

INSTALLATION

1) **Design of clips:** Easiklip flooring is held together by locking individual boards together using unique patented clips. At one end of each clip is an orange silicone buffer and at the opposite end are 2 green silicone buffers which are designed to set an automatic expansion gap between the width of each row. To fit the clips to the plank, place the clips with the green silicone buffers facing outward, and clip the side with the orange silicone buffer to the underside of the groove (refer to figure A and B).

Spacing the clips: Begin by fitting the first aluminum clip 4"-5" from the end of the plank. Planks that are 12"-28" in length require two clips. Planks that are between 31"-48" require 3 clips (figure C) and planks between 50"-60" require 4 clips.

2) Place the first plank at the top right-hand corner of the room, with the clips facing away from the wall. Lay planks from right to left in the first row, ensuring that the planks are tight, and secured at the ends. The final plank of the row will need to be cut, allowing for a 9/16th" expansion gap against the wall. Ensure that the first row is completely straight, as this will affect the straightness of the rest of the installation.

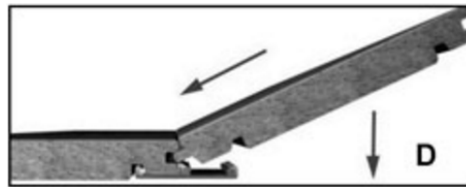
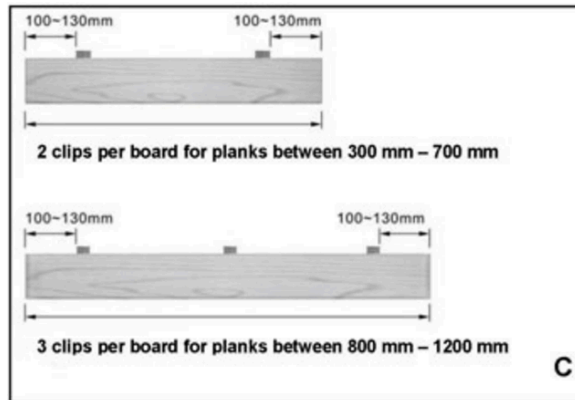
3) Install the second row from right to left. This first plank in the second row must be at least 5" longer (or shorter) than the first plank in the first row. Insert the plank at a 45 degree angle to the installed planks in the first row. Push down until the planks "click" into place (see figure D). Continue installing planks in the second row, ensuring that the ends of the planks in the first and second rows are staggered by at least 5". This staggering will ensure a your floor's sturdiness and integrity.

4) Continue installing the successive rows from right to left, maintaining the expansion gaps of 9/16th" at the ends of each row, and ensuring that joints between boards of the previous row are always staggered by at least 5".

5) Once 6 to 10 rows have been laid, it is then possible to begin to work while kneeling on the flooring that has already been laid. Starting from the left hand side (as you will be positioned 180 degrees to where you began the installation) while kneeling on the installed flooring, continue the installation as above.

6) Once you arrive at the last row, allow for the same 9/16th" expansion gap along the length of the last row

7) Remove the spacers and install mouldings and quarter rounds to cover the expansion gap. Never nail the mouldings directly to the floor.



CONTACT

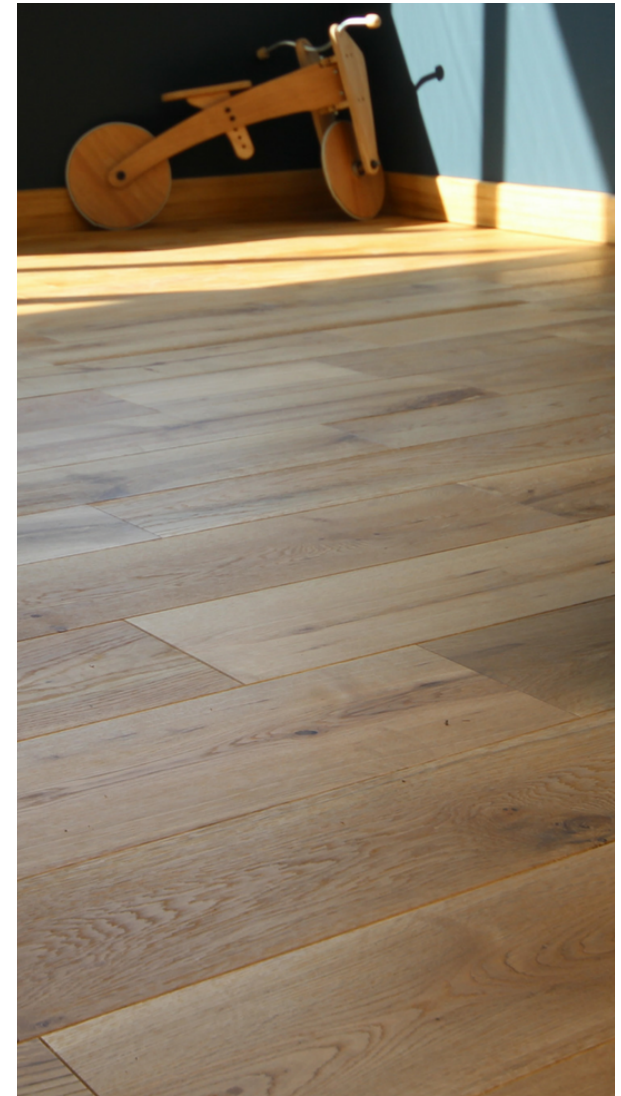
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Solid Hardwood Flooring

