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WHOLESALE OF LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS

Installation Instructions

Floating Laminate: FOLD DOWN SERIES, THE 2G GENERATION FROM VALINGE

Laminated floor, **Fold Down Series** can be installed over most sub-floors, and are constructed to be very dimensionally stable, making them suitable for installation over all grade levels. (See information and installation guidelines below.)

ATTENTION – INSTALLER/OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

Inspect "all" materials carefully before installation. These floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit a defect tolerance of 5%. Even though our product goes through many inspections before it leaves the plant, it is the responsibility of the customer and installer to perform a final inspection prior to installation. Any laminate warranties that may be offered with this product do not cover materials with visible defects once they are installed. We recommend that you visit the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) website at woodfloors.org/consumer for installation help and maintenance tips.

TOOLS

Basic tools and accessories: broom or vacuum, chalk line, wood cleaner, hand or electric jamb saw, miter saw, moisture meter, safety glasses, straight edge, table saw, tape measure, square, utility knife, pry bar and underlayment (for floating installations).

JOB SITE CONDITIONS

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site sub floor and job site conditions are environmentally stable (Temp 60° F-80° F / Relative Humidity 35%-65%) and structurally (see local building codes) acceptable for wood floor installation. The customer and/or installer is responsible for wood failure resulting from or connected with sub-floor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies after the hardwood flooring has been installed. See NWFA guidelines.

SUB-FLOOR PREPARATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ALL INSTALLATIONS

Concrete Sub-Floors, new concrete slabs require a minimum of 60 days drying time before covering them with a any laminate floor. Lightweight concrete has a dry density of 100 pounds or less per cubic foot and is only suitable for engineered wood floors when using the floating installation method. Many products have been developed as self-leveling toppings or floor underlayments. These include cellular concrete, resin reinforced cementations, underlayments, and gypsum-based materials. Although some of these products may have the necessary qualifications of underlayment for wood flooring installation, others do not. To test for lightweight concrete, scrape a coin or key across the surface of the sub-floor. If the surface powders easily or has a dry density of 100 pounds or less per cubic foot, use only the floating installation method. All Concrete sub-floors must be dry, smooth (level with 3/16" in a 10 foot Radius – 1/8" in 6") and free of structural defects. Hand scrape or sand with a 20 grit #3-1/2 open face paper to remove loose, flaky concrete. Grind high spots in concrete and fill low spots with a Portland based leveling compound (min. 3,000 psi). Concrete must be free of paint, oil, exiting adhesives, wax grease, dirt and curing compounds. These may be removed chemically or mechanically, but do not use solvent-based strippers under any circumstances. The use of residual solvents can prohibit the satisfactory bond of flooring adhesives. It is important to ensure a proper bond between the adhesives and concrete and wood panels. These engineered hardwood floors may be installed on grade, above grade, as well as below grade where moisture conditions do not exist. To ensure a long lasting bond, make sure that the perimeter of the foundation has adequate drainage and vapor barrier. • Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test

- Less than a reading of 5.0 on a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter (moisture meter)
- Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test
- Less than a reading of 5.0 on a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter (moisture meter)

Wood Sub-Floors

Wood sub-floors need to be well nailed or secured with screws. Nails should be shanks and screws need to be counter sunk. The wood sub-floor needs to be structurally sound and dry. It should not exceed 3% of the moisture content of wood flooring to be installed prior to installation. If the sub-floor is single layer, less than 3/4" thick, add a single cross layer for strength and stability (minimum 5/16" thick for a total 1" thickness). This is to reduce the possibility of squeaking. Wood

sub-floors must be free of paint, oil, existing adhesive, wax, grease, dirt, urethane, varnish, etc. Underlayment grade OSB (not the wax side) is also a suitable sub-floor. Particleboard can be used as a sub-floor in glue less floating floor installations. When installing over existing wood flooring, install at right angles to the existing floor. Sub-floor Moisture on and below grade applications are susceptible to moisture and should be tested for moisture prior to installation in several locations within the installation area. Acceptable conditions for above, on and below grade applications are: • Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test • Less than a reading of 5.0 on a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter (moisture meter) To correct any sub-floor problems concerning moisture, either wait until the sub-floor dries to meet specifications or use appropriate moisture barrier.

