LVP Buyer's Guide

Thank you so much for stopping by The LVP Warehouse where we help people save money on luxury vinyl plank flooring. We also want to help save you time, so the goal in this guide is to provide you with a good, yet simple, understanding of what you should consider when buying LVP.



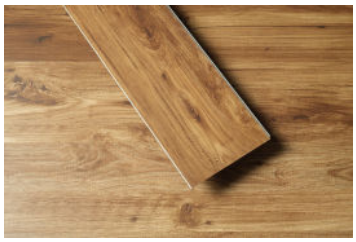
With so many different products on the market it can be a bit overwhelming to decide on the right flooring for you. We hope to help with that process. You should be able to download this to your mobile device or desktop and use it as a quick reference as you go looking for the right LVP for you.

We'll first look at price considerations and specifications, then you'll be able to see a table comparing installation types, thicknesses, wear layer sizes and price ranges.

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Budget

How much can you afford to spend per square foot? This will narrow exactly what your options are and figuring this out is simple.



1) measure your space (square footage = width x length).

Is it going through your whole house?
Still measure each room - the total square footage of your home will exceed the actual floor space where you'll apply the LVP



2) know how much money you have to spend. Then divide this amount by the square footage you need. Here is a simple example:

$5,000 budget ÷ 1700 square feet needed =
$2.94 per square foot or less



Remember! Add 5-10% on square footage for waste & factor in state sales tax.



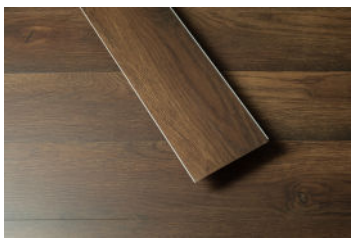
Lifestyle

What does your life look like?

- Are you home often?
- Do you have kids and/or dogs?
- Do you have people over often?
- Are you gone a lot?
- Is it a rental property you own?
- Is it a place you're flipping?



These are important things to consider. If your house experiences a lot of foot traffic you'll want to be sure you have a high enough wear layer. If the opposite is true you could settle for a thinner product with a lower wear layer.



What about your aesthetic preferences? A vinyl plank offers a more nature-realistic wood look—that is, it looks more like natural hardwood—which is why it is so desirable. However, not all LVP images are created equal. Seriously, take both what you want and what you need into consideration as you make a decision — you'll be living with this flooring; you don't want to hate it.

Specifications

There are many different specifications which affect the price of LVP. Different installation methods require different materials and there are also different plank dimensions, wear layers, warranties, and compositions offered. I'll briefly explain these things here.



Installation Method:

Simply put, it's the method required to install. Some LVP requires adhesives, some have an interlocking system, some lay loose on the floor.

Plank dimensions:

If it requires more material to produce, it's more expensive. Wider, thicker, and longer planks will cost more. Generally, planks are around 7" x 48" but this is not standard.





Product composition:

Not all vinyl is just vinyl. Some planks have a core made of wood-polymer composite (WPC), others a stone-polymer composite (SPC) and others are just thick vinyl (rigid core). What the floor is made of will influence price. Note that wood-polymer composite LVP is *not* waterproof.

Brand:

Brand name is obviously going to affect the price. Are you buying a desirable, well known brand? Well, you might be paying more than is necessary. This is why it's important to look at the specifications.

Wear layer:

This is a clear PVC layer protecting the vinyl image from being damaged by dirt, moving furniture, dog nails, and the like. While you may see some scratches on a wear layer, your vinyl will be protected. As you might expect, the higher the wear layer, the higher the price. Beware: if anyone tells you their floor is scratch-proof, *don't* buy from them. Sadly, nothing is scratch-proof.

What's a mil?

This is a unit used to measure wear layer thickness.
1 mil = 1/40 of a centimeter

What wear layer should I get?

Low traffic residential: you can likely get by with a 6 - 8 mil

High traffic residential: 12 - 20 mil is recommended as it's also suited for light commercial use.

