

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

TONGUE AND GROOVE



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MOST IMPORTANT!

- The flooring material to be installed shall be allowed to acclimatise in their sealed boxes in the room or rooms it is to be installed into.
- The flooring material shall be acclimatised in this area for no less than 48 hours at a constant temperature of between 15°C and 28°C and a RH (relative humidity) of between 40% – 60%.
- The flooring must not be fixed at any point and must have suitable expansion gaps allowed in all areas. Expansion joints must be fitted in all doorways and in any width exceeding 8 lineal metres or length over 10 lineal metres.
- Once opened, the loose planks should be shuffled between boxes to ensure a uniform overall effect. The sub-floor to which the material is to be installed on must be structurally sound, dry and flat to a maximum of +/- 3mm in 2M span in any direction. Use of a 2M straight edge is recommended. Refer drawing.
- Ultimately the suitability of the installation conditions and area must be assessed and deemed suitable by the installer prior to the commencement of installation works.
- Signature Floors recognises the FCIA hand book - Timber & Hard flooring as industry best practice for the installation of all engineered and laminate floors, and as such adopt these guidelines as recommended practice.

General Conditions

A good installation is dependent on the points above and below being strictly followed. Failure to do so may result in a less than desirable outcome and could lead to flooring failure. By following our recommendations, you will ensure the flooring will act as expected and remain trouble free for its lifetime. Signature Floors engineered wood flooring is an interior product only and must not be installed externally. Suitability for areas such as sunrooms should be confirmed with your Signature Floors representative.

SUB-FLOORS

Timber Sub-floors

Must be constructed according to local building codes, must be structurally sound and free from deflection and must be dry to less than 15% moisture. Loose or noisy boards should be fixed prior to commencement. The timber sub-floor shall be flat to a maximum of +/- 3mm in any 2M span in any direction. Sanding and filling with a suitable compound may be required to achieve these requirements. A minimum of 450mm of unobstructed cross flow ventilation is necessary to ensure no build-up of moisture below the surface.

Concrete Sub-floors

Must be constructed according to local building codes, must be dry to less than 75% RH (relative humidity) when tested to ASTM F2170 or 5.5% moisture when tested using electrical resistance. Concrete sub-floor must be level to +/- 3mm in any 2M span in any direction, a damp proof membrane, grinding and levelling with a suitable compound may be needed to achieve these requirements.

Underfloor Heating

Signature Floors floating floors are suitable for installation over Hydronic underfloor heating when they are installed using a direct stick method only. Please refer to our *Timber Installation Guidelines* for further information.

Underlay

All Signature Floors floating floors require an underlay to provide additional comfort and reduce noise. Underlay should be no thicker than 2mm and be comprised of a closed cell foam construction. In most cases an underlay/ moisture barrier will be the best choice.

Pre-Installation

Once material has been acclimatised and the installer is happy that installation is ready to go ahead, planks should be checked for obvious defects in suitable lighting. Signature Floors will not be liable for rectification costs for material installed with obvious defects. Ensure the correct colour and quantity of material has been ordered and that all material is from the same batch.

Skirtings should be removed if possible and all door jambs should be undercut to allow the flooring to move freely.

If there is any doubt as to the dryness of the sub-floor, it is recommended to install 200uM builder's plastic with all joints sealed with a waterproof tape to act as an additional vapour barrier.

Install the underlay sealed at the joints and taped with a vapour tight tape or by the use of the supplied joiner. Allow the edges to run longer and wider than the floor area to encapsulate the finished installation.

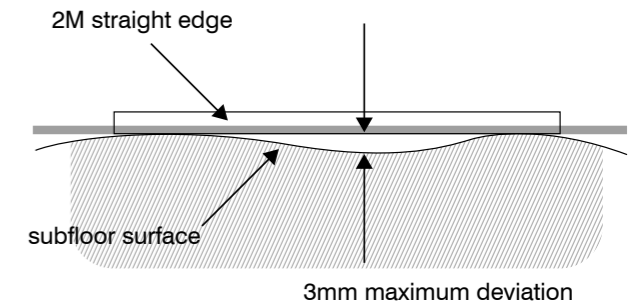
TONGUE AND GROOVE

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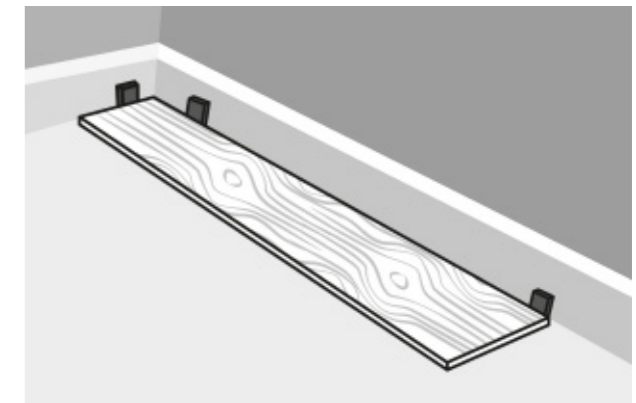
INSTALLATION

