

# **REGA HERRINGBONE VINYL FLOORING**

INSTALLATION AND USER INSTRUCTIONS



# **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR FLOOR PANELS - BEFORE INSTALLATION.**

# VISUAL INSPECTION

Before installation, ensure that the product has been inspected for damage, defects or alterations. Check that the colours correspond to those ordered, that the quantities are correct and that there is no visible damage to the boxes. Check the REGA floor panels for visible defects during installation. Do not install panels that show any imperfections. We recommend that you always use materials from one production batch for each installation, as we cannot guarantee shade matching between different batches. Please note that some patterns may undergo natural variations. We also recommend mixing panels within a single pack or between packs.

# GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR REGA FLOOR PANELS.

## SUITABILITY FOR INSTALLATION

- REGA floor panels can be laid on concrete, cement screed, anhydrite (calcium sulphate), wood, plywood, chipboard and ceramic tiles that are reasonably flat and smooth or have been suitably prepared (see Surface preparation).
- REGA floor panels can be used in conjunction with suitable underfloor heating and cooling systems. Electrical systems, including
  infra-red systems, are not recommended unless the system's cables are immersed in a suitable levelling compound with a
  minimum thickness of 9 mm. Direct contact with electrical heating systems should be avoided. The surface temperature
  must never exceed 27°C. If in doubt, seek professional advice.
- REGA floor panels are only suitable for indoor installation.
- Seasonal thermal conditions: REGA floor panels can be used in most temperature-controlled locations such as conservatories and summer houses. The temperature should be maintained between 10°C (min.) and 30°C (max.). Installation is still possible if temperatures are outside this range, see note at the end of this document (\*).

## SURFACE COMPOSITION, STRUCTURE AND QUALITY

Knowing the composition and structure of the underlying surface or base provides valuable information to correctly check the permissible moisture content, compressive and tensile strength of the base surface. In addition, it indicates how to prepare the floor, the type of levelling compound or putty and any moisture barrier that may be needed during the installation process. If there is any ambiguity or doubt as to the quality or composition of the base surface, please contact the manufacturer or supplier of the levelling compound or putty.

## NATIONAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Site conditions should always comply with the relevant national regulations and standards for installation.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

## Surface irregularities

Proper preparation of the surface will ensure a trouble-free installation. This is essential for a perfect finish of the REGA floor panels. The appearance of the REGA panels will only be as good as the quality of the surface on which they are installed. Although REGA floor panels are perfectly suitable for renovating even those surfaces, which are not fully level, some major irregularities, bumps, and sudden changes in the level of the surface can also appear on the finished floor. Proper preparation before installation is essential.

The base surface must be hard, firm, relatively flat, clean and dry, free from irregularities and defects, and suitable for the intended purpose. If necessary, old adhesive residue and loose or unbound levelling compound should be scraped away and removed. Ensure that the surface is free from chemicals and other contaminants.



The irregularity of the surface level must not exceed 5mm over the length of 2m (in the United Kingdom this corresponds to a surface regularity of 2 (SR2)) and the measurement must be carried out with a straight-edge or a spirit level. REGA floor panels are able to cover the surfaces' small holes – up to 20mm wide, grout, joints, and cracks – up to 20mm wide.



Suitable plywood or levelling compound must be selected to prevent the sudden appearance of unevenness on the surface of the finished floor. However, the selection of suitable materials, including plywood, putty or levelling compounds and any ancillary products, depends on the practical use of the area and should be agreed between the supplier of the preparation materials and the flooring installer. All materials used in floor preparation should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with national standards for resilient floor coverings.

## Surface moisture content

REGA floor panels are moisture resistant, but best practice must be implemented to avoid the growth of bacteria and mould under the floor covering:

Concrete and stone surfaces lying directly on the ground should have an effective damp-proof membrane (DPM) in accordance with national standards for resilient floor coverings. If necessary, follow the manufacturer's detailed guidelines for the installation of the applied DPM surface and the use of levelling compound.



The moisture content of the underlying surface should be in accordance with local or national standards for the installation of resilient floor coverings. If in doubt, seek further professional advice. Important: Floor installation should not begin until the installer has assessed and accepted the underlying surface and installation conditions.

## Acclimatisation



REGA floor panels require 48 H acclimating before installation in rooms and standard conditions, see the note at the end of this document (\*).

Unpack the REGA floor panels and inspect them in daylight for any defects or discrepancies in colour. In the event of defects that are apparent prior to installation, the Manufacturer will never be liable for the costs of laying down the panels and transport.

#### Temperature before and during installation

The standard installation instructions apply for standard rooms and conditions, see the note at the end of this document (\*).

#### **UNDERFLOOR HEATING**



REGA floor panels can be used with conventional water-based underfloor heating and cooling systems. The use of electric systems is not recommended unless the manufacturer or installer of the UFH system guarantees that the surface temperature will not exceed 27°C, the temperature rise will be gradual or progressive and the temperature will not rise suddenly or immediately.

**Note**: Infra-red-based electrical systems require special attention, they heat up immediately and can transfer heat to very specific parts or layers of the floor covering, leading to unpredictable behaviour associated with a potential fire risk. If in doubt, seek further professional advice.

## UNDERFLOOR COOLING

REGA floor panels can also be installed on underfloor cooling systems. However, the supply temperature of the cooling water must not fall below the dew point temperature. A temperature below this point will cause condensation and may accumulate moisture under the floor covering, which may promote the growth of mould etc.

