vittoria

ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING

HERRINGBONE FITTING INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT IN FULL PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

PRE-INSTALLATION

Hardwood flooring is a beautiful and unique product of nature, which is characterized by distinctive variations in grain and colour. These natural variations are not flaws but form a part of the natural beauty and uniqueness of hardwood flooring. These inherent variations should be expected and serve to enhance the natural beauty and enduring charm.

Our flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. The defects may be of a manufacturing or natural type.

It is necessary that the flooring is left to acclimatize in the packaging (at room temperature) for at least 48-72 hours, lie horizontal and flat - at the ideal relative humidity range of 45-65%.

The room should be dry, if the building is a new building with a concrete floor, wait until the floor is completely dry (Please check the drying time information with the supplier of the concreate). The flooring should be installed at a minimum room temperature of 18°c and a maximum of 24°c.

The greatest possible care is taken to produce your floor. However, we advise you to check the boards for visible defects such as damage, deviations in shape or dimensions. No complaints regarding these visible defects will be considered after the boards have been laid. Make sure you have good lighting while laying the floor. Obvious defects should be taken into consideration when allowing for waste.

OWNER / INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

The consumer and installer assume all responsibility for final inspection of product quality. If the flooring is not acceptable, contact your dealer immediately before installation. Once our flooring is installed it is deemed to be accepted.

Before beginning installation of any hardwood flooring product, the installer must determine that the environment of the job site and the condition and type of the subfloor involved are acceptable, ensuring that it meets or exceeds all requirements which are stipulated in the installation instructions which follow. We decline any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with inappropriate or improperly prepared subfloor or job site environment deficiencies.

The use of stain, filler or putty stick for the correction of defects during installation should be accepted as normal procedure.
Should an individual piece be doubtful as to grade, manufacture or factory finish, the installer should not use the piece.
When our hardwood flooring is ordered, a 5 -10 % allowance factor, depending on layout, must be added to the actual m² amount needed. For Herringbone a minimum of 10% is recommended.

Please note that our engineered floors must be installed in environments of 45% to 65% RH (relative humidity) and temperature 18-24 °C to prevent possible damage not covered by warranty. Installation of a humidifier or dehumidifier may be necessary. The floor is designed to perform in an environmentally controlled structure. Warranty exclusions are, but not limited to, surface checking resulting from low humidity, mildew or discoloration resulting from extreme sub-floor moisture.

PREPARATION

Our engineered flooring can be laid over a variety of surfaces (concrete, plywood, screed). Sub floors must be sound, dry, level, free from undulation and free from moisture. A DPM (damp proof membrane) should be a consideration.

If the base is concrete, its humidity should be less than 3% and the mortar should be evenly set. If the floor is to be laid in a new building, the rooms should be enclosed with the windows closed. All "wet" trades should be finished and the relative humidity in the premises should be between 40% and 55% - the humidity of the plasterworks and paintwork should be less than 5%.

Our engineered flooring is generally compatible with the most common UFH (under-floor heating) systems (check with your UFH supplier for further details).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our engineered herringbone floors must be fully bonded to a well prepared subfloor using an appropriate flexible wood flooring adhesive.

STEP ONE | SETTING THE FIRST ROW / CROWN LINE

It is important to be precise with a herringbone installation so ensuring the first row is correctly positioned and square is key. The following method makes layout simple using a perfect square template to set the first row. Ensure the square template is screwed to the subfloor so it can be easily removed once the first row is set. Once correctly positioned the square template will give a solid start point making it easier to move the blocks into position without gaps opening up.

1. Plan the direction of the herringbone pattern, usually this will follow the length of the room.

2. Find the centre of the room and use a plumb line to mark out a centre line. The apex of the first row of blocks will run along this line. Note: If the centre line is used to align the square template then the row apex will be offset by the depth of the tongue which is approximately 5 mm. If total accuracy is required then first find the room's centre line and then mark an offset guideline 5 mm to its right and use this line to place the square template. The template should have sides equal to, or greater than the length of the blocks.

3. Starting close to the wall place the square template so that the offset guideline bisects square diagonally from opposite angles. Once positioned screw the template to the subfloor.

4. Working from this template will ensure the first row's apex follows the centre line.

5. Standing on or behind the square template, apply Mapei Ultrabond Eco S948 1K adhesive with a Mapei Trowel to the area in front of the square. Note: It is good practise to lose lay the first row to make sure you are happy with the orientation guideline and placement of the square template. Tip: It is also important to mix the blocks to ensure an even distribution of grade, grain and colour variation across the finished floor.