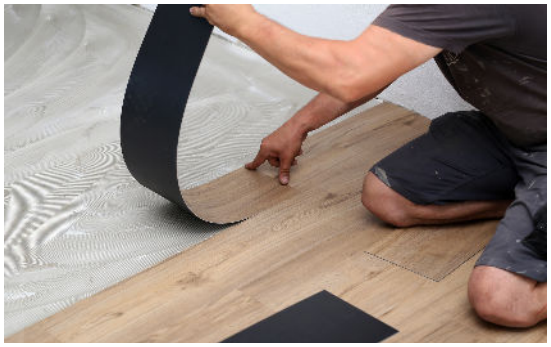
Higher than 20 mil: heavy commercial grade flooring

Types of LVP

LVP is commonly referred to in terms of installation type.

Glue Down & Peel and Stick

These are both adhesive types. Glue down is a thinner material and needs glue. It is a more permanent solution and does hold up well to traffic. Peel and stick comes with an adhesive affixed to the planks and - you guessed it - sticks to the floor.





Click-Plank

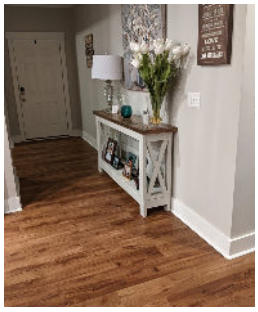
Click-plank requires no adhesives or fasteners. The planks are constructed with a click-lock system so the planks lock together. Commonly padding is attached, though you can find materials without padding attached for a lower price. (Do note that you'll make up the difference buying the requisite padding.)

Loose Lay

Loose lay, as the name indicates, simply lays on the floor. It has a rubber backing and the pieces fit tightly together to keep it in place. Note that some stores advertise some LVP as loose lay when it is in fact closer to a peel and stick.







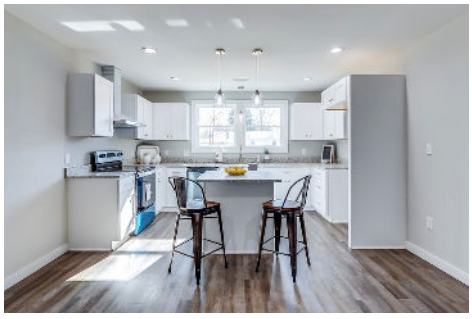


Table with price ranges as of March 2022

Installation Method	Plank Thickness	Wear Layer	Water Protection	Price Range	Notes
Glue Down (Adhesive)	Typically 2mm	20 mil	Waterproof	$1.99 - $3.00	
	Typically 2mm	8-12 mil	Waterproof	$1.27 - $2.97	
	Typically 2mm	4 -6 mil	Waterproof	$1.00 - $1.99	
Peel and Stick		12 - 22 mil	Waterproof	$1.69 - $2.60	
		6 mil	Water Resistant	$1.99	Only price for these specs
		4 mil	Water Resistant	$0.99	Only price for these specs
Loose Lay	4 - 5mm	20 mil	Waterproof/ Resistant	$3.98 - $5.84	
	3mm	6 mil	Water Resistant	$2.29	Only 1 or 2 at this price & spec
Click Plank	7mm - ½ inch	20 mil (some 22 mil)	Waterproof	$4.89 - $7.40	
	5mm - 6mm	20 mil	Waterproof	$3.49 - $5.19	
	5mm - 7mm	12 mil	Waterproof	$2.29 - $4.19	Many only include a 5- 6 year commercial wear guarantee
	4mm - 6.5mm	6 -8 mil	Waterproof	$1.69 - $3.56	Most were low $3 to mid $2

All of these prices and specifications are based on the market in Upstate South Carolina as of March 2022. Prices have increased since this was originally produced and they tend to fluctuate month to month anyway, but this will give you a rough idea of the price point you'll be looking at for various products.

Again, this does not tell you everything you need to know—indexing that information would require a small encyclopedia. Nevertheless, this should be enough to give you the confidence of a pro as you shop for LVP.

We sincerely hope this will help you know exactly what the right purchase is for you.

At The LVP Warehouse, we provide products that save people money and are perfect for residential use. All of our products are padded, waterproof, click-lock LVP and we offer 5mm thick 12 mil wear layer and 6.5mm thick 20 mil wear layer vinyl plank flooring. We are able to keep our prices well below the average price for the same product at big box and wholesale stores. All of our colors come with a Lifetime Limited Warranty and a 10 Year Commercial Wear Guarantee. Please reach out to us with any questions; you can call or text us at 864-605-1335 or send us an email at thelvpwarehouse@gmail.com.

Let us know if you have any questions about what's been explained here. We want to help you improve your lifestyle and your home while saving you time and money.



2022