



INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR SOLID PRE-OILED FLOOR

In order to maximize the quality of his work, the installer must first ensure that the condition of the site is ideal for the installation of a wood floor. The week prior to installation, the house should be heated at a steady 21C to stabilize the humidity level between 40 and 50% which should also be maintained during installation. We suggest that the boxes of flooring be stored in the same area for at least 24 hours before installation this allows the wood to fully acclimatize to ambient conditions. Do not pile boxes more than 3 high.

Preparing the sub floor:

Once the old flooring has been removed, the sub floor of the entire area must be thoroughly inspected and prepared for the new installation. Cracks and imperfections found will determine the weakness of the sub floor and the corrections to be made. Preparing the sub floor consist mainly of :

1. Removing glue, staples and nails left behind from old flooring.
2. Level the surface, with sander if necessary.
3. The sub floor should be screwed to the joists 8 inches apart.
4. Be sure to use screws that are threaded only on the lower half.
5. The humidity level of the sub floor should be inferior by 12% and the difference between the sub floor and the pre-oiled wood floor should be 4% maximum. If the humidity level is higher, it must first be regulated.
6. The sub floor must be tongue and groove plywood 5/8" thick minimum or OSB panels 3/4" thick minimum, if the structure has beams centered every 16" screw the sub floor to the beams firmly in order to prevent movement and cracking. Replace existing floor or sub floor that seem weak or may have water damage. **We strongly recommend that you never install our wood floor over a press wood (Aspenite) sub floor. If you have a press wood (Aspenite) sub floor, you must lay tongue and groove plywood 5/8" thick first before installing the new wood floor.**

Laying a floor using nails:

It is absolutely necessary to use nails or staples of adequate length. For the boards of 3 1/4 " and 4 ", the recommended spacing between nails should be 8 " to 10 ", For 5 " boards, spacing should be 6" apart and for 7" boards, recommended spacing is 4". For the pneumatic (air) tools, the pressure setting recommended is approximately 75 psi for torrefied wood and pine and 100 psi for hardwood.

Recommendation for the boards 5" and 7" : At the time of the installation it is advised to apply a stripe of adhesive (PL-400 or an adhesive which is elastic and which can take expansion) to the sub floor width wise of the boards every 12" before installing to avoid squeaks.

For 5" and 7" boards: special attention should be focused on the humidity control. A constant 40 to 50% humidity level is ideal and recommended by the manufacturer for best stability. A variation of spacing is considered normal. Excessively low humidity level will result in shrinkage of the boards and increased spacing. Excessive high humidity will result in swelling therefore less spacing between boards.

Expansion joints:

The expansion joints (spacing from the walls) around the edge of the room is crucial to the installation as it is the margin needed for the different humidity variations. The standard is a 3/4" (1.9cm) spacing when board is width wise and 1/4" (0.6cm) from board length wise. For a basement where humidity is relatively high, we suggest to double the expansion capacity with a 1 1/2" spacing.