

Installation Instructions Solid Drop Loc

Wood floors are suitable for all rooms other than those that are subject to excessive moisture and high levels of humidity. Do not remove this protective film

Important notice

All wood is hygroscopic (it will react to the moisture in the environment) and as a result will expand or contract accordingly. All sources of moisture must be rectified prior to the installation of the floor, and moisture levels in rooms fitted with wood flooring should be maintained at a stable level, in line with normal living conditions. 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. The boards in this pack are of random lengths and should be laid randomly across the floor to create the best effect. It is advisable to open a few packs at a time to mix boards from each pack as they are installed.

I. Before You Start

- Calculate the total square meters or square footage of the room(s) and add 10% for cutting and waste.
- The wood boards should be placed in the room in which they are to be fitted to acclimatize for 1 week and should be carefully stacked, in their packaging, to allow air to circulate. The boards should be stored and laid in a relative humidity between 45%-60% and at a room temperature of between 18°C and 21°C (65°F and 70°F).
- Use a dehumidifier to control the moisture content.
- Wood flooring is a natural product which will mature with age. The boards will change shade over time through exposure to sunlight.
- All substrates must be structurally sound, flat and dry. The surface should be free of all contaminants and loose material. All potential sources of moisture e.g. walls, drains, damp proof courses, plumbing, refrigerators, washing machines etc. MUST be thoroughly checked and rectified if found to be an issue.
- The boards should be installed lengthways to towards the main incoming light source and, where possible, down the length of the room.

If installing onto a concrete or screed base

- In good drying conditions allow one day per 1mm of new screed/concrete to ensure it is dry. Further time may be necessary depending on site conditions.
- Existing screeds/concrete must be checked for moisture. This can easily be carried out using a moisture meter, or alternatively sheets of polythene approximately 1 meter² 1 meter square can be taped on to the screed and a heavy weight placed on top for 24 hours. Presence of moisture in the screed will be confirmed if the screed is discolored, or moisture is apparent on the underside of the polythene. If moisture is present, i.e. over 12%, wood floors must not be fitted until the problem has been rectified. Please seek a professional installer's advice for options to resolve.

If installing onto a wood subfloor

Wood flooring can be installed directly onto prepared floorboards. If the existing floorboards are sufficiently flat, the new boards can be laid directly on to them at 90°. If the existing floor is not suitably flat then it must be made flat and level by overlaying with Exterior Grade plywood. Loose boards must be secured or the new floor may squeak. Please note: If nails/staples/screws are being used, care must be taken not to damage pipes or electrical cables beneath. If the new boards are to be laid in the same direction as the old, plywood sheets (minimum depth 6mm) should be nailed, stapled or screwed to cover the existing floor, allowing a 15mm perimeter gap for expansion.

Subfloors with radiant heat

It is not recommended to install this product over subfloors with radiant heat and will not be covered by the manufacturer's warranty. IMPORTANT: Installation below grade is also not allowed.

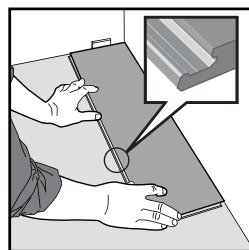
II. Installation Methods

There are a number of methods for installing wood floors, floating or stapling. Apart from where specified in the following sections most existing floor finishes e.g. lino, carpet etc., and should be removed prior to installation of a new wood floor. NOTE: If room wider than 6 meters (19.7ft), we recommend to split installation in two for expansion gap. The expansion gap can be hidden with a T-molding.

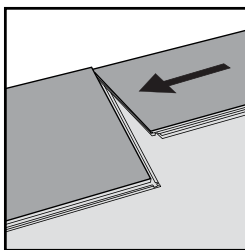
1. Floating installations

Before floating installation of the flooring begins, install a foam underlay. Run the foam underlay in the same direction as the flooring planks. The underlay should be butted side-by-side with no overlap. Tape seams together. Your floor is made to be installed floating without glue: Leave an open expansion gap of min 6/16" (10mm) around the whole perimeter (use the distance wedges), i.e. also at pipes, stairs, columns, doorframes and thresholds. In large rooms, calculate 1/16" (1,5mm) / m floor around. Install maximum 23ft (7m) length /width; over this: allow for an expansion gap, to cover with a profile of wood or metal. The floor must be able to move free - do not connect or install tight to any construction part. Rooms with off square areas like for example L-, F-, T-, U- shapes, separate the areas with an expansion joint and especially always in door openings. At any question contact your distributor for further information, installation at doors, glue down, etc. Claims regarding visible defective floor panels must be made prior to installation. Each board should be inspected to ensure that the quality is acceptable. No claims relating to surface defects can be accepted after installation.

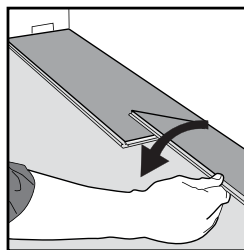
Installation method of floorpanels



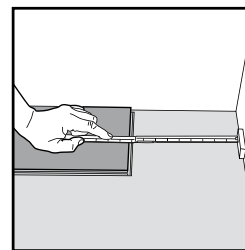
1. First plank, first row. Place a distance ca 3/8" (10mm) width to the left and position the plank against the wall. Later, after 3 rows, you can easily position the flooring on the front wall with 3/8" (10mm) expansion gap.



