



FLOATING FLOORS Pty Ltd



HEAD OFFICE - SHOWROOM
14-16 LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD
BRAESIDE, VICTORIA 3195



03 9586 8497



info@floatingfloors.com.au



UPDATED – JUNE 2016 SUPERCEDES ALL PREVIOUS

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following instructions carefully and in their entirety before installing these products. To ensure the coverage of manufacturer's warranties these installation and maintenance instructions must be followed.

- Timber flooring is a beautiful product with natural variations in colour, tone and grain. We cannot guarantee against colour variations within a floor, or variations between in-store samples and the installed floor.
- All subfloors must be clean, flat, dry and level.
- Both room and flooring must be properly acclimatised to temperature and humidity conditions before, during and after installation.
- Ensure environmental controls are in place and operational.
- Do not open packs of flooring until you are ready to start installing.
- Always work out of several packs of product at the same time to ensure colour and grain mix
- Products are not recommended for bathrooms or other moisture prone areas.
- Product is for internal use only.
- The use of stain, filler or putty during installation is considered normal working practice.

Note: The installation of Australian species timbers is specifically not recommended over underfloor heating.

INSTALLER/OWNER'S LIABILITY

Our timber floors are a product of nature. They are manufactured to strict international standards. Variation between boards (height and gap) is acceptable in the range of 0.20mm.

- Ensure enough products have been ordered including allowance for cutting and wastage.
- **The installer assumes all liability for the final inspection of product quality.** This should be done prior to, and during installation. Carefully examine flooring in good lighting for colour, finish and quality before installing. If there is a question of manufacturing quality, do not install the boards. Any boards with visible defects will be replaced at no charge. Some minor vertical bowing in Australian species floors can occur and should not exceed 0.4% of total length of boards. If defective boards are recognised after installation, the cost of labour for repair or replacement will not be acknowledged.
- **Prior to installation the installer must determine that the subfloor is suitable to receive the flooring.** This includes dryness, level and planeness and any other factors that may inhibit the performance of flooring. Floating Floors is not responsible for product failure or poor performance due to sub-floor or site environmental issues as these are obviously well beyond our control.

TOOLS REQUIRED

Circular Saw/Jigsaw | Chalk Line | Chisel | Pencil | Hammer | Handsaw
Tape Measure | Spacers/Wedges | Undercut Saw (Optional)

These instructions focus on installation using the floating method.

Note: Never strike flooring boards directly as this will damage the edges of the boards, use a tapping block or spare piece of flooring.



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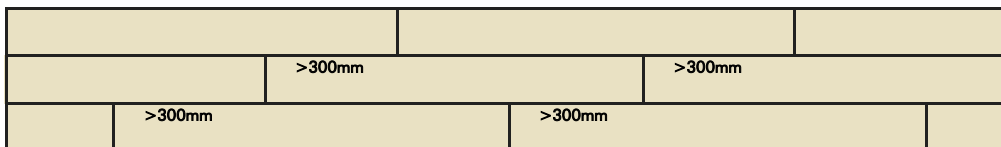
PRE-INSTALLATION: THINGS TO LOOK FOR.

Conditions for installation should be as follows:

- A consistent environment must be maintained before, during and after installation. Temperature should be within the range of 15-28C with relative humidity between 30-65% RH.
- Flooring should be handled and unloaded with care and stored within the area of installation. Ideally flooring should be placed on site 24-48 hours prior to installation in order to acclimatise to working conditions.
- Concrete sub-floors must have a moisture content of no greater than 70%. Test using an in-probe hygrometer to ASTM F2170 (per AS1884-2012 Appendix A).
- If surface meter is used (capacitance tester), any reading higher than 5.5 indicates possible damp concrete, further testing and/or corrective measures will be required.
- Timber sub-floors should have moisture content between 8-14%. Again corrective measures will be required if moisture content is above this level.
- Sub-floor must be clean, dry, smooth and level. **3mm over any 1000mm radius is maximum acceptable deviation This is the depth of a \$1 coin.** Remember that this is still not a truly flat floor surface and some preparation may still be required. Any more than this may result in voids under the flooring, leading to "bouncy" areas and can contribute to product failure. High spots or "hills" will need to be sanded or ground down. Low spots or "valleys" will require filling with a recommended filling system.
- Sub-floors must be structurally sound. Screw/nail down loose areas to reduce squeaking and replace/repair water-damaged or delaminated subflooring or underlayment.

LAYOUT

- Layout should be designed to save materials and labour as well as to enhance the appearance of the floor. Flooring should be laid parallel with incoming light-source, however the priority is that it be installed in the direction of the longest dimension in the room/s.
- The flooring will be stronger and more structurally sound if it is installed so that joints in rows are staggered by a minimum of 300mm. Remember that timber framed houses typically have floor joist spacing of 450mm and staggered or irregular joints mean less wasted material and a better overall appearance. Stair-step and brick patterns are not as visually pleasing as staggered joints and will waste material. See diagram below.



Plan the layout of the room so that the last row to be installed is not too narrow. This may require cutting down the first row to facilitate this. The last row should not be less than 50mm wide.



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TIMBER FLOORS AU NATURALE

UPDATED – JUNE 2016 SUPERCEDES ALL PREVIOUS LAYOUT CONTINUED...

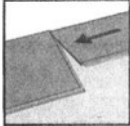
- A minimum of 14mm of expansion is required around all walls, under doorways and all fixed objects. Timber flooring can expand up to 3mm per metre in the width, even more in areas where high humidity is present.
- Installations longer than 12m will require additional expansion joints to be placed in the floor. The same is required for installations that are wider than 8m. For installations through multiple rooms and/or complex layouts, additional expansion breaks should be considered. Minimum 14mm expansion must be maintained at all times.

