclimation

- Transport and store cartons in lay down, flat position.
- Stack boxes no more than 13 cartons high. Keep away from direct sunlight, vents etc., preferably in the center of the installation area.
- If not installing right away, flooring must be stored in a dry location on the pallet it was received on. We recommend covering with a tarp.
- Room temperature and relative humidity must be consistent with year-round living conditions for at least 5 days prior to installation.
- Allow flooring to acclimate unopened, in original packaging on a flat surface as close to the installation area as possible for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Temperature range must be 65° to 85°

### Pre-Installation Preparation

Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage. Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied do not install, and contact your supplier. CALI is not responsible for flooring that is installed with visible defects.

### Recommended Tools

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Tape measure               | • Trowel   |
| • Chalk line                 | • 10-ft metal straight edge or laser level                   |
| • Utility knife              | • Adhesive trowel  |
| • Pencil                     | • Optional; fine-toothed jigsaw or a guillotine style cutter |
| • Safety Glasses             |  |
| • Dust Mask                  |  |
| • 100lb three-section roller | We recommend using the score and snap method for your cuts.  |

## Subfloor Requirements

### Acceptable Subfloor Types

- 1" CD exposure 1 plywood (grade stamped US PS 195)
- OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood (for glue down, must be sanded to its raw state)
- Ceramic tile (must fill in grout lines with a compatible patch compound. For glue down, confirm with manufacturer of adhesive any necessary subfloor preparations required for compatibility)
- Linoleum & Sheet vinyl (Non-cushioned and free of polish)

### Wood subfloors

- Must be securely fastened. A best practice is to nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking.
- The subfloor must be flat within 3/16" within a 10ft radius.
- If leveling is needed, sand down high spots and fill in low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.
- The subfloor must consist of a minimum of ¼" flooring-grade plywood overlay.
- The subfloor must be rigid, free from movement.
- Sleeper systems must not be in direct contact with concrete or exposed earth.
- Plywood joints should be smoothed over using a cement based skim coat or patch.
- The ground beneath the subfloor must be covered by a suitable vapor barrier.
- Test your plywood subfloor with a moisture meter set to the appropriate wood species. If your plywood subfloor is reading higher than 13% moisture, find and correct the source of moisture intrusion before continuing installation.
- Crawl spaces must have a minimum of 6mil polyethylene sheeting covering any exposed earth.
- Crawl spaces must have adequate ventilation and a minimum of 18" air space between the ground and the floor joists.

### Concrete Subfloors

- Concrete subfloors must be fully cured and at least 60 days old, preferably 90 days old.
- Must be flat within 3/16" within a 10ft radius
- If leveling is needed, grind down high spots and level low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.
- Thoroughly clean and ensure there is no paint, tape, old adhesive, etc. Do not use a chemical adhesive remover to remove substances from the floor as this may affect the adhesive bond.
- Concrete alkaline levels must be between 5.0 and 9.0 PH. The subfloor must not have Alkali Silicate Reaction. Prepare the subfloor according to "ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring.
- The subfloor must be free of hydrostatic pressure.
- All on and below grade slabs must have a confirmed & effective vapor retarder installed directly underneath the slab that meets the requirements of "ASTM 31745 Standard Specification for Water Vapor Retarders Used in Contact with Soil or Granular Fill under Concrete Slabs".

### Important

CALI Vinyl Plank flooring is waterproof, however moisture intrusions from concrete hydrostatic pressure, flooding, or plumbing leaks, along with high levels of alkalinity can affect the floor over time. Moisture can also be trapped below the flooring and create mold or mildew, prevent adhesive bond, and/or cause the floor to fail. The installer, not CALI, is responsible for making sure the concrete moisture and alkalinity are suitable prior to installing this floor. For proper working practices please refer to ASTM F2170.

NOTE: Damage caused by using a moisture barrier not provided by CALI is not covered under warranty.

## Radiant Heat Systems

CALI Vinyl flooring is only recommended for use over radiant heat systems if the special requirements specified by the radiant heat manufacturer's guidelines are met. Ensuring stable job site conditions, subfloor suitability, and proper acclimation are especially important when installing over a radiant heat system. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure that the recommended environmental conditions are met for installation. Refer to your radiant heat system manufacturer to determine its compatibility with vinyl flooring, and to learn the specific requirements for installation. For more detailed information about radiant heat systems, visit the Radiant Heat Professionals Alliance (RPA) at <https://www.radiantprofessionalsalliance.org/>.

- Because of the wide variety of systems on the market (Hydronic, embedded in concrete, electrical wire/coil, heating film/mat) each with its own features and applications it is recommended that the user consult with the radiant heating provider for best practices, installation methods and proper subfloors.
- Radiant heat system must be turned on and in operation for at least one week before installation.
- The system must be turned down to 65°F and maintained 24 hours prior to installation.
- Once install is complete, turn system back on and slowly bring back up to normal operating temperature over a period 4-5 days. Increase the temperature in 5 degree increments to avoid overheating.
- Floor should never be heated over 85°F. Consult with your radiant heating system manufacturer to successfully limit the maximum temperature.
- Always remember that rugs placed over radiant heated flooring can increase the surface temperature in that area by 3°- 5°F degrees.
- Relative Humidity must be maintained between 20-80%.
- When turning off the radiant heat system it must be turned down slowly at a rate of 1.5° degrees per day. You should never just turn the system off.

