

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

A revolutionary system for installing laminated flooring easily and without using glue. The floor has an ingenious "tongue and groove" system that "clicks" the panels together. It is very easy and clean to work with and enables you to work much faster.

Thanks to the tongue and groove system, panels fit perfectly and can be reassembled several times. Thanks to its water-resistant feature, the product is perfectly adequate for bathrooms, kitchens, sports-and leisure centres and other applications...

1. Obligatory testing and exercise of due care

The panels are manufactured in high precision operation stages. Both finished and semi-finished products are subjected to stringent on-going quality controls. Yet despite these controls, damage to individual boards, for example during transport, cannot be totally eliminated, and we therefore recommend checking laminate flooring before and during laying.

2. Sub-floor requirements

Generally speaking it is the job of the flooring contractor, as part of his preparation work, to ensure that the sub-floor is in a suitable condition prior to laying. The sub-floor must comply with the generally recognised trade standards in terms of suitability for laying. The following points should be considered in assessing the suitability of the sub-floor for laying the floor: the flatness of the sub-floor should be checked in line with current standards. Use a max 3mm gauge (deviation) at 100cm intervals. The sub-floor must be sealed, self-supporting layer. The sub-floor must be vacuumed clean. Also the atmospheric conditions must be met before, during and after laying : air temperature of min 20°(68°F) and floor surface temperature of min 15°C (59°F).

3. Sub-floors

Any sub-floor considered to be appropriate for laying as described above is suitable for laying the floor on a floating basis.

This includes: •Concrete floors, clipboard constructions, fibreboard, floor coating, natural stones and ceramic tiles

•Wood boards: Any loose boards should be properly screwed down. A special designed insulating layer is recommended for soundproofing and flatness of the sub-floor. The flooring boards must be laid at right angles to existing boards.

4. Flexible floor coverings

A special designed insulating underfloor, such as a PE-film, is absolutely vital to reduce impact sound and any unevenness in the base floor.

5. Tools for installing the floor

Tools such as hammer, saw, pinch bar, spacer blocks (1-8 mm) and tapping block are absolutely necessary when installing the floor. Any damage caused by the use of other tools as mentioned is not covered by the warranty.

When sawing pieces off the panels, use a fine-toothed hand saw, jigsaw or cross-cut saw. To achieve a clean cut, saw with the pattern side down with a jigsaw and up with a hand saw or cross-cut saw.

6. The best preparation

Before starting the laying, the flooring boards must be stored in the room in which they are to be laid or in a room with similar atmospheric conditions and acclimatised within the following guidelines: packed, over a period over at least 48 hours, laid flat, a minimum of 50cm from the walls, at a room temperature of minimum 20°C (68°F) and a flooring surface temperature of 15°C (59°F)

Check if: The doors can still open and close after installing the floor with underfloor, the door frames may need to be adapted to install the floor underneath and the old skirting boards can be removed.

7. Provide expansion gaps

As the flooring system is based on synthetic resins, the moisture content of the room or base floor does not cause any degree of movement. But big changes of atmosphere conditions (temperatures) may cause shrinkage and expansion of the panels. Therefore, movement of the

laid floor is not affected if allowance is made with expansion gaps to all fixtures. Expansion gaps of 8 to 10 mm wide to all fixed objects such as walls, door frames, pipes, thresholds, pillars, stairs etc. should be allowed. With larger surfaces, wider gaps must be provided, for example under a double wall. Take account of the fact that the floor may move in one direction. Where possible, provide expansion gaps, for example under doors, rooms with several small corners or with width/length >10m. The gaps are covered by a profile that is not fixed to the floorcovering but to the base floor.

8. Laying direction

The floor works best if the board is laid lengthways towards the light. If the floorcovering has been used as a sub-floor, it must be laid at right angles to the boarding. It is preferable to start laying the floor in a left-hand corner. You can work from left to right.

9. The first row

Begin laying the floor in the left-hand corner of the room with the tongue side of the board to the wall. Before starting laying, place the expansion spacers against the two wall-sides to maintain the necessary expansion gap. The second panel of the first row has to be placed next to the first one. Click the short end joints horizontal using a hammer and tapping block in the last board.

Remember that at the end of the row, you have to saw off the longer projecting piece of the last panel. The last panel is marked to the required length and sawn off. Click the short end joints horizontal together using a pinch bar and hammer.

10. The following rows

For the second and all subsequent rows, always begin the new row with the rest of the last panel if longer than 20 cm to obtain a setted effect. Install the floor in a way that the tongue of the new panel connects in the groove of the installed panel. Place the panel of the second row as close as possible to the long groove of the first row. Click, under inclination and with a hinged movement, the tongue and groove together. Place 2nd panel of 2nd row as close as possible to the other panels. Again click, under inclination and with a hinged movement, the tongue and groove together. Then click horizontal the short edge joint together, using a tapping block and hammer. Make sure that the short edge joint is correctly fixed. The last one will be installed as described in § 9.

11. The final row

There should also be a 10mm expansion joint between the final row and the wall. Take this into account for sawing off the long edges of the final row of panels. Place these panels one by one next to panels of penultimate row and tap the long edges together using the pinch bar and hammer. The short edges can be knocked together using a tapping block.

12. Through pipes

Make sure that the row where there is a trough pipe this pipe comes exactly at the cross joint of two panels. Take a drill bit with a diameter similar to the diameter of the pipe + 20mm for expansion. Click the panels together on the short edge and drill the hole with its centre on the join between two panels. Now install the panels as part of the floor.

13. Under door-frames

Saw the panels so that after installation there is a minimum 10 mm expansion joint.

14. Finish

After installing your floor, you can immediately walk on it and begin the finishing process. This is one of the major benefits of this system. Remove all spacer blocks. Never fix the skirting boards or quarter round to the floor itself, but allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the skirting board or quarter round. Finish the gaps around the pipes with rosettes or plastic paste. In places where no profiles or skirting boards can be placed, the expansion gap must be filled with elastic paste.

15. Precautions

Heating sources with direct radiation more than 65° C (149°F) are not allowed. The floor can not be installed: under fixed building parts (door or window frames), heavy bathroom or kitchen furniture ... This violates the rule of the floating basis.

Good luck!