

Scope: Installation guide wet room and showers with drains heterogenous Sheet Vinyl IVC

This installation guide provides you with the most important requirements for the installation of your vinyl sheet floor covering wet rooms with drains and shower area. To obtain the best results, and to fulfill our Terms & Conditions and warranty clauses, all parties must carefully follow these instructions or local regulations. For France the CSTB prescriptions, cahier 3781 from Mai 2017, are mandatory to be followed. We do not accept any warranty claims when incorrect installation, usage, damage or when caused by bad maintenance or for stains.

1. Choice of material

Only use wet room certified or recommended products by IVC.

- Many of our product portfolios are suitable for indoor semi wet rooms, including kitchen storage room, a kitchen. Our classic installation instructions apply for those purposes.
- For indoor classic wet rooms, having drains such as a bathroom or for a wet room such as a shower area, there is a need for dedicated approved products and specific added installation instructions on top of the basic installation guide. Our products are not suited for porches, outside or wellness areas and swimming pool.

2. Storage of material and preparation of subfloor

Please refer to the installation instructions for adhered heterogenous sheet vinyl IVC to store your floor and to prepare your installation and subfloor.

- The substrate must be clean, dry, dust free, even and free of cracks. When needing a filler, the cold filler must meet the requirements of local rules and regulations. Any gaps between the wallboard and the floor must be filled. When using 2-component polyester filler, discoloration may occur if incorrect and/or insufficient mixing. Do not mix directly on the substrate. Mounting on existing plastic coating is not recommended.
- Asphalt, spills of oils, impregnating agents, solvent based markers and paint can cause discoloration. Only use a pencil when marking.
- The RH in a base of normal structural concrete must not exceed 75% RH measured. Substrates made of board material are assumed to have a moist content of 8 WMC%.

3. Adhesive recommendation

Please refer to our adhesive recommendation guide heterogenous sheet vinyl IVC for suitable adhesives. Solvent-based chloroprene contact adhesives should not be used due to the risk of discoloration.

4. Specific attention points for classic wet rooms and shower area sheet vinyl installation

For classic wet rooms and showers, there are some critical attention points where the installation of the sheet vinyl and its joints and seams need to foresee a fully waterproof barrier towards the underlying subfloor and walls. Therefore, it will be important to further highlight how to address drains, coving onto the walls and joints or seams.

In the case of new construction, no perforation of the floor covering is permitted except for the passage of actual drain and its respective pipes. Below solutions are allowed for other pipes or passages not related to the drain:

- embedding in the partition wall;
- passage through a technical duct;
- passage through the adjacent room;
- concentration in a corner with a boxed-out mass;
- drop from the sealing. In this case regular verification of sealing condition is mandatory.

For new construction, slopes must be created directly in the substrate. In the case of a bonded or unbonded screed or slab, the thickness reserved above the load-bearing element must be sufficient to ensure the minimum required slope. This reservation must be communicated to the structural works contractor.

In renovation work, the setup of the room pipes and passages must be reworked, or pipes shall be grouped together (e.g., in boxed masses) to limit the number of floor penetrations. When reworking the rooms or grouping the pipes is impossible, sleeve-based solutions may be considered, subject to a specific study by the project management team. These will be limited to:

- hot and cold water inlets and wastewater outlets for washbasins;
- heating pipes;
- vertical outlets for toilet bowls (if located outside the shower spray area).

5. Maintenance of wet room

Please refer to our maintenance instructions for heterogenous sheet vinyl IVC. Most important advice is to avoid blush, blooming, discoloration or yellowing.

- by not using any rubber or latex backed furniture, equipment or mats and
- by not flooding the floor, avoiding standing water and preventing humidity access underneath.

6. Specific installation instructions

a. Preconditions:

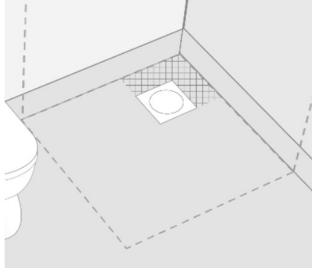
- The substrate must meet the specified curvature tolerances according to the local rules and regulations. Correct wet room or shower floor slope is key prior to installing the waterproof and adhesive layer.
 - In areas with a floor drain, the floor and its waterproof layer must have a slope towards the drain or well. Setbacks must not occur in any part of the room. The slope of the floor must be designed so that any fold-up of the waterproofing layer at the doorway is at least 20 mm above the floor drain flange in the shower area or equivalent.
 - In small wet rooms, it can be difficult to achieve that the floor and its surface layer at the doorway is at least 20 mm above the floor drain flange as the drain is located close to the doorway, without it leading to too steep a fall/slope on the floor – then a threshold must be installed and the waterproofing layer must be folded up against this. In shower areas or equivalent, the slope of the floor towards the floor drain must be at least 1:150 (7 mm/m) and no more than 1:50 (20 mm/m).



