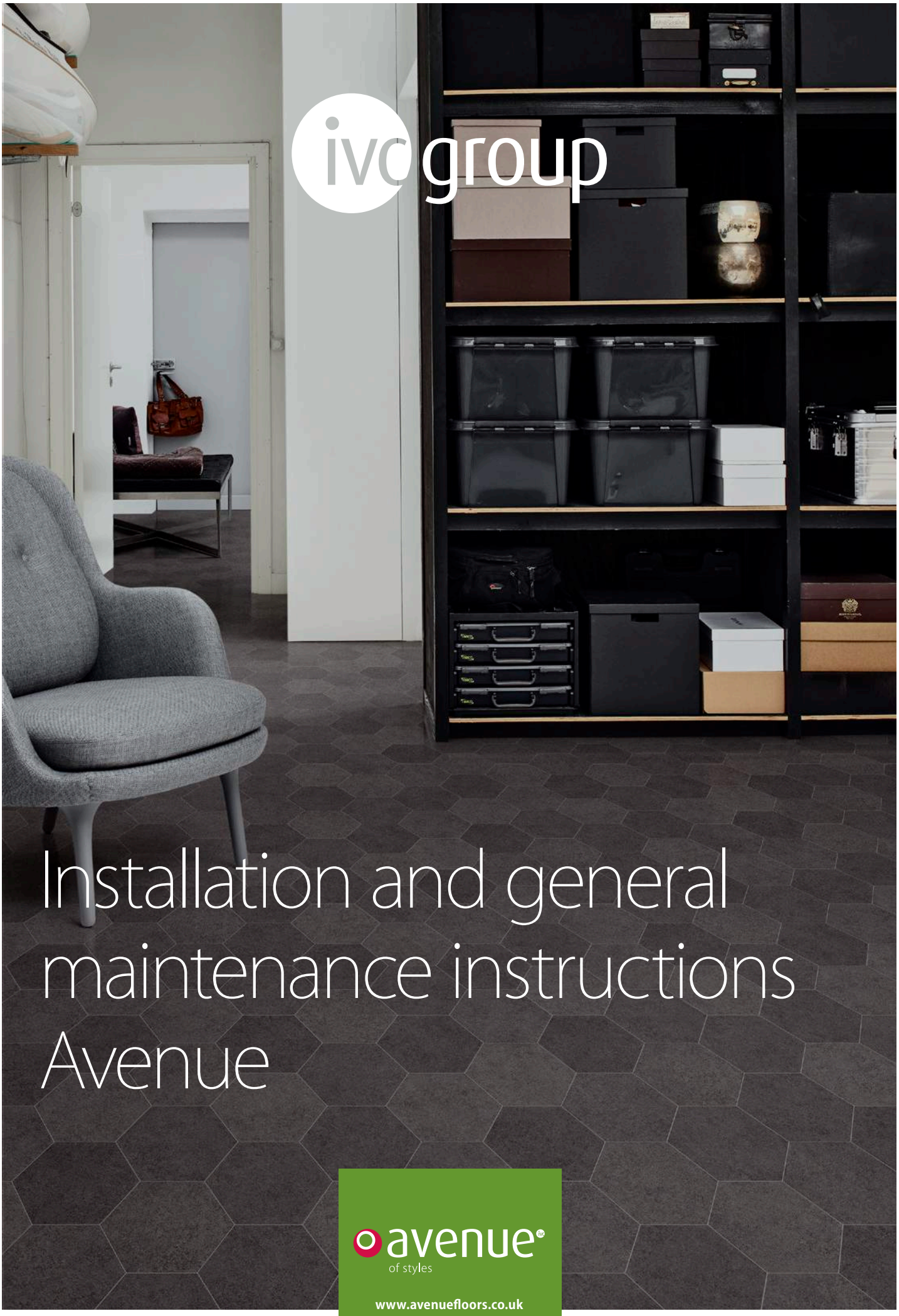


ivc group

Installation and general maintenance instructions Avenue

avenue
of styles

www.avenuefloors.co.uk

Installation & Maintenance

The installation of Avenue floors is straightforward and follows the same guidelines that apply to all quality resilient floors.



NATIONAL REGULATIONS

Site conditions must always comply with the relevant national regulations and installations standards.

STORAGE

Avenue rolls should be stored in either a flat horizontal or vertical position. In order to minimise the risk of pressure marks when storing in a horizontal position, the rolls should not be stacked one on another. Do not store the rolls in very cold (less than 2C°), very warm (more than 40° C) or humid places.

VISUAL INSPECTION

Please inspect the product prior to installation. Check that the colours correspond to those ordered, that the quantities are correct and that there is no visible damage to the sheet. Do not install any vinyl that displays any imperfections.

