

INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS | FLOATING LAMINATE

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARRANTY CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU BEGIN INSTALLATION. IMPROPER INSTALLATION WILL VOID WARRANTY.

Always check the manufacturer website (www.tasflooring.com) for the latest installation information, warranty and maintenance information. Read and follow all installation instructions.

Please Note:

- Building environments contract and expand with temperature and climate changes. It is important to allow a 3/8" expansion space at all vertical surfaces that will be covered by wall base. For vertical surfaces not covered by wall base (example: sliding glass doors sill plate, entry door thresholds, etc), fill the expansion space with flexible caulking.
- Flooring should be one of the last products installed in new construction. The building must be climate controlled with all windows and doors installed, and other trades work completed.
- It is the installers responsibility to determine the suitability of this product for the situation it is being installed in.
- Always prepare a proper subfloor (see section on substrates). A proper substrate is the foundation of a successful floor.

Table of Contents

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Suitability of Product | 9) Subfloor Moisture Requirements |
| 2) Installer Responsibilities | 10) Expansion Space Requirements |
| 3) Site Condition Requirements | 11) Expansion Trim |
| 4) Acclimation Requirements | 12) Layout |
| 5) Subfloor Flatness Requirements | 13) Installing Flooring |
| 6) Substrate Preparation | 14) Floor Protection |
| 7) Radiant Heated Floor Suitability | 15) Maintenance |
| 8) Suitable Substrates | |

1) Suitability of Product

This product is approved only in climate controlled interior applications.

Approved for use in:

- Residential applications: all living space
- Multi-Family applications: all living space
- Light commercial applications

Not approved for use in:

- Areas of heavy rolling loads
- Commercial Applications
- Industrial Applications
- Areas with excessive substrate moisture (see Suitable Substrates)

Pease read warranty for a more complete definition of acceptable use.

2) Installer Responsibilities

It is the floor covering installers responsibility to:

- Make sure the latest installation instructions are followed. For the latest installation instructions go to www.tasflooring.com
- Make sure the product is suitable for its intended use.
- Visually inspect all material and remove any visibly defective material. Visibly defective material installed will not be covered under warranty.
- Stop any project that does not meet installation guidelines and contact the flooring retailer it was purchased from.
- Work out of several boxes, mixing product for visual appearance.

3) Site Condition Requirements

Normal Room Conditions (NRC) are defined as:

- Ambient air temperature between 65°-80° Fahrenheit
- Surface temperature between 65°-80° Fahrenheit
- Ambient RH (Relative Humidity) between 35%-60%.
- Substrate must be dry: concrete-less than 80% RH (Relative Humidity), wood less than 10% moisture
- pH levels between 5 and 9
- All flooring products (including trim) are required to achieve NRC prior to installation

All product & trims must achieve NRC 24 hours prior to, during, and after install.

4) Acclimation

Temperature and Relative Humidity readings must be taken and documented, including ambient room temperature and surface temperature. Acclimate cartons laying flat, not on end or on side, stacked no more than 5 cartons high. Avoid storing flooring in direct sunlight. Do not store on operational radiant in-floor heated areas. It is critical to take a surface temperature reading of the vinyl plank prior to installation. It must achieve NRC.

5) Subfloor Flatness Requirements

Subfloor Flatness: Subfloor must be flat, with no undulation exceeding 3/16" in a 10' radius or 1/8" in 6ft radius. Grind high spots down and/or fill low spots with a quality cement patching compound. Allow patch to completely dry prior to installation. Follow patch manufacturers installation guidelines.

WARNING: Follow all local building regulations, the resilient floor covering institute (rfci.com) practices, and OSHA procedures when grinding. Some substrates might contain harmful contaminants; such as silica sand or asbestos. It is critical that you determine prior to grinding if there are any harmful contaminants in the subfloor.

6) Substrate Preparation

Substrate Preparation: It is the floor covering installers responsibility to insure that subfloor conditions are suitable. Substrates must meet all Federal and local building codes.

- Substrate must be soundly constructed to standard industry requirements.
- Substrate must be dust free, containment free, and within moisture and pH tolerances listed under Suitable Substrates.
- Wood substrates must be properly ventilated, with a minimum of 18" between the floor joist and the ground, a minimum 6 mill poly film must cover the ground completely, overlapped and taped.

7) Radiant Heated Floors Suitability

Radiant Heated Substrates: In-Floor hydronic (water) radiant heat is acceptable to install over providing the substrate never exceeds 85 degrees Fahrenheit. In-Floor radiant heated floors must be turned off to achieve a substrate temperature between 65 and 75 degrees Fahrenheit prior to, during and for 48 hours after the installation. Floor warming systems, such as electric wire and mat systems, are not approved to install over.

8) Suitable Substrates

It is the floor covering installers responsibility to insure that subfloor conditions are suitable. For all substrates not listed, please contact the flooring retailer for more information. Substrates must meet all Federal and local building codes.

