

# WILDWOOD GRANDE COLLECTION

## Installation Instructions for 10.23” (260mm) Engineered Hardwood Flooring

Wildwood Grande Collection Engineered Hardwood Floors can be installed:

- On, above or below grade
- Full trowel glue down installation **ONLY**
- Over plywood, OSB or concrete subfloor

This floor may be installed over radiant heat if the installation conforms to the conditions specified in the “**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OVER RADIANT HEAT**” section.

This floor should **NOT** be installed in full bathrooms or laundry rooms. Use in either of these applications will void the product warranty.

### HOME ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

Acclimate flooring to the usable environment for a minimum of 72 hours (DO NOT OPEN PACKAGES UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO INSTALL HARDWOOD) Humidity should be between 35% and 60% and temperature should be between 18 C and 26 C (65 F and 79 F). HVAC systems must be running and tested prior to flooring delivery.

Ensure subfloor is clean, scraped and free of debris. Sweep or vacuum floor Undercut door trims, jambs and casing for the thickness of flooring and adhesive

Allow expansion space – remove existing base molding, or undercut the thickness of the flooring, or allow 5/8” for expansion and plan to cover with quarter round

### SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

#### WOOD

Inspect the wood subfloor to ensure it meets all flooring and adhesive manufacturer requirements. For joist spans 19” – 24”, minimum panel thickness of 23/32” OSB is required. For joist spans 16 inches or less, minimum panel thickness of 5/8” plywood or 23/32” OSB is required. When these guideline minimums are not met the requirement is to overlay the existing subfloor material with a ½” panel product or add structural support from below.

The standard flatness for glue down installation method on a wood subfloor is 3/16” in 10 feet, or 1/8” in 6 feet.

When testing for moisture, both the wood flooring and the wood subfloor should be evaluated and documented. Maximum subfloor moisture to be 10%, and maximum difference between subfloor and hardwood to be no greater than 4%. (i.e. if hardwood moisture content reading is 5%, subfloor moisture content can not exceed 9%)

Never install a wood floor over a known moisture condition. If subfloor moisture becomes a problem after installation, pre-installation moisture testing and documentation will provide a moisture baseline at the time of installation.

All engineered wood flooring being glued over a wood subfloor should be installed perpendicular to, or on a diagonal to, the joist/floor truss direction for any single layer subfloor.

#### CONCRETE

Inspect the concrete subfloor to ensure it meets all adhesive and flooring manufacturer requirements.

Concrete must be fully cured 60 days prior to installation.

If any subfloor toppings such as self-levelers, skim-coatings, patches, trowelable underlays, or floor-fill exists, ensure any sealers/primers or adhesive products are compatible with these toppings.

Removal of any contaminates that may interfere with the adhesive system is required.

For concrete slabs, the concrete surface profile (CSP) should be evaluated to ensure it meets the adhesive manufacturer requirements

The standard flatness for a concrete subfloor with glue down installation method is 3/16” in 10 feet, or 1/8” in 6 feet.

Moisture test the concrete subfloor in relation top the flooring being used. When testing for moisture, both the wood flooring and concrete subfloor should be evaluated and documented.

Concrete slabs with a calcium chloride reading of greater than 3 lbs/1000 sf/24hr are strongly recommended to wait for further drying of the slab, or install/apply a minimum Class I impermeable vapor retarder/primer over the slab according the adhesive manufacturer’s instructions, prior to installation. Recommended product to be WAKOL PU-280 Moisture Barrier.

Concrete slabs with an in-situ RH reading of greater than 80% are strongly recommended to wait for further drying of the slab or install/apply a Class I impermeable vapor retarder according to the adhesive manufacturer’s instructions, prior to installation. Recommended product to be WAKOL PU-280 Moisture Barrier.

Screeds/Sleepers – full spread glue down are appropriate over properly prepared screeds/sleepers embedded in concrete, or when screeds/sleepers have been overlaid with the appropriate wood subfloor

### SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OVER RADIANT HEAT

Electric radiant is not allowed – only hydronic radiant heat systems. Confirm the adhesive system being used is compatible with the radiant heat system.

The radiant heat system must be tested and running for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to flooring delivery.

The radiant heat system should be turned off in the installation zone for 24 hours before installation and left off for the duration of the installation period.

Wait 24 hours after installation or until adhesive has fully cured before turning radiant system back on. Bring the temperature of the system up gradually, in 5 F increments. Never allow the surface temperature of the floor to exceed 82 F and avoid dramatic temperature changes. It is recommended that a dedicated thermostat be installed to allow the temperature of the radiant heat system to be accurately controlled.

### ADHESIVES

The recommended adhesive to be used is WAKOL MS-230, a modified silane polymer base. WAKOL MS-230 is appropriate for both wood and concrete subfloors, and for radiant and non-radiant heat applications.

Follow the adhesive manufacturer’s instructions for proper use of the adhesive

All wood flooring adhesives must be elastomeric, which means they remain flexible and maintain their bond when there is no movement in the installed flooring system.

Allow the adhesive to reach room temperature before using

### TROWEL

The recommended trowels are as follows:

For smooth subfloor – 3/16” x ½” x ¼” v notch trowel

For rough subfloor – ¼” x ½” x ½” v notch trowel

It is required to pull boards on occasion to check for coverage and adequate adhesive transfer from the substrate to the back of the board.

