



FLOATING FLOORS Pty Ltd



HEAD OFFICE - SHOWROOM  
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## ARTHOUSE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION.**

**IMPROPER INSTALLATION MAY VOID WARRANTY.**

- Always check panels for defects such as chips, scratches and colour or sheen differences under good light conditions. Also check that the profile is clean and free of debris.
- For best appearance, use panels from two or more packs.
- Your laminate flooring should be allowed to acclimatise to the environment of the installation area. Leave the closed packs in a horizontal position in the room for 48 hours prior to installation. Preferable temperature should be approximately 15-28 °C with a relative humidity of 30-65%. Humidity should never be allowed to drop below 30% as this may cause gapping.
- If existing baseboard/skirting moulding are difficult to re-move, they may be left in place. Quarter round moulding (minimum 12-19mm) is all that is needed to cover the expansion space between flooring and baseboard.

### TOOLS AND SUPPLIES REQUIRED ARE:

- Foam underlay, Duct tape or similar, spacers/wedges, saw, hammer, utility knife, pencil, tape measure, ruler
- If installing on a concrete floor, you must install a 0.2 mm (or thicker) polyethylene vapour barrier under your foam underlay or use a convenient 2 in 1 foam underlay that has a vapour barrier attached. When installing 2 in 1 foam underlay, butt seams as directed and completely seal seams using Duct tape.

### SUITABLE TYPES OF SUBFLOORS AND FLOOR PREPARATION

- The underfloor or subfloor must be thoroughly even, dry, clean and solid. Carpet staples or glue residue must be removed and floor must be clean to ensure proper installation.
- To check for evenness, hammer a nail into the centre of the floor. Tie a string to the nail and push the knot against the floor. Pull the string tight to the farthest corner of the room and examine the floor at eye level for any gaps between the string and floor. Move the string around the perimeter of the room noting any gaps larger than 3 mm. Any floor unevenness of more than 3 mm per 1000mm must be sanded down or filled in with appropriate filler.
- Floors must be carefully checked for moisture problems. Any moisture problems need to be solved before installation. New concrete needs to cure for at least 120 days before installation.
- *THIS PRODUCT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DAMP ROOMS SUCH AS BATHROOMS, SAUNAS, AND ROOMS WITH DAMP CONCRETE, ROOMS WITH FLOOR DRAINS, OR ROOMS THAT COULD POTENTIALLY FLOOD.*



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## BASIC INSTALLATION

- For installation on concrete floors a vapour barrier **MUST** be laid down first, or in combination with the underlay. If using a separate vapour barrier, run it 50mm up walls and overlap seams by 300mm. Tape seams.
- All flooring installations require a minimum 2mm foam underlay. Run the foam underlay in the same direction as the laminate panels. Underlay should be butted side by side with no overlap. Tape seams together. To protect the underlay from damage, only work over 1 run of underlay at a time.
- Start in a corner by placing the first panel with its tongue side facing the wall. Use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion space of 10mm minimum between all fixtures and the flooring.
- *REMEMBER THAT THIS PRODUCT IS WOOD BASED AND NEEDS ROOM FOR SEASONAL MOVEMENT. AT NO POINT SHOULD YOU FIX THE FLOOR TO ANY SURFACE. 8-12mm EXPANSION IS REQUIRED ALONG ALL WALLS, AND AROUND ALL FIXTURES INCLUDING DOOR-JAMBS. THE ALTERNATIVE IS TO UNDERCUT THE DOOR-JAMBS USING A PIECE OF THE FLOORING AND UNDERLAY AS A GUIDE, STILL ALLOWING FOR 8-12mm EXPANSION AT ALL TIMES. ROOMS GREATER THAN 100m<sup>2</sup> OR WITH LENGTHS GREATER THAN 10m WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL EXPANSION BREAKS TO BE PROVIDED. INSTALLATIONS OUTSIDE THIS RECOMMENDATION MAY VOID WARRANTY.*
- To attach your second panel, lower and lock the end tongue of the second panel into the end groove of the first panel. Line up edges carefully. The panels should be flat to the floor.
- Continue connecting the first row until you reach the last full panel. Fit the last panel by rotating the panel 180° with the pattern side upward, place beside row, mark and then saw off excess. Attach as described above.
- When using a handsaw cut on the decorative surface. If you are using a jig or circular saw, cut with the decorative surface face down from the blade. This will minimise chipping on the decorative surface.
- Begin the next row with the off cut piece from the previous row to stagger the pattern. Pieces should be a minimum of 200mm long and joint offset should be at least 400mm.
- To start your second row, tilt and push the side tongue of the panel into the side groove of the very first panel at about 30°. When lowered, the plank will click into place.
- Attach the second panel of the new row first on the long side. Tilt and push this panel as close as possible to the previous row at 30°. Make sure edges are lined up. Lower the panel to the floor, locking the end tongue into the end groove of the first panel. Continue laying remaining panels in this manner.



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## BASIC INSTALLATION - CONTINUED

- To fit the last row, lay a panel on top of the previous row. With the tongue to the wall, lay another panel upside down on the one to be measured and use it as a ruler. Don't forget to allow room for spacers. Cut the panel and attach into position.

## 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