1	Plank flooring should generally be installed lengthways to the longest area, measure the width of the room and ensure the final piece of plank will be wider than 75mm. If this is not the case adjust the starting row to suit.
2	Fit the first row along the longest straightest wall. Starting in the top left hand corner, lay the planks end to end leaving a 12-14mm expansion gap with the groove side facing the wall. Use the spacer wedges in the expansion gap to keep the planks in line. Cut the end piece allowing for the expansion gap. If the offcut piece is longer than 300mm this can be used to start the second row and will help facilitate the recommended staggered effect.
3	Fit the second row without glue. Once you are satisfied, the planks are straight and everything is in line, you may proceed to glue the planks together. Disassemble the planks ensuring you remember their order.
4	Using the cross linked PVA adhesive, apply a bead to the bottom edge of the groove to the planks from the first row. Re-fit the planks using the spacing wedges ensuring they are fitted together snug but not too tight. Use the tapping block and hammer if needed.
5	Continue this way ensuring you allow a 12-14mm expansion gap around all fixtures and fittings until you reach the opposite side of the room.
6	Measure the cut size for the final row and ensure you allow for the expansion gap. While fitting the final row, you may need the pull bar to ease the piece into place.
7	If at any time during your installation you feel the planks are going offline or opening, use the strap clamps to hold them while the glue dries.
8	Once you have finished the final row cut the underlay to the height of the boards.
9	Fit skirting or scotia to cover the expansion gap. Note: Skirting/molding should not be forced down on top of flooring under any circumstances. This can cause a pinching affect, restricting product movement and void warranty.
10	Silicon/sealant should not be used to seal or conceal gaps. This can cause a pinching effect restricting product movement and void warranty.

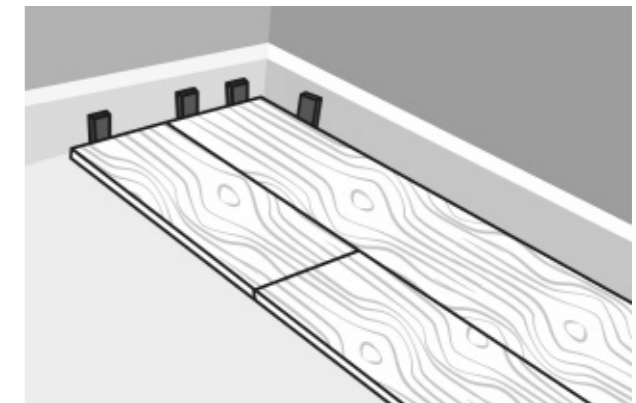
Note:



Point 1



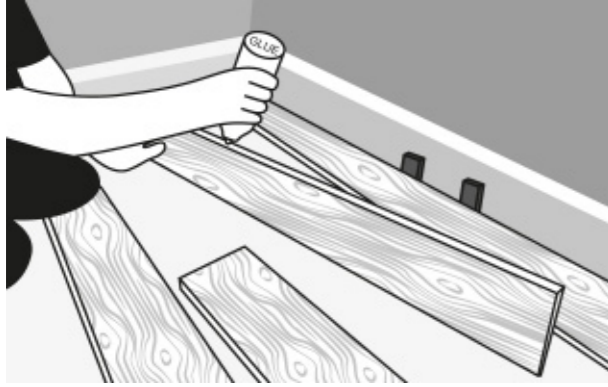
Point 2 and 3



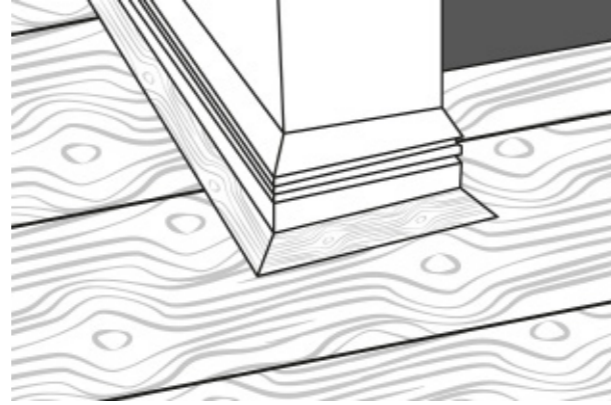
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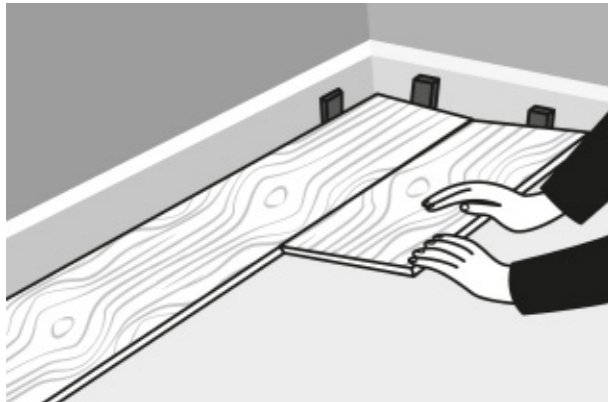
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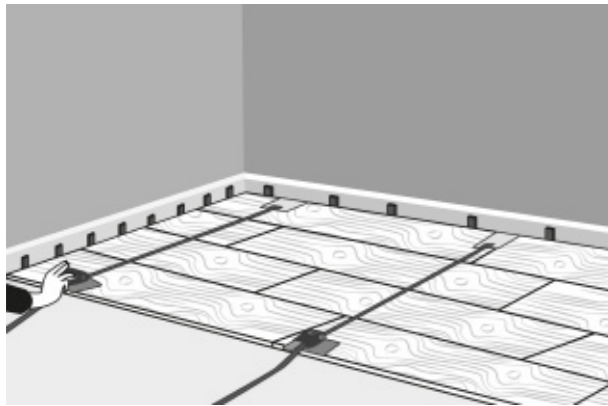
Point 9



Point 6



Point 7



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