ArborCraft

Engineered Hardwood Flooring Installation Instructions

Glue Down Installation

ATTENTION!
Inspect ALL materials carefully BEFORE installation. Warranties DO NOT cover materials with visible defects once they are installed.

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site subfloor and job site conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for wood floor installation. ArborCraft declines any responsibility for wood floor failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies after hardwood flooring has been installed.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION ————————————————————

TOOLS: The required tools for installation of these products include a hammer, hand or power saw, chalk line, approved adhesive and trowel.

Thoroughly clean subfloor: Remove paint, wax, oil, plaster, "sheetrock mud" and other foreign materials, as well as object surface irregularities. #3-1/2 grit open coat paper may need to be used to grind a concrete sub-floor. This will loosen any dirt, loose concrete or contaminates. Sweep or vacuum thoroughly.

All previous or existing glues or adhesives must be removed before installing new hardwood flooring.

Make certain building interior and subfloor are dry. Interior walls should be dry enough to be painted and a room temperature of 60 degrees F° min. and a relative humidity of 35-55% should be provided before any installation is begun. If subfloor is concrete, check for dryness. All concrete subfloors on or below grade can be tested using a Delmhorst moisture meter, Model G-40, or Tramex Concrete Encounter or Wagner Concrete Meter. (Check floor in several locations). Consult with your local distributor for geographic variances.

Concrete subfloors must be clean, level, sound and of sufficient compression strength (3000 lbs. P.S.I.) being sure that the surface is NOT slick. Sections not level such as waviness, trowel marks, etc. are to be eliminated by grinding or the use of a latex leveling compound. Especially along the walls, the subfloor levelness must be checked and if necessary improved. Level to 3/16" in 8' radius. In addition to cement subfloors, these products can be installed over dry, flat wood subfloors such as, plywood. If the plywood is used as an overlay over an existing subfloor, the thickness of the overlay material must be such as to yield a total 3/4" subfloor thickness.

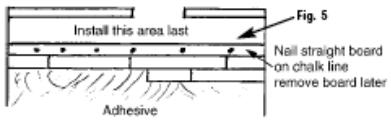
New wood type subfloors should also be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. In general, wood or plywood subfloors should not exceed 14% moisture content or 4% moisture content difference between wood flooring and subfloor. Check with your local distributor for your geographical variances.

Subfloor Preparation: Subfloor irregularities and undulation may cause any wood flooring installation to develop hollow spots between the flooring and the subfloor. These hollow spots are NOT the result of any wood floor manufacturing defect.

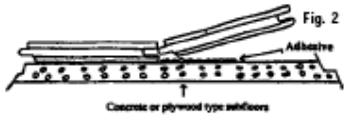
As part of your subfloor preparation remove any existing base, shoe mold or doorway thresholds. These items can be replaced after installation, but should be replaced in such a way as to allow at least 1/4" room for expansion around the perimeter of the room. See note below. All door casings should be notched out or under-cut to allow 1/4" room for expansion and to avoid difficult scribe cuts. This is easily done by placing a piece of the engineered product on the subfloor as a height guide for your handsaw or jamb saw.
Note: Normally, expansion space around room should be the same distance as the thickness of the hardwood flooring.

Suggested Layout Working Line: For 3" material, snap a chalk line 30 1/4" from the wall on the door side of the room. This small area will be your working space and the last to be installed. Five inch material 15 1/4"from wall. Temporarily nail straight board on chalk line (See Fig. 5).

Wet-Lay Installation: When using this method, flooring is placed into "wet" adhesive and workers do not walk on wood. The installation begins with the correct trowel. Refer to adhesive manufacturer for trowel size. Do not walk on fresh laid material.



Note: Caution proper humidity must be controlled between 35-55% for successful performance during and after installation.
Installing the floor:
–The floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix.
–End joints should never be closer than 4 inches from each other.
–Install tongue into groove (Fig. 2).
–Tongue and groove should be engaged by hand.
–Lift a plank periodically to check adhesive transfer—80% glue to flooring.



–After the large part of the room is installed, go to starting area, remove the straight board and complete the installation working out of the room. (See Fig. 5).
–Install base and molding after floor installation.–Clean adhesive off surface of wood with mineral spirits and soft cloth.

Concrete or Plywood:
–Radiant Heat Subfloors (glue down only) on or above grade. (Only use Oak, American Cherry and Walnut)
–The maximum temperature of subfloor under normal use should not exceed 80 degrees F°. (check with heat system manufacturer).
–For correct water temperature inside heating pipes, check with manufacturer's suggested guidelines.
–Heating pipes must be covered with 1 1/4" of concrete or minimum of 1/8" below bottom side of plywood subfloor.
–Before installation of hardwood flooring, heat system must be operated at normal living temperature for a minimum of 14 days. One to two days before the flooring is laid, switch off heating unit. (At time of installation, subfloor should be 64 to 68 degrees F°).
–Room temperature should not vary more than 15 degrees F° season to season. Heating systems must not exceed 8 watts per square foot heating capacity.

