

real wood
engineered
flooring

B/C/D RUSTIC GRADE REAL ENGINEERED OAK WOOD FLOORING

General Instructions

Congratulations with your new 'Engineered Wood Flooring'. Before starting with the installation, it is critical that you read the following instructions carefully. Failure to do so will inevitably result in problems occurring and invalidate your warranty

**"INSTALLATION IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE"
NO WARRANTY WILL BE OFFERED FOR
APPEARANCE RELATED CLAIMS ONCE
THE PRODUCT IS INSTALLED.**

Moisture content

The screed must be dry. With cement-bound screed, maximum permissible moisture content of 4% impedance (Tramex CME) or humidity content of 2.5% max. (according to CM method) and 0.5% with an anhydrite-bound screed. A guideline for the setting time of newly-spread screed is + 1.5 weeks per centimetre of thickness, with sufficient ventilation.

With thicknesses of more than 6 cm, a minimum of 3 additional weeks per cm extra should be taken into account. As a precaution against residual moisture, apply a 0.2 mm polyethylene moisture barrier. Overlap the seams by 30 cm and seal with plastic tape. Extend the underlay up against each of the walls. After installing the skirting, cut the underlay at the upper edge of the skirting's.

If the subfloor is between 4% Mc and 6.5% impedance Mc then a 2 part Epoxy DPM must be applied to the subfloor and if adhered the flooring secured with a flexible adhesive such as Trowel flex MS or PU Adhesive.

Subfloors

Existing floor coverings will usually need to be removed; only vinyl floor coverings can be left in place. This wood flooring must be laid on an appropriate underlay. If polystyrene foam is to be used, foam density should be 25 to 30 kg/m³. As a general rule, the wood flooring panels should be installed in the lengthwise direction of the room. If you are installing your new flooring on top of existing floor boards, the new wood flooring panels must be installed at a right angle to the direction of the floorboards.

Acclimatisation

The wood flooring must be stored inside the room where the flooring is to be installed for at least 48 hours ahead of installation with the packaging left unopened.

Installation conditions

Room temperature should be at least 17°C and relative humidity in the room should be between 45 - 65% during acclimatisation and installation. Check to make sure there will be adequate clearance for doors to open and shut once the new flooring is in place. Maximum permissible length of installation is 12 m and 8 m in width. If longer, or in case of non rectangular room shapes, intermediate dilatation joints may need to be installed.

Always separate individual rooms from each other by using a dilatation joint in the door openings between the rooms. Heavy objects such as open fireplaces, kitchen cabinets or heavy bookshelves should not be installed on top of the wood floor. This may affect the floor's natural movement and cause gaps along the joints.

TOOLS

Using suitable tools in good condition helps to make the job easier and achieve the best possible results. You may need the following: tapping block, ruler, tri-square, saw (fine-toothed), sharp knife (for fine adjustments etc), hammer, spacer blocks, pencil, crowbar, brace and bit (for holes around pipes). The bit should be 20 mm larger than the diameter of the pipe)

Also required

Pipe rosettes, 0.2 mm thick age-resistant HDPE plastic sheet and appropriate underlay.

The best way to finish along architraves is to cut off the bottoms of the architraves as shown in **9A**. To do so, use an off cut of the flooring panel to make the cut at the precise height.

Important: prior to installation, inspect the boards in daylight for any visible faults or damage and also check colour and surface finishing.

No claims are accepted once flooring boards have been installed.

Installer/owner Responsibility

Wood floors are a natural product and as such are subject to many variances in both colour and character, this is to be expected at all times. In order to establish a consistency of product a grading and manufacturing tolerance of 5% has been set to allow for de-selection of material if deemed unsuitable for the installation. A 5% cutting or waste allowance must therefore be added to the net square meters required for the site to be installed.

The installer or owner must determine that the job site environment and the sub-surfaces involved meet or exceed all requirements within these instructions; claims will not be accepted if a fault was visibly noticeable or preventable prior to installation.

- All flooring must be stored in the correct conditions prior to installing.

- This product “must not” be stored on site until all sub – floors; plastering, cement work; decorating and all other wet work is completely dry.
- **The nominated party “consumer or installer” that takes ownership has final responsibility to ensure that they have received the correct species and finish that was selected in store.**
- Always work from 3 to 4 packs at a time mixing boards to achieve the appearance you require, taking into consideration the texture of the wood and the natural change in colours.
- Each floor, even each board is an individual piece of nature, which is guaranteed to make your home a place of beauty.

How to install the floor (floating installation)

INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW:

1. Apply a 0.2 mm polyethylene moisture barrier or underlay incorporating it over a concrete floor. Overlap the seams by 30 cm and tape with plastic tape. Extend the moisture barrier up against each of the walls. Cut off the upper plastic sheet after installation of the skirting. Apply a 25-30 kg/m³ polystyrene foam underlay on top of the 0.2 mm polyethylene film.
2. Starting from the LEFT with the tongue facing the wall, carefully place the first board in place. Use spacers along the wall allowing required expansion gap (10 mm). (Figure 1)
3. Align the next piece by overlapping the end of the first board so that the joint is tight when the board lays flat. Some slight adjustment of the board may be necessary to assure a tight fit. Place spacers against wall to restrain movement and maintain expansion gap.
4. Continue in this manner until reaching the final plank in the first row.
5. Cut the final board piece to length allowing for the required 10mm expansion gap.
6. Place spacers against wall to restrain movement and maintain expansion gap.

