



FACTORY DIRECT
— F L O O R I N G —

Embrace
Herringbone
Parquet

**Installation
& Care Guide**



IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT YOUR FLOORING. READ BEFORE INSTALLING

Care Guide

Acclimatization and Storage

Your new flooring has to be acclimatized for 48hrs before installation begins. The flooring must remain in the packs, stored horizontal in the room which it is to be installed. Please note the room must be between 18° and 24°. Heat sources or other direct radiant heat exceeding 50° are not allowed. The relative air humidity must be between 40% - 70%.

Subfloor

Installation should not be attempted without observing the information below

All flooring must be fitted on to a dry, clean, smooth and flat subfloor failure to do so will result in post installation problems. Moisture meters are readily available in DIY stores if required, the flatness tolerances of the subfloor must be observed. The installer must always and in particular with renovation work check the current status of the subfloor, if it does not meet the requirements stated here extra work will be needed to flatten the subfloor out, to determine the flatness of your floor apply these tolerances over a 1m length, the floor must not be more than 1mm difference in height, **failure to do so** will **allow** unwanted movement in the flooring resulting in creaking and cracking at the joints where the flooring is moving under pressure over applied weight, special attention needs to be adhered when installing herringbone floors which will contain a great deal more boards and joints susceptible to movement.

Underfloor Heating

We can recommend water based underfloor heating systems be used with a suitable engineered flooring in conjunction with a suitable underlay, a temperature not exceeding 27°C and an average running of 20°C. The heating must be turned off 48hrs prior to installation and once the flooring has been installed turned on with an increase in working temperature of 5°C per day until normal operating temperature has been reached. Water Based heating pipes are to be fitted a minimum of 30mm below the subfloor surface.

Tools

Having the correct tools and equipment and the understanding of how to use them safely is key to a successful installation, in conjunction with some standard hand tools Hammer, Hand Saw, Square, tape measure, screw driver you may wish to use power tools such as a chop saw, jigsaw or cordless screwdriver to speed you along, paying attention when cutting with power tools to observe the blade cutting direction and place the plank

Expansion

Depending on the climate conditions your flooring **will** expand or contract, it therefore needs to be kept a suitable distance away from any fixed structures such as walls, supports, door frames, radiator pipes etc, this is called the expansion gap.

This gap should be a minimum of 10mm when using solid or engineered floors a gap of 8mm can be allowed on Laminate in smaller areas on each edge of the floor, larger areas the gap will need to be increased. As a guide each linear meter of flooring fitted requires a 2mm gap either side of the floor, e.g. a 6m run will require an expansion gap of 12mm each side of the floor. Larger areas such as angular areas or installations that cover more than one room will require additional clearance, these gaps can be hidden by using expansion profiles or a scotia bead, for areas over 6m x 10m please call for further assistance.

PLEASE NOTE

All flooring will CHIP, DENT and SCRATCH unless care is taken to PROTECT it, FELT PADS should be used on all moveable furniture. Matting at room entrances will greatly reduce grit and dirt from being transferred onto your flooring.

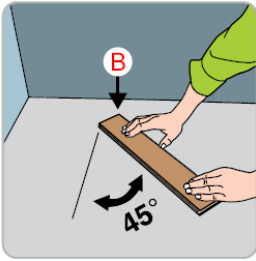
Liability for the installation remains with the installer following the fitting instructions and guides supplied and ensuring that the product and area are both suitable to be installed. Prevent the flooring from coming into contact with a large amount of water.

Conservatories and rooms with excessive light should be avoided unless protection screens are used, this can be glass protection or blinds.

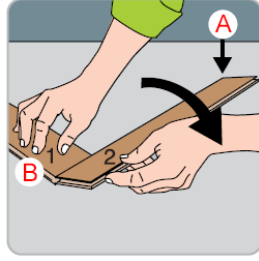
Always inspect materials for faults or damage as no claims on surface defects can be accepted after installation.



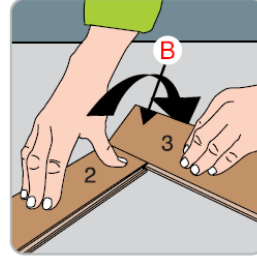
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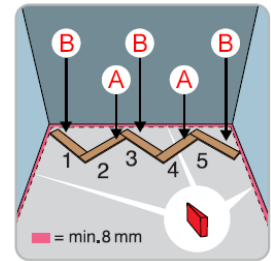
1. Select a wall to start your installation, and from the left hand corner place plank no.1 (Type A) with the longer male edge facing the wall to the left at an angle of 45°, ensure that the distance between the edge of plank No.1 and the wall is less than the distance of a full board.



