

Mannington Commercial Natures Paths with Lock Solid Technology Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is NaturesPaths with Lock Solid Technology?

It is a commercially rated luxury vinyl plank flooring with a proprietary, patented mechanical locking system that requires no adhesives; the planks are “clicked” together and floated over the subfloor.

What is meant by a “floating” installation?

A floating installation is not secured to the subfloor with adhesives but rather each plank is mechanically locked to the other. Floating floors must not be “pinched” or restricted into fit. A 5/16” expansion space must be provided at all fixed, vertical surfaces.

On what types of substrates can Natures Paths Lock Solid be installed?

Because there is no adhesive used Natures Paths Lock Solid (NPLS) can be installed over any rigid, structurally sound, clean and smooth substrate including existing hard surface floor coverings.

Where can NPLS be installed?

NPLS is designed to be used in indoor, climate controlled environments only. Because of the bevel and “floating” installation method it should not be installed in sterile areas where regular maintenance procedures must be used.

Is Mannington’s Nature’s Paths with LockSolid™ technology recommended for use in senior or assisted living facilities and/or other healthcare facilities?

Please note that while Mannington’s Nature’s Path with LockSolid™ technology is designed for use in commercial applications, it is not generally recommended for use in commercial applications where the flooring is or will likely be topically exposed to biofluids (i.e. blood, urine) and/or liquid medical treatment aids (i.e. intravenous hydration or infusion), even though it carries a limited commercial 10 year warranty. Accordingly, Mannington makes no other warranties, express or implied, including the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, and the end-user shall be solely responsible for, and assumes all risk and liability with, determining the safety and fitness of Nature’s Path with LockSolid™ technology for the end-user’s own use.

What is the moisture tolerance level of NPLS when installed on concrete subfloors?

For all intent, NPLS is waterproof however, it must be taken into consideration that concrete subfloors that exceed 8 lbs MVER as determined with the Calcium Chloride test (ASTM F 1869) or 95% RH as determined by the Insitu Relative Humidity test (ASTM F 2170) should be considered excessive with regards to moisture vapor emissions and that this high moisture emissions rate may contribute to an unhealthy indoor environment. There is no guarantee against mildew for Nature’s Paths LockSolid.

What other environmental conditions should be considered when installing NPLS?

Like all other floor coverings, NPLS should not be exposed to harsh, direct sunlight. Use window treatments to reduce heat build up and thermal expansion (buckling) of the NPLS flooring.

Can cabinets, counters or islands, etc. be installed on top of a “floating” NPLS installation?

No, never install any fixed and fastened items directly on top of a “floating” installation. However, items such as appliances, tables, beds, etc. that can readily be re-positioned can be placed on “floating” NPLS.

What is the maximum length or “run” that can be used with the NPLS product?

It is calculated to be greater than 100 lineal feet in both directions, if the area is greater than this it is recommended to provide additional expansion space or transition moldings. For example, a corridor with dimensions 200’ x 10’, a transition at 100’ is recommended. We are currently working on the development of an appropriate transition for Nature’s paths LockSolid. Further updates to come.

Can custom designs or borders be incorporated into an NPLS installation?

No, any time the locking profile is cut there is no way to secure the planks to each other. All cut edges of NPLS must be towards a wall or a finishing transition.

Are “T” moldings or other types of transitions required when installing through doorways?

As long as the planks can be mechanically fastened to each other then moldings are not required but if the plank direction changes and the mechanical locking profile is cut then transition moldings will be required. (See above)

How soon after completion of the installation can the area be put back in use?

Because there are no adhesives used the area can be put back in service immediately upon completion of the flooring installation.