

GLUE DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

Getting Started

1) INSPECT EACH PLANK

Wood is a natural product containing natural variations in colour, tone and grain. A slight colour variation between planks is to be expected in a natural wood floor

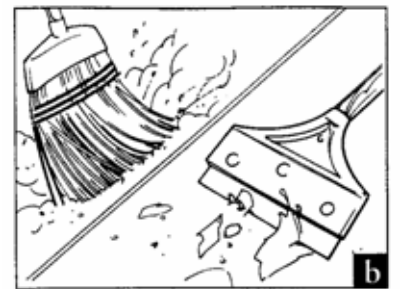
We urge you to inspect for colour, finish and graining BEFORE installation. Care should be taken during installation to cut out or repair particular characteristics you do not desire. We suggest you use cut planks as starter strips to begin each new row and to "rack" the flooring to ensure random appearance (see figure a.)



2) CHECK SUB FLOOR

- Make sure sub floor is clean. No oil, dirt, grease, wax, sealers, paint, adhesives or any other substance that would hinder adhesion. (See figure b.)

- Make sure sub floor is level to 6mm per 3.1m span. Stretch a 3.1m string or lay a 3.1m straight edge over sub floor. If the sub floor dips or crowns 6mm or more in the span it must be levelled. Use a latex underlayment material to level low areas in the sub floor. If the floor has a crown or rise, level by sanding to meet specifications. (See figure c.)



CAUTION: Do not sand existing resilient tile, sheet vinyl flooring, backing or lining felt. They may contain asbestos not readily identifiable. Inhalation of asbestos dust can cause asbestosis or other serious bodily harm. Check regulations for handling hazardous material before attempting the removal of these floors.

- Make sure sub floor is dry. Using an approved moisture meter, measure the moisture content in the sub floor. For plywood it should be between 6% and 12%.



GLUE DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

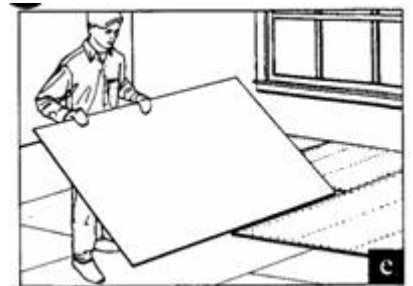
- Make sure sub floor is structurally sound.

1. Concrete should be smooth and crack free.
2. When installing over lightweight concrete, scrape a coin or key across the surface. If surface powders easily, do not install any hardwood flooring. (See figure d.)



3. Berry Wood ForestLOC and NobleLOC planks may be installed over Radiant Heated sub floors provided that the correct site conditions are fulfilled. The heating system must be off for 24 hours before installation and 24 hours after installation. The heating system must have a regulation system to limit temperatures to a maximum of 35°C at the floor surface.
4. Ceramic tile or terrazzo sub floors should be free of wax and sealers. Glazed ceramic tile and some smooth terrazzo should be roughed with 60-grit sandpaper or carborandum stone. Check for loose tiles by tapping tile with a block of wood. Fill grout lines with a cement/latex underlayment.
5. When installing over vinyl tile, sheet vinyl or reinforced vinyl tile, be sure the sub floor is not loose. Re-glue or cut out any loose sections. Clean all vinyl flooring to remove wax and sealers.
6. Planks may be glued to a single layer of 18mm thick tongue and grooved plywood. Plywood should be nailed to floor joists on 42cm centres.

7. If the underlayment substrate is plywood less than 18mm thick or a wood product other than plywood, add a second cross layer for strength and stability not less than 8mm thick (see figure e.) To prevent squeaking, use ring shank nails, coated nails or coated staples every 15cm to secure the second layer. Glue, nail or screw down plywood when installing over particle board or oriented standard board (OSB).



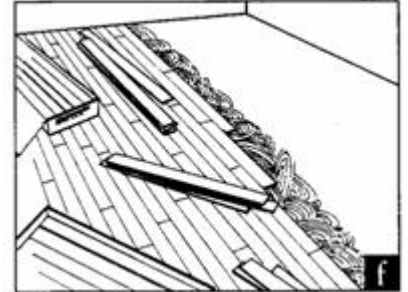
Structurally sound wood floors will not have movement or deflections. Sub floor movement or improper sub floor installation will eventually cause squeaking.

3) BLEND CARTONS

To get uniform appearance across the complete floor, open several cartons of flooring and stack the planks in the work area so the flooring is blended during installation.

GLUE DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

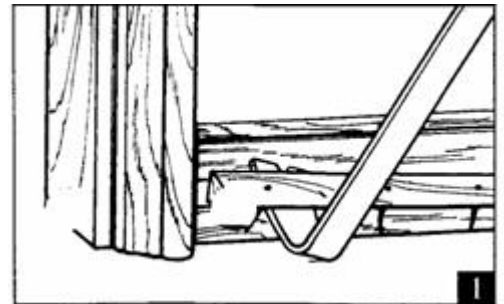
Please keep in mind that it is always a good idea to retain a few planks in case a repair is ever required. (See figure f). Make sure your work area is well-lit. Good visibility ensures that colour is consistent and that adhesive spills are detected and cleaned quickly.



PLEASE NOTE: Hardwood Flooring Imports Ltd accepts no responsibility for costs incurred when a floor with visible defects has been permanently installed.

