

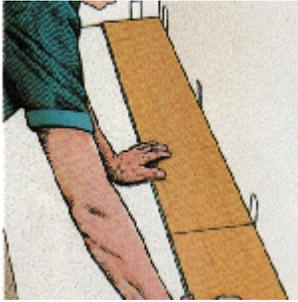
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN ENGINEERED HARDWOOD FLOOR

The advice and instructions below are a short account based on our own past experience and are meant as a supplement to the manufacturers instructions and recommendations and apply to laying as a 'floating' floor over a suitable underlay. Engineered floors can also be bonded or secret nailed to a suitable sub-floor. Ask for our instruction sheets for these methods. We also produce a supplement for installations over hot water under-floor heating systems

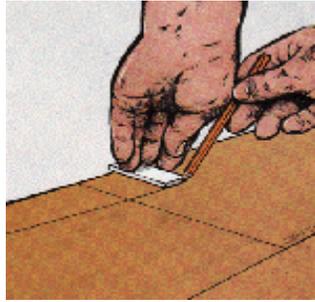
IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE

Examine the boards carefully before installation. Neither we, nor the manufacturer can accept claims for visibly damaged planks after they have been installed. The flooring is only suitable for use in dry rooms with a normal temperature of 18-20°C and 50-60% relative humidity, and must be protected from rising moisture, condensation and all other forms of humidity. Decoration & plaster must be completely dry before delivery. The flooring should be acclimatised within or adjacent to the room to be installed for at least 24 hours prior to fitting. The packs should be stacked horizontally within the packaging at least .5m away from an outside wall.

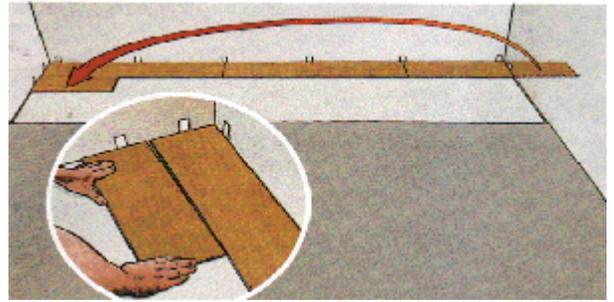
The flooring can only be installed over a sub-floor that is dry and flat (+ or - 2mm over a sq mtr area) Level up any hollows with Styccobond F400 repair screed. Uneven floors can be overlaid with 5mm underlay panels laid at right angles to the run of the new flooring. The sub-floor must be and must remain dry- for concrete floors the rule is a maximum 2% moisture content throughout the whole thickness of the floor. On new concrete floors, a drying out period of at least 2 weeks per 1cm thickness should be allowed. (e.g. a 12mm screed should dry for 6 weeks) When installing at ground floor level or fitting onto solid sub-floors, always use a polythene moisture barrier or a moisture retardant foil underlay with taped and sealed edges and perimeters. Keep the boards within the packaging until the start of the installation and then unwrap one pack at a time. Try and lay the floor in the direction of the light for best effect



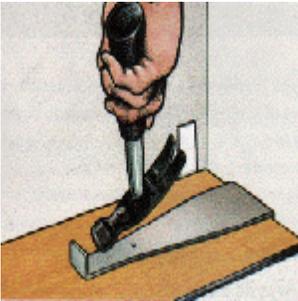
Lay out the underlay 1 width at a time the same direction as the new floor. Lay groove side to the wall using spacers to maintain a 10mm gap between boards and the wall. Do not apply glue yet.



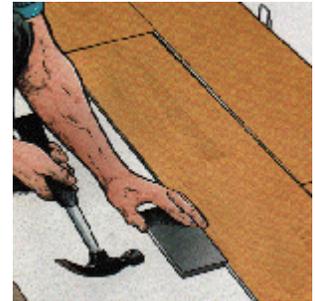
If the wall runs out, lay the boards straight a few centimetres out from the wall and scribe a straight line with a pencil. Cut down the board to line up with the wall, but insert spacers to maintain a gap.



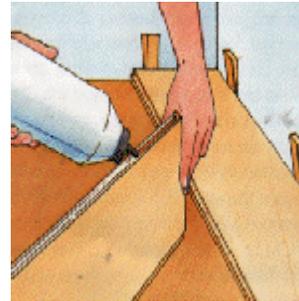
Use the off-cut from the last board to start the next row unless it is under 20cm in which case, cut into a new board. Make sure that there is a 10cm gap between floor and wall and insert spacers to keep the boards tight. Check again that the floor will run straight when you reach the centre of the room, and ensure that you will not have to use a run of planks on the opposite wall less than 50mm wide.



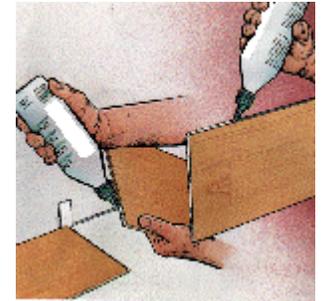
The last boards of a run can be tapped into place with a Birbek pulling iron and a hammer or mallet.



