

Installation of your Hardwood floor

Temperature + humidity- (Please read before beginning installation).

Room temperature and humidity of installation should be consistent with normal year-round living conditions for at least a week before installation of wood flooring. Room temperature of at least 18c and the relative humidity of 40-60% should be maintained before, during and after installation. Humidity levels below these will likely cause gapping in board pieces and possible cupping in the boards face.

Scott's cannot be held responsible for site conditions. Wood flooring are particularly susceptible to showing movement such as edge/end shrinkage from humidity below the stated minimum and/or cupping if installed over a wet subfloor.

Subfloor preparation

Your concrete subfloor must be below 3.5% moisture content. A new concrete slab will usually take 90-150 days to dry thoroughly depending on the size of slab and the weather conditions. (for underfloor heating installation- please review separate guidelines). A wood or plywood subfloor must not have a moisture content greater than 12%.

It is imperative to ensure that your subfloor is level (to within 5mm over a 3 metre span) and that it is clean, dry and secure. It is the fitter's responsibility to ensure that the floor is level and clean. Any remaining residue or dirt should be removed.

Inspecting the boards

Prior to installation, pay attention to colour, knots and grain so that individual planks are placed in a way that produces an overall harmonious appearance. Once a board is fitted, it is deemed to be acceptable. It is the responsibility of the fitter and the end user to ensure that the floor is correct. No claims are accepted once a board has been installed.

Glue down installation guidelines

Recommended method of installation.

- > See adhesive manufacturer's instructions on label for specific rules and guidelines regarding installation procedures and acceptable subfloors. Any questions regarding the acceptability of concrete slab or any other type of subfloor or subfloor coating for application of an adhesive, is the sole responsibility of the adhesive manufacturer and the flooring contractor/installer.
- > Follow the spread rate and curing time as per adhesive pot instructions. Make sure that the entire plank is in contact with the glue.
- > It may be necessary to leave weights on the flooring boards which are pushing up to ensure full contact with the subfloor while the glue cures. This is normal practice and these weights can be removed once the glue has fully cured.
- > Keep some rags and mineral spirits available if glue gets on the boards face. Wipe it up immediately to prevent the glue from curing on the boards face
- > Wood is a living material. Always remember to leave an expansion gap of 15mm at walls, pillars, stairs doorways etc. and around fixed objects. For pipes: drill a hole with a diameter about 15mm larger than that of a pipe.



Floating installation guidelines.

- > **This type of installation is the most budget friendly. We would only recommend using this installation in small room areas and only in domestic settings.**
 - Roll out the underlay and tape any joints.
 - Apply the glue to the inner side of the groove along the whole length and at the ends.
 - If the floor is 6 metres wide and/or 12 long, we advise against this installation.
 - Do not place heavy objects directly on this type of installation, such island units.
- > **Wooden flooring joists**

Make sure that the joists are firm and completely level, the maximum distance between the centres of joists should not be more than 40 cm. Wooden floors must be 20mm thickness and be placed perpendicularly to the joists. The boards are then to be secret nailed at a 45 degree angle in the tongue. It is advisable to also spot glue the joists also where nailed.
- > **Wooden subfloor or plywood**

You can install on a plywood sub-floor on the wooden joists. It is very important that they are applied on the joist which are stable and level. The subfloor must not have moisture content greater than 12%. One advantage of this technique is that you can decide in which direction you place the floor boards. It also a good helpful to spot glue in addition to secret nailing to avoid any creaking noises- this is 'belt and braces'
- > **Existing wooden floor**

On top of an old wooden floor you can put a new one. Just make sure the boards of the old floor are stable, level and smooth, firmly attached and not damaged by insects or signs of moisture or mould. Install the new boards at right angles to the old boards.
- > **Existing tile floor**

An engineered floor can be installed on top of an existing tile or stone floor. Make sure that any loose tiles are first cemented and stable, flat and level. It is best to apply a levelling agent. If you want to glue your wooden floor to the tiles, it is best that you roughen the tile surface first, so the parquet adhesive adheres better to the tiles. Please contact Adhesive manufacturer prior to installation on this subfloor to ensure that it is suitable.
- > **Anhydrite subfloor**

To successfully install a wooden floor on this type of surface, you should pay attention to several elements. Determine the moisture content of the screed with an electronic moisture meter. The anhydrite screed may contain up to 0.5% of moisture. (If the floor is combined with underfloor heating the anhydrite surface should contain no more than 0.2% moisture.) Please contact Adhesive manufacturer prior to installation on this screed to ensure that it is suitable.

General fitting guidelines

- > Wood is a living material. Always remember to leave an expansion gap of 15mm at walls, pillars, stairs doorways etc. and around fixed objects. For pipes: drill a hole with a diameter about 15mm larger than that of a pipe.
- > Install the first plank with groove facing the wall at a distance of 10-15mm (maintain distance to wall using wedges/spacers on long edge and ends). Remove spacers/wedges 24 hours after installation.
- > Adapt your doors before installation by allowing for wood and appropriate subfloor heights to fit underneath.
- > Lay first row generally along longest and straightest wall. Use a straight line to ensure that your first row is straight. Cut board accordingly.
- > Carefully tap the short and long sides together using a tapping block and a mallet. Never hit the tongue or groove directly with the tools
- > With the use of a crow bar securely pull the end of the board securely into place.
- > Start next row from the end cut of the last board from the previous row. This ensures a good stagger to the board's joints.



- > Ensure end joints from each consecutive row have a minimum of 50cm space.
- > Finished areas should be covered with protective paper immediately after installation. **Do not** use any adhesive tape on the wood floors finish.
- > Do not use any adhesive tape on the wood floors finish! Make any painter/decorator aware of this also

After installation of your wood flooring

After installation, it is recommended that you clean your floors thoroughly using Scott's floor soap cleaner. It is also recommended to refresh your floors with Scott's Maintenance oil to bring back the lustre and beauty of your new floor. (See Scotts Care guidelines).