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Vinyl on a roll

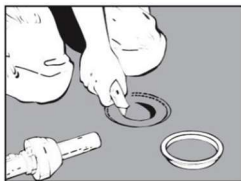
- The slope between the floor drain and adjacent wall may not exceed 1:25 (40 mm/m) (see distributed part in the picture below). The slope of the rest of the shower or wet room floor can be no more than 1:50 (20 mm/m). In all cases, the substrate must provide the necessary slopes and recesses for the installation of drainage systems. The slope must not be less than 1% up to 1.80 meters from the drain or the shower hose connection point. The Specific Contract Documents will specify the location of the drains and indicate the required slopes.



- Holes for pipe penetrations are assumed to be so dimensioned that there are no gaps between pipes and holes. Every connection to uprising construction parts, pipes and similar must be sealed. In case of deviations, the gap must be sealed. Sewer pipes must be mounted and anchored before the waterproofing layer is installed. Drainpipes or sewer pipes must be at least 40 mm above the finished floor and be designed so that the waterproofing can be connected to the wall tightly. In all cases, the height of the upper surface of the drain, after sealing or installation and before laying the floor covering, must match the height of the finished substrate.
- The pipes are assumed to be found at least 60 mm from the wall. The drain must be positioned at a minimum distance of 30 cm from vertical walls, measured from its centerline.

b. Drains or wells:

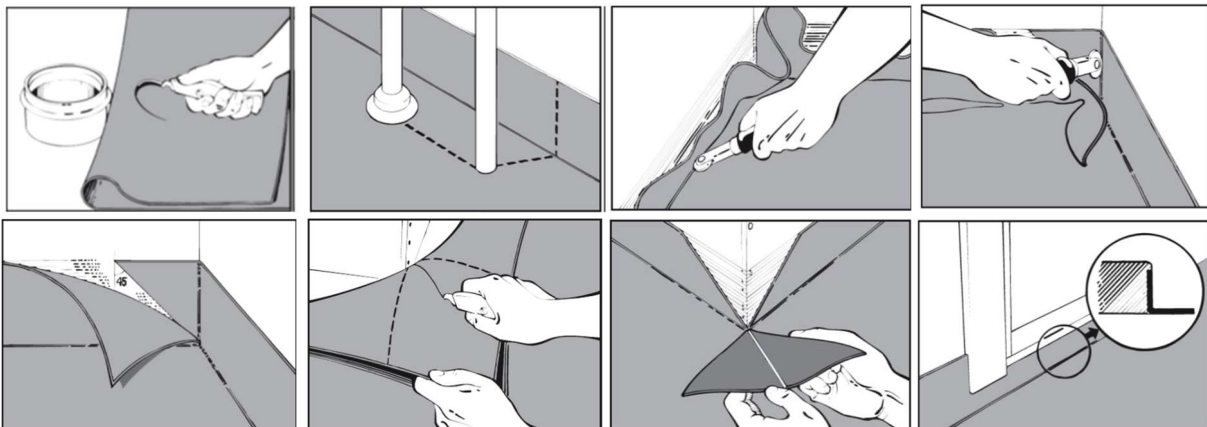
- Wells manufactured before 1990/91, are recommended to be replaced. Also, for plastic mats in floor drains with adjustable clamping rings manufactured before 1990/91 (renovation), the floor drain must be glued with PU contact glue. The utility hole seat must be sealed with Aqua Seal or equivalent.
- Finally, the clamping ring is mounted. The clamping ring should be at the bottom of the utility hole seat.
- Ensure vinyl is well positioned downwards into the drain, avoiding the ingress and accumulation of water under or on the floor covering, whilst avoiding contact of water with the vinyl.
- Note that bonding to the drain flange may cause discoloration of the floor covering.



c. Coving onto the walls:

Consider the surcharge for the plinth fold and material joints within a 0.5 m radius of the floor drain.