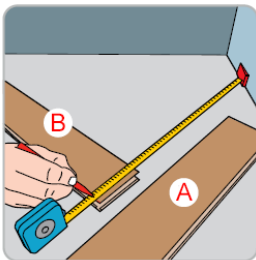
2. To connect plank No.2 (Type B) press the long side of the plank at an angle into the short side of the previous installed plank, folding the second panel to the floor will lock them together, checking that the grooves form a continuous line



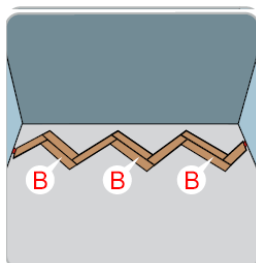
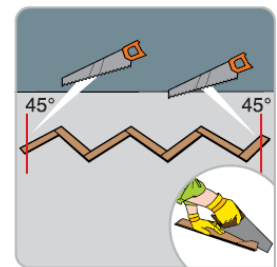
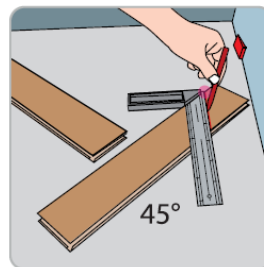
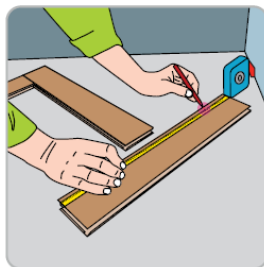
3. To install plank No.3 press the long edge of this plank into the short edge of plank No.2, again folding it down will lock the boards together, using this method continue along the starting wall.



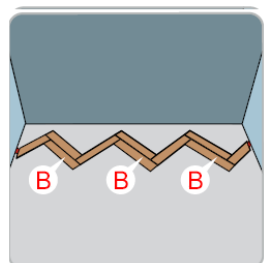
4. Once you reach the end the row will need to be centered between the walls. Make sure that gaps are less than a full plank, if not add another plank onto the end of the row.



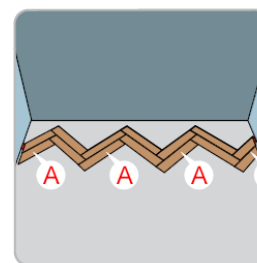
5. to finish this first row either end will require a plank to be cut, ensure that an expansion gap is allowed for a minimum size of 8 to 10mm. Measure the gaps distance and transfer the sizes to the fill plank.



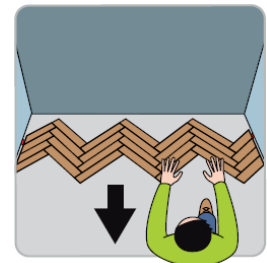
6. Start the second row in this case with plank A laying at an angle on the long side of plank A of the first row and across the head of Plank B folding down to lock the plank.



7. the remaining Plank A boards can be installed across the first row.



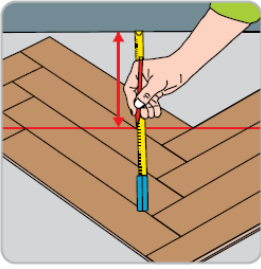
8. The row will now be filled in the opposite direction from the right hand side to left. With a B Plank, it will lock into the B plank of the first row and the A plank of the second row.



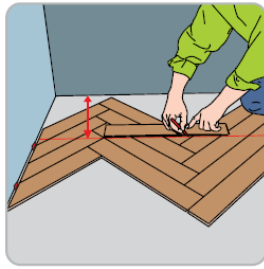
9. Build up four complete rows using the same method to give a body of flooring ready to be cut or scribed to the starting wall.



