



## Installation Instructions

### Installer/Owner Responsibility

**Beautiful hardwood Floors are a product of nature and therefore, are not perfect. Carefully inspect all material prior to installation for proper color, finish, style, and quality. Materials installed with visible defects are not covered under our warranty. If you are not satisfied with our products contact your dealer before installing the flooring. The use of stain, filler, or putty sticks during installation should be accepted as normal procedure. Customer must allow at least a 5% cutting allowance, depending on layout, to the actual square footage. Relative humidity of the jobsite must be maintained between 35-55% relative humidity. Never strike a rubber mallet directly on the flooring to engage the tongue-and-groove. This may damage the flooring and/or the finish.**

### Subfloor Preparation

**It is the installer/ owners' responsibility to ensure that the jobsite conditions and jobsite subfloor are acceptable prior to the installation of any hardwood flooring. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for failures of our flooring resulting from or related to subfloor or job-site conditions. All substrates must be clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound. Test wood sub floors and wood flooring for moisture content using a pin-type moisture meter. Acceptable wood subfloors will have a moisture content of 12% or less and the flooring should be within 4% of the subfloor. The moisture content for concrete subfloors should not be greater than 3 pounds per 1000 square feet of area based off a calcium chloride test. If it exceeds these limits, DO NOT install the flooring. New slabs must cure for a minimum of 30 days.**

### Getting Started

**All substrates must be clean, dry, structurally sound, properly cured and free of dirt, oil, paint, old adhesive, wax, sealers and curing agents. The subfloor must be flat to a tolerance of 3/16" in a 10' radius. Hollow spots, popping spots and squeaks related to unevenness of the subfloor will not be covered by our warranty.**

**Grinding down high spots on concrete floors is preferred over the use of filling compounds. If leveling compounds are used we recommend Portland Cement based products and must have a compressive strength equal to or greater than 3000 psi when cured. Use of Naturally Aged Adhesive over light weight concrete and all gypsum based materials requires the use of a concrete primer. Remove all existing base, shoe molding and door thresholds prior to continuing the installation. All door casings must be undercut with either a jamb saw or a hand saw. Use a piece of the flooring as a guide to determine the thickness needed. Select a starter wall. An outside wall is most likely to be straight and square with the room. Measure out from this wall at each end of the room the width of 2 planks including an additional 3/8" – 1/2" for expansion. This expansion will later be covered by your baseshoe. Snap a chalk line from these points. Prior to installation secure a straight edge inside the chalk line to prevent the row of planks from shifting during installation. Alternatively, the first row can be face-nailed with finishing nails into the wood subfloor or sprig nailed into a concrete subfloor**

**To achieve a uniform appearance we highly recommend that you open and work from several cartons at a time. This will allow you to blend the planks for maximum aesthetic appearance. Blend all transitions and moldings to planks that have similar color and graining.**

**Glue Down Installation**

<b>Floor Type - Parquet and Engineered</b>	<b>Trowel Size</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
<b>Installation Recommendations</b>		
• All parquets measuring less than 3/4" thick	1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" Square-notch	Approx. 65 sq.ft./gallon
• All engineered flooring	3/16" x 1/4" x 1/2" c-c V-notch	Approx. 50 sq.ft./gallon
<b>Floor Type - Solid</b>	<b>Trowel Size</b>	<b>Coverage</b>
• Solid flooring with a width of 3" or less and measuring 1/2" or less in thickness	3/16" x 1/4" x 1/2" c-c V-notch	Approx. 50 sq.ft./gallon
• Solid flooring with a width greater than 3" and measuring 1/2" or less in thickness & bamboo	3/16" x 3/16" x 3/16" Square-notch	Approx. 35 sq.ft./gallon

**CLEAN TROWEL OFTEN TO PREVENT ADHESIVE BUILD-UP.**

**Using the proper trowel, hold the trowel at a 45° angle to ensure proper spread rate of adhesive. Spread adhesive from the straightedge out approximately two planks. Install the first row of starter planks along the chalk line/straightedge and secure into position with the tongue facing the starter wall. When you are certain the first two starter rows are straight and secure, spread adhesive 2 to 3 feet wide across the length of the room. Never spread more adhesive than can be covered in 30 to 45 minutes. As you continue working across the floor try to maintain a six-inch minimum space between end joints. Randomly install different length planks to avoid a patterned appearance. As the pre-finished flooring is being installed, immediately wipe any wet adhesive from the flooring, tools and equipment with mineral spirits. Do not allow adhesive to cure on the surface of the flooring, tools or equipment. Follow solvent manufacturer's directions when working with solvents. Cured adhesive will be difficult to remove. Restrict foot traffic for a minimum of 6-8 hours and wait 24 hours before permitting moving of furniture onto the floor. Clean any wet adhesive from the flooring**

### **Nail or Staple Down Installation**

**Minor noises within the flooring are inherent to all staple/nail-down installations and can change as environmental changes occur.**

**For ½" thick products the minimum length staple/cleat recommended is 1 ¼". When used improperly, staples or cleats can damage wood flooring. If the tool is not adjusted properly the staples/cleats may not be positioned at the proper angle causing blistering, peaking, or squeaking. Test the tool on a piece of scrap material first. Cover the subfloor with 1 layer of 6 mil plastic and 1 layer of 15lb. felt paper. Continue to install the flooring making sure to nail/staple 1"-2" from the ends and every 3" – 4" thereafter. Make certain the tool is adjusted properly to prevent damage to the flooring. As you continue working across the floor try to maintain a six-inch minimum space between end joints. Randomly install different lengths to avoid a patterned appearance. If needed use a tapping block to push the boards together until no gaps are present between the planks**

### **Final Touches**

**Sweep or vacuum floor**

**Clean the floor with proper hardwood floor cleaner**

**Install transition pieces. Nail moldings to wall, not the floor.**

**Inspect floor for nicks and or minor gaps – fill with appropriate color wood putty.**

**Use masonite when moving heavy appliances or furniture across floor.**