Installation Instructions



IMPORTANT

1. Make sure that the subfloor is adequate, well levelled and dry. If the subfloor is not flat, the flooring will follow any peaks and troughs across the width of the boards. Over time, this can lead to peaks in the flooring. The surface variation should not exceed 3/16th" within a 10ft radius or a 2/16th" variation within an 8ft radius
2. Always lay down a foam underlayment prior to installing your flooring. The thickness of the underlayment must not exceed 3 mm (2/16th"). It is essential to lay down a waterproof membrane over concrete subfloors.
3. Do not start the installation before a minimum of 72 hours of product acclimatization in the room where the flooring is to be installed. The longer the product is acclimatized, the more successful the installation will be.

NOTICE

Each board in this box has been inspected and selected by our specialists. If any doubt exists regarding the quality of our products, complete a claim form and ship it to us before installation. Boards with visible defects must not be installed under any circumstances. We assume that any flooring that has been installed was clear of any visible defects. No credit will be given for boards that have been installed with visible defects or variances. You must notify your distributor within 15 days of purchase of any such defects and defective material will need to be returned for it to be replaced.

BASE FLOOR

The ideal conditions are 40% - 65% relative humidity. If the rooms have higher levels of humidity, or if the home has a crawlspace and/or cellar or is considered a cottage, please consult a specialist in your area and/or the construction norms. A foam underlayment must be laid over the subfloor. **The thickness of the foam underlayment must not exceed 3 mm (2/16th").**

A) Concrete Floors

- The surface must be absolutely level, dry and clean. Surface variation greater than 3/16th" within a 10ft radius or a 2/16th" variation within an 8ft radius must be levelled.
- Use a vapour barrier at least 0.15 mm (0.006") thick. Edges should overlap by 200 mm (8").
- Ensure that 25 mm (1") of the vapour barrier is up on the walls.
- The moisture level of a concrete subfloor must not exceed 3%.
- Lay down foam underlayment and then install flooring.

B) Wood and other hard surfaces

- The surface must be dry, clean, smooth and level. Surface variation greater than 3/16th" within a 10ft radius or a 2/16th" variation within an 8ft radius must be levelled.
- The moisture level of a plywood subfloor should be maintained between 8%-12%.
- Lay down foam underlayment and then install flooring.

PREPARATION

- 1) Hardwood should never be stored outdoors or in a damp area. If it is to be installed in a new home or as part of a renovation project, ensure that all doors and windows are already in place and that the walls are puttied, painted and dry. Hardwood flooring should always be the last item installed. Acclimatize the hardwood to the temperature of the room for at least 72 hours prior to installation. The relative humidity of the room should be roughly 40% - 65%, and should be maintained at this level year round. Place the hardwood boxes horizontally in the location where they are to be installed, and cut through the shrink wrap on the outside of the boxes.
- 2) Sub floor needs to be prepared (as above).

- 3) There must be at least 1/2" between the surface of the floor and the bottom of electrical baseboard heaters to allow heat to circulate.
- 4) Verify door and frame clearances and make required adjustments before laying down the floor. Cut the door moulding with a saw to allow the planks and underlayment to slide underneath.
- 5) Carefully remove existing baseboards.
- 6) Decide in which direction the planks should be laid. As a rule, the floor planks should be laid perpendicular to the wall that has a window in it to make the room appear larger. It may be preferable to lay down the floor planks parallel to the longest wall to save time and waste by needing to cut down fewer boards.
- 7) Before installing, check panels for defects such as chips and sheen differences under good light conditions. Check that the grooves in each plank are clean and free of debris. Damaged planks must be replaced before laying down the floor.
- 8) Maintain a 9/16th" expansion gap around the perimeter of the room to allow for the natural expansion and contraction of the floor. Use spacer blocks during installation.
- 9) Walls may not be perfectly straight. If your wall is not perfectly straight and you allow for a consistent 9/16th" expansion gap, your installation will not be straight and will not properly fit together. To test the straightness of your wall, install 9/16th" spacers on both ends of the wall, and run a string between the two points. In extremes, the planks may need to be scribed to follow the profile of the wall.

TOOLS & SUPPLIES

Miter saw, table saw, chalk line/string, 9/16th" spacers, set square, pencil, tape measure, utility knife, moisture reader, foam underlayment not exceeding 3 mm thickness, vapour barrier (depending on the type of subfloor), dust mask.

Knee pads, and ear protection are recommended.

NOTE: Safety glasses, gloves and dust mask should be worn at all times.