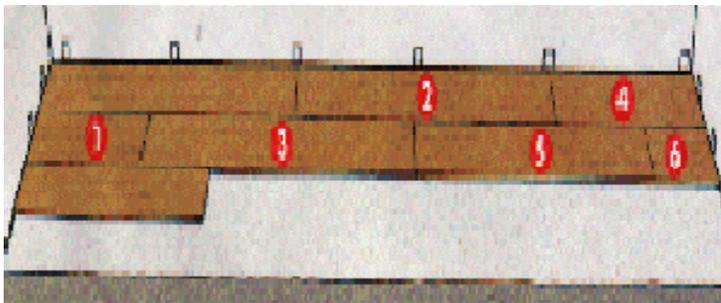
Use a tapping block to lightly knock the second row of boards. It is important to always hit the tongue and not the edges of the boards.



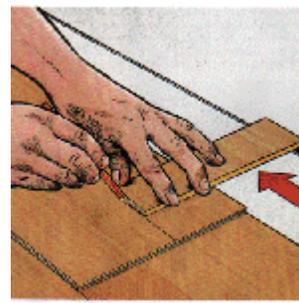
When all the boards have been correctly cut and scribed for the first 2 rows, take the boards apart and commence with the gluing.



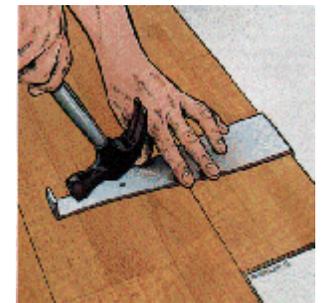
Apply a good quality D3 PVA adhesive to the lip of the groove- NOT THE BACK OF THE GROOVE. Glue end joints as well as edges.



The correct order to glue the boards is shown above 1-6. Ensure that the fit is tight and that the boards are held firmly in place with the wedges. The first 2 rows of boards are crucial to the whole installation, so it is imperative that the boards are properly glued and are straight.



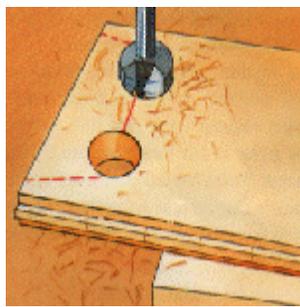
The last row of planks will need to be sawn lengthwise. Lay the last plank directly over the last but one plank and using an off-cut board, trace a cutting line onto the last plank.



Apply glue to the groove and then pull the board into place. Ensure that the board is held tight by inserting spacers. Leave 12 hours if possible before using the floor



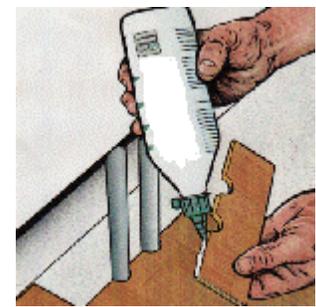
Cut through architraves with an undercut saw using an off-cut board as a guide. The floor can then slide under the architrave and still be able to expand.



Bore out holes 10mm larger than the pipes when fitting up to radiators. This will allow the wood to expand uninhibited around the pipes.



Cut through the holes as neatly as possible. It may help to cut through the surface of the wood with a Stanley knife before sawing/



Glue the boards together around the pipes using PVA. Hold the boards together with masking tape for at least 12 hours.

Take out the spacers once the adhesive has set and then either install skirting board, or if you are working up to existing skirting board, fix the scotia moulding to cover the expansion gap. It is important to nail into the perimeters and not through the floor. When fixing thresholds or door trims ensure that these are not tight up against the new floor as this can cause it to buckle. Please look after your new floor by following the instructions in our latest 'Cleaning & Maintenance Of Polyurethane Sealed Hardwood Floors' instruction leaflet supplied with your floor or available on request from Birbek

Available From Our Trade Counter

	<i>Professional Hardwood Fitting Kit To Hire (From Our Trade Counter Only) Nylon Tapping Block, Professional Steel Pulling Iron, Parquet Clamps, Nylon Mallet, .</i>	Day	15.20
		W/End	18.86
		Week	30.00
	<i>Hardwood Floor Fitting Kit For Laying A Pre-finished 14mm Floating Floor. Contains Spacers, Beech Tapping Block, HD Steel Pulling Iron, Dust Mask & Instructions</i>		11.98
	<i>Professional Tapping Block In Toughened White Nylon With Handle</i>		10.50
	<i>Roberts Professional Parquet</i>		45.70
	<i>Under Cut Saw (Reversible) for cutting out rebates in doorway architraves</i>		7.40
	<i>Hardpoint Saw- Ideal For Pre-finished Hardwood Floors</i>		5.88
	<i>Professional Steel Pulling Iron</i>		
	<i>Blue Steel Pulling Iron</i>		6.65
	<i>Salem Mitre Block For Accurate Cutting Of Mouldings,</i>		4.83
	<i>Thorace Dead Blow Nylon Headed Hammer</i>		16.75
	<i>Gorilla Bar For Lifting Boards, Grippers, Mouldings Etc.</i>		4.47
	<i>White Rubber Mallet For Hardwood Floor Installers</i>		5.50
	<i>Vitrex Extra Lightweight Knee Pads</i>		6.29

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