- Mark on the wall the socket fold-up height (at least 100mm) with pencil and ruler. If tiles are foreseen as wall coverings and plastic mats for the waterproof floor coverings, the fold-up of the floor mat must be at least 130 mm.
- Spread the dry adhesive on the floor and wall with toothed adhesive putty. For larger floor surfaces, the gluing is conducted in stages after the placement of the strips.
- For penetration on the floor, the mat must be mounted so that a fold of about 15 mm is obtained. In the case of drainpipes with a diameter of 60 mm or larger, a fold of about 15 mm can be achieved by rolling the mat over the pipe. Fold the carpet against the pipe. Measure and mark the center of the pipe on the carpet and cut a hole. Heat the mat and press it over the tube. After heeling, no continuous cracks must occur.
- Around pipes/pipe sleeves next to the wall, the mat is cut up and pressed against the pipe/pipe sleeve. The incision is made according to the dashed lines in the figure. Pipes for tap water and heating pipes must be fitted with spigots to ensure the tightness between the floor covering and the pipes. Poles must not be glued to pipes. In the case of pipe sleeves or similar, the nozzle can be glued to this. For sealing, prefabricated type-approved nozzles or other type-approved methods are primarily used, which are installed according to the respective manufacturer's installation instructions. When installing a nozzle made from the floor mat, the nozzle must be at least 30 mm high.
- At inward corners, place the joint 45° up on the wall and finish/start the cut about 5 mm from the floor. Make sure that excess PU or acrylic adhesive is removed before welding begins. At outward corners, fold the rug towards the corner and cut about 5 mm from the floor. The guides in the picture show the corner "transferred" to the mat and the position of the cut at a 45° angle. Here, the material is distributed equally on each side of the corner. Simpler and safer gluing of the triangular pass piece is cut by the groove on the back of the track tool. The depth of the groove may not exceed half the thickness of the mat. The "triangle" can then be easily folded and mounted on the corner. It should be pulled up against any door threshold. The threshold should be folded out for the floor covering.
- If the product is to be connected to a plumbing product/plumbing flange (e.g. prefabricated shafts, distributor cabinets and built-in box for mixers), it must have approval according to standard requirements for connection of waterproofing to the plumbing product. How the waterproofing layer is to be installed against the plumbing product is told in separate assembly instructions.



d. Joints and seams (welding):

For classic wet rooms and showers, the floor covering must always be welded. Both hot and cold welding can be applied, but we recommend hot welding for easier quality control of the seam or joint. For France it is mandatory to hot weld according to CSTB prescription. In both cases assurance of fully tight joints and seams is necessary, else waterproofing is lost, and damage will be caused by water penetrating underneath the floor covering. The function of the weld seam can only be guaranteed if the original IVC welding rod has been used for installation.

- Mill or cut the groove to about of the thickness of the wear layer of the heterogenous vinyl. Keep in mind that the distance between the lengths should be a maximum of 0.15 mm.
- Make sure that the welding/soldering tool and brass brush have not been used for linoleum as residues from the linseed oil prevent the wire from sticking.
- Hot welding is conducted with warm air and a speed welding nozzle. Chamfering and welding must not take place before the floor glue has dried, which is normally 8-12 hours after installation. Low temperature and/or high humidity may prolong the time up to 24 hours.
- When welding floor covering with a PUR-reinforced surface, a quick welding nozzle with a narrow air outlet (approx. 0.9 mm) must be used to prevent the PUR surface from cracking. When welding and soldering carpets with a reinforced PUR surface in corners, the PUR coating must be removed in the corner to allow the rod to adhere when melted down.
- The welding wire must cool down before cutting off excess. The cutting is done in two steps with a moon knife, joint sled, trimming knife or equivalent tool. And secondly with a suitable Mozart carving knife. After wire welding of inward and outward corners, the joint in the floor angle should be melted.

7. Terms and Conditions, Warranty

Separate purchase T&C [Unilin | division flooring - Sales conditions](#) and IVC sheet vinyl warranty clauses apply [Document Library | IVC Commercial](#), available on the website and links mentioned on the purchase order confirmation. Read carefully prior to purchase, install and keep your sheet vinyl floor covering. Videos are available on [Installation guides for heterogeneous vinyl | Install and Clean](#). Further queries and claims are to be reported through your respective distribution channel that can transfer the claim with a claim form to IVC.aftersales@unilin.com or for Poland sales officeflooringpolska@unilin.com.

This version was issued in March 2026, and replaces all earlier versions. The English version is always leading. IVC reserves the right to update this information at any time, without notice.

Enjoy your sheet vinyl floor.