SUITABILITY

- **Avenue** vinyl can be laid on concrete, cementious screed, anhydrite (calcium sulphate), timber and ceramic tiles which have been suitably prepared (see Floor preparation).
- **Avenue** vinyl can be completely bonded with adhesives or as loose-lay, if limited to an area less than 12m^2 and installed as one single sheet. For textile backed products, see the separate conditions and installation manual.
- **Avenue** floors can be used with traditional water-based under-floor heating and cooling systems. Electric wire systems are not recommended.
- **Avenue** floors are only suitable for in-house installation.

COMPOSITION, CONSTRUCTION AND QUALITY OF THE SUBFLOOR

Knowledge of the composition and construction provides valuable information that allows you to check the acceptable humidity, compressive and tensile strength of the floor correctly. In addition it tells you what type of floor preparation and leveling compounds, adhesive and possible moisture barrier you may need during the installation process.

When faced with ambiguity or doubt about the quality or composition of your subfloor, check with your adhesive and/or leveling compound supplier.





FLOOR PREPARATION

Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation and is vital for an excellent floor appearance and adhesion. The finished appearance of a Avenue floor will be as good as the quality of the base over which it is installed.

Any irregularities in the sub-floor will show through the finished floor. The sub-floor must be hard, smooth, clean, dry, free from defects and fit for purpose. When needed, scrape off and remove old adhesives and loose-laying leveling compound. Make sure the subfloor is flat and free from chemical substances.

A suitable leveling compound should be used to ensure that no irregularities show through to the surface of the finished floor. However, the selection of suitable materials, including smoothing and leveling compounds and any ancillary products is dependent upon the end use of the completed flooring, and must be agreed by the supplier of the preparative materials and the flooring contractor.

Any proprietary materials used for floor preparation must be used in accordance with the manufacturers' recommended instructions. In all cases, the sub-floor must be sufficiently dry.



Important:

Floor installation should not begin until the installer has assessed and approved the sub-floor or conditions.

THE MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE SUBFLOOR

- Unheated cementious screeds less than 2.0CM%
- Underfloor heated cementious screeds less than 1.8CM%
- Unheated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) screeds less than 0.5CM%
- Underfloor heated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) screeds less than 0.3CM%

Direct-to-earth concrete and stone sub-floors must have an effective damp proof membrane (DPM). Follow manufacturer's detailed instructions for the installation of a surface DPM and the use of leveling compound. An overview of recommended manufacturers and suppliers can be provided by IVC group.

TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER INSTALLATION

Avenue floors are best installed with a room temperature of between 18° C and 28° C and a floor temperature of above 15° C.

Installations in areas colder than recommended will make the sheets harder to handle and less flexible, whilst cutting will become more difficult.

For installations in areas warmer than recommended, we advise consultation with your local installer on how to create the appropriate installation conditions.

A constant temperature, fluctuating no more than 5° C per day and not below the required 18° C room temperature and 15° C floor temperature, should be maintained 24 hours before, during and 72 hours after installation.



ACCLIMATISATION

Avenue floors have to acclimatise in the room where the installation takes place or an equivalent area for at least 24 hours prior to installation, or until the product has achieved an ambient temperature. Again, this is a minimum temperature of 18° C and a maximum of 27° C.

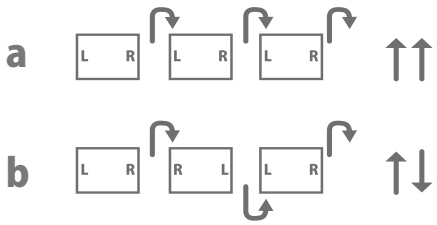
Avenue recommends cutting take place 24 hours before installation. Unpack the Avenue floor and check all sheets in daylight for possible defects or discrepancies in colour.

For two-meter width floor coverings, the sheets should then be rolled loosely and stored in an upright position for acclimatisation.

Four-meter width sheets should be cut to size and laid flat to acclimatise.

When cutting to size please consider the nature of the design and pattern. In the case of wood and tile styles **Avenue** recommends that every sheet is installed in the same direction (a). In the case that the design is one all-over colour or design, Avenue recommends that every sheet is rotated through 180° (b). If there is doubt, we advise to check with your IVC distributor.

