

TRADITIONS INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Before you Begin

- Subfloor must be clean and dry
- Radiant Heat systems cannot exceed 81 degrees F (27 degrees Celsius)
- Relative humidity levels should be between 35% and 55%
- For wood subfloor, it is recommended to repair any loose areas or squeaks
- Maintain indoor room temperatures between 55 and 72 degrees F (12 and 21 degrees Celsius)
- The subfloor must be level to within 3/16"(0.5cm) within a 10 foot (3m) span. Sand high areas or joints (wood). For concrete, fill low areas (no more than 1/8") with a "cement-type" filler no less than 3,000 psi.
- Subfloors should always be tested for moisture prior to installation
- NOTE: The National Wood Flooring Association recommends to all its member manufacturers that an installer should allow for an additional 5% of material to compensate for cutting waste and natural or manufacturing defects. The flooring installer assumes all responsibility for final inspection of product quality before installation. Thus, the installer shall not install any product with notable defects. Blending the floor from several cartons during the installation is the best method to ensure a more uniform appearance.

Testing Wood Subfloors for Moisture:

Test with an approved moisture meter in several areas. The wood subfloor cannot have moisture content above 14%.

Testing Concrete Subfloors for Moisture:

According to the National Wood Flooring Association, moisture content in a concrete slab can be tested by securely taping a 2' square piece(10 square cm) of polyfilm (plastic sheet) to a slab in 3 to 4 locations. Let the piece of plastic stand for 24 hours. The presence of moisture is certain, if after the plastic is removed, the slab under the plastic is discolored, or the plastic is cloudy, and/or especially if there are water droplets on the underside of the plastic sheet. If tests indicate too much moisture is in the concrete, do not install hardwood floors. In the case of a moist slab, wait until it dries naturally, or accelerate the drying process via heat and ventilation and then test again. This is only one way to test for moisture – you may want to contact a hardwood flooring installation professional for other suggested methods.

Calcium Chloride (CC) tests and approved moisture meters are also excellent means to determine the level of moisture in concrete. For the CC test, allowable moisture level is 3 lbs.(1.3KG) per 1000 s/f per 24 hours. NOTE: Moisture meters like the Wagner and the Tramex should read no higher than 5%.

Radiant Floor Heating

We warrant to you (the original purchaser) that Lamett engineered wood flooring may be installed over radiant-heated subfloors provided the surface temperature of the system does not exceed 81 degrees Fahrenheit (27 degrees Celsius), and the relative humidity levels are maintained between 35% and 55%. This applies to both floating and glue-down applications.

For floating installations over radiant-heated subfloors, apply a 2" small bead of glue at the ends of each plank (into the Fall-Loc joint).

Prior to installing the floor over radiant heat, allow 2-3 days for opened boxes to acclimate to relative humidity levels of 35% - 55% and room temperatures between 55 degrees and 72 degrees Fahrenheit.

Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system. Then set the thermostat to a comfortable room temperature for the installation.

It is recommended that the radiant heat be applied in a gradual manner after installing the wood flooring. Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Pre- Installation

Measure the area to be installed and define the installation direction. It is recommended to install the length direction of the planks parallel to the main light direction. The board width of the last row shall not be less than approx. 2" (50mm), If so, adjust the width of the first row to be installed. When measuring take the free gap requirement of about 6/16" (10mm) of the floor perimeter into account. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the lengthways.

Floating installation

Before floating installation of the engineered flooring begins, install a foam underlay. Run the foam underlay in the same direction as the flooring planks. The underlay should be butted side-by-side with no overlap. Tape seams together.

Your floor is made to be installed floating without glue:

Leave an open expansion gap of min 6/16" (10mm) around the whole perimeter (use the distance wedges), i.e also at pipes, stairs, columns, doorframes and thresholds. In large rooms, calculate 1/16" (1,5mm) / m floor around. Install maximum 32ft 11/16" (10mm) length / width; over this: allow for an expansion gap, to cover with a profile of wood or metal. The floor must be able to move free - do not connect or install tight to any construction part. Rooms with off square areas, for example L-, F-, T-, U- shapes, separate the areas with an expansion joint and always in door openings. If you have any further installation questions, contact your distributor. Claims regarding visible defective floor panels must be made prior to installation. Each board should be inspected to ensure that the quality is acceptable. No claims relating to surface defects can be accepted after installation.

Installation method

1. First plank, first row. Place a distance of 3/8" (10mm) width to the left and position the plank against the wall. After 3 rows, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with distances approximately 3/8" 10mm.
2. Second plank, first row. Place this plank tight to the short end of the first one.
3. Fold down with a single action movement.
4. At the end of the first row, put a distance of approximately 3/8" (10mm), to the wall and measure the length of the last plank to fit.
5. Second row, first plank min length is 1ft 7 11/16" (500mm). Put a distance of approx. 3/8" (10mm) against the wall. Generally, minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows shall not be less than approx. 5 7/8" (150mm).
6. Second plank second row - Place the panel tight to the short end of the previous panel and fold down in a single action movement.
7. After 2-3 rows adjust the distance to the front wall by placing distances≈3/8" (10mm).
8. Last row (and perhaps also first row). Minimum width is 2" (50mm). Remember distance to keep away from wall approx. 3/8" (10mm). Tip! Put a distance before measuring. Cut the panels lengthwise and glue the short ends.
9. Separate the whole row by carefully lifting up and releasing the whole row. Fold up and release the whole long side.
10. Disassemble the panels by angling the short sides up vertically.
11. No polymer tongue on the short side, first and/or last row. Joining at short ends length cut panels, glue the joint with white PVAc D3 glue.
12. Cut off the locking element with a chisel, put PVAc D3 white glue on the adjusted strip and push the planks horizontally together. If necessary, place some distances between the last panel and the wall to keep the planks together during the curing time of the glue.

Glue-Down Installation

Use a Premium wood flooring adhesive. To spread the adhesive, hold the trowel at approximately a 45 degree angle. Once the adhesive is spread over an area you can comfortably work within, allow the adhesive to “skin over” or come to the point where you can touch it and none comes off. The “skin over” process is commonly referred to as “flash time”. Refer to the adhesive manufacturer container for specific recommendations.

Staple-Down Installation

Prior to installing the wood flooring, install completely over the subfloor either a 15 lb roofing felt or resin paper (for plywood subfloors), or a 6-mil polyethylene layer (for concrete subfloors). This will deter moisture from below and help to prevent squeaks. Keep in mind that there is no complete moisture barrier system for staple-down installations.

Caution: It is the installer’s responsibility to use the proper tools when installing this method. Improper tool use can mark the surface of the flooring.

What you need:

- 3/8” inch (1cm) wide Staples, legs to be 7.5/16 inch (1.2 cm) long
- An air pressure stapler of 72.5 psi

Instructions:

Staples must be 1” to 2” from the ends of each plank and every 10” along the edges. This will ensure a satisfactory installation. It is best to keep the compressor PSI at 0.5 Pa to keep the staples from going through or breaking the tongues. Adjustments may be necessary to ensure adequate penetration of the staple into the bed. The staple should be flush within the pocket. Use a piece of scrap to properly set the tools before actual installation. Note that improper stapling techniques can cause squeaks in the floor.

Particle board is NOT an acceptable subfloor in staple-down installations (though it is acceptable for glue-down installations). Also, if you are installing new wood flooring over existing wood flooring, be sure to install at right angle to the original wood floor.