

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 objects (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 30 ft (9m) require the use of T-moldings to allow for normal expansion and contraction of the floor. Be sure to stagger the boards by a minimum of 12 in. (300mm).
- Laminate flooring should not be installed in wet areas or areas where the relative humidity exceeds 70%.

REQUIRED TOOLS AND MATERIALS:

- Laminate installation kit (including spacers, tapping block, pull bar)
- Hammer
- Table or hand saw
- Premium grade laminate flooring underlayment
- Carbide-tipped circular saw blades
- Vacuum
- Tape measure
- Duct tape
- Age-resistant, non-permeable polyethylene vapor barrier (0.008 in. or 0.20 mm) for installation over concrete
- 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 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 10 ft (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 must be cured for at least 90 days

prior to installation. (Moisture vapor < 3 lbs/1,000 sq ft/24 hours per ASTM 1869 calcium chloride test.)

- Install 0.008 in. (0.20 mm) age-resistant, non-permeable polyethylene 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 floor.

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 (6 °C) per hour.
- Surface temperature must not exceed 85 °F (28°C).
- Follow installation instructions for wood or concrete as outlined below.

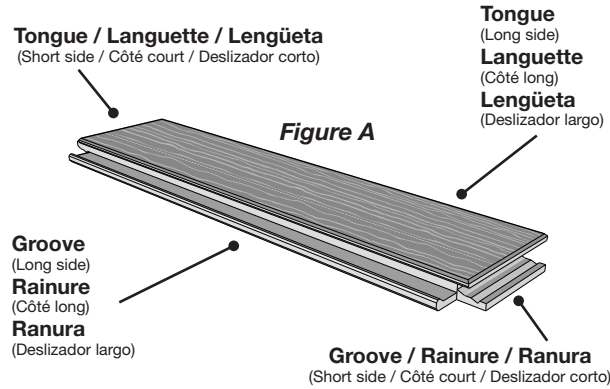
CONDITIONING:

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 - 20 °C).

ROOM PREPARATION:

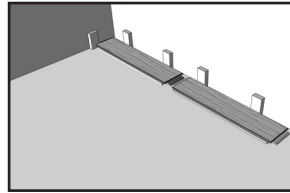
1. Determine which way to lay the planks. If installing in narrow hallways or small rooms, the area will appear larger if flooring is laid parallel to the longest wall.
2. Remove all existing moldings.
3. If room has electric baseboard heaters, leave a minimum of 1/2 in. (12.5 mm) between the surface 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 foam underlayment.
5. Install underlayment per manufacturer's instructions.

It is important to understand the parts of the plank to ensure proper installation:

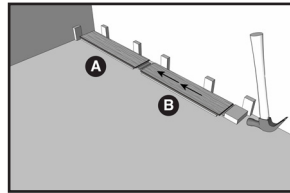


NOTE: ILLUSTRATION IS NOT TO SCALE. FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.

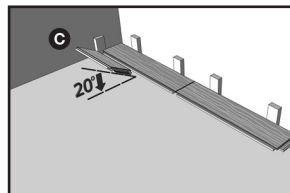
STEP 1 – Begin laying planks left to right, placing 5/16 inch spacers between the wall and the plank on either side of the joint. Note: Ensure the tongue side of the plank is positioned against the wall.



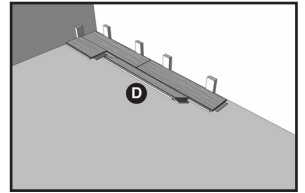
STEP 2 – Use a laminate flooring tapping block to gently tap second plank against the short side to join plank A and plank B. Refer to **CUTTING A PLANK** before proceeding to step 3.



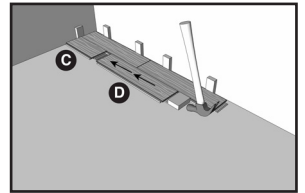
STEP 3 – Install the second row by angling plank C to allow the tongue to slip into the groove of the plank in row 1. Push the plank flat to the floor until it clicks into place. CAUTION: Do not force the plank closed.