Sub-floors Other Than Wood or Concrete

Note: Perimeter glued resilient vinyl and rubber tiles are unacceptable underlayments for a floating installation and must be removed. Terrazzo, tile and any other hard surfaces that are dry, structurally sound and level, as described above, are suitable as a sub-floor for locking floating engineered wood floors.

FOLD DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION

As above, the surface must be sound, tight and free of paint, oil, existing adhesives, wax, grease and dirt. Terrazzo and ceramic tile must be abraded. Warning! Do not sand existing resilient tile, sheet flooring, backing, or felt linings. These products may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Inhalation of asbestos dust can cause serious bodily harm.

Check with local, state, province and federal laws before handling hazardous material and before attempting the removal of these floors.

Radiant Heated Sub-floors:

before installing over a radiant-heated floor turn off heat and wait until the floor has reached room temperature. After installing the floor return the heat to the previous setting, slowly 2° at a time. Caution: The slab surface must never exceed 85° F. in temperature. (See NWFA Guidelines - Appendix H Radiant Heat Installation) <http://www.nwfa.org/member/pdf/installg/appenh.pdf>

Preparation: Remove all moldings and wall-base and undercut all door casings with a hand or power jamb saw using a scrap piece of flooring as a guide. "Racking the Floor" Start by using random length strips from the carton or by cutting four to five strips in random lengths, differing by at least 9". As you continue working across the floor be sure to maintain the 9" minimum stagger between end joints on all adjacent rows. Never waste material; use the left over pieces from the cuts to start the next row or to complete a row.

INTERLOCKING FLOATING INSTALLATION

All flooring installations must use an approved underlayment. In a floating installation, a 1/2" expansion gap must be maintained around the perimeter of the room. (See corresponding photos on the next page for a step-by-step illustration of the following floating installation instructions.)

After allowing the floor to acclimate and ensuring that proper subfloor requirements are met you can begin the installation by laying the underlayment

(Step 1). As you lay the first plank, use spacers to maintain the minimum 10mm expansion gap around the perimeter of the room. It can be practical to adjust expansion gap after the first three rows have been installed

(Step 2). Then lay the butt seams onto each other for the first row

(Step 3)

The cut piece from the first row (which is at least 9" long) will be used to start the second row (Steps 8-10). Be sure to always stagger the end seams a minimum of nine inches. To begin the second row, place the tongue of the cut piece into the groove and lock down into place

(Step 11). Place the second board of the second row into the groove and lock down into place. The butt seams will be held down by the following rows. It is only necessary to glue the end seams within the first and last row of the installation. The last row will be cut to fit

(Step 12) and should be wider than two inches. The end seams of the last row should be glued

Installation Instructions

Fold Down Series

1. Allow flooring to acclimate to the installation room's temperature.
2. Make sure the floor is level and dry.
3. Roll out the underlayment, a few rows at a time to prevent tearing.
4. Start in corner positioning first board with 1/2 inch expansion spacers.
5. Line up the end of the second board with the first.
7. Drop second board into place ensuring that the seam is tight.
8. Place boards tongue to tongue and mark the cut line as shown.
9. The cut board from the first row is used to start the second row.
10. Maintain a minimum 9" stagger throughout installation.

11. Position second row board at an angle and push down into place.
12. Measure cut line for last row, allowing for 1/2 inch expansion.

Install the proper trim molding at the doorways to achieve the transition and along the walls to cover the edges of any gaps along the wall due to irregularity.

