How to install?

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I. PREPARATIONS

Please read all the instructions before you begin the installation. Improper installation will void warranty.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All wood-based products, even those specifically designed to have increased resistance to moisture, are hygroscopic (they will react to the moisture in the environment) and as a result will expand or contract accordingly. All sources of under floor moisture must be rectified prior to the installation of the floor. Any construction dampness must be completely dry.

It is important that you check each plank for any manufacturing defects. Any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate refund or replacement prior to the flooring being installed.

- Calculate the room surface prior to installation and plan an extra 10% of flooring for waste.
- Keep the planks in room temperature for at least 48 hours in unopened package before you start the installation. The room temperature must be between 18-24°C and the relative humidity should be maintained between 40-65% before and during the installation.
- After installation the room temperature must be between 18-30°C at 40-65% relative humidity.
- For floor surfaces exceeding 100m² or lengths exceeding 10m and in doorways use expansion joints to divide the floor sections.
- With a floating floor, you must always ensure you leave a 10mm gap between walls and fixtures such as pillars, stairs, etc.
Tip: When installing around pipes, drill the holes 20mm larger than the diameter of the pipes.
- Inspect your subfloor before you begin. It must be clean, dry (max. 2.5% moisture content - CM method) and level to 5mm within 3m span.
- If this flooring is intended to be installed over an existing wooden floor, it is recommended to repair any loose planks or squeaks before you begin installation.
- Ensure when installing over an existing wooden floor with floating installation, that existing floor be securely fastened to the substrate.
- A vapor barrier to be installed over concrete substrates. In the case installation is done over a wood substrate on or below-grade a vapor barrier must be installed if there is not a vapor barrier existing in a well-ventilated crawl space. A minimum 0.15mm plastic poly sheeting should be used as a moisture barrier.
- Decide the installation direction. It is recommended to install the length direction of the planks parallel to the main light direction.
- Measure the area to be installed: The plank width of the last row shall not be less than 50mm. If so, adjust the width of the first row to be installed. When measuring, take the free gap requirement of about 10mm of the floor perimeter into account. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the lengthways.
- Inspect your laminate flooring. No claims on surface defects will be accepted after installation.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

In-floor Radiant Heat: Flooring can be installed over 12mm embedded radiant heat using the floating method. Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 27°C. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating.

- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated subfloors.
- Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system.
- The maximum moisture content of the screed is 2.5% (CM method).
- Make sure that the temperature in the room is maintained consistent between 18-24°C and the relative humidity maintained between 40-65% before and during the installation.
- Floor temperature must not exceed 27°C.
- Once the installation has been completed, the heating system should be turned on and increased gradually (5-degree increments) until returning to normal operating conditions.
- Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Warning: Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath the floors. Using electric heating mats that are not embedded and applied directly underneath the floors could void the warranty for your floor in case of failure. It is best to install the flooring over embedded radiant floor heating systems and adhere to the guidelines listed above.

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES REQUIRED

• Spacers • Saw • Adhesive Tape • Min 0.15mm (or thicker) polyurethane vapor barrier for crawl space and concrete floor installations • Rubber Mallet • Ruler • Pencil
• Tape Measure • Utility Knife

II. INSTALLATION

1. Clean subfloor, removing any dust or debris. If you are installing over a concrete subfloor, a min 0.15mm plastic poly sheeting is to be installed under the floor.
NOTE: As the floor already has a pre-attached underlay, additional underlays are not recommended and will void the warranty.

2. Begin laying in the left-hand corner. Place the floorboard 10mm from the left wall. Use spacers between the wall and the floorboard.

3. Second plank, first row: Drop the plank and gently tap down the end with a rubber mallet so it firmly locks into the previous plank until both are at the same height. Make sure both planks are perfectly aligned. NOTE: If you notice both planks aren't at the same height or are not well locked together, please follow the disassembling instructions at the bottom of the page, disassemble and check if any debris stuck inside the lock is obstructing.

4. At the end of the first row, leave an expansion gap of 10mm to the wall and measure the length of the last plank to fit.

5. If cutting with a jig saw, the laminate surface should be turned down. If cutting with a hand saw, the laminate surface should be face up.

6. Start the second row with the leftover cut part of the last plank of the previous row. This small plank should measure at least 30cm. Otherwise, use another plank that should be cut in two.

7. Click the long side of the plank into the previous row and place it tight to the short end of the previous plank. Drop the plank and gently tap down the end with a rubber mallet so it firmly locks into the previous plank until both are at the same height. Make sure both planks are perfectly aligned and locked into the previous row leaving no gap (refer to "Helpful Hint" at the bottom of the page).

8. After 2-3 rows. Adjust the distance to the front wall by leaving an expansion gap of 10mm. Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 30cm, both when in the same row as when from one row to the next one.

9. To lay the last row: Position a loose plank exactly on top of the last row laid. Place another plank on top, with the tongue side touching the wall. Draw a line along the edge of this plank, to mark the first plank. Cut along the edge of this plank to mark the first plank. Cut along this line to obtain of the required width. Insert this cut plank against the wall. The last row should be at least 50mm wide. The spacers can then be removed.

10. Holes for pipes: Measure the diameter of the pipe and drill a hole that is 20mm larger. Saw off a piece as shown in the figure and lay the plank in place on the floor. Then lay the sawed-off piece in place.

11. Door moulding and skirting: Lay a plank (with the decorative side down) next to the door moulding and saw as shown in the figure. Then slide the floorboard under moulding.

III. MAINTENANCE

• Clean the floor regularly with a vacuum cleaner or dry mop.

• If necessary, the floor may be cleaned with a damp microfiber cloth and a laminate cleaner. Avoid using too much water.

• To protect the floor from sand we recommend you use the doormats at entries (but do not use mats with a rubber backing).

IV. DISASSEMBLING

Separate the whole row by lifting it up delicately at an angle. To separate the planks, leave them flat on the ground and slide them apart.