



# ASTROLOGY

## Stepping into the Future

### FAQ TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

#### **What is Astrology?**

Astrology is an ESPC (Engineered Stone Polymer Composite) flooring, the most recent development in the vinyl floor sector. It is multilayer, extremely resistant, and has excellent dimensional stability. It combines the advantages of SPC (Stone Polymer Composite) with those of LVT (Luxury Vinyl Tile): it is more resistant and lighter than SPC, more stable and tougher than LVT.

#### **What is Astrology made from?**

Astrology has two layers more than classic SPC flooring: one above the reinforced core (Solid Core) and one under it for balance. Both are made with expanded microstructures. Under the decorative top layer of vinyl there is a stamped film and a polyurethane lining, reinforced for extra protection. The bottom layer is an IXPE pad for sound control.

Thanks to this multilayer structure, Astrology feels soft and warm underfoot, more silent and comfortable than a classic vinyl floor. As far as aesthetics are concerned, Astrology comes in a wide variety of textures and styles that can satisfy the demands of any project.

#### **What is an IXPE pad?**

IXPE (Irradiated Cross-Linked PolyEthelene) is the result of the most advanced technological research in the foam material sector. It is a 100% waterproof high-performance closed cell foam that resists humidity, mould and bacteria. It also absorbs sound.

#### **Is Astrology waterproof?**

Yes, Astrology is 100% waterproof: it is the most water- and humidity-resistant vinyl floor that exists on today's market.

#### **Where is it best to lay Astrology?**

Thanks to its waterproofness and resistance to humidity, Astrology can be laid in many different business and residential spaces: offices, laboratories, medical studios, hotels, spas, restaurants, airports and even in homes, from the bathroom to the kitchen, from the living room to the bedroom.

#### **Can I put Astrology in the bathroom?**

Yes, Astrology is 100% waterproof, so it is recommended for bathrooms.

#### **Is Astrology suitable for basements?**

Being waterproof, Astrology can be laid on any floor in your house, including basements if insulated and without rising damp.

#### **Can Astrology be used outdoors?**

Even though waterproof, we do not recommend laying Astrology in open-air or partially open-air spaces. This is because exposure to UV rays and atmospheric agents can cause the floor surface to fade or become damaged.

#### **Can Astrology be laid over an already-existing floor?**

Yes, Astrology can be used as an overlay (stoneware tiles, for example) as long as the underlying surface is smooth, level, without cracks and has an integral structure.

#### **Does Astrology expand?**

The dimensional stability of Astrology is higher than that of a traditional vinyl floor, but we recommend leaving an expansion joint along the perimeter of the room in areas where the temperature or humidity levels vary, or where the climatic conditions are extreme.



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### USE AND DURATION

#### Is Astrology scratch-resistant (if I have a pet for example)?

Astrology has a protective surface layer that helps prevent scratching and wear. Remember, however, that 100% scratch-proof floors do not exist on the market.

#### Can I put large appliances and heavy furniture on top of Astrology?

Yes, without any problem. As a precaution, though, we suggest inserting a protective mat under large appliances and felt pads under the legs of heavy furniture. Do not use rubber pads, which can stain the surface of Astrology. Finally, we recommend gluing slats under the floor area where very heavy furniture is to be placed (e.g. kitchens with inlaid appliances or wall-to-wall bookcases full of books).

#### Do I need to protect Astrology if I have a desk chair?

Even though the surface of Astrology is wear-resistant, placing a protective pad under desk chairs is a good idea: over time, worn wheels can leave marks on the floor.

#### Do I need a vapour barrier?

ASTROLOGY has a built-in mat so an additional layer is not needed in normal situations (excluding damp cellars with a rough concrete floor for example).

#### What stops the ends of the boards from coming apart after laying?

ASTROLOGY uses the 5G® locking mechanism which guarantees a watertight 4-sided lock on every plank. The 5G® mechanism locks the planks both horizontally and vertically, which stops them from coming apart. Ask for the ASTROLOGY herringbone or plank installation guide.

### INSTALLATION

#### How do you install Astrology?

Installing Astrology could not be easier thanks to the “click-lock” laying system: no previous DIY experience, specialist layers, adhesives (except for exceptional cases), or extensive toolkits are needed.

Ask for the ASTROLOGY herringbone or grid laying guide.

#### How do I acclimatise Astrology?

Acclimatisation is the process of familiarising Astrology with its new environment and only needs to be done if the floor was kept at extreme temperatures, namely below 15°C and above 23°C. All you have to do is leave the planks in their original packaging inside the room they are to be laid in, keeping them at room temperature for 24-48 hours.

#### How do you cut Astrology planks?

They can be cut by hand using a metal ruler and a sharp utility knife: simply score the material then snap it apart for a clean break. Alternatively, you can use an electric saw or a classic tile cutter.

#### In which direction should you lay Astrology planks?

The longest side of the planks should be laid parallel to the longest walls, which will make the room seem bigger. If the room is square, position the plank lengths so that they follow the flow of traffic.

#### Can Astrology be laid over floor heating?

Yes, Astrology can be laid over floor heating as long as the average temperature does not exceed 27 °C.



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### **CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE**

#### **How do you clean Astrology?**

For routine cleaning (weekly or when necessary):

- use a vacuum cleaner with brushes/felts that are suitable for parquet and hard floors to remove the dust
- dilute the indicated amount of CLEANER (1/3 of a glass) in warm water and wash the floor with a cotton cloth or well-wrung mop to remove the dirt
- allow to dry completely before walking on the floor again.

Correct, regular maintenance will keep your Astrology floor looking beautiful over time.