

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PRODUCT INSPECTIONS

- Inspection of all flooring materials for defects must be done before installation.
- Variations in color, tone and graining are to be expected in a natural wood floor.
- Materials with visible defects are not covered under warranties once they are installed.
- Wood failure resulting from or connected with sub-floor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies are responsibilities of the installers.
- Our wood floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards based on NWFA and NOFMA.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Please refer to the NOFMA or NWFA guidelines for details before installation.

- Check for moisture content using the appropriate testing method.
- A new concrete slab usually takes about 90 days to dry thoroughly depending on the size and weather conditions.
- Subfloor must be flat, dry, free from residues and structurally sound.
- A moisture barrier must be used if the subfloor moisture emissions are greater than 3 lbs per 1000 sq/ft or warranty is voided. Both Calcium Chloride testing and Concrete Moisture Testing is required to verify this.

ACCLIMATION / GENERAL CONDITIONS

- The flooring should be stored in the rooms in which it will be installed.
- Allow 3-7 days acclimation time for RH between 36-55% for engineered floors. Allow 8-15 days acclimation time for RH between 25-35% or 56-75%.
- Allow 7-14 days of acclimation time for Solid Wood Flooring depending on weather conditions. RH should be between 35-75%
- Breaking the floor units into small lots and/or opening the packaging can facilitate acclimation.
- Acclimation of the flooring must be done in an area which the temperature and humidity are maintained at or near normal living conditions.

ENGINEERED FLOOR INSTALLATION

1. GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: 11/16", 5/8", 9/16", 1/2", and 3/8" Engineered Floors Only.

- A moisture barrier must be used if the subfloor moisture emissions are greater than 3 lbs per 1000 sq ft on the calcium chloride testing.
- Install a sacrificial row along the edge of the working line and begin installation. (Before finishing the installation, remove sacrificial row and complete installation) or alternatively, lay one row of plank in the adhesive along the entire length of the working line. Add each additional row of flooring. Maintain proper pattern repeat; distribute lengths avoiding "H" patterns and end joints less than 6 inches in adjacent runs; if needed use tape or tensioners to maintain a tight floor.
- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter. Typical expansion is equal to the thickness of the product installed or 1/16" expansion for every 3.5' across width and 1/16" expansion for every 9.5' along length.

2. FLOATING INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: 11/16", 5/8", 9/16" and 1/2" Engineered Floors Only.

- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter. Typical expansion is equal to the thickness of the product installed.
- You can install on grade, below grade or above grade.
- Require 1/16" expansion for every 3.5' across width and 1/16" expansion for every 9.5' along length.
- Spread glue evenly throughout the groove and insert the tongue side afterward. Make sure you do not overspread the glue.
- You can proceed until the entire floor is finished.
- Trim the underlayment before installing quarter rounds or wall base.

3. NAIL OR STAPLE DOWN INSTALLATION GUIDELINES: 11/16", 5/8", 9/16", 1/2", and 3/8" Engineered Floors Only.

- For 5/8" or 9/16" thick products use 1 1/2" length nail. Require 3-5" of space between each nail.
- For 3/8" or 1/2" thick products use 1 3/8" length nail. Require 3-5" of space between each nail.
- Require 3-4" of space between each nail for 9" or wider planks.
- Subfloor should be within acceptable moisture content before installation.
- Cover the subfloor with 15 lb. asphalt felt paper. This is used to help retard moisture from below.
- Select a starter wall. Measure out from this wall at each end, the overall width of the plank (board width + tongue + 1/4" for expansion).
- Snap a chalk line from these points, parallel to the wall.
- Install the first row of starter planks along the chalk line / straightedge and secure into position with the tongue facing away from the starter wall. Drill pilot holes through the face of the plank every 6".
- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter. Typical expansion is equal to the thickness of the product installed or 1/16" expansion for every 3.5' across width and 1/16" expansion for every 9.5' along length.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

WARRANTY

- 25 Years limited warranty for the finish against wear through under proper residential usage and maintenance.
- 5 Years limited warranty for the finish against wear through under light commercial usage with proper maintenance.
- Lifetime limited warranty against warping, buckling or bonding failure under normal residential use.
- Warranty applies only to the original buyers while they own the home.

Warranty is conditioned upon Manufacturer's receipt of notice in writing from the buyer of the alleged defect prior to expiration of the warranty period and evidence that the products were properly installed and not subject to any of the conditions described below.

LIMITATIONS ON LIABILITY

Manufacturer's sole liability on any claim shall be limited to either repair or replacement of the defective products, and shall not be in excess of the price of the goods in question.

Defect of goods must be proven by inspection procedures deemed proper by the Manufacturer.

EXCLUSIONS

Color variations and grain pattern differences.

Any visible defects noted after installation.

Building settling or uneven sub-floor.

Improper Installation.

Improper maintenance or inadequate care.

Accidents abuse or misuse.

Indentations from Stiletto heels on shoes.

Water damage or damage caused by excessive dryness.

Discoloration due to excessive sunlight.

Consequential or incidental damages, such as any loss, expense, or damages other than to the flooring itself that may result from a defect in the flooring.

MAINTENANCE INFORMATION

Natural wood will expand and contract with fluctuation in humidity, leaving small gaps between the boards. To minimize this, use humidity control in the home, and proper acclimation before installation.

Place natural fiber rugs at entry points to help trap grit and absorb moisture that may damage the finish. This can protect the floors from dirt or water. Certain rugs with rubber bottoms or non-skid pads may leave an imprint on the floor.

To prevent abrasive dirt and dust from accumulating and scratching the finish, sweep or vacuum the floor with a soft brush on a regular basis.

Vacuuming should only be done with machines that have a hard surface setting to prevent damage from the rollers.

Refrain from damp mop. Use only the cleaning products designed specifically for hardwood floors. Bona Floor Care Products Recommended.

Never use wax, oil-based detergent or any other household cleaners on the floors. These may dull or damage the finish, leaving a greasy film and making the floor slippery and more difficult to clean. Do not use spray polishes or other cleaners that are designed for other types of wood furnishings.

Wipe spills immediately. Be especially attentive to sink, dishwasher, stove tops and dining rooms, which are more prone to harmful spills.

Add felt pads to all furniture and chair legs to prevent damage to the floor. Replace the felt pads when dirty or worn. For extremely heavy objects, use wide, non-staining rubber cups.

Damaged or worn high heel shoes may expose a metal tip, which is certain to damage the surface finish. Keep high heel shoes in good condition.

Protect your floor against direct sunlight or any intense source of artificial lighting. Over time, intense natural and artificial light will discolor hardwood floors.