

New River Laminate Installation Instructions

Update - All installs now require a moisture barrier of minimum 6mil plastic film under this flooring. Further precautions may be needed when installing on concrete floors.

GENERAL

Method A: Angle-In installation method

Position the plank to be installed at an angle of 20 to 30° to the plank already installed. Move the plank gently up and down and at the same time exert forward pressure. The planks will automatically click into place. You can either insert the tongue into the groove, or the groove into the tongue. The tongue in groove method is the most common and the easiest way.

Method B: Flat installation method

(Flat installation method): You can also tap the planks into each other without lifting. For this method you will need a tapping block. The planks should not be joined with a single tap and the tapping block should be sitting flat on the floor. To avoid damaging the planks you must tap them together gradually. Use this method only in cases where you are unable to use the Angle-In method. The rest of your floor should be installed using the angle-In method.

TOOLS FOR INSTALLING THE FLOOR

For best results, it is essential that you follow the installation instructions exactly. Besides the regular tools for installing laminate floors (i.e. hammer, saw, pencil, measure) you will also need the following accessories:

- Tapping Block
- Maintenance products
- Underlayment system

You may also need to saw the planks. To obtain a clean cut, the pattern side should face down when you use a jigsaw, sabre saw or circular handsaw and up when you use a handsaw, table saw or a crosscut saw.

8 FOCUS POINTS

1. Make sure the planks are mixed sufficiently when you install them, so that you do not end up with too many identical, light or dark planks next to each other.
2. Check all planks in daylight before and during installation. Defective planks must never be used.
3. The floor should preferably be installed parallel to how the light enters the room. The ideal conditions are 15-20°C (59-68°F) at a relative humidity of 50-60%.
4. Let the planks acclimate for 48 hours in the unopened packaging at the normal room temperature in the middle of the room where the floor is to be installed. *Normal conditions means a difference of no more than 25°F and 20% relative humidity between the stocking/transportation environment of the flooring and the final installation environment of the flooring.
5. Room humidity can vary according to the season, so it is vital that the floor is able to expand and contract. For this reason, make sure you leave an expansion joint of minimum 10 to 12 mm (3/8" to 1/2") on all sides of the floor, around pipes, thresholds, under doors and around any fixed/stationary objects (floor vents, kitchen islands, etc.).
6. Large rooms must have expansion joints every 13 m (40 feet) width-wise to the planks and every 13 m (40 feet) length-wise. It is recommended to provide an expansion joint between different rooms (e.g. under the door). Expansion joints can be finished by means of a molding that is attached to the subfloor.
7. Ensure that the end joints of the planks in two successive rows are never in line. Always ensure that the joints are staggered by at least 15 cm / 6 inches.
8. A moisture barrier must be used if the subfloor moisture emissions are greater than 3 lbs per 1000 sq/sf or warranty is voided. Both Calcium Chloride testing and Concrete Moisture Testing is required to verify this.
9. We recommend you purchase a few extra cartons of flooring. This will be useful to you if you have some damaged pieces, miscalculate the size of the room, or miss cut some pieces. This also will help you if your floor needs a repair but your product is no longer manufactured.

PRECAUTIONS

- Protect furniture and chair legs with proper felt or rubber caps.
- Avoid bringing dirt, water and sand indoors by providing a suitable solid backed floor mat at the door.
- Furniture on casters/wheels must use soft, rubber wheels that are suitable for a laminate floor and/or use a suitable protective mat.

MAINTENANCE

- Never use wax, polish, oils, soaps, detergents, shine enhancers, or varnish on the floor.
- For dry maintenance, we recommend a dust mop or vacuum cleaner with soft bristle brush only.
- For slightly damp maintenance, we recommend a laminate cleaner which you spray directly and lightly on a duster. Always wipe dry immediately until no more moisture is visible on the floor. The use of other cleaning products might damage your floor. For bevel edge products, we strongly recommend dry cleaning only.
- Do not use any type of cleaning machine such as spray mops, steam cleaners/ mops or power cleaners.
- Wet maintenance is absolutely forbidden. Remove any water immediately.

Our laminates are not suitable for use in damp spaces like saunas.

- Remove stubborn stains carefully with acetone based fingernail polish remover. Never use scouring products!

- In case your floor needs repair, the planks can easily be removed in minutes without replacing the entire floor. The required expansion gap must be in place around the room's perimeter and extra flooring should be available for use in the repair. Enjoy your floor.

In any environment, leave a concealed 3/8" minimum expansion space on all sides of the floor, including pipes, thresholds, doorways, and any fixed/stationary objects (door vents, kitchen islands, etc.).

