



HOW TO: Install Laminate Flooring



Tools & Materials

- Measuring tape
- Utility knife
- Pry bar
- Circular saw (Straight cuts)
- Jigsaw (Curved cuts)
- Caulk
- Rubber Mallet
- Blocker
- Underlayment (if required)
- Spacers
- Laminate Flooring
- Transitions (if required)

Preparation

- Remove all furniture and belongings from the room.
- Ensure the subfloor is clean, dry, and level.
- Lay underlayment according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Determine the layout of the flooring.
- Calculate the number of planks needed.

Pro Tips

- Purchase an extra 10% SQ.FT of flooring for cuts and mistakes.
- Allow the laminate to acclimate to the room temperature for 48 hours before installation.
- Leave expansion gaps around the perimeter of the room for the flooring to expand and contract with temperature and humidity changes.

Step By Step Installation

1) Remove existing floor coverings like carpet or tile. Take down baseboards carefully, labeling them for reinstallation.

2) Start with the longest wall. Place the first plank with the long edge against the wall, leaving a 1/4" expansion gap using spacers. Tap the next plank into the first using the tapping block and mallet, ensuring a tight fit without gaps. Continue until the row reaches the end of the wall.

3) Stagger the joints of each new row by at least 8 inches for stability. Use a scrap piece of plank as a guide for cutting the last plank in each row to fit snugly against the wall.

4) For doorways or pipes, measure and mark the cuts on the planks before using the jigsaw or circular saw for precise cuts.

5) The final row may require trimming the long edges for proper fit. Use a pull bar to tighten any remaining gaps between planks.

6) Reattach the baseboards, trimming them as needed to fit around the flooring. Fill nail holes and caulk the gap between the baseboard and the wall for a finished look.



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