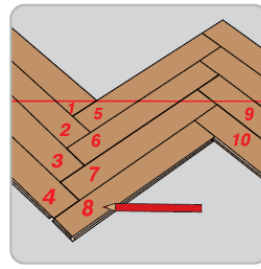
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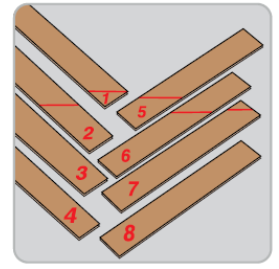
10. The first four rows will need to be cut parallel to the starting wall.



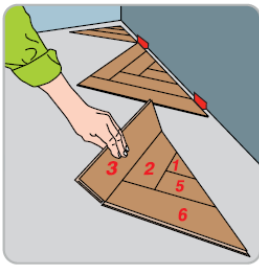
10a. Using a tape mark off positions to form a cut line across the run of flooring maintaining an equal distance to the starting wall.



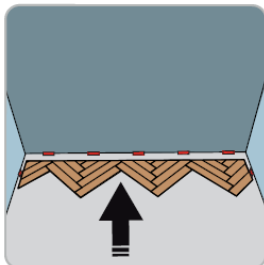
11. The floor will need to be taken apart and cut, numbering the planks will allow them to be kept in order. Cut along the marked line



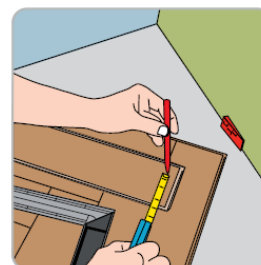
11a. Numbering the planks will allow them to be kept in order. Cut along the marked line



12. Once cut construct the triangles from the cut planks. Begin to install from the left hand side of the wall, a small amount of glue into the groove is recommended for some of the smaller pieces.



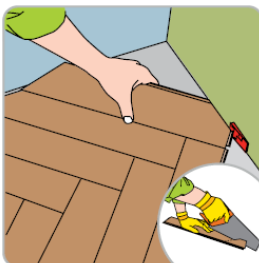
13. Build up some more rows this will help to strengthen the floor, use the same method as before, begin the row from left to right finish with a cut as previously used then work back right to left.



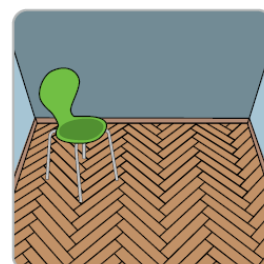
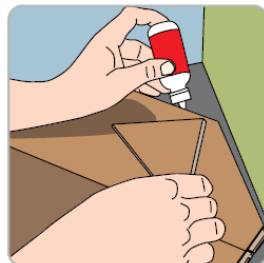
14. as the final rows are reached each plank will need to be cut into the wall.



15. Always maintain the expansion gap when the cut is being measured.



16. To give additional strength to the final boards run some suitable flooring adhesive into the groove to help secure the smaller planks.



17. Once the flooring has been completed the spacers can be removed, using a scotia, beading or skirting the expansion gap can be covered to finish the project



Aftercare

How to Care for Your Floor

1. Laminate flooring is one of the toughest and hardest wearing floor coverings and is very simple to care for ensuring it retains its beautiful look, a simple routine of dry mopping, vacuuming and sweeping will keep loose dirt and grit off its surface and prevent scratching from occurring.
2. Footmarks, dirt and stains can be removed with a thoroughly wrung out mop **Never** use a wet mop or excessive amounts of water in cleaning laminate floors.
3. More stubborn stains and marks can be removed with mild solvents with an alcohol content or with acetone nail polish remover **Never** use abrasive cleaners or scourers when cleaning a laminate floor.
4. The use of mats covering entrances from outside areas will prevent one of the biggest causes of surface scratches when dirt and grit is brought in underneath footwear.
5. Always lift furniture items they should never be dragged on laminate floors and the use of felt pads placed underneath will prevent surface damage during smaller movements and daily use at the point of contact with the floors surface.

HELPFUL TIPS

Avoid dragging or sliding heavy items of furniture, carousels and point of sale across the floor.

Spending a small amount of time looking after your new Laminate floor will ensure that it continues to look at its best and provide you with many years of carefree use without the need of costly maintenance and repairs.

Never use abrasive cleaners or scourers

Never use wax or floor polishes during cleaning the floor

Never use a wet mop or large amounts of water during cleaning

Do use mats in high traffic areas and at entrances to your wood floor

Do remove any spills or excessive liquids as soon as they occur

Minor damages can be repaired with touch in kits to suit the colour of the floor

