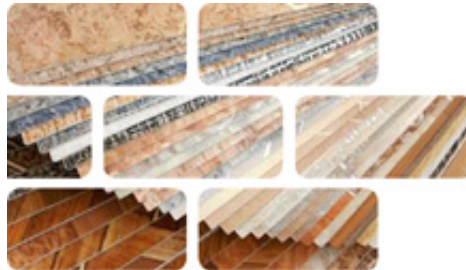


F1 VINYL FLOOR



Vinyl floor is produced from vinyl compositions or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) to form a pliable sheet that is often cut into tiles. It is manufactured in a range of sizes, varying thickness, pattern and finish depending on the colour and pattern required. It is a low-cost and durable product that is easily maintained. Be aware that some older tiles may contain asbestos.

Vinyl Floor Flooring 17 02 03

WASTE STREAMS

DISPOSAL

The landfilling of vinyl floors is the only option where the material is contaminated with asbestos. They may also be sent to landfill if they are commercially too costly to reuse, recycle or recover.

RECOVERY

Vinyl flooring can be segregated from other materials and sent to an incinerator for energy recovery. However the PVC industry established Vinyl 2010 as a voluntary recycling initiative to reduce loss of PVC to the market.

RECYCLE

Vinyl flooring can be recycled where it is not contaminated and where markets exists for new products such as roofing, flooring and other products. Vinyl 2010 and RecoFloor encourages more recycling of PVC.

RECLAIM

Vinyl flooring that is in good condition, uncontaminated and easily removed may be set aside for reuse. However, many floor tiles are brittle and likely to break during removal.

USAGE & PROBABLE LOCATIONS

Vinyl floor is mostly used for laying over hard level floors that receive a lot of traffic to provide a durable and decorative surface. They are resistant to abrasion and most chemicals, so are widely used in cooking, industrial, laboratory and school floors.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

PPE requirements indicated are for guidance purposes only. DRIDS has identified the PPE that is mandatory on all demolition projects and ones that may be required subject to site specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS).



REMOVAL, SEGREGATION & STORAGE

Vinyl flooring is relatively easy to remove, but can be brittle and breaks easily. Vinyl floor tiles that are in good condition, not damaged and not fixed in place with glues will have some reclamation and reuse value - unless they are reinforced with asbestos

fibres pre-1990. They should be segregated and stored flat on a suitably sized pallet, wrapped in cling film and stored to keep them dry and away from plant movements. Vinyl flooring destined for recycling should be segregated into a skip, or if destined for incineration with energy recovery stored in a segregated skip along with similar items of calorific value.

TOOLS

Crowbar, hammer, screwdriver, bolster chisel, spade end tool, scrapper/mutt.

FIXTURES, FITTINGS & CONNECTIONS

Vinyl flooring is traditionally fixed in place with a glue or adhesive, although some will be laid in place without adhesive. Vinyl flooring may be integr.ated with door strips or edging strips for safety and decorative purposes. Vinyl flooring used for stairs and stair wells will most certainly be glued in place, or fitted within a recess or fixed with edging strips.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Subject to task-specific Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS). Use correct protective equipment for removing fixings especially screws, door strips and edging strips. Wear gloves when handling vinyl flooring especially those coated in glues or adhesives to prevent irritation and cuts. Wear eye protection when removing screws with a crowbar, hammer or bolster chisel. The removal of asbestos containing tiles should only be undertaken by trained personnel.

FURTHER READING

British Plastics Federation
Vinyls Group UK
Vinyl 2010 Progress Report
Plastics Recycling
Recofloor Take Back
End Uses for Vinyl Flooring

TRAINING

Manual Handling
Safe Use of Hand Tools