

Engineered Hardwood Click Lock Installation Instructions

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Pre-Installation Requirements

To prevent damage to the finish of your hardwood floor, we recommend that the installation of your hardwood floor be the final step in your construction project.

Environmental Guidelines

1. The room temperature where the hardwood floors are being installed must be between 65°F - 72°F (18°C - 22°C) for at least one week prior to installation. This temperature must also be maintained after the floor is installed.
2. It is important that the subfloor be dry and the basement be well ventilated. Doing so will avoid any moisture-related damage. The maximum moisture level reading for wooden subfloors is 12%, with no more than a 4% differential between the subfloor and wooden planks. If your moisture readings are too high, raise the heat and increase the ventilation in the area. If installing over a concrete subfloor, the moisture level must be below 3 lbs per 1000 sqft over a 24 hours time period.
3. The relative humidity of the installation location must be kept between 30% and 60%.
4. If radiant heat is used, the system must be fully tested and have been in operation for 3 weeks. It is important that the surface temperature of the subfloor never exceed 85°F (29°C). It is essential that you use a recommended undercushion for in floor heating applications.

Subfloor Conditions

1. The subfloor must be securely fastened to the floor joists to prevent any movement or squeaks. Use screws rather than nails to provide a stronger bond.
2. The subfloor level should differ no more than 1/4" (6mm) per 10' (3m). Should the subfloor be outside of this tolerance, it should be leveled out using a leveling compound. If required, use a coarse grit sandpaper to remove any highpoints of a wooden subfloor, or use a grinder on a concrete subfloor.

3. Prior to the installation of the flooring, vacuum the subfloor to remove all debris.
4. Roll out a minimum of 6mm poly or undercushion, and tape all seams over the entire floor surface.

Room Conditions

1. Undercut or remove any baseboards, if required.
2. Undercut all doorjamb and doorstops so that the flooring can be inserted underneath.
3. Pre-select and put aside strips of flooring that are colour matched to transition moldings (which will be installed at end of project).

Click Lock Installation Instructions

Our engineered hardwood click lock flooring is specially designed with a Valinge hinge (2G). This joint uses a unique tongue-and-groove joint that is able to withstand extreme pressure. Because of this, planks cannot be nailed down. By “clicking” the joints together, planks are held firmly in place.

Step 1: Plank laying

- A. Carefully select the planks, removing any ones that contain visible imperfections or high colour variation. It is suggested that these less desirable planks be used in less conspicuous areas such as closets.
- B. Click together two rows of flooring, spanning the full length of the room. Align these two rows 1/2” (12mm) away from the starting wall, and adjacent walls.
- C. Select a plank that is long enough for the row end, and also allows enough length for the trimmed piece to be used to start the next row. Make sure to leave a 1/2” (12mm) gap at the end of each row between the plank and wall.
- D. Planks should differentiate at least 4” (101mm) in length to that in the row beside it. This will help prevent the effect of end-joint alignment.
- E. Continue installation the planks across the full width of the room.
- F. Sometimes, the final row must be rip sawed to allow for the required 1/2” (12mm) gap alongside the finishing wall.
- G. Carefully store extra planks in an area with similar temperature and humidity as the installation area. They may be useful, should any future repairs be needed.

Step 2: Accessories installation

- A. Where applicable, install transition moldings, stair nosing, and reducers.
- B. Install baseboards and quarter rounds. Make sure that they are nailed only to the wall and not to



the floor. This will allow for any necessary for floor movement.

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