MAINTENANCE

FOLD DOWN SERIES are very easy to maintain. Simply use a Wood/laminate cleaner and a specialty terry cloth flooring duster, which is available from most flooring retailers. NEVER WET MOPS YOUR WOOD FLOORS.

STEP 1:

Vacuum or sweep your floor to remove any particles that could scratch your floor.

Warning: Vacuums with a beater bar or power rotary brush head can damage a laminate floor and should never be used.

STEP 2: Apply a specialty wood cleaner directly to the terry cloth flooring duster, not to the floor!

STEP 3: Use a back and forth motion with the duster. When the terry cloth cover becomes soiled, simply replace it with a clean one. Cleaning the floor with a soiled cover could cause streaking. The covers are reusable so simply throw the cover in the wash and dry it as you would any towel.

Tips & Warnings:

- Never wet or damp mop your laminate floors. Water can damage them.
- Vacuum or sweep regularly.
- Remove spills promptly using a wood/laminate cleaner and a clean white cloth.
- Use felt protectors under heavy pieces of furniture and chairs.
- Use protective mats at all exterior entrances.
- Never use oil soaps, wax or other household products to clean your floor.
- Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture or appliances. Never slide or roll heavy furniture or appliances across the floor.

25 YEAR Residential / 5 Year Commercial Warranty

The Manufacturer warrants to the original purchaser that, under normal residential conditions, the wear layer or overlay of the Laminate Fall Down Series product in the original manufactured/ purchased condition will not wear through, crack, flake or peel or delaminate from the structure for a period of twenty five (25) years for residential applications and for a period of five (5) years for light commercial applications such as retail stores and offices from the date of purchase by the original purchaser. Warranty applies only to the original purchaser on products installed and used in accordance with the installation instructions. Installer or purchaser must inspect each board for any manufacturing defects; any board or piece installed in the flooring shall be considered as accepted. Regular maintenance as specified below must be followed in order to validate this warranty. This warranty does not cover labor costs or any other incidental expenses incurred as a result of a covered defect. The responsibility of "The Manufacturer" is limited, at their discretion, to replacing defective products or refunding the portion of the floor in question as covered under the warranty. Any attempt to repair, refinish or replace the defective product prior to inspection or by written authorization from the Manufacturer will invalidate the warranty. This warranty is not transferable. When making a claim original proof of purchase or a receipt is required. "The Manufacturer" reserves the right to substitute an alternative product of equal value in case the flooring type selected is no longer available.

Warranty Exclusions

"The Manufacturer" warranties do not extend or cover scratches, dents or any noticeable markings or damage caused by improper handling, installation, water damage, flooding, fire, natural disasters or acts of God, furniture, shoes of all types, pets and insects, et cetera. "the Manufacturer" will not warrant any product that is faulty from incorrect installation, neglect, environmental extremes, or improper storage and handling of product. The Sub-floor is the responsibility of the installer. Failure of a Laminate Fall Down Series floor product relating to the sub-floor, in any manner, is not the responsibility of the "Manufacturer" and is not covered under the warranty. A defect in the finish wear surface must be easily noticeable and cover an area of 2" square where there is wear through as seen from a standing position. Any variation or reduction in gloss level will not be considered under this warranty. Flooring is made from natural raw materials and as such has cells running parallel with the grain; therefore, all laminate floors will expand and contract with the change of the seasons. The expanding and contracting is not covered under this warranty. It is recommended that the customer maintain a relative humidity level of 40-60% in the home by using a humidifier and/ or a dehumidifier to minimize movement of the flooring.

Warranty Inclusions:

Warranty shall include and be limited to, only defects arising from the defective manufacturing, premature surface wear or defects in the wood fiber. Should a valid claim arise all reimbursements, repairs, replacement or compensation is the sole discretion of "The Manufacturer". Claims will only be administered if the above criteria have been met.

Authorization of a claim without "The Manufacturer's" approval is at the sole discretion of the author. The Manufacturer will not compensate the author without prior written approval.



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