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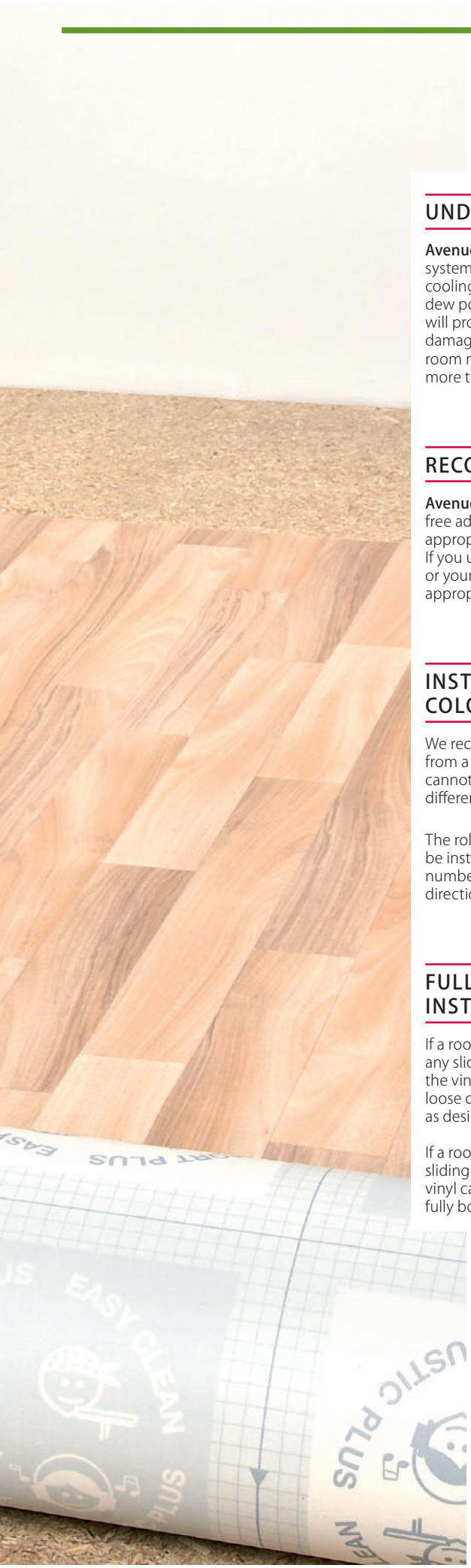
UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Avenue floors can be used with traditional water-based under-floor heating systems, provided there is a lower constant room temperature of 18° C for the acclimatisation period, installation and 72 hours after installation.

The underfloor heating must be gradually increased by increments of 5° C until it reaches the standard operating temperature conditions with a maximum temperature of 27° C. For suitability of the system please refer to the manufacturer's instructions.

> Be careful when stacking rolls. Falling rolls can cause harm to people and the surrounding environment, and this may also result in damage to the product.





UNDERFLOOR COOLING

Avenue can also be installed over floor cooling systems; however, the supply temperature of the cooling water must not be reduced below the dew point temperature. Temperatures below this will produce condensation and can therefore damage the floor covering. Thermostats in the room must never be set at a temperature which is more than 5° C lower than the room temperature.

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVES

Avenue floors recommend to install with solvent free adhesives. IVC provides Xtrafloor adhesives, appropriate for effective and efficient installation. If you use other adhesives, please contact **Avenue** or your retailer, who can provide a list of those appropriate.

INSTALLATION FROM ONE COLOUR BATH

We recommend that you always use materials from a single colour bath in one room, as we cannot guarantee a 100% match between different colour baths.

The rolls, selected within one colour bath, should be installed in the sequence of increasing roll number, with respect of the reverse laying direction if the design requests it.

FULLY BONDED OR LOOSE-LAY INSTALLATION

If a room or an area is smaller than 12m^2 without any sliding furniture (dining-or office chairs) and the vinyl can be installed in one part/sheet, then a loose or fully bonded installation can be selected as desired.

If a room or area is larger than 12m^2 or there is sliding furniture (dining or office chairs), or if the vinyl cannot be installed in one part/sheet, then a fully bonded installation is recommended.

Recommended tools:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Adhesive and trowel
- Damp cloth
- Utility knife
- Hook blades
- Straight blades
- Steel line for cutting straight and/or seams
- Roller minimum 35kg
- Cold welding kit



STEP BY STEP FITTING INSTRUCTIONS, USING ADHESIVES

1. Place the sheets in position, cut seams with the double-cut method and trim to size.
2. Fold back half of the sheet to reveal the subfloor ready for the application of the adhesive. Prior to using the adhesive read the supplier instructions. Spread the right amount of adhesive, with a notched trowel, equally over the subfloor. After applying the adhesive and in accordance with the instructions, allow the adhesive to partially dry (open time) until it reaches its initial bonding strength, before returning the floor covering into place.
3. Install the floor covering sheet avoiding bubbles, compressions and tensions. Check that the seam junctions are closed tightly together. Do not try to compress seams that cause curling. This curling is an indication that the sheets are not placed together correctly.
4. To remove any bubbles, rubbing from the inside out should even out the floor. Use a rolling motion to level out the adhesive; this should be done before the adhesive has fully dried.
5. Repeat steps 1 to 4 with the second half of the sheet.
6. Check all seam junctions and repeat the rolling motion as described in 3.
7. Welding the seam together is recommended.

