

INSTALLATION GUIDE

- In accordance with the Building Code of Australia, laminate flooring is not to be installed in wet areas such as bathrooms, laundries, toilets or wet areas there it can be subjected to regular moisture or water.
- In a new contraction all works involving water/moisture (plumbing, tiling, acoustic ceiling, wall lining etc) and air systems (heating/cooling) must be fully operational before floor boards are laid.
- Any cement work, plastering, painting and other materials should be completely dry. Concrete and plaster should be cured and at least 60 days old.
- Check areas such as basements and underfloor crawl spaces to ensure they are properly ventilated and dry to avoid any future damage caused by moisture.
- Floor boards should not be delivered until all other construction works are completed.
- Floor boards should be stored internally in a dry place prior to installation.

PREPARATION

It is vitally important to check the following points before laying your floor.

- The subfloor/surface area where the flooring will be installed over must be sufficiently flat to accept flooring system. This means that the subfloor level should not exceed over 3mm over 1 meter in any direction on a straightedge.
- All subfloors must be level. Uneven or damaged surfaces must be repaired before laying any floor boards on top. Timber subfloors can be sanded level. Concrete subfloor's moisture content should not exceed 5.5%.
- Surfaces must be clean and dry, free of dirt, wax, oil, paint, curing agents or other contaminants.
- Floor boards must be installed over a continuous damp proof membrane when installed over a concrete or timber subfloor.
- Architraves must be cut to let floor boards slide in and there must be some room inside.
- Work out the trims to be installed as some trims are easier to install prior installation. This will be dependent on the direction of the trim to be flooring and the type of trim to be installed.
- The installer/owner has final inspection responsibility as to grade manufacture and factory finish. The installer must use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with deficiencies. Should any individual piece be doubtful of grade, manufacture or factory finish the installer should not use the piece.
- **IMPORTANT: OWNER/INSTALLER MUST VISUALLY INSPECT FLOOR BOARDS ARE TO SATISFACTORY BEFORE INSTALLING. ONCE INSTALLED THE BOARD ARE CONSIDERED ACCEPTED BY THE INSTALLER AND HOME OWNER. NO WARRANTY WILL BE OFFERED FOR APPEARANCE RELATED CLAIMS ONE THE PRODUCT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.**

INSTALLATION

- To start your first row, select your starting wall (usually the wall with longest run), the first three rows will be installed parallel to this wall. Lay down your first row of plastic and or underlay as required then install the first row, tongue (male) to the wall without glue to assess the straightness of the starting wall. If the starting wall is undulating or uneven, square this row off to the other side of the room using a tape measure and scribe the first row of boards to cater for the undulations while accommodating a uniform 10-12mm expansion gap.
- In terms of the required expansion gap, a minimum of 12mm is required in lower relative humidity environments like Melbourne or Hobart. A 14mm-16mm gap is required in areas of higher relative humidity like Queensland or Darwin. Laminate boards grow over 3mm per lineal meter in width, so ensure you leave enough gap for cater for such expansion. The wider the floor, the bigger the gap that is required.
- Now lay the first row directly against the wall. Engage the end joints by rotating into position (we will space off the first three rows later). Cut the end board and leave a 12mm gap at each end. Fit about 12mm spacer at the start of the row to set the gap required.
- The off-cut from the last board in the first row now starts your second row, providing it is longer than 300mm. If not, a new board will need to be cut to begin the second row. Now install the 1st board of the 2nd row by rotating the long join into position and install the 12-16mm spacer at the start of this row. The long join of the 2nd board can now be rotated into position. The end joint is then closed using the block and hammer.
- Continue installing the floor left to right using the off cut from row 2 to begin row three.
- Continue installing the floor left to right using the rotate and tap technique described earlier. The final row will need to be trimmed to fit into place.