Approved Substrates (Not limited to):

- Properly prepared concrete, cement patch & leveling, (minimum 3500 PSI). Must not exceed 85% RH (ASTM F-2170-09) and must not exceed 10lb MVER (ASTM F1869-10). pH levels must be between 5 and 9.
- Gypsum, properly prepared gypsum (minimum 3500 PSI). Must be dry based on gypsum and adhesive manufacturer standards, maximum 85% RH (ASTM F2170-09)
- Underlayment grade plywood, minimum 5.5mm thick. Must be dry, less than 10% moisture content.
- For hard to bond to substrates such as metal, Terrazzo, epoxy and ceramic tile, refer to the adhesive manufacturers installation instructions.
- Underlayment grade Orientated Strand Board (OSB) and Orientated Fiber Board (OFB), follow adhesive manufacturers instructions on proper preparation of OSB & OFB.

Non-Approved Substrates (Not limited to):

- Sleeper type floor systems
- Plywood installed directly over a concrete slab
- Soft plywood or plywood not approved as "Underlayment Grade" certified by the Plywood Association, Luan, and pressure treated.
- Masonite or hardboard
- Contaminated surfaces: abatement chemicals, paint, oil, mold, mildew, grease or any containments that might interfere with adhesive bonding.
- Strip plank wood flooring
- Uneven (3/16" in 10') or unstable substrates
- Separate cushion is not approved and will void warranty

9) Subfloor Moisture Requirements

Concrete & Gypsum Substrates

- Not to exceed 85% RH (ASTM F-2170-09) and must not exceed 10lb MVER (ASTM F1869-10). Relative Humidity is the primary testing method, a secondary Calcium Chloride test can be performed and is recommended.
- It is difficult to measure gypsum substrates for moisture. Although Relative Humidity Probes (ASTM F-2170-09) are the recommended method of testing, they are not practical due to the number of tests required and often the thickness of the gypsum. A professional electronic moisture indicator (Protimeter Aquant recommended) can be used to indicate if the substrate is dry enough to receive floor covering.

Wood Substrates

Not to exceed 10% moisture content

10) Expansion Space Requirements

This flooring is a floating floor and must be allowed to expand and contract monolithically. Expansion space must be at 100% of vertical surfaces with no "pinch points".

Expansion Space:

Flooring expands and contracts with normal climate changes.

- At all vertical surfaces (walls, sliding glass doors, cabinets, etc) that will be covered with wall base allow a minimum 3/8" expansion gap, maximum expansion space must allow 3/8" coverage under the wall base.
- Undercut door jambs and other vertical surfaces to allow flooring to freely fit underneath.
- Where door jambs will not be undercut; and other vertical surfaces that will not be receiving wall base (such as sliding glass doors, thresholds, etc) allow a minimum 3/8" expansion gap and caulk with a flexible silicone caulking or use a square edge transition trim.
- Do not fit flooring full or under compression.

Expansion Transition Trim:

- Transition trim must be used
- Transition trim is required in areas exceeding 40' x 40', or transitions to rooms which do not join symmetrically.
- Use expansion trim between areas of uneven heating, or where the joining rooms are not symmetrical.
- Use transition trim in adjoining areas of irregular shape, such as but not limited to: L-shape, U-Shape, T-Shape.
- Do not nail or staple trim so that it restricts floor movement such as nailing into floor or too tightly against floor surface.

Note: When butting to fixed surface such as sliding doors and entry doors, expansion trim is required. You may also leave a proper expansion space and caulk with a flexible caulk such as 100% silicone.

11) Expansion Trims

Transition trim is designed to cover the expansion gap. Expansion trim must allow flooring to freely float monolithically. Do not nail or staple trim so that it restricts floor movement such as nailing into floor or too tightly against floor surface.



12) Layout

- It is best to lay flooring parallel to light source (such as a window).
- Determine the center of the room by marking the center of each end wall. Snap a line with a chalk line between these two points.
- Dry lay rows to wall, if the plank to the long wall will be less than 2" wide, adjust the center line to make the long wall plank over 2". The goal is to have planks next to the wall to be a minimum of 2". Balance the cuts in the room.
- For best visual stagger end joint by a minimum of 8" on a random basis.

13) Installing Flooring

****Please note: This product comes with an attached pad. Do not install an additional cushion beneath this flooring.**

Figure 1: Thoroughly clean the subfloor. If installing over concrete or a crawl space that is less than 24" from the subfloor, a moisture barrier is required that is at least 6mil.

Figure 2: Commence installation in the right hand corner of the room with tongue facing the wall. Use shims to allow about 3/8" between the planks and the walls, or stationary interior room objects, so that there is room for normal expansion and movement.

Figure 3: Insert the end section of the next plank and drop down to get a flat adjoining surface. Continue this process to the end of the first row.

Figure 4: Measure out the last board to fit. Allow for the 3/8" expansion space next to the wall and draw the cut line.

