




Mikasa[®]
REAL WOOD FLOORS



Performance Superiority
Engineered Wooden Flooring Over Vinyl Flooring



HOW TO SAVE YOURSELF FROM THAT MOST AWKWARD QUESTION “IS THAT FLOOR REAL WOOD?”

ENGINEERED WOODEN FLOORING VS VINYL FLOORING

There is a saying that ‘more work and skill goes into flooring than it is given credit for’, hardwood flooring is a hard and challenging job that requires a lot of skill due to it involving lots of math and science, a specific design that needs to go with every type of floor, and all of this starts with the selection of the perfect wood material. Having said that, Luxury Vinyl Planks (LVP) or Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVT) are a modern attempt to imitate the natural look of wooden flooring. Although a lot has been achieved as per the technological advancements these floors still lack in performance, longevity, and various other aspects.

If you too have been confused between Vinyl and Engineered Wooden Flooring, this document is for you. Read on as we present a brief comparison between the two options.

CONSTRUCTION



MIKASA ENGINEERED WOODEN FLOORING IS MADE OF REAL WOOD

The flooring consists of a decorative hardwood veneer that is placed on top of the core, for premium quality HDF or Pinewood. Our products are made using the latest technology to overcome any generic wood issues.

CONSTRUCTION

ENGINEERED WOODEN FLOORING VS VINYL FLOORING



REAL WOOD FLOOR - APPEAL

In terms of appeal, Engineered Wooden Flooring offers a much luxurious appeal than Vinyl Flooring. Engineered Wooden Flooring is available in many colors and finishes. It provides a number of options for consumers to choose from. This includes all traditional hardwood shades and common wood shades such as Oak, Maple, Walnut, and African Mahogany. Being made from real wood, Engineered Wooden Flooring has the same visual appeal as hardwood flooring. This makes it a better choice than Vinyl Flooring that looks evidently faux.



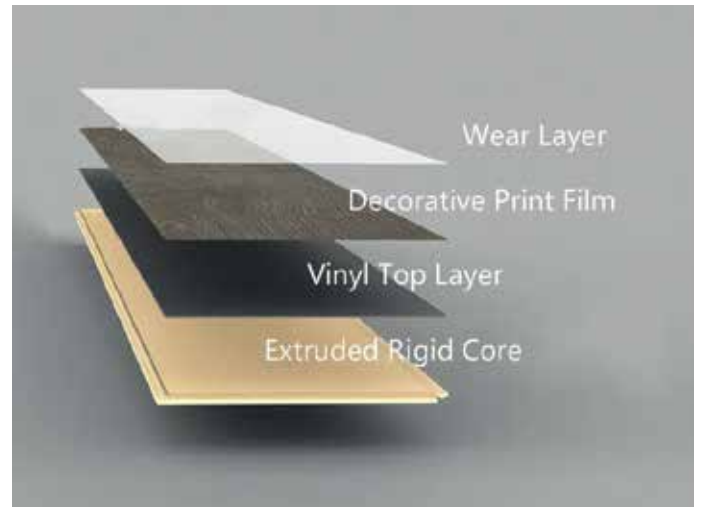
LIFETIME DURABILITY

One of the top reasons that make people choose Engineered Wooden Flooring over Vinyl Flooring is the added durability. Engineered Wooden Flooring is resistant to scratches and damage that makes it ideal for areas with heavy foot traffic. Engineered Wooden Flooring comprises three layers, each serving its own purpose. The final product is not only visually great but also built to last even in demanding conditions. On an average a high-quality Engineered Wooden Flooring lasts over 30 years. But if you select Vinyl Flooring, you need to replace it after 5 to 10 years. Whereas Engineered Wooden Flooring can easily retain its beauty for decades and last beyond a generation.



ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLINESS

With the increasing challenges of climate control and ecological imbalances, it is important to wisely choose materials for your usage. One needs to ensure that they have a positive impact on environment and our lives. Engineered Wooden Flooring is made using natural materials that are 100% recyclable & biodegradable. Vinyl Flooring on the other hand can potentially lead to a dent on environment as these are tough to recycle.



MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

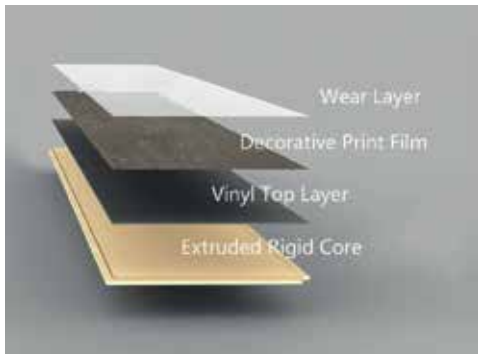
Engineered Wooden Flooring is one of the easiest flooring types to maintain whereas Vinyl Flooring requires special care while cleaning. For regular cleaning you can sweep the wooden flooring with a broom, dust mop, or use a vacuum cleaner on bare floors and it can easily be renewed through sanding as well. Repairing Vinyl Flooring is hard as you need to replace the entire sheet whenever they need replacement but with Engineered Wooden Flooring, you only need to replace the affected plank or planks without disturbing the adjacent planks.



INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Engineered Wooden Flooring is environment friendly. All the lacquers and stains that are used to manufacture them are water based. This makes them practically VOC free and healthy. On the other hand, Vinyl Flooring is made of synthetic and toxic chemicals where the main ingredient is Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). During their making, various types of phthalate plasticizers are added for flexibility. Several of these chemicals have been recognised as Carcinogens.

ENGINEERED WOODEN FLOORING VS VINYL FLOORING



Vinyl Flooring-Tiles/Planks

Vinyl Flooring is made of plastic materials constituting of 4 layers. The top wear layer is a finish (such as Urethane) that protects floors from scratches and stains. The second layer is the printed image layer, which can look like hardwood, stone, a pattern, or a solid colour. Some vinyl floors have texture that matches the image, making wood and stone styles look and feel a lot like the real thing. The third or the core determines how dent and water-resistant a vinyl product is. Depending on the product, the core may also add rigidity. Some Vinyl Flooring feel flexible before you install it (like vinyl sheets, which come in a roll) and some feel much firmer (like rigid core products, where planks or tiles snap together). The bottom layer on some Vinyl Flooring products has an attached underlayment.

Pros

- Can withstand dents and scratches.
- Cheap in cost.
- 100% waterproof.

Cons

- The printing on the 2nd layer of the sheet only looks like wood.
- The flooring image is only on the top layer. Once worn out, it can only be scrapped like laminates.
- They have a shorter lifespan and usually last less than 10 years.
- Made of synthetic and toxic chemicals. Main used item is Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC). During the process various types of phthalate plasticizers are added for flexibility. Several of these chemicals have been recognised as Carcinogens.
- High level of VOCs.
- Difficult to repair dents and scratches.
- Not environment friendly. Production process causes an adverse effect on our environment. Vinyl Flooring takes more energy and non-renewable resources to manufacture.
- Non-recyclable and not good for landfill.
- Poor heat resistance. It can be damaged or get defective when near or in touch with heat sources like a hot water pipe. Direct hot sunlight can also cause quality issues like decolourisation in Vinyl Floors.



Engineered Wooden Flooring

Multi-layered Engineered Wooden Floors are made for stability. They consist of decorative hardwood species such as Oak, Walnuts, Pinewood, or HDF core. The bottom layer of the Pine Wood provides further strength to the construction. The top layer is coated with a UV cured lacquer system. They protect the floor by forming a surface that provides protection against abrasion, dirt, and micro-scratches.


Pros

- It is real wood.
- It is durable.
- Environment friendly. Uses less energy and non-renewable resources.
- Easy maintenance.
- Easy and glue-less application with PlankLOC™ Technology. Also DIY friendly.
- Biodegradable and recyclable.
- Good heat resistance.
- Doesn't turn yellow due to sunlight. Real wood colour changes due to oxidation as it is a natural wood effect.
- No VOCs.
- Can be repaired for minor dents and scratches.
- The top layer can be sanded 2-3 times and the colour of the wood can be maintained at the same time. It can last for up to 30 years, but if maintained properly it can last for a lifetime.
- No odour after installation.

Cons

- Expensive.
- No moisture and water resistance.

PERFORMANCE SUPERIORITY Engineered Wooden Flooring Over Vinyl Flooring

Sr. No.	Characteristics	 (Manufactured By Greenlam)	Vinyl Flooring	Explanation
1	Product construction	Natural real wood	Artificial and synthetic	-
2	Look	Natural	Artificial	-
3	Styles	Many colours, finishes, and wood species including exotic hardwoods.	Multiple colors, finishes, and wood species such as oak and pine.	-
4	Pattern repetition	No plank pattern repeats, creating a real and natural feel.	High repetition as the photographic patterns are printed.	-
5	Top surface	Solid wood	PVC	-
6	Long product life	10 to 50 years	5 to 10 years	-
7	Refinishing of surface	✓	✗	-
8	Water resistance	More water resistant than hardwood flooring.	✓	-
9	Moisture resistance	More moisture resistant than hardwood flooring.	✓	-
10	Heat resistance	High	Low	Both are heat resistant product.
11	Chemical resistance	Class 5	Class 5	Both are chemical resistant.
12	Abrasion resistance	>20,000 revolutions	Max. 6500	
13	Sound absorption	✓	✗	Plastic surface in case of Vinyl Floors reflect the sound back.
14	VOC (Formaldehyde) emission	Below 0.1 ppm based on european norm E1 standard.	High	Vinyl Flooring is completely a polymeric product, hence higher level of emissions.
15	Good for allergy sufferers	✓	✓	
16	Underfloor heating	✓	✗	
17	Room temp. neutrality	✓	✗	
18	Easy maintenance of floor	✓	✓	
19	Cleaning	Can be cleaned with a damp mop or cloth with a cleaner designed for engineered hardwood.	Can be wet mopped or steam mopped. No waxes.	
20	Installation	Floating floor, glue down, nail down, and staples.	Floating floor, peel, and stick.	
21	Repairing of scratches on floor surface	✓	✗	
22	Pet friendly	✓	✓	
23	Tender/comfort underfoot (soft feel)	✓	✗	High impact for foot because of the nature of Vinyl Flooring that has higher density whereas the engineered flooring uses softwood as middle and back layer.
24	Environment friendly	✓	✗	Vinyl Flooring generates large amount of non-recyclable waste.
25	Recyclable content	✓	✗	
26	FSC certification	✓	✗	
27	PEFC certification	✓	✗	



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