FLOATING INSTALLATION

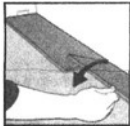
These floors have been engineered to be installed floating and without glue*. The floor must be able to move free – do not connect or install tight to any area. Only install one width of underlay at a time to prevent damage and tearing. For all concrete installations a minimum 0.20mm PU sheet (either separate or combined with underlay) must be installed and taped to form a vapour barrier. The same applies for any below ground level timber subfloor.



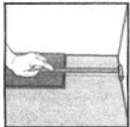
STEP 1: Start in the left hand corner of the room with the tongue facing into the room. For uneven walls you may need to scribe the profile onto the first row and cut accordingly. Take care to ensure a minimum 14mm expansion distance to walls using spacers or wedges.



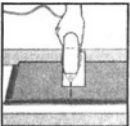
STEP 2: Second board first row. Place this board gently and tight to the short end of the first board.



STEP 3: Fold the panel down in a single action, making sure that the boards stay tight to one another. Afterwards press or slightly tap the short end just installed until it clicks. No major force is required.



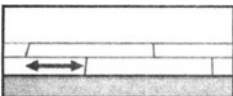
STEP 4: At the end of the first row, put a spacer (14mm) to the wall and measure the length of the last board to fit.



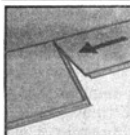
STEP 5: Cut with a jigsaw - hardwood turned down to eliminate/reduce damage to the face panel. If cutting with a hand saw, cut it with the hardwood face up. Then install as per previous board.



STEP 6: Starting the second row. First board should be a minimum length of 600mm. **Insert the board at an angle into the previous row and tap (on the long side) it in using a tapping block until flat. Never tap the board directly, always use a block.**



STEP 7: Minimum distance between short ends of boards in parallel rows shall be not less than 300mm. This is for the structural stability of the floor.



STEP 8: Second board, second row. Place the board at an angle into the groove of the previous row making sure that the end of the board is tight/flush to the short end of the previous board.



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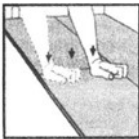
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TIMBER FLOORS  AU NATURALE

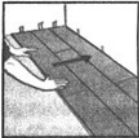
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STEP 9: Fold the board down in a single movement with a slight press to the left to the short end of the previous board. Again using the tapping block, tap it against the long end into the previous row. During the fold down, make sure the boards are tight against each other.



STEP 10: As it flattens itself into the floor, press or gently tap the top of the short end of the installed board until it clicks. Finish installing this board by tapping it with the tapping block on the long side to ensure secure installation.



STEP 11: After 2-3 rows. Adjust the distance to the front wall by placing 14mm spacers. Once the adjustment is done against the main wall, continue to install until the last row.



STEP 12: Last Row. **The minimum width of the last row should be not less than 50mm.** Remember distance to last wall for expansion/spacer is 14mm.



STEP 13: Final row - Joining at short ends for ripped down boards. Once board has been ripped down to suit (minimum width 50mm) remove locking mechanism with a chisel and apply glue to the end join. Push the planks horizontally together. If necessary place weights on final row while glue cures.

300mm	600mm
FULL BOARD WIDTH	
600mm	300mm
FULL BOARD WIDTH	
300mm	600mm
FULL BOARD WIDTH	
600mm	300mm
FULL BOARD WIDTH	

NOTE: Where installation across a passage or narrow area is unavoidable please observe the following installation layout. This will ensure maximum strength and will avoid compromising floor performance. EXAMPLE GIVEN IS FOR A 900mm WIDE PASSAGE.

ACROSS PASSAGE – 900mm

OPTIONAL GLUEING OF JOINTS

For additional strength and sealant against moisture the joints may be glued. Apply approved cross-linked PVA adhesive to both the long and short sides of boards during assembly. Remove any excess glue with a damp cloth. Note: Allow 2 hours before placing furniture on floor and at least 24 hours before introducing heavy furniture or full traffic load.

This method should be considered if installing 90mm wide timber to increase floor strength and reduce the instances of noise caused by minor joint movement due to point loading of the narrow boards. This method should also be considered if installing ALL timber flooring into regions/areas of high seasonal humidity.



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#IMPORTANT - FULL STICK DOWN INSTALLATION

Full stick down installation should only be attempted by experienced timber flooring installers. Recommended Vapour barriers and Adhesives should only be used "in system" according to manufacturer's instructions. Contact Floating Floors for further information.

For Glue-down Installation - Use a recommended vapour barrier/adhesive system such as:

- Bostik Moisture Seal and Ultraset Overlay
- Selleys Liquid Nails VBS and Liquid Nails Direct Stick
- BONA R850 DPM and R580 adhesive *or similar*

INSTALL AS PER SPECIFIC MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS ONLY

COMPLETING THE JOB

- Remove all spacers/wedges.
- Cover all expansion gaps with scotia or skirting boards etc. **Remember to always fix into the wall, never the floor.** Fit trims where timber meets other floor coverings.
- Clean, sweep and vacuum the floor. Initial cleaning may be required to remove dust and residue from flooring – use recommended cleaning products for this purpose – see separate "Care and Maintenance" guide.
- If the floor is to be covered, use a breathable material such as cardboard.

NOTE:

Floor will only be considered completed when:

- The installation area is occupied
- Environmental controls are in place
- Entrance matting is in use at all external doorways
- Protection has been applied to all moveable items of furniture