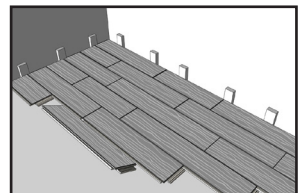
STEP 4 – The next plank (plank D) should be installed with the tongue on the left side of the plank next to the previous plank. Push plank flat to the floor as in step 3.



STEP 5 – Once plank is flat, gently tap the second plank against the short side of plank C, joining plank C and D.

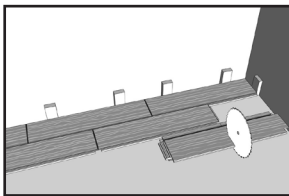


STEP 6 – Continue laying the floor from left to right, as described in steps 1 to 5.

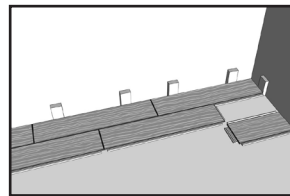


CUTTING A PLANK:

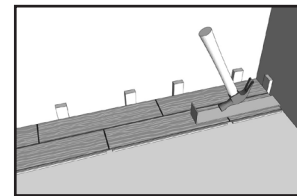
If you need to cut a plank in order to achieve a desired staggered look or because the last (or first) plank in a row is too long (but not less than 12 inches), follow the instructions below:



STEP 1 – Flip a full-sized plank over so the tongue points toward the wall, with the underside of the plank facing up. Mark where the plank should be cut, then cut with the decor side down.



STEP 2 – Flip the plank back over (décor side up) so the tongue faces the groove of the adjacent plank; install as shown in step 4.



STEP 3 – Tap the two sides together using a pull bar. If the remainder of the previous plank is at least 12 inches long, use it to start the next row.

FINAL INSTALLATION:

In difficult-to-fit areas, such as door moldings, remove the lip on the grooved edge of the planks you are fitting into. This can be done by lightly sanding or planing off the lip on the groove side of the plank, allowing the plank to be installed laying flat. Once the lip has been trimmed on the plank being fitted to, lay the plank flat on the floor. Apply a thin bead of PVAc-D3 laminate glue on the top of the tongue. Then push the plank into position. Once the plank is positioned, wipe off excess glue with a damp cloth and warm water.

Remove the spacers placed along the perimeter of the room and cover the expansion space with the appropriate moulding. Be sure to fasten the moulding into the wall, not through the flooring. Quarter-rounds should be pre-drilled before nailing them to the wall.

Felt protection pads should be placed under furniture legs or other heavy objects to be left in place for an extended period of time. Do not drag or pull heavy furniture, as doing so will damage the floor.

CLEANING AND CARE:

- Vacuum using a soft bristle brush attachment. Do NOT use vacuums with beater bars as doing so can damage your floor.
- Laminate floors may be lightly damp-mopped when needed. Avoid standing water as it may cause the joints between the planks to lift. Do NOT use steam cleaners, jet-mops or any

mop that sprays liquid directly onto the floor. Apply cleaning solution formulated for laminate flooring to a cloth or mop, not directly to the floor. Clean floor in the same direction as the planks.

- Any furniture that rests directly on top of a laminate floor should have floor protectors or wide furniture coasters under all feet. Placement of mats at all outside entrances and heavy traffic areas is recommended.
- Do not use oil soaps or wax-based cleaning products. These products will leave a dull finish on your floor. Use a floor cleaner specifically formulated for cleaning laminate flooring.
- Pets' claws may scratch the surface if not trimmed regularly.
- When liquids are spilled on the laminate flooring, use a slightly damp white cloth or paper towel to immediately blot up and dry the affected area.

WARRANTY:

The manufacturer offers a limited warranty against manufacturing defects from date of purchase of this product.

The manufacturer guarantees that:

- The decorative laminate surface will not wear through.
- The surface of the plank will resist staining.
- The surface of the plank will not fade or discolor, due to natural or artificial lighting.

For questions regarding our products, please call toll-free: 1-800-986-3460