

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

LAMINATE



Signature
signaturefloors



Thank you for choosing Signature *Laminate* Flooring.
When properly installed and cared for, your new
flooring will be easy to maintain and will keep its
great look for years.

Please read all the instructions before you begin the
installation. Improper installation will void the warranty.

LAMINATE

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

GENERAL CONDITIONS

A good preparation is essential for a smooth installation. *Laminate* can be installed on concrete, timber, ceramic and many other sub-floors which have been suitably prepared.

The effective application of *Laminate* is dependent on suitable site conditions.

Laminate is intended to be installed in internal locations only. It is not to be installed in areas that are exposed to the elements, such as semi-covered/"alfresco" outdoor areas, porches, garages etc.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All wood-based products, even those specifically designed to have increased resistance to moisture, are hygroscopic (they will react to the moisture in the environment) and as a result will expand or contract accordingly. All sources of under floor moisture must be rectified prior to the installation of the floor. Any construction dampness must be completely dry.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

Sub-floor preparation is vital for a good installation. The finished appearance of a *Laminate* floor will be as good as the quality of the base over which it is installed. Any intense irregularities in the sub-floor may affect performance.

The product can be installed on substrates with grout joints or grooves if these are less than 5 mm in width and 4 mm in depth. Depressions, deep grooves, expansion joints and other sub-floor imperfections that do not meet this requirement must be filled with approved patching & leveling compound prior to installation.

Excessive sub-floor moisture may result in smell or mold below the flooring. Concrete substrate moisture should not exceed 90% RH (relative humidity) when tested in accordance with ASTM F 2170.

Wooden sub-floors must be constructed according to local building codes, be structurally sound and deflection free. Repair any squeaky floor boards prior to installation, sand or plane high spots, fill all low spots to ensure the sub-floor levelness does not exceed ±5mm over 3000mm span.

- Timber sub-floors must have no more than 12% MC (moisture vapor content)
- Lay the new flooring crossways to the existing floorboards.
- Wooden sub-floors constructed over a crawl space must have adequate ventilation, and minimum ground clearance of 450mm.

Concrete Sub-floors

- The sub-floor must be firm, flat, smooth, clean, dry, and free from defects and fit for purpose and have less than ±5mm over 3000mm deflection in any direction.
- Must be constructed according to local building codes.
- Existing concrete sub-floors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, smooth, permanently dry, clean, and free of all foreign material such as dust, wax, solvents, paint, grease, oils, and old adhesive residue.
- The sub-floor must be dry. Comply with MC requirements and tested as per one of below methods:
 - › Concrete vapor moisture emissions should not exceed 8 lb/3.63kg MVER (moisture vapor emission rate) per 1000ft/100m2 per 24 hours. This can be measured with a calcium chloride test (ASTM F1869).
 - › 90 % RH (ASTM F2170) with a PH limit of 9.
 - › Max 5.5% moisture content when tested using electrical resistance.
- Substrates must be free from excessive moisture or alkali. Remove dirt, paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents, any foreign matter and contaminants.
- A minimum 6 mil/0.15mm plastic poly sheeting should be used as a moisture barrier between the concrete sub-floor and the flooring; Signature Luxelay 2mm Underlay is compliant.
- If required, a suitable levelling compound should be used to ensure that no irregularities impact the finished floor. However, the selection of suitable materials, including smoothing and levelling compounds and any ancillary products used for floor preparation must be used in accordance with the manufacturers' recommended instructions.

Ensure that the packs are stored lying flat, never on edge, stacked squarely and away from vents and direct sunlight. It is recommended that you black out windows where direct sunlight streams in onto the floor to allow for continuity across the whole area to be laid.

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PRE-INSTALLATION

1	Prior to installation, inspect material in daylight for visible faults/damage, including defects or discrepancies in color or gloss; check the edges of the flooring for straightness and any damage. No claims on surface defects will be accepted after installation.
2	Check that the tongue and groove of the Click laminate profile is free from dirt and undamaged.
3	The surface beneath the floor must be sufficiently prepared in advance to guarantee successful fitting of the floor covering. In particular, it must be clean, dry, smooth, firm, level, free from defects and not contaminated with grease, oil or chemicals.
4	Undercut all door jambs and ensure the compatibility of the underlay being used.
5	Ensure 10mm gap around perimeter of the room and fixtures.
6	Ensure expansion joints are used in areas exceeding 20m in either direction. Flooring that overlaps to new rooms and floor surfaces which do not join symmetrically, use transition moldings to facilitate 10mm transition gap.
7	Laminate is a "floating" floor. The panels should not be glued or fixed to the surface below. Do not fix skirting boards to laminate flooring.
8	Do not install heavy fixed objects such as kitchen cabinets directly over the floor planks. The floating installation requires the flooring to move freely.

VAPOR BARRIER AND UNDERLAY

Signature Floors recommends the use of LuxeLay™ underlay on all installations, this is a combined vapour barrier and 2mm closed cell underlay, which will provide a moisture barrier on concrete and wooden substrates, along with acoustic and insulation comfort benefits. The importance of an underlay cannot be overstated. Proper application and installation of underlay and sub-floors is crucial to the proper wear and stability of any flooring.