Adhesive coverage should be as follows:

For bonding, check coverage to ensure there is a minimum of 80% substrate coverage and adhesive transfer

Do not use old or worn-down trowels, as the notches wear down with normal use, consequently decreasing the flow rate of the adhesive

### GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

Inspect the flooring for manufacturing defects and/or damages. Do not install defective material. All pieces of flooring should be examined for quality of finish and color. **It is the sole and joint responsibility of the installer and owner to conduct a quality inspection of all flooring prior to installation. Flooring that has been installed will be deemed to have been inspected and accepted by the installer and owner, even if the owner is not present at the time of installation.**

Prior to installation, please refer to **SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS (WOOD AND CONCRETE)** sections of the Installation Instructions.

This floor may be installed over radiant heat if the installation conforms to the conditions specified in the “**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OVER RADIANT HEAT**” section.

Where possible and practical, begin the installation at a point opposite of the point of egress in order to minimize walking across a newly glued-down installation. Wall-layout is the most appropriate for glue-down installations.

Undercut door trims, jambs and casings. Remove any existing base, shoe-mold, or doorway thresholds.

Snap a working line parallel to the starting wall, accounting for necessary expansion space. Expansion space left between the flooring and vertical obstructions is required to be minimum 5/8”.

When racking out the floor prior to installation, be sure to work from multiple bundles to ensure color variation. Inspect boards for visible defects or damage.

Avoid “H” patterns where possible and avoid any discernable pattern in adjacent runs such as stair-steps or equal end-joint offsets in sequential rows. Cutting a variety of starter boards from full length boards will assist in randomizing joints in products of equal or limited lengths.

Pre-cut and lay out a starter row along the entire length of the working line. The use of a guide strip, or anchor row may be beneficial to the installation.

Creating an anchor row may include setting a section of flooring in the flooring adhesive the day prior to beginning the install or by setting a temporary starter row using a fastening mechanism, pressure sensitive tape, or temporary adhesive to create a backer for the flooring to be pulled against.

Read the adhesive instructions to confirm if the adhesive is designed to be used in a wet-lay installation method, where you are able to spread the adhesive and begin to install the flooring immediately.

Spread the adhesive with the appropriate trowel. Only apply as much adhesive as can be installed within the adhesive open-time period. Avoid excessive adhesive thickness and inconsistent application by passing the trowel evenly through the adhesive as recommended by the manufacturer.

Lay the flooring into the adhesive by holding the board above the subfloor at an angle, engage the tongue and groove joint, and then press the board directly and firmly down onto the subfloor. Ensure no adhesive is forced into the tongue and groove joints during installation as this will affect the fit of the joint.

Tapping blocks, pull-bars, and straps may be used to drive flooring tight during installation. Be certain to only use tapping blocks, pull-bars, or

straps that do not damage the flooring

Periodically lift boards immediately after installation and at regular intervals to ensure proper slab coverage and adhesive transfer to the back of the flooring from subfloor is achieved.

If desired, roll the floor with a padded roller of recommended weight (100 to 150 pounds).

Clean all adhesive residue from the flooring using a proper adhesive remover as recommended by the adhesive and flooring manufacturer. Be sure and use the recommended cleaner to remove and residue that may have been left from the proper adhesive remover. Do not use a product or process that could damage the finished flooring.

Install moldings and transitions as required. Ensure moldings are affixed to the wall, not the floor.

Wait 24 hours before moving furniture or appliances back onto the floor.

Wait 24 hours to turn on HVAC systems and radiant heat systems. Ensure all HVAC systems are operational and set back to correct temperatures.

#### **MAINTAINING YOUR FINISHED HARDWOOD FLOORS**

Do not use hardwood floor cleaners for the first 2 weeks after installation to ensure all flooring material and adhesive has fully cured and off gassed.

Use microfiber dusting pads and cleaning pads, soft hair brooms, and vacuum with correct attachments.

If using a vacuum to assist in floor cleaning, use only a soft bristle brush floor attachment, not an attachment made for carpet (beater-bar)

Use only approved cleaning agents.

Do not use vinegar or add vinegar to water. Due to its acidic nature, vinegar can damage hardwood floor finishes.

Do not use oil soaps, waxes or polishes, as these products may leave a residue and buildup that could damage the floor finish.

Do not use a steam mop for cleaning hardwood floors, as drastic temperature changes and moisture can lead to warping and damage to the hardwood flooring.

Apply felt pad protection to all furniture legs to prevent marks and scratches to the hardwood

Use area or walk-off rugs (non-rubber backed) at all entrances

Use wood-floor safe castor wheels on office chairs



### **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT THIS MATERIAL, ITS GRADE, FIT OR MACHINING, DO NOT INSTALL.**

You must read installation instructions prior to install. Installation of material constitutes acceptance of quality, machining, grade and performance. Manufacturers liability is limited to replacement value of the material only. We do not cover claims on material once it is installed. Prior to installation, inspect and record the type, moisture content and construction of all subfloor material. Ensure and document that all HVAC is functioning correctly. Document the date of all painting, priming, drywall taping and concrete work that has been performed on the site. Document structural components and spacing of floor joist systems.

**You must use approved adhesives and fasteners as per installation instructions and NWFA recommendations.**