Staple or Nail Down Installation

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STAPLE OR NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION ————————————————————

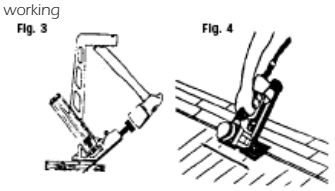
TOOLS: Suggested tools and accessories:
For 3/8"
–Nailer: Primatech (Fig. 3.) – model 500 1 1/4" black or gray base plate. Staple Gun: Stanley Bostitch (Fig. 4)S3297–LHF 3/8" engineered wood flooring tool, 80 - 85lb air pressure appx. Staples:SB97-1G. 1" staples.

For 1/2"
–Nailer: Primatech – model 500 1 1/2" cleats – blue base plate or Stanley Mark 3 with 1 1/2 inch staples or other stapler with 1 1/4" to 1 1/2" inch staples or other staple guns with 1 1/4" minimum staple! Power nailer model200 using 1 1/4" cleats.
–Power saw, hammer, chalk line.

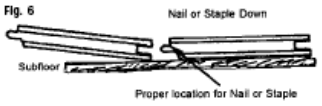
New wood type subfloors should also be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. In general wood or plywood subfloors should not exceed 14% moisture content, or 4% moisture content difference between hardwood flooring and subfloor. Check with your local distributor for your geographical variances.

Subfloor: Installer should check nailing schedule of subfloor!
– Construction: 5/8" minimum thickness preferred 3/4" or thicker exterior plywood installed with long edges at right angle to 16" center joists and staggered so that the end joists in adjacent panels will break over different joists. Nail at each bearing with 6d threaded and 8d common nails spaced 6" on-center along all outer bearing edges and 10" on-center along immediate joists.
– 1" X 4" to 6" wide, square-edged kiln dried coniferous lumber, laid diagonally over 16" on-center wood joists. The end of boards are to be cut parallel to the center of the joist for solid bearing. Face nail each board solidly at every bearing on the joists with two nails.
– Particle board not recommended.
– 3/4" thick OSB on 19.2" or less center joist, approved subfloor (dry).
– Baseboards should be installed so that their lower edge is slightly above the level of the finished floor, but not nailed into the floor.
– Basement and crawl spaces: These must be dry and ventilated when plank or strip flooring is to be installed over them. In crawl spaces a vapor barrier should be provided. Vapor barrier must be provided below subfloor on ground.

General Staple or Nail Down Installation Instruction:
– Time at which to install hardwood flooring: Lay only after sheetrock and tile work are thoroughly dried and all but the final woodwork and trim have been completed. The building interior should have been dried and seasoned and a comfortable working temperature (at least 60 degrees F°) should exist during installation.
– DO NOT open until ready to install.



Preparation of subfloor:
Subfloor irregularities and undulation may cause any wood flooring installation to develop hollow spots between the flooring and subfloor. These hollow spots are NOT the result of any wood floor manufacturing defect and are NOT covered by the ArborCraft warranty.
– Adequate and proper nailing as well as soundness of the subfloor should be ascertained. Foreign material shall be removed from the subfloor surface and swept clean.
– The clean subfloor surface shall be covered, wall to wall, with 15 lb asphalt saturated felt. Butt the edges of this felt when positioning it.
– Laying direction for plank or strip flooring: Flooring should be laid at right angles to the floor joists and, if possible, in the direction of the longest dimension of the room.



Note: Normally, expansion space around room should be the same distance as the thickness of the hardwood flooring.

– End joints should never be closer than 4" from each other.
– Install with tongue out (see Fig. 6)
– Nailing Engineered plank or strip hardwood flooring: The first and last row of 3/8" products should be faced nailed and countersunk. All other rows should be nailed using a Power nailer model 200 using 1-1/4" cleats OR stapled using Stanley Bostitch S3297-LHF. Nail every 6". For 1/2" products use Stanley MIIIFS with 1 1/2" Staple
OR Primatech 500 with 1 1/2" cleats or other stapler with 1 1/4" to 1 1/2" staples. Finishing two rows of flooring may need to be face nailed and counter sunk.

Notes:
– To avoid movement in hardwood floor RH should be maintained year round at 35-55% RH.
– The use of putty to cover small cracks should be considered normal in hardwood flooring installation.