EXPANSION

Apart from the first acclimatisation period of 48 hours before unpacking the planks, Laminate remains sensitive to expansion and contraction even after installation. This feature can easily be compensated for if you leave an expansion joint of 10mm on all sides, around door frames and thresholds.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

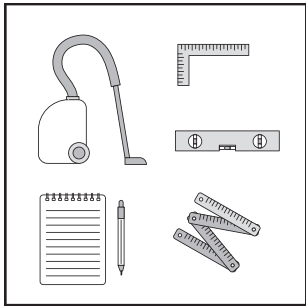
- In-floor Radiant Heat: due to the speed of sudden temperature changes, which has the potential to negatively affect laminate flooring construction, it is not recommended to install over any electrical radiant heating system. Installation over electrical radiant heating systems will not be covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Below instructions are for radiant heating systems using water/In-floor Hydro Heat.
- Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 27°C. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating.
- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated sub-floors.
- Operate the system at maximum capacity for 48 hours to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system at least 4 days before installation.
- The maximum moisture content of the screed is 1.5% (CM method).
- Make sure that the temperature in the room is maintained consistent between 18-30°C and the relative humidity should be maintained between 30-65% before and during the installation.
- Once the installation is completed, the heating system should be turned on at the ambient temperature and increased gradually 5°C degree increments every 24 hours until reaching normal operating conditions.
- Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.

Tip: The best idea to maximize the results of your heating system is to have "ON" times with a comfort temperature and "OFF" times with setback temperatures which is normally 4°C lower than your comfort temperature. The setback temperatures are particularly important as these won't let the temperature of your room drop too much, meaning it is much quicker to heat your room back to comfort levels when it's needed.

LAMINATE

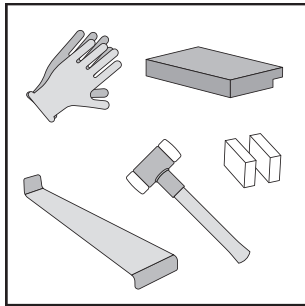
INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

PREPARATION TOOLS



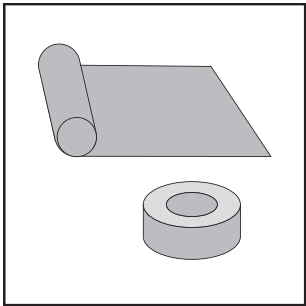
Room Preparation

- Pencil and notepad
- Tape measure / Folding rule
- Steel square / Bevel tool
- Level
- Vacuum



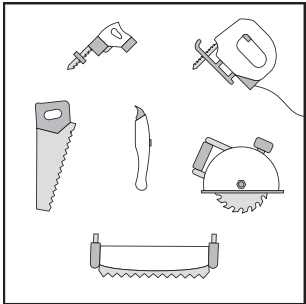
During Installation

- Hard mallet
- Tapping block for locking systems
- Pull bar
- Spacers
- Gloves



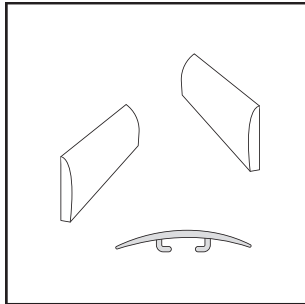
Floor Preparation

- Underlay
- Tape (to fix your underlay)



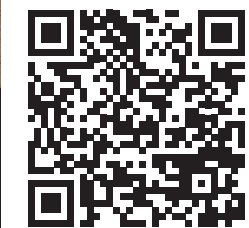
Cutting the panels

- Handsaw / jigsaw / crosscut saw / plunge / saw / table saw
- Concave cutter knife



Finishing the room

- Skirting
- Expansion / adapter / end profiles



WATCH THE
INSTALLATION VIDEO

LAMINATE
STRAIGHT LAY
INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

LAMINATE

STRAIGHT LAY INSTALLATION



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INSTALLATION VIDEO

PREPARE THE ROOM

CLEAN SLATE - Remove skirtings - Remove all soft flooring (e.g. carpet) - Make sure the sub-floor is dry and free of any grease, chemical residue or glue. Ensure a level and dry surface, smooth out bumps or irregularities - Vacuum thoroughly to remove all debris and dust		
CALCULATE SURFACE AREA - Width x Length + 5-10% cutting waste - Make accurate measurements to ensure a smooth installation - Take notes to avoid mistakes - Plan the flooring along the longest wall or in the direction of the light for the most pleasing visual appeal.		
CALCULATE THE AMOUNT OF ROWS - Divide the room width by the board width $\frac{\text{Room width}}{\text{Board width}}$ - Distribute the remaining space evenly between the start and end rows. Ensure that each piece is at least 5 cm wide.		
PREPARING THE PANELS - Acclimatise the panels in the middle of the room for 48 hours in the box - Shuffle panels from different boxes to ensure an even distribution of color and pattern - Inspect the panels for damages - Use an underlay		

LAMINATE

STRAIGHT LAY INSTALLATION

Angle-angle installation is recommended for most of the room, with edge panels finished by tapping. The tongue-and-groove method is the most commonly used and easiest to install.

