



panel products from patriot timber

***SurePly***<sup>®</sup>

**Premium Underlayment**

## ***SurePly***<sup>®</sup> **Installation Guide**

Vinyl flooring contractors and installers depend on **SurePly<sup>®</sup> Premium Underlayment** from **Patriot Timber Products** for its consistent quality, durability and dependability.

Please review this guide to maximize the performance and appearance of your next vinyl floor installation using **SurePly<sup>®</sup> Premium Underlayment**.

# **SurePly®**

## **Installation Guide**

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### **Recommended Tools & Materials**

- A pneumatic stapler with adjustable depth-of-drive to prevent staple “blow-through” or “overdriving.” (ex., *Duo-Fast*, see [www.duofast.com](http://www.duofast.com), or call 1-888-DUO-FAST.)
- Belt or floor sander
- Seam filler – We recommend a Portland-cement-based seam filler such as *Mapei Plani Patch* brand. Check with your vinyl supplier first to be certain your seam filler is acceptable.

### **SurePly® & Materials Preparation**

- For better control, the installer of the **SurePly® Premium Underlayment** and the vinyl flooring should be the same person.
- Allow all materials used in your vinyl flooring installation to acclimate to the heated home environment, approximately 70°F, for 48 hours prior to use.
- Examine each piece of **SurePly® Premium Underlayment** using the *Flex & Look Test* (photo at right), which will help you spot any defects before installation.

#### **Follow these steps:**

1. Choose an area with a ceiling clearance of 8' or higher.
2. Stand a piece of **SurePly®** vertically with its 4' edge on the floor and the panel face towards you (panel face will have no sticker affixed).
3. Grip the top panel edge with your right hand and firmly place your left palm against the left-hand side of the panel face.
4. Pull down with your right hand approximately 3" while simultaneously pressing forward with your left palm approximately 3". Hold this position during inspection.
5. With the panel in this flex position, thoroughly inspect the entire panel surface for irregularities, which will look like “bubbles” or “creases.” In the rare instance that you find such an irregularity, do not use the panel. Set it aside and contact **Patriot Timber Products** immediately for a full and prompt refund.



### **Structural Sub-Floor Preparation**

- Install **SurePly® Premium Underlayment** over a clean, dry, level and original structural sub-floor. with all existing vinyl flooring completely removed in accordance with industry-recommended standards.
- Fasten any loose sub-floor areas and sand any irregular joints or high spots until even.
- Thoroughly scrape, sweep and vacuum the entire surface.
- Do not use any adhesive on the sub-floor beneath **SurePly® Premium Underlayment**.

## ***Positioning SurePly® Premium Underlayment***

1. Begin by laying out the floor in a corner of the room where you can get the greatest amount of coverage without having to cut the SurePly® panels.
2. Run SurePly® panels parallel to the sub-floor panels, which should be perpendicular to floor joists.
3. Position SurePly® panels 1/8" to 1/4" from the walls to allow for expansion.
4. Stagger SurePly® panels to create a 2" offset between the SurePly® and sub-floor seams.
5. When positioning SurePly® panels, do not butt joints together. Instead, use a nickel or penny on its edge to create an expansion joint of 1/16".
6. Cut and place SurePly® Premium Underlayment on the sub-floor without any fasteners or “dry fit” first before beginning any fastening.

## ***Fastening SurePly® Premium Underlayment***

1. Choose a staple length that allows the staple to penetrate the sub-floor a minimum of 5/8", but not so long that it extends through the sub-floor.
2. We recommend a pneumatic stapler with adjustable depth-of-drive control to prevent staple “blow-through” or “overdriving.”
3. Begin fastening in the initial panel placement, taking care to maintain the appropriate spacing from the wall and from other panels for necessary expansion joints.
4. Stand on each panel during fastening to ensure full contact with the sub-floor. Any “crackling” or “popping” noises indicate debris is underneath the panel. Should this occur, stop installation, remove and discard the panel, then scrape, sweep and vacuum the sub-floor again until all debris is removed.
5. Fasten first in the corner where the walls meet, and work out at a 45° angle.
6. Place fasteners 2" on center around the perimeter of the panel and 4" on center in the field of the panel. Fasten perimeter staples 3/8"- 1/2" from the edge.

## ***Filling and Sanding of SurePly® Premium Underlayment***

1. After placing and fastening, sand all joints with a belt or floor sander until level and smooth. Hand sanding is not sufficient.
2. Do not oversand or “cup” the joints.
3. Vacuum the entire surface to remove all debris.
4. We recommend a Portland-cement-based seam filler such as Mapei Plani Patch brand. Check with your vinyl supplier first to be certain your seam filler is acceptable. **(Note: We do not recommend the use of water-based fillers.)** Do not “floor mix” seam fillers.
5. Apply filler and allow to dry completely in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.
6. Once dry, sand all areas where filler has been applied. Some additional application, drying time and sanding may be necessary to smooth high or low spots.
7. After sanding, the seam filler should fill the seams and be flush with the edges of the SurePly® panels. We do not accept "feathering" as a substitute for sanding the seam filler.
8. Thoroughly vacuum the entire area to remove all leftover preparation debris before installing the vinyl.

## **SurePly® Premium Underlayment 10-Year Warranty**

SurePly® Premium Underlayment is manufactured to the highest and most exacting quality standards. Our product reliability and longevity in the marketplace speaks for itself. More than 70 million square feet have been sold, enough to support 1,500 football fields of vinyl flooring.

If you have a concern regarding the performance of SurePly®, immediately contact Patriot Timber Products' Claims Manager at 336-299-7755 for assistance. Do not remove any flooring or attempt repairs without written authorization from Patriot Timber Products. Doing so will void the SurePly® Premium Underlayment 10-Year Warranty. Full Warranty details are available on our Web site at [www.PatriotTimber.com](http://www.PatriotTimber.com), or by calling 1-877-SUREPLY.

## **Additional Information**

For industry overviews of procedures and issues related to underlayment for resilient vinyl flooring, visit these web sites:

- *The APA – The Engineered Wood Association*, online at [www.apawood.org](http://www.apawood.org). See publication #L335 on installation and preparation of underlayment.
- *The Resilient Floor Covering Institute*, online at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com). Free booklet available on removal of resilient floor covering.
- *The National Evaluation Service, Inc.*, online at [www.icc-es.org](http://www.icc-es.org). Report number NER-272 discusses power-driven staples.



**PATRIOT TIMBER**

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the revolutionary source

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