

# Durable and tough: a flooring material with „taker qualities“



**Bathrooms and hobby rooms are subject to high wear and tear. That's why they require a hard-wearing, robust but at the same time easy to maintain floor covering such as vinyl. With this type of flooring, you need not be afraid of a hammer dropping or water sloshing out of the bathtub. Moreover, vinyl flooring is warm to the feet, soft and therefore gentle on the joints. On top, it comes with a virtually unlimited range of colors and decors that makes all your living dreams come true. If the vinyl tiles or planks are firmly bonded to the subfloor, no gaps or waves will form later on. But when installing the material, always make sure to use only high-quality, low-emission adhesives. They can be easily identified by the EMICODE® EC1 quality seal.**

Bathroom flooring is expected to have real „taker qualities“: it needs to withstand not only splashes of water from the shower and thick clouds of steam but also kids splashing around in the bathtub. While in earlier times many people opted for ceramic tiles, there is a true alternative today. Luxury vinyl tiles are just as water-repellent and easy to clean as classic ceramic tiles, and warm to the feet on top. Vinyl flooring (also called LVTs for luxury vinyl tiles) offers an almost infinite variety of colors and decors. Today, manufacturers produce deceptively real imitations of natural stone, wood and concrete floors. Since the surface is highly resistant to impact and scratches, vinyl flooring is also ideally suited for use in hobby rooms. Whether a billiard ball or screwdriver accidentally falls down or a glass crashes to the floor with a party in full swing: no major harm done. Vinyl flooring forgives the odd mishap. Home gyms need to be equipped with a resilient floor that yields under foot traffic and is easy on the joints. That's why soft vinyl flooring is the preferred choice instead of hard, unyielding laminate or stoneware.

Due to the everyday wear and tear that bath- and hobby rooms are exposed to, it is advisable to bond vinyl flooring over the entire floor surface. This way, it always stays firmly in place and does not shift like loose-lay flooring. Before applying the adhesive, the subfloor must be dry and completely level. Otherwise, moisture will later collect under the flooring and cause the development of mold. Bathrooms additionally require expert sealing of the vinyl flooring. Sealing and installation should best be done by a professional floor layer.

Not only mold or moisture can affect the indoor climate, but also the building materials used inside your home. For this reason, you should always watch out for the EMICODE® EC1 seal on the packaging of primers and adhesives. It indicates that the products are low on pollutants and therefore not harmful to human health. Since the EMICODE® meanwhile represents today's standard, you need not dig deeper into your pockets for a healthier living style: ecological products are not more expensive than conventional products. This saves money and also benefits the environment.

For over 20 years now, the GEV EMICODE® has been testing and certifying building materials with regard to their health and environmental compatibility. Stringent, unannounced tests ensure the long-term quality of EMICODE®-certified products. They are regularly carried out by independent test institutes.

**More information about the EMICODE® can be found at: [www.emicode.com](http://www.emicode.com)**

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Only products complying with the most stringent emission limits are awarded the EMICODE® label. Manufacturers must undertake to produce these products according to high quality standards and subject to strict monitoring to fulfil the EMICODE® requirements at all times. To ensure maximum reliability of the emission values claimed by the manufacturers, the products are regularly submitted to random spot checks by independent, internationally recognized testing institutes. The EMICODE® label is currently used in up to 20 languages. The GEV (Gemeinschaft emissionskontrollierte Verlegewerkstoffe, Klebstoffe und Bauprodukte e.V.) in Düsseldorf has been responsible for EMICODE® since 1997. **Contact:** [info@emicode.com](mailto:info@emicode.com)