Preparing Doorways and Skirtings

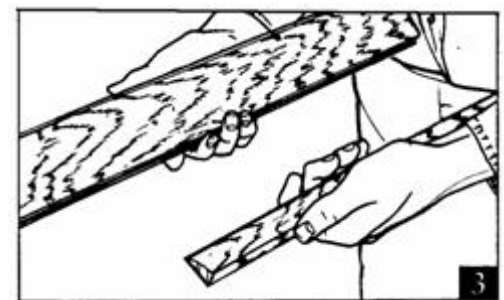
1. Remove existing base, quarter round and doorway thresholds. Save to reinstall later to cover any unattractive edges.



2. Undercut all door casings 3mm higher than the thickness of the flooring to be installed. Put a scrap piece of plank on the substrate as a guide and cut the door casing with a handsaw or power jamb saw set to the correct height.



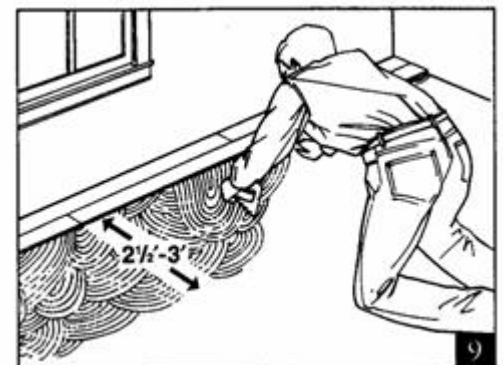
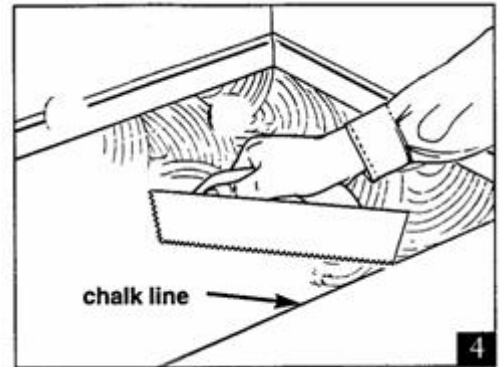
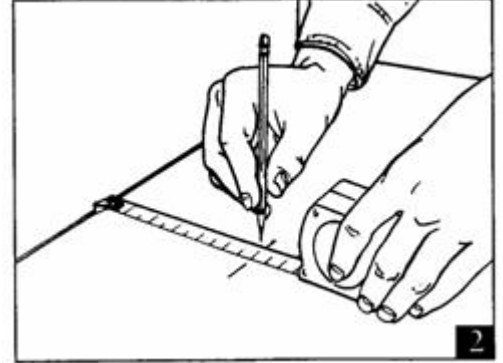
3. BEFORE INSTALLATION, match all transition moldings with a plank that is close in graining and colour.



GLUE DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

Adhesive Installation

1. Select a starter wall. An outside wall is best; it is more likely to be straight and square with the room.
2. Measure out from the wall the width of 2 planks.
3. Snap a chalk line.
4. Spread Styccobond B92 adhesive from chalk line to wall with V-Notch trowel.
5. Let adhesive set for 30 minutes.
6. Since most walls are not straight, the planks along the wall may have to be cut to fit.
7. Install the first row of starter planks and secure into position. Proper alignment is critical. Misaligned starter rows can ruin your installation. Professional installers sometimes firmly secure a straight edge along the chalk line (2x4s work well), as a guide and to prevent planks from shifting in wet adhesive. Or, top nail the row with finishing nails (wood sub floor), or sprig/pin nails (concrete sub floor).
8. Use a tapping block to tap the planks until the tongue and groove "snaps" into place.
9. When first 2 starter rows are secure, spread 2½ to 3 feet of adhesive the length of the room. Avoid clustering end joints. Stagger random lengths so that end joints are no closer than 6". (Never lay more adhesive than can be covered in 3 hours. If the adhesive has set and will not transfer to the back of the plank, scrape up the adhesive and apply fresh Styccobond.)



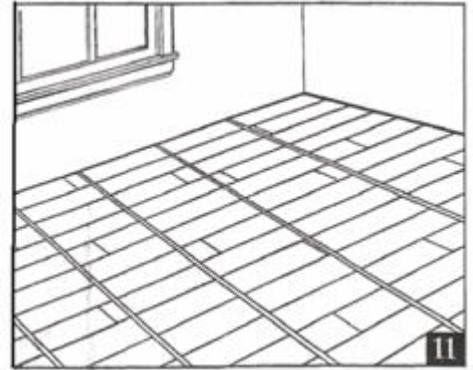
GLUE DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

10. Place planks into position in wet adhesive and tap into place with a tapping block.

11. After several runs of planks are down, lay down perpendicular strips of masking tape to hold the planks securely. Repeat this process as the installation progresses.

12. Retain a few planks in case a repair is ever required.

13. Clean any adhesive with mineral spirits while still wet. Peel up masking tape within 24 hours of installation.



Final inspection

After the floor is cleaned, inspect the floor for nicks, scratches and planks that may have moved during installation or any other imperfections that need attention. In typical climates, floor can accept foot traffic within 8-12 hours. Arid climates may require more curing time.

Floor protection during construction

To protect the completed floor during construction, lay a quality felt paper over the floor and tape it to the skirting boards. Never use plastic or polyethylene to cover the floor since they will trap moisture. Covering materials must allow the floor to breathe