WELDING

Cold welding is the only option for ensuring closed and tight seams. **Avenue** recommends cold welding tapes from Werner Müller Kaltschweißtechnik. Please read the manufacturer's instructions before applying.

PROTECTION

Avenue should be protected from exceptional walking conditions for 24 hours after installation and for heavy traffic for 72 hours after installation, in order to allow the adhesive to stabilise at consistent temperatures between 18-27° C.

FIRST CONTACT WITH WATER

Prevent the floor from coming into contact with water for the first 72 hours after installation,or until such time as all seams are welded. Hereafter the adhesive is sufficiently resistant to water so that the bonding strength will not be affected.

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Appropriate maintenance procedures will help preserve the appearance and extend the life of a **Avenue** floor. The frequency of maintenance will depend on the amount and type of traffic, degree of soiling and the floor colour and type. Some **Avenue** floors have a PU lacquer on top of the resistant wear layer. This lacquer protects against soiling and makes the overall maintenance easier. A PU lacquer also makes a prior treatment with protection polish unnecessary. For **Avenue** floors without a PU lacquer, a gloss starter coating can be applied for extra protection of the surface. Follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying the gloss starter coating.

Follow the cleaning instructions for Avenue floors which may be implemented 72 hours after installation. Try to prevent the floor from coming into contact with water during this time, as the adhesive is not completely dry.

EXTERNAL CONDITIONS

The appropriate management of external conditions can help protect the flooring, which saves time and expense on cleaning and maintenance, and also extends its lifespan. Most soiling comes from an external source and is transported indoors by foot and rolling traffic. If dirt lodges under sliding furniture, the flooring will not only be soiled but will also suffer (light) damage in the form of scratches.

ENTRANCE MATS

A proper clean-off zone is strongly recommended. It will reduce the soiling of the flooring by as much as 70%. Entrance mats, when properly serviced, can effectively remove any abrasive and foreign materials from foot traffic and cut down on tracked in water. **Avenue** recommends a minimum of two full strides of entrance matting. Where possible, prevent dirt from reaching the floor. A suitable barrier matting system will help prevent soiling and abrasive material from entering a building and make maintenance easier. Regularly clean the clean-off zone so that it functions optimally. Prevent fibres from the clean-off mat from running or adhering together with dirt. As far as possible, remove sand and adherent dirt such as chewing gum using a spray or gum remover. Replace the clean-off mat in time to ensure an optimally functioning dirt entrapment zone.

Avoid rubber or latex backed mats as these may leave stains.





REGULAR CLEANING

Remove daily dirt

- Sweeping
- Dry mopping
- Vacuum cleaning

Spot and stain removal

- Damp cloth
- Handpad

Damp mopping

- Microfibre damp mop
- Traditional mop (as dry as possible)

OCCASIONAL CLEANING

Mopping

- Damp mopping
- Traditional mopping (as dry as possible)



Important:

- Take care to immediately wipe up any spillages on the vinyl flooring to minimise the risk of permanent staining occurring.
- Vinyl flooring can be slippery when wet.
- If the use of a neutral detergent is necessary then follow the rules and mixing proportion quantities of the manufacturer.
- After cleaning, the floor should be dry within 1 or 2 minutes so there is no residual water with cleaning detergent and dirt remaining on the floor.

Note:

Contact your **Avenue** floor representative/retailer if you are unsure about any part of these installation and maintenance instructions.

Important note from the warranty:

- Almost all flooring will vary in colour over time when exposed to UV light. Avoid this by using curtains or sunscreens when the sun is very bright.
- Avoid rubber or latex backed mats as they may leave stains. Also rubber and latex castors (we advice castors type 'W' in accordance with EN 12529) or protection caps under furniture cannot be used.
- Protect against scratching from furniture by using wide free-moving castors, glides, rollers or felt pads. Use furniture caps under heavy items or appliances to prevent indentation.
- In case of loose lay installation, damage of the vinyl flooring caused by heavy overload or sliding activities is not covered by the warranty conditions.
- Do not allow cigarettes, matches and other very hot items to contact the floor as this causes permanent damage.

Contact your Avenue floor representative/retailer for complete warranty conditions.