## CALI Loose-Lay Perimeter Grid Installation

This installation method is recommended for light foot traffic, non-commercial and stable in-room climates.

1. Apply a 4" strip of pressure-sensitive adhesive to all perimeter walls and door thresholds.
2. Apply further 4" strips of adhesive at intervals of 13', parallel to each perimeter wall, to create a grid pattern on the subfloor.
3. Once the adhesive has dried to a tacky state, place planks onto the drying adhesive along the grid pattern by fitting planks tight to the wall and to each other.
4. Start your next row with a cut plank. Maintain a minimum distance of 6" between end seams of the previous row for optimal aesthetics and structural integrity.
5. Continue to lay the planks making sure each plank is flush against the adjoining plank.
6. Continue process until installation is complete.

## CALI Loose-Lay Full Coverage Installation

This is recommended for general foot traffic, light commercial, and stable- in room climates.

1. Start out by pouring adhesive onto the subfloor. Make sure you do not pour out too much at one time. CALI does not recommend spreading more than an arm's length (6 to 8 feet) worth of adhesive at a time. This will help to ensure the glue does not flash over before you can adhere the planks.
2. Fit planks together tightly against the wall and to each other, but be careful not to let installed floor move on the wet adhesive while you are working. Repeat these steps as you move along with the installation.
3. Start your next row with a cut plank. Maintain a minimum distance of 6" between end seams and the previous row for optimal aesthetics and structural integrity.
4. Continue to lay the planks making sure each plank is flush against the adjoining planks.
5. Continue process until installation is complete.

1. Start by spreading the adhesive at the intersection of the chalk lines using the notched trowel held at a 45-degree angle to the subfloor.
  - If using a trowel, ensure complete coverage with the ridges of the trowel.
  - If using a roller, pour or spread the adhesive directly onto the subfloor in a manageable working area.
2. Once adhesive has dried to a tacky state, place planks onto the drying adhesive along the designated start line, tapping the surface of each plank firmly with a rubber mallet to ensure good contact with the adhesive.

**Quick Tip! Stagger your starting plank length and pull from multiple boxes to create a visually pleasing design**

3. Start your next row with a cut plank. Maintain a minimum distance of 6" between end seams of the previous row for optimal aesthetics and structural integrity.
4. Continue to lay the planks making sure each plank is flush against the adjoining plank working your way out to the wall.
5. Continue this process until installation is complete.
6. Within an hour of laying the planks, use the 100lb roller to firmly press down and roll over the installed area in both directions. This helps ensure even adhesive coverage, eliminates air pockets & creates a strong bond.

**Quick Tip! Keep the adhesive free from dust & dirt during long open times as it can affect the bonding strength. Titebond 675 can be kept open no longer than 3 hours.**

## Post-Installation/Floor Care Maintenance:

- For general cleaning, dry or damp mop as needed using Bona Pro Stone Tile & Laminate Floor Cleaner or a similar product.
- Never use a steam mop or wet-mop as standing water may cause permanent damage and the heat from the steam mop may dull the finish. The moisture from the dampened mop should evaporate off the floor quickly.
- Although CALI Vinyl flooring is waterproof, it is still a best practice to avoid excess moisture on the floor. Therefore, we recommend soaking up spills immediately using a dry towel or dry mop.
- To clean up dried glue use either Bostik Ultimate Adhesive Remover or Titebond Adhesive Remover cleaning wipes.

### Preventative Care:

- Vacuum or sweep the floor with a broom or dust mop on a regular basis or as needed to remove dirt, sand, and grit and prevent scratches. Avoid dragging debris like small rocks across the floor while sweeping.
- Do not use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off; brush or felt vacuum heads are recommended as opposed to hard heads.
- Keep pet nails trimmed to avoid excessive scratching.
- To prevent indentations and scratches, remove small diameter buttons/ends from furniture legs and replace with felt tipped non-staining floor protectors with a surface no less than 1" in diameter. Heavier objects may require wider floor protectors. Periodically check the felt tips for wear or buildup of grit/debris and replace as needed.
- Fit rolling furniture with soft rubber casters with a diameter of at least 2".
- When moving large appliances or furniture, use proper dollies, glides, or 1/8" Masonite with the shiny side down –do not slide or drag across the floor. Rolling appliances across the floor or using heavy load bearing carts with small wheels may damage the vinyl floor.
- Use interior and exterior doormats at entrances to prevent dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the floor. Area rugs are also recommended in front of kitchen sinks and in high traffic areas. Rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment. We recommend using a breathable rug underlay; mesh or grid patterns are best. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings as this may damage the finish.

- Limit direct sunlight on the floor by using curtains and blinds in areas that are exposed to high UV rays.
- Abrasive or harsh chemicals should not be used to clean the floor. Never use any of the following products: mineral spirits, paint thinner, acetone, ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, detergents, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials such as vinegar. Never apply wax treatments to the floor.
- Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause “hot spots” which must be eliminated prior to installation.
- Heavy furniture (500+ lbs.) may obstruct the free, natural movement of a floated floor.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry and never nail or screw anything through a floated floor.
- Lighter colors and darker colors naturally show more dirt, flaws, and marks and are considered higher maintenance flooring colors.