



# PRE-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST HARDWOOD

Installation instructions and preparation guidelines must be read thoroughly before installing the floors.

# OWNER – INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

1. Be on site when your new floors arrive. Verify that they are the correct collection and color before they start the installation process. This is very important. \*See Maintenance & Warranty Guide (p.1)
2. Inspect all materials carefully prior to installation. Warranties do not cover materials with visible defects once they are installed. Installation constitutes acceptance.
3. Inspect the hardwood flooring in well lighted conditions to ensure proper identification of any potential problems. Carefully inspect the flooring for grade, color, finish, and quality.
4. Material that is subjectively viewed as unacceptable but falls within Hallmark Floors grading norms will not be replaced. Material with visible defects can be returned for replacement through the dealer.
5. Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure the job site and sub-floor conditions meet the requirements specified in these instructions.
6. Hardwood flooring installation should be one of the last items completed on the construction project. Limit foot traffic on the finished wood floor.

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# Grading Standards

## **General Rules:**

Flooring shall be tongue and grooved and end matched (unless otherwise indicated). Flooring shall not be considered of standard grade unless properly dried. The drying standard for Hallmark product shall be 8 to 10% moisture content by volume with a plus or minus factor of 2% for storage conditions in various climate zones.

## **Grading Rules:**

Hallmark Floors, like many flooring and lumber mills, uses a proprietary grade for manufacturing our floors. Proprietary grades are generally referred to as Mill Run. Instead of separating the lumber into traditional NOFMA/NWFA grades, the flooring is a mix of grades. This enables Hallmark to produce wider and longer boards.

Hallmark grading rules allow for filled knot's, mineral streak, open checks, tight checks and filled checks. Bird peck, pin worm hole, flag worm hole (any insects are killed in drying process). Plank faces may also contain unlimited amounts of heart wood (dark portion of log) and/or sap wood (light portion of log).

## **Environmental Issues**

Damage caused by inappropriate handling, environment, installation, or maintenance issues will not be considered in relationship to grade.

## **Storage & Handling**

Handle and unload wood flooring with care. Store in a dry place; Make sure to provide at least a four-inch space (using dry 4" x 4" stickers or a dry pallet that provides enough clearance under boxes for proper air movement. Prior to delivery of flooring, outside doors and windows must be in place. All concrete, masonry, plastering, and other "wet" work must be complete and thoroughly dry.

Roofing and the exterior shell of the structure must be finished and weather tight with doors and windows installed. The wall coverings should be in place and all painting completed—except for the final coat on the base molding. Room temperature and humidity should be consistent with year-round conditions for at least one week prior to installation. When possible, install base molding after floor installation is complete HVAC MUST BE RUNNING WITH A ROOM TEMPERATURE OF BETWEEN 65° F TO 85° F AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF BETWEEN 30 AND 50% (Hickories should be 35-50%)

## California Prop 65 Warning

Drilling, sawing, sanding, or machining wood products generates wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. CA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

Source:

<http://oehha.ca.gov/proposition-65>

## Pre-Installation Inspection

### **Visual Inspection:**

The first inspection is visual and basic. Is there water in the building? Are the doors and windows installed and the building weather tight? Climate Control: If heating and or air conditioning with proper humidity controls are in operating condition, they need to be turned on. If it is not possible for the permanent system to operate a temporary system that provides proper temperature and humidity conditions must be in place and remain in place until permanent climate control is operational.