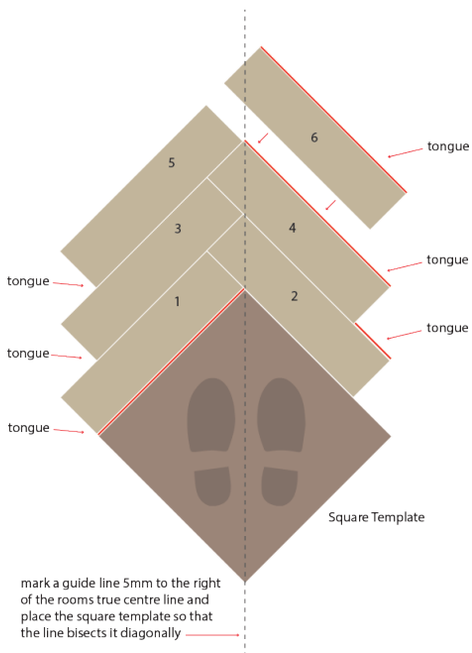
6. As per the diagram below, place **block 1**, with tongue against the left hand side of the square template so that the leading header is in line with the right hand edge of the square template.

7. Place **block 2** with tongue facing away so that the grooved edge is pressed against both the header joint of **block 1** and the righthand side of the square template.

8. Repeat points 6 & 7 placing blocks onto the bed of adhesive ensuring that they connect, the leading corner of the herringbone pattern should be positioned over the centre line which is 5 mm left of the guideline. Tip: Use a hammer and tapping block to push the blocks together, occasionally lift a block and check the adhesive has full coverage.

9. Once the first row has reached the opposite end of the room or the finish point, use a tapping block and hammer to make any adjustments while the adhesive is still wet and remove any adhesive which has not been covered.
Important Tip: Remove any adhesive spills from the face of the blocks while it is wet with a damp cloth before the adhesive sets. Allow the adhesive to fully cure and this row will form a fixed point template for subsequent rows.

10. Allow the first row/crown line to cure overnight.



STEP TWO – COMPLETE THE INSTALLATION (refer to the diagram below)

1. Working off the first row, loose lay the second row placing checking that that the apex of the second row is parallel to the centre line.

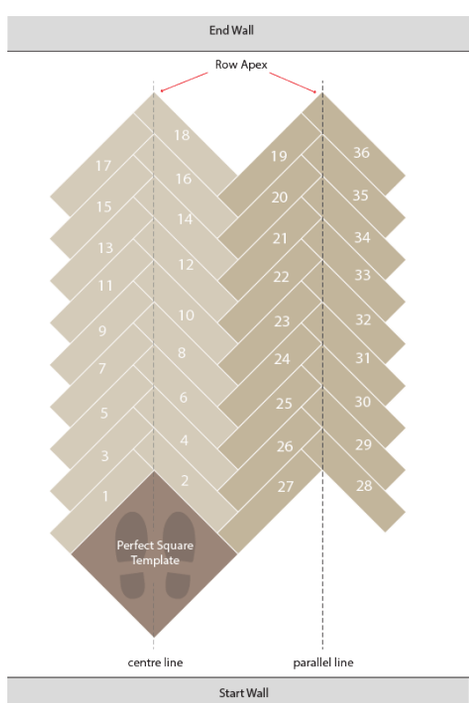
2. Once you are happy to install, apply adhesive to the area adjacent to the first row.

3. Starting at the 'End Wall', install the first half of the second row in two halves. The first block (19) should be placed so that the long grooved edge is pressed against the header joint from the last block in the first row (18) and the header joint groove connects with the next section of exposed tongue the next block (16) in the first row. Repeat this process with the first half the second row until the square template is reached.

4. Once the first half of the second row is in place there is no need to wait for the adhesive to set. Beginning at the 'Start Wall' place the next block (28) so that the long grooved edge is pressed against the header joint of the last block (27) and the grooved header joint connect with the exposed tongue of the next block (26).

5. Repeat this process to fill both sides of the first row cutting blocks to fit the perimeter of the room so that adequate expansion gap is maintained which can then be covered by skirting or moulding.

6. A border may be installed using a plunge saw to cut away the blocks to make the required space. A groove can then be machined into the cut edge so that blocks can be joined.



UFH (UNDER FLOORING HEATING)

› All UFH systems must be fully tested and run continuously for 2 weeks before installation can commence.
› The UFH system must be switched off and allowed to cool before installation can commence.
› You must read the UFH instruction and user guide before you fit a wood floor.
› You must consult the UFH company or wood flooring company if you are not sure anything.
› The flooring should be left 48 hours to settle and cure before the UFH maybe switched back on.
› A gradual introduction of heat is recommended. 1-2°c per day until the optimal temperature is reached.
› The surface temperature must never exceed 27°c.
› It is strongly recommended to employ dual thermostat systems. One to monitor room temperature and to monitor surface temperature.

Avoid thermal shock through rapid temperature changes. Overuse of the UFH may result in splits appearing, gapping, unwanted dimensional changes, warping or delamination. Heavy rugs or similar coverings may create hotspots damaging the floor. Do not clean with water. Always use the appropriate specifically formulated wood floor cleaning product. If a problem with the UFH is identified, turn the system off immediately.
IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT OUR FLOORS ARE INSATLLED BY COMPENET AND EXPERIENCED FLOORING FITTERS. THE WARRANTY MAYBE COMPRMOISED IF THE FLOORING IS NOT INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR GUIDELINES.