

Laminate Flooring

GENERAL GUIDELINES

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT:

- Laminate flooring is installed using a patented glueless locking mechanism. Because this is a floating floor system, laminate flooring should not be nailed or glued to the subfloor.
- The floor should not be installed directly against any fixed, vertical object (including walls, staircases, fixtures, etc.); Allow a minimum of 5/16 in (8mm) expansion space around the perimeter of the room and any fixed objects such as posts. Use spacers included in a laminate flooring kit to achieve uniform space around fixed objects.
- Rooms measuring wider or longer than 30ft (9m) require the use of T-moldings to allow for normal expansion and contraction of the floor.
- Be sure to stagger boards by a minimum of 12 in (300mm).
- Laminate flooring should not be installed in wet areas or rooms where the relative humidity exceeds 70%.

REQUIRED TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

- Laminate installation kit (including spacers, tapping block, pull bar)
- Hammer
- Table or hand saw
- Carbide-tipped circular saw blades
- Vacuum
- Tape measure
- Duct tape
- Use Husssh 1, 2, or 3 for underlayment and vapour barrier
- Safety glasses
- Gloves

SAFETY CAUTION:

USE SAFETY GLASSES AND GLOVES WHEN CUTTING THIS PRODUCT. DURING THE CUTTING PROCESS, LAMINATE MAY CREATE WOOD DUST; BE SURE TO INSTALL IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL TYPES OF SUBFLOORING:

Laminate flooring can be installed over most floors such as vinyl, tile and sheet floors. Substrates should be structurally sound and immobile. Before installing flooring, ensure that the subfloor is leveled within 3/16 in in 10ft (2 mm in 2 m). Irregularities in the subfloor should be smoothed using a hydraulic cement base patching and leveling compound. Suspended wood subfloors should have a minimum of 18 in (45 cm) of well-ventilated air space above the ground.

CONCRETE:

- New concrete subflooring should be cured for at least 90 days prior to installation. (Moisture test: moisture vapor < 3 lbs/1,000sqft/24 hours per ASTM 1 869 calcium chloride test).
- Install your choice of Husssh 1, 2 or ,3 vapor barrier over the concrete subfloor. Seams must be taped using adhesive tape Such as duct tape. The vapor barrier should be installed up the wall by 1 in (25 mm).
- Sheet Vinyl, Tile and Wood Subflooring: Moisture content of the wood subfloor should not exceed 12%.

CARPETING:

- Remove deep pile carpeting and padding prior to installation of laminate flooring.
- Laminate flooring can be installed over industrial direct glue-down carpeting installed over wood subfloors without padding.
- Carpet installed over concrete must be removed. See instructions for installation over a concrete subfloor.

RADIANT HEATING SYSTEMS:

- Laminate flooring can be installed on under-floor radiant heating systems if the heating element is installed into wood or concrete subfloors.
- Lower heating system to 60°F (16°C) for 1 week before installation.
- After installation, slowly increase the temperature in increments of 10°F (5°C) per hour.
- Surface temperature must not exceed 85°F (28°C).
- Follow installation instructions for wood or concrete as outlined above.

CONDITIONING:

It is important to allow laminate flooring to acclimate to the room temperature where it is to be installed by placing the packaged flooring flat in the room for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. Do not remove the plastic wrapping. Be sure that the room temperature is in the range of 65 - 75°F (18-23°C)

ROOM PREPARATION:

1. Determine which direction to lay the planks. If installing in narrow hallways or small rooms, the area will appear larger if flooring is laid parallel to the longest wall.
2. Remove all existing moldings
3. If room has electric baseboard heaters, leave a minimum of 1/2 in (12.5 mm) between the surface of the flooring and the bottom of the heaters, allowing heat to circulate.
4. Check door clearances, making necessary adjustments before laying the flooring. Door moldings (jambs) should be undercut to accommodate the thickness of the flooring and underlayment.