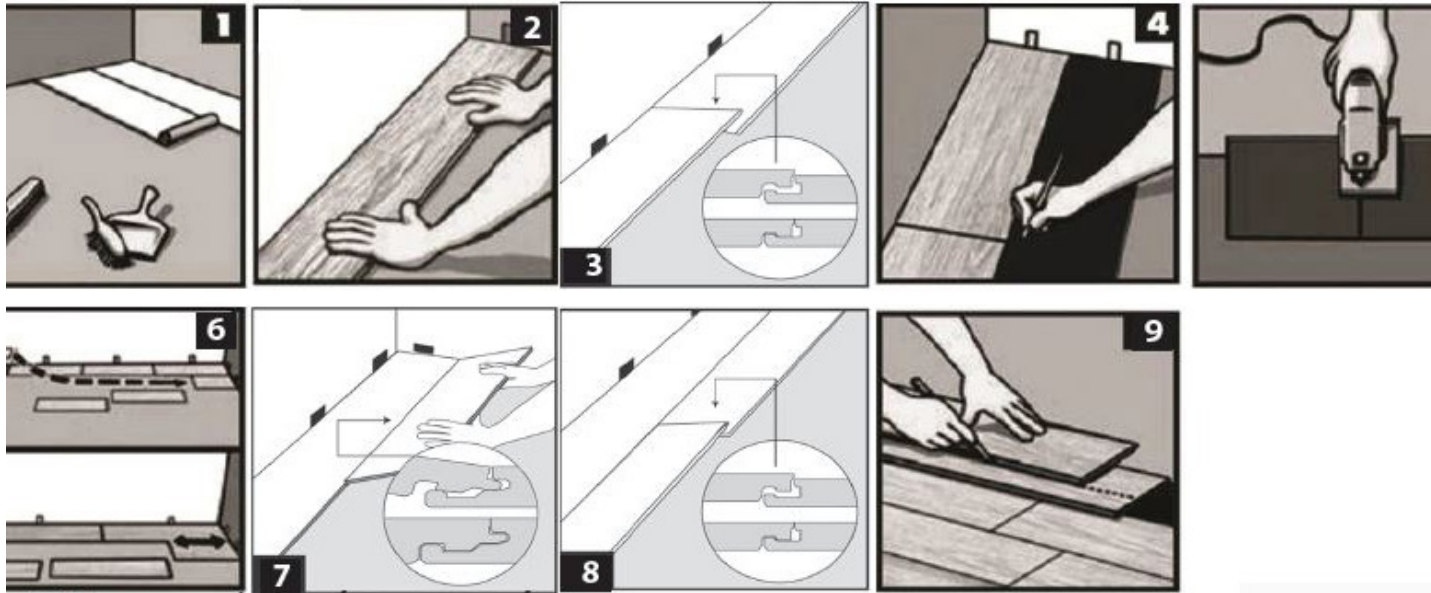
Figure 5: If you are using a sabre saw, or other type of power saw, place the plank face down on the work area and cut to size. If you are cutting with a hand saw, use a fine tooth blade and cut the plank with the face up. Insert the cut plank into the row and use a pry bar to ease the plank into position.

Figure 6: The cut piece from the previous row should be used to start the next row. This cut piece should be at least 12" long. If the cut piece is less than 12", start with a full plank which should be cut in half length-wise in order to achieve the staggered appearance. Be sure that all end joints are staggered in length at least 12".

Figure 7: Insert the starting piece of plank on the next row and drop down to secure.

Figure 8: Insert the next plank by angling the length of the plank into the groove of the previous row, and drop into place. Continue this on the remaining planks in the row. At the end of the row repeat steps 4, 5 and 6.

Figure 9: To install the last row of the project, place a loose plank on top of the last installed plank on the adjoining row. Place another plank on top, with the tongue side facing the wall (allow the 3/8" expansion joint) and draw a line along the edge of the plank as indicated and cut along the drawn line. Insert the cut plank against the wall and use a pry bar to ease into position. The shims can then be removed.



14) Floor Protection

- If other trades are working in the installation area, protect flooring with an approved breathable floor protection material such as a builder board or reinforced 60lb Kraft paper. Wait a minimum of 24 hours before applying floor protection.
- Always use chair pads under rolling caster chairs and chair leg protectors, minimum of 1-1/2" diameter, under furniture legs.

15) Maintenance

Cleaner

- Always use a neutral pH cleaner such as WF Taylor Fresh Floors.
- If necessary, the floor may be cleaned with a wet mop and a laminate cleaner. Avoid flooding the floor with water.

Daily & Weekly Maintenance

- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor as needed to remove loose dirt and grit. Do not use a vacuum with bristles or a beater bar.
- Clean liquid spills immediately.
- Damp mop (do not flood floor) as needed

Preventative Maintenance

- Chair pads are required under roller castor chairs
- Furniture leg protectors (minimum 1.5" diameter) are required under all furniture legs.
- Use protective boards when sliding heavy furniture across flooring.
- Never apply rubber mats directly on top of vinyl flooring.
- Place walk off mats outside entry doors to prevent dirt and sand from entering into the installation.
- Protect flooring from direct sunlight with window and glass door coverings to prevent fading.
- Any additional floor finishes are not required and not approved. The application of any additional floor finishes without written consent from TAS Flooring will void all warranties.



For all installation conditions and information not covered specifically under these instructions contact TAS Flooring at www.tasflooring.com.