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ARTHOUSE  FLOORING

## BEFORE INSTALLING YOUR LAMINATE FLOOR - EXPANSION AND ENVIRONMENT

Ensuring that your floor is being installed to the highest standards is ensuring peace of mind for the life of your investment. Laminate flooring cannot think, and cannot make decisions on its own. Your new laminate floor is entirely reliant upon:

- the environment into which it is installed,
- the subfloor over which it is laid and,
- the competency of the contractor doing the installation.

We recommend the following for expansion and environment in your floor:

- **ENVIRONMENT:** The environment where the laminate is to be installed should be regulated to reflect in-service levels of temperature and humidity. Ideally the flooring should be installed into rooms of constant moderate temperature and humidity (15-28 degrees centigrade/ 30-65% relative humidity). Product should be acclimatised on site and under these recommended conditions for at least 24 hours prior to installation.
- **EXPANSION GAPS:** Laminate will continually move (expand and contract) in response to changes in temperature and seasonal humidity as discussed above. When installed the recommendation is for a minimum of 10mm of expansion be initially provided around all edges of the flooring, including walls, benches, all fixed items and at junctions with other areas/floors. Under normal conditions the floor can grow in the length and width by as much as 1mm per metre; more in regions of higher seasonal humidity. It is important that the floor is not impeded in any manner.
- **MAXIMUM AREA FOR INSTALLATION:** The maximum recommended area for installation is 10m along the length of the boards and 10m across the width. Areas larger than this will require expansion breaks be provided to ensure correct floor performance.
- **COMPARTMENTALISATION:** This is the method for determining where expansion breaks should be placed if required. Complex and/or multi room installations should have expansion breaks provided at doorways and thresholds between rooms. This is particularly important for floors that exceed the maximum recommended area for installation and in installations where temperature and humidity changes occur between rooms/areas.

Investment in flooring is usually a substantial one. Assessment of your environment, and its compliance with recommendations is critical to the integrity and performance of your floor for the long term. Ensuring the flooring has also been installed with respect to expansion/compartmentalisation recommendations will also do likewise.

Our floors come with a 15 structural warranty (see warranty section) however we can only offer the warranty on our products when laid within the manufacturer's recommendations. We cannot warranty your existing subfloor, environment or installation quality as these are beyond our control.