

SECTOR: HOUSING  
CLIENT: BROADLAND HOUSING ASSOCIATION  
SOLUTION: GRIPTEX

## Tenants drive switch to Griptex

**“Griptex may cost more to purchase but as it can be laid without adhesive and saves on labour, which is the big expense factor, it becomes a cost-effective flooring.”**

**Simon Brister, Asset Management Surveyor, Broadland Housing Association.**

### Introduction

**Tenants’ views, ease of installation and lower ‘on floor’ costs are reasons why Gerflor’s residential vinyl flooring, Griptex, has replaced the originally specified vinyl within Broadland Housing Association’s new build and replacement kitchen and bathroom programme.**

Broadland Housing Association provides over 4,600 homes across the Norfolk and Suffolk region. Tenant satisfaction lies at the heart of its active social housing improvements and led to a switch to Griptex after tenants reported that the previous flooring was the single item letting down its new kitchen package.

“Everything we do is tenant involved,” says Simon Brister, Broadland Housing Association’s Asset Management Surveyor. “This includes gaining feed-back from tenants following the provision of new accommodation or home upgrades. We therefore needed a more attractive and less utilitarian alternative after receiving negative feed-back about the 2mm thick vinyl flooring, which was first specified.”

Broadland Housing Association found the solution in Griptex, Gerflor’s 3mm thick, (≥36/R10) slip resistant, loose-lay vinyl with a patented, textile backing system and unique, dimensionally stable, waterproof interlayer. Griptex, which bridges the gap between contract and domestic flooring, is up to 50% warmer than vinyl of an equal thickness and also quiet and comfortable underfoot, whilst its attractive designs and colours are developed especially for home environments.

“Designs and colours from the range fitted the scheme, plus Griptex also provides that extra bit of underfoot cushioning. Its use helps eliminate any stigma associated with the look and finish of old council housing and represents our philosophy to specify products that we, as fellow council workers, would want in our own homes.” says Simon Brister.

Initially Griptex went solely into new build kitchens, resulting in good feed-back from tenants. In addition to 200 annual new builds, it is therefore also included within a phased specification for approximately 180 planned kitchen and 60 planned bathrooms upgrades taking place every year, alongside any unplanned refurbishments. According to Broadland Housing Association, this unites the standard across new homes and existing homes and brings fairness to tenants. Ten design and colour choices from the range are currently offered to provide scope for personal preferences.

Beyond its popularity with tenants, the use of Griptex has the additional benefit of being easier and less costly to install: “Griptex may cost more to purchase but as it can be laid without adhesive and saves on labour, which is the big expense factor, it becomes a cost-effective flooring,” says Simon Brister.

Leading provider of social housing repair and maintenance services, Mears, is partnering contractor to Broadland Housing. Gerry Claxton, Operational Planned Works Manager for Mears agrees that Griptex has accelerated installation times since it replaced the previously specified flooring: “it is definitely



quicker to install", he says. "We no longer need to latex most subfloors whilst Griptex goes directly over the existing tiles if they are still well adhered. The flooring contractors now loose-lay the flooring using just tape at the edges without having to wait for glue to 'go-off' before the remainder of the kitchen and bathroom refurbishment gets underway. Faster completion times are also helpful to tenants within occupied housing who remain in-situ while the work is carried out."

Griptex also speeds-up new tenant occupancy as its unique, multi-layer construction permits up to 35 sqm to be loose-laid without adhesive over concrete and most existing smooth floorings with minimal subfloor preparation and without applying ply or screeding to the floor. Additionally, Griptex's integral waterproof

membrane tolerates up to 90% RH allowing fitting over damp subfloors and in older properties without damp proof courses. Griptex, which comes in two, three and four metre width options, also has an anti-mildew backing coating and a durable, easy-to-clean, PU surface layer.

Griptex is manufactured at Gerflor's ISO 14001 certified production sites. Gerflor has many year of experience in the housing sector and offers a combined portfolio of environmentally sustainable, residential and contract floorings.

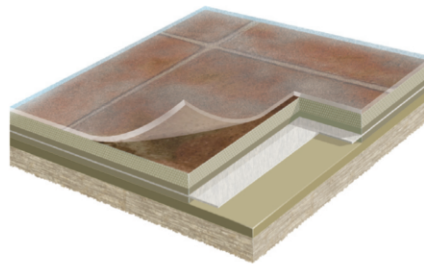
For further information on Gerflor's latest innovations, please call **01926 622600**, visit **www.gerflor.co.uk** or email **contractuk@gerflor.com**.

## Technical Data

Product Description	Griptex
Total Thickness EN 428	3.0mm
Thickness of wearlayer EN 429	0.25mm
Weight EN 430	2170g/m <sup>2</sup>
Width of Roll EN 426	200/300/400cm
Length of Roll EN 426	15/25lm
Backing	polyester textile
<b>Classification</b>	
European classification EN 685	23-31 class
Fire rating EN 13501-1	Cfl-s1 class
Slip resistance (wet) DIN 51 130	R10 class
RRL pendulum test (wet test) BS7976	≥36
Surface roughness Rtm/Rz	≥20 µm
<b>Performances</b>	
Abrasion resistance EN 660.1	group T
Sound Insulation ISO 140-8	16dB
Surface treatment	GripX
Colour fastness EN 20105-B02	≥ 6°
Guarantee	15 years (domestic)

For full specification details please contact us by phone, fax, email

## Griptex



- Textile backing - ideal for renovation
- Tough and durable (Group T wear rating)
- Sound insulating (16dB)
- Slip resistant surface (R10 rating, HSE ≥36)
- Waterproof from above & below
- Easy to clean PU surface
- 15 year guarantee