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DIVINE
FLOORING

Laminate Installation Instructions

Please read all instructions carefully before attempting installation.
Improper installation may void the warranty.

PRODUCT USE

- Always check panels for defects such as chips and color sheen differences in daylight before and during installation. Defective planks should never be used. Also check that the long side is clean and free of debris.
- The maximum room/run size is 12 x 12 meters (40 x 40 feet).
- For best color match when using panels from two or more packages, check to be sure all the pattern designs are the same. Be sure to use laminate flooring planks out of more than one box while installing for a proper "racking" job and variation.
- Divine Flooring laminate flooring **MUST** be allowed to acclimate to the environment of the installation area. The boxes of laminate flooring must remain unopened in a horizontal position in the room for 48 hours prior to installation. Preferred home temperatures for installation are 17-23 °C (62-73 °F) with a relative humidity of 45-60 percent. Humidity should never be allowed to drop below 30% as this may cause gapping with joints coming apart.

INSTALLER AND OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the installer/owner's responsibility to carefully inspect all materials before installation as to the accuracy of the order and the conditions/quality of product.

If the flooring is not acceptable for any reason, do not install and contact your selling dealer. Once the flooring is installed, it is deemed to have been "accepted" by the owner even if the owner was absent at time of installation.

Note: The industry standard for allowable waste by the manufacturer is 5% to offset visual or milling defects during the manufacturing process.

SUGGESTED TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES

Underlayment such as our Sound Solutions PE Foam 3 in 1 or Sound Solutions SR, spacers, table saw or laminate cutter, hammer, tapping block, utility knife, pencil, tape measure, ruler.

If installing over a crawlspace or on a concrete floor, you must also install a 4mil (or thicker) polyethylene vapor barrier under your foam underlay or use a convenient 2 in 1 foam underlay that has a vapor barrier built in. When installing 2 in 1 foam underlay, butt seams and then completely seal seams using Tuck Tape.

SUBFLOOR

- The underfloor or subfloor must be thoroughly even, dry, clean and solid. Carpet staples or glue residue must be removed and floor must be clean to ensure proper installation.
- To check for evenness, hammer a nail into the center of the floor. Tie a string to the nail and push the knot against the floor. Pull the string tight to the farthest corner of the room and examine the floor at eye level for any gaps between the string and floor. Move the string around the perimeter of the room noting any gaps larger than 4.8mm (3/16"). Any floor unevenness of more than 4.8mm (3/16") per 3 meter (10' ft) must be sanded down or filled in with an appropriate filler.
- Floors must be carefully checked for moisture problems. Any moisture needs to be solved prior to installation. New concrete needs to cure for at least 60 days before installation.
- **This product is not suitable for damp rooms such as bathrooms, saunas, rooms with damp concrete, rooms with floor drains or rooms that could potentially flood.**

General Installation Instructions

- 1] For installation on concrete floors or any floors over a crawl space, a vapor barrier **MUST** be laid down first. Divine Flooring recommends our Sound Solutions SR.
- 2] All floating floors require an underlayment. Run the foam underlay in the same direction as the laminate planks. Underlay should be butted side by side with no overlap. Tape seams together. Divine Floorings underlayments conveniently have tape.
- 3] You will need to remove the tongue, on the long side of the panels that face the wall, from the appropriate amount of panels for your first row. This is to ensure that the decorative surface of the laminate is well under the finished trim when installed. Use a utility knife to score through the tongue several times until it easily snaps off.
- 4] Start in a corner by placing the first panel with its trimmed side facing the wall. Use spacers along each wall to maintain an expansion space of 8-12mm (5/16" - 3/8") between the wall and the flooring.

- 5] **Remember that this product is primarily wood and needs room to expand and contract. At no point should you attach the floor to any surface.**
- 6] To attach your second panel, lower and lock the end tongue of the second panel into the end groove of the first panel. Line up edges carefully. The panels should be flat to the floor.
- 7] Continue connecting the first row until you reach the last full panel. Fit the last panel by rotating the panel 180° with the pattern side upward, place beside row, mark and then saw off excess. Attach as described above.
- 8] When using a handsaw, cut on the decorative surface. If you are using a jig or circular saw, cut with the decorative side down to avoid chipping.
- 9] Begin the next row with the cut piece from the previous row to stagger the pattern. Pieces should be a minimum of 20cm (8") long and joint offset should be at least 40cm (16").
- 10] To start your second row, tilt and push the side tongue of the panel into the side groove of the very first panel at about 30°. Make sure the edges are lined up. Lower panel to the floor, locking the end tongue into the end groove of the first panel. Continue installing remaining panels in this manner.
- 11] To fit the last row, lay a panel on top of the previous row. With the tongue to the wall, lay another panel upside down on the one to be measured and use it as a ruler. Don't forget to allow room for spacers. Cut the panel and attach into position.
- 12] Door frames and heating vents also require expansion room. First cut the panel to the correct length. Then place the cut panel next to its actual position and use a ruler to measure the areas to be cut out and mark them. Cut out the marked points allowing the necessary expansion distance on each side.

** You can trim door frames by turning a panel upside down and using a handsaw to cut away the necessary height so that panels slide easily under the frames.*

DISASSEMBLING

Divine Flooring Laminate flooring can easily be disassembled if necessary during installation to do a repair. It is also possible to repair a plank in the middle of the floor, see our plank replacement document at divinefloor.com.

AFTER INSTALLATION

Remove all spacers along the walls and install moldings. Baseboards must be fastened to the walls and NOT to the floor as this can cause issues due to the floor not being able to move.

CARE & MAINTENANCE TIPS

Vacuuming is most effective in removing any grit or abrasive dirt which may be on your floor. Divine Flooring Laminate floors are to be cleaned with Surfacerlift RENU, our eco-friendly all in one floor cleaner. Doormats at entrances and felt pads under chair and furniture legs will help protect your floor longterm. Refer to our maintenance guide for laminate and LVF for more details.

For more information, please contact your DIVINE Flooring Authorized Dealer or consult our website at divinefloor.com.

If the authorized dealer is unable to resolve your inquiry, please contact our Technical Services Department at DIVINE Flooring directly by email or phone.

DIVINE Flooring

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