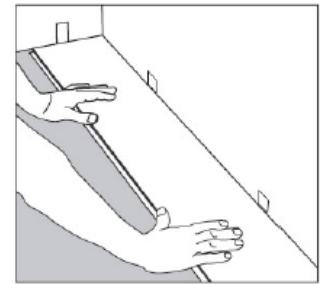


Figure 1

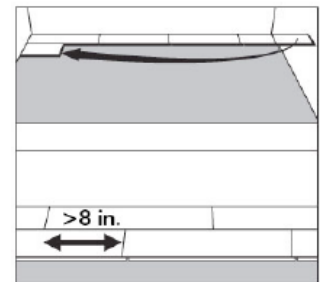


Figure 2

CONTINUING THE INSTALLATION:

1. Begin the second row with the cut piece from the first row. (Figure 2) If the cut piece is shorter than (20 cm), do not use it. Instead, begin with a new board that is at least 20cm in length and allows 20cm between the end joints on the adjacent planks.
2. Position the first board in place by angling it up slightly, pushing forward and interlocking the side tongue. (Figure 3) Slide the board to the left as necessary to align the edges of the end joint.
3. Carefully push the board down until the tongue and groove lock together on the side and ends. (Figure 4)
4. A slight tap with a tapping block is necessary to complete the interlock.
5. Restrain the movement of the board by inserting a spacer in the expansion gap at the end of the board.
6. Install the remaining boards and rows in the same manner. (Figures 3 & 4)
7. Cut the last board to size allowing for the required expansion gap. Place spacers against wall to restrain movement and maintain expansion gap. If necessary, complete the tight fit by tapping the board into place with a pull bar.
8. Whenever practical, use cut pieces from previous rows as the starter board to reduce waste

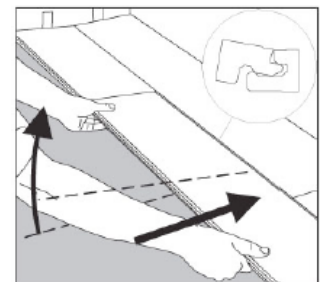


Figure 3

INSTALLING FINAL ROW:

1. The last row may need to be cut lengthwise (ripped).
2. Place the last row of planks to be fit no top of the last row of installed planks. Use a piece of plank as a scribe to trace the contour of the wall.
3. Mark where the board will be cut. If the fit of the wall is simple and straight, simply measure for the correct fit and cut.
4. After boards are cut, position planks and tighten the fit using the pull bar.

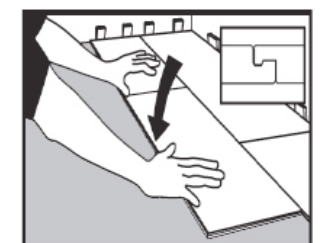


Figure 4

INSTALLING UNDER A DOOR JAMB:

1. Installation under mouldings (such as door jambs) may require that the top lip of the groove on the end be reduced in size.
2. Using a small plane or knife plane, carefully shave off the ledge of the groove. (Figure 5)

3. After the groove ledge has been trimmed, place the board in place and tighten with a pull bar to test for fit. The installer must be sure that the required expansion gap has been maintained and the flooring is not pinched. If fit is not correct, re-trim as necessary.
4. Place a bead of wood glue on the bottom lip of the groove.
5. Insert the tongue into the groove and tighten the fit with a pull bar. Hold the board in place with painters tape (3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape) until the glue is dry. Do not use masking tape or duct tape as they may damage the floors finish.



Combination with under floor Heating

If the following instructions are observed, this wood floor can be installed over underfloor heating systems embedded in the concrete. Permissible heating sources are either hot water or electrical resistances.

Maximum **surface temperature** of the concrete flooring must not exceed 27°C (70°F) anywhere in the room.

Newly installed under floor heating systems

- The cement screed must comply with DIN 18353, and with the instructions for heated floor construction issued by the Central Association of the German Construction Industry. Minimum waiting time to install a floor covering, after installation of the screed, is 21 days.
- Expansion joints provided by the heating manufacturer must be retained.
- After minimum 21 days, the underfloor heating can be started up. The inflow water temperature may be increased each day by a maximum of 15°C, until the maximum water temperature of 45°C is reached. Continue at this temperature without interruption for 7 days at 45°C. Then reduce the water temperature by 15°C (41°F) daily, until the water temperature drops below 25°C.
- Switch off the heating system for 7 days, then increase the heating again for 4 days until the temperature reaches 45°C. Reduce heating once again to 25°C (77°F).
- This schedule is the absolute minimum heating and cooling cycle to be observed. Each additional day is useful to reduce the humidity of the screed and to provide additional safety.
- Finally, the installation of the wood flooring can get underway, in accordance with the installation instructions above. Maintain the water temperature at 25°C during installation.
- The surface temperature of the screed must be at least 18°C and the relative humidity during installation must be 45 to 65%.
- These conditions must be maintained for at least another 5 days after installation of the flooring..

Precautions

To preserve the quality and beauty of your hardwood floor, it is necessary to use suitable protective pads under chairs and furniture legs. Suitable and effective walk-off mats should be installed at each entrance from the outside, in order to minimise tracked-in dirt, grit and moisture. Castor chairs and office chairs must comply with the DIN EN 12529, i.e. they must be provided with soft type W castors and/or suitable office mats should be installed.

OILED WOODFLOORING

Immediately after installation

Your wood floor has been oiled at the factory, in order to give it long-lasting protection. It is important that you clear any dust and wipe the floor with wood floor soap immediately after installation (see general cleaning instructions below).

General cleaning and maintenance

Vacuum or sweep the floor daily. Wood floors should be wiped regularly with a slightly damp cloth. Add wood floor soap to the water when you clean your oiled parquet. Wood floor soap not only cleans the floor, it also forms a protective film on the surface that will keep dirt away. Wipe the floor with a soap solution several times during the first couple of weeks. Never splash water onto the floor.

Intensive cleaning

If the floor is heavily soiled, use intensive wood cleaner followed by maintenance oil.