## RECOMMENDED UNDERLAY

VOX REGA flooring has an integrated 1 mm IXPE underlay – no other underlay should be used.

# START OF INSTALLATION

## **EXPANSION GAP REQUIRED**

- REGA floor panels form a 'floating' floor. The floor panels should not be glued or fixed to the surface.
- An expansion gap of 10 mm floor width must be provided in each direction and taken into account along the perimeter of the room or area in 'standard rooms and conditions', see note below the table and at the end of this document (\*).

Standard rooms and conditions are rooms with a temperature of 6 to 35°C, e.g. without direct sunlight behind glass in rooms with a sunshade coating.

Extreme rooms and conditions are areas with potential surface temperatures of 0 to 60°C, such as conservatories, unoccupied holiday homes, etc. When installing in an 'extreme room' according to the above definition at temperatures above 25°C, an expansion gap such as in a 'standard room' is allowed in order to avoid too large a gap at lower temperatures.

Please refer to the note at the end of this document for more detailed information on standard rooms and conditions (\*).

In the case of fitted skirting boards which should not be removed, it is possible to cut off the lower part of the skirting board with a specialised trimming tool available on the market.



Before installation, the substrate should be thoroughly swept or vacuumed, removing all debris.

# STEP-BY-STEP INSTALLATION OF REGA FLOOR PANELS.

#### Recommended tools:

- Measuring tape
- Pencil
- Straight-edge or string
- Set square
- Punching tool
- Sturdy tool knife
- Nylon or rubber mallet
- Spacers for lining up the first rows straight on an uneven wall



All panels should be inspected prior to and throughout installation. Do not use any defective or damaged panels.



Each pack contains 16 panels – 8 of Type A and 8 of Type B.

Panels are marked on the short edge joint as A or B for easier identification.

Type A and B panels should be sorted separately before installation.

It is crucial during installation to ensure that Type A and B panels are placed in the correct positions within each row.

1. Connect the first Type B board at a 45-degree angle to the first Type A board, forming a classic 'V' shape.



2. Take the second Type A board and position it to the right of the V shape, sliding it into place.



3. Place the second Type B board to the left of the V shape, pressing it into place. Then, place the third Type A board to the right of the V shape, pressing it into place.



4. Draw a straight line from the top right corner of the third Type A board to the top right corner of the fourth Type A board, then cut along this line to create an inverted triangle.



5. Starting from the centre of the back wall, work outwards, placing the inverted triangles and leaving a 10 mm gap along the back and side walls. For the final inverted triangle along the left and right walls, in the case of Section a, ensure you measure and maintain a 10 mm expansion gap between the floor and the wall.



6. For the left wall, use the measured distance for Section a, mark from right to left on the inverted triangle, and cut this section. For the right wall, mark from left to right and cut that section. Slide the two cut inverted triangles into place next to the others.



7. For the first row of boards, work from right to left, placing Type B boards on the left of each inverted triangle and clicking them into place. Position Type A boards on the right of each inverted triangle, clicking them into place.



8. Continue laying the boards in this way, using Type B boards from right to left and Type A boards from left to right.



9. Remove any expansion spacers and clean the installation area.



10. Cover the expansion gaps along the walls with skirting boards. We recommend using ESPUMO skirting boards attached with adhesive, ensuring a waterproof finish for the floor and skirting.



# FLOOR MAINTENANCE AND FINISHING.

Moving heavy objects across the floor is prohibited; always lift them to prevent damage.



The REGA floor can be cleaned with water using a damp or wet mop. Floor cleaners designed specifically for vinyl flooring are permitted.



Proper maintenance procedures will help maintain the appearance and extend the life of the REGA floor. The frequency of maintenance will depend on the volume and type of traffic, degree of dirt, colour and type of flooring

## Important:

- Virtually all floors will change colour over time when exposed to UV light. This should be prevented by using curtains or solar screens when the sun is very bright.
- Rubber or latex mats, furniture feet etc. should be avoided as they can leave stains. Rubber and latex wheels or washers under furniture also must not be used (we recommend the use of 'W' type wheels, in accordance with the EN 12529 standard.)
- Protect the floor from scratches by furniture feet with wide, free-moving castors, skids, rollers or felt pads. To prevent indentations, place furniture pads under heavy objects or appliances.
- Mechanical damage to the floor covering caused by heavy loads, moving furniture or objects is not covered by the terms of the warranty.
- Cigarettes, matches and other heated objects should not be allowed to come into contact with the floor, as this causes permanent damage.

(\*) The manufacturer considers the following rooms and conditions to be standard: Minimum temperature during transport and storage: 0°C
Minimum temperature during installation: +6°C
Maximum temperature during transport and storage: +35°C
Maximum temperature during installation: +35°C
Maximum temperature during use: 35°C
Acclimatisation period: none
Room size without expansion joints: wall-to-wall length max. 16 m

- The manufacturer considers the following rooms and conditions to be extreme:
- Minimum temperature during transport and storage: 0°C
- Minimum temperature during installation: +6°C
- Minimum temperature during use: +0°C
- Maximum temperature during transport and storage: +35°C
- Maximum temperature during installation: +35°C
- Maximum temperature during use: +60°C

Acclimatisation period: 48 hours if the temperature difference between the warehouse and the installation site is greater than 20°C Room size without expansion joints: wall-to-wall length max. 8 m