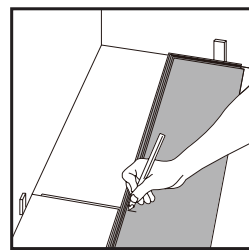
2. Second plank, first row. Place this plank tight to the short end of the first one.



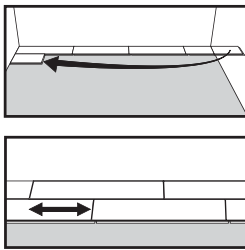
3. Fold down with a single action movement.



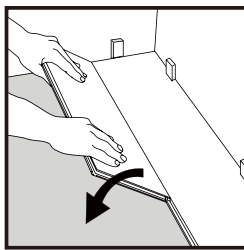
4. At the end of the first row, leave an expansion gap of 3/8" (10mm), to the wall and measure the length of the last plank to fit.



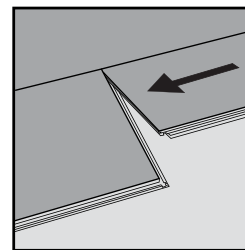
5. Cut with a jig saw - hardwood turned down or with a hand saw with the hardwood visible.



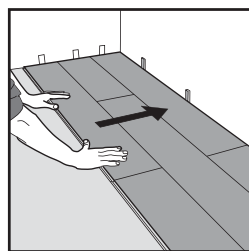
6. Second row. First plank min length 1ft 7 11/16" (500mm). Leave an expansion gap of 3/8" (10mm) against the wall. Generally, minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows shall not be less than 6" (150mm).



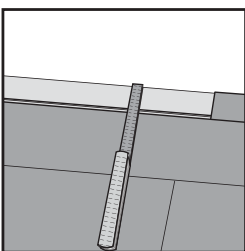
7. Second plank second row.



8. Hold the floorboard with 2hands at about 100mm from the 2 butt ends and place it at an angle against the floorboard in the previous row, press forward and fold down at the same time to lock the long side of the board.

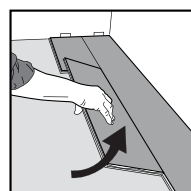


9. After 2-3 rows. Adjust the distance between the front wall and the flooring by leaving an expansion gap of 3/8" (10mm).



10. Last row (and perhaps also first row). Minimum width 2" (50mm). Remember expansion gap of 3/8" (10mm). The last row has to be glued down using beam glue on the tongue of the plank. Tip! Put a distance before measuring. Cut the panels lengthwise and glue the short ends.

Disassembling



Separate the floorboard by carefully lifting up and releasing the whole row.

Attention: Please take care to ensure that the subfloor is smooth, flat, and clear of debris. There should be no more than 3/16" (5mm) difference over an 8' (2.4m) span in any direction. Please use an 8" (20cm) straight-edge to check. Prep subfloor as needed. It is critical that the home humidity levels remain no lower than 45% and no higher than 60%."

2. Staple-Down Installation

Tools Required (not supplied)

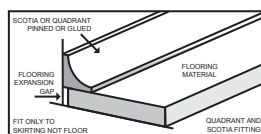
Instead of the hammer or the nailing gun, use an air pressure stapler of 74.5PSI and staples of 1cm (6/16") wide, legs of 2cm (3/4" to 1") long

Follow the same instructions as the nail-down installation. Set pressure at 70-75 PSI to begin and adjust until proper fastener setting occurs. Put one staple every 30cm (1ft) on the long side.

III. FINISHING OFF

Once the flooring is installed, whichever method you have used, the expansion gap can be covered by re-fitting the skirting boards.

Alternatively, if the skirting has been kept in place attaching some molding trims to the skirting using glue or panel pins will also achieve the desired results. At doorways a door threshold strip should be used to protect the edges of the floor and provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another.



IV. CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- It is recommended that you use felt pads under chairs and furniture (a plastic mat should be used with office chairs on wheels) wood floors will mark with use, which adds to its character.
- Rubber based castor cups should be used for heavy load furniture such as armchairs and pianos.
- Doormats should be used inside and outside of all external doorways to prevent grit from being carried across the floor, protecting the surface from excessive wear and tear. Be sure that the backing of the mat is not rubber.
- For regular cleaning a dry or damp cloth is advised. (we recommend that cloths be rung until no more drips are present before wiping the floor)
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool or scouring powder as this may damage the surface of your floor. Do not use wood oil soap products.

Lacquered floors have a surface layer protecting the wood from damage, which is durable and easily maintained. Once the lacquer has been damaged it is advisable to sand a re-lacquer the entire floor to maintain an even finish rather than spot lacquering. This is a procedure which is best carried out by a professional. Please note that repeated sanding will remove some of the textured finish.