INSTALLATION LOCKING

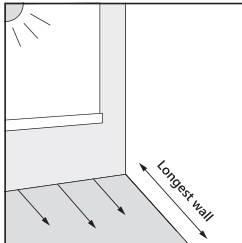
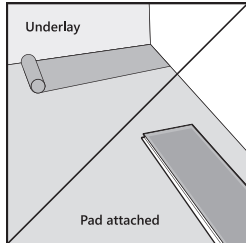
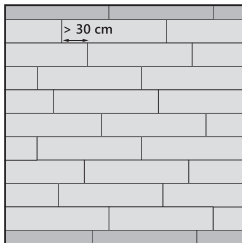
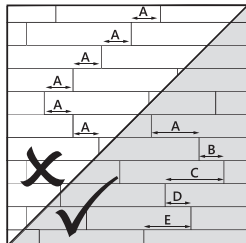
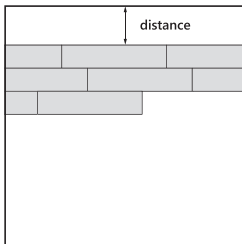
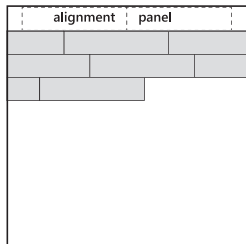
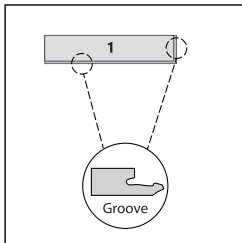
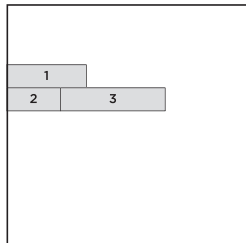
INSTALLATION METHOD A: ANGLE		
	Start on the short side. Position the panel at an angle of 20-30° to the panel that is already installed, and angle down.	
INSTALLATION METHOD B: TAP		
	For hard to reach panels, use the tapping method. If possible, angle in one of the sides. Angle down and position the click systems as close as possible.	
FOR HARD TO REACH AREAS		
	For areas where it is not possible to use angling or a tapping block, such as the end panels against the wall, use the pull bar with the tapping method.	
DE-INSTALLING THE PANELS		
	Start by angling out the complete row on the long side of the panel by lifting up to about 20-30°.	
		Angle up the end of the panel to angle out the short side.

LAMINATE
STRAIGHT LAY INSTALLATION



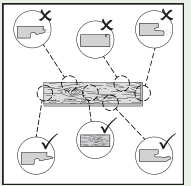
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INSTALLATION VIDEO

INSTALLATION PATTERN

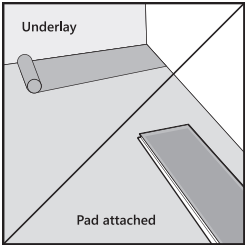
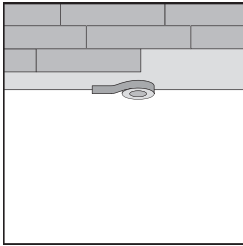
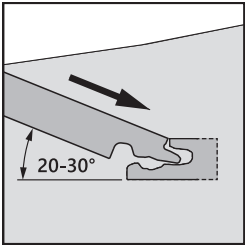
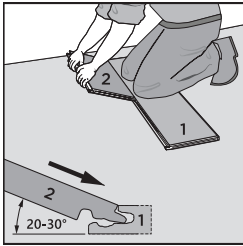
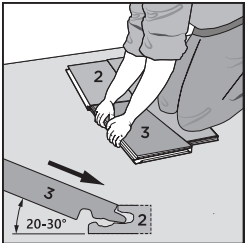
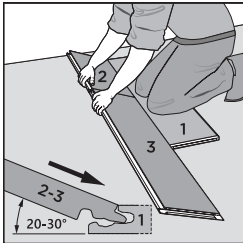
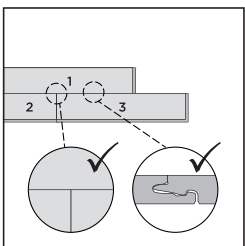
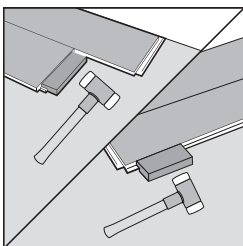
DIRECTION OF THE ROWS			
	Plan the floor along the longest wall or light direction for the most pleasing visual appeal.		If there is no pad attached to the panels, roll out the underlay in the same direction of the floor.
STAGGERING			
	Make sure the panels always stagger for at least 30 cm.		Stagger the panels randomly to avoid a staircase pattern and ensure a strong click connection.
START POSITION			
	Option 1 Start by laying the first row at a little distance from the wall.		Option 2 Use a few floor panels as a tool to align the first row.
FIRST PANELS			
	Start by positioning the first panel with the groove sides pointing away from the startwalls.		The first panel will serve as a base to install panels two and three.

LAMINATE
STRAIGHT LAY INSTALLATION

Check all panels before and during installation for damage or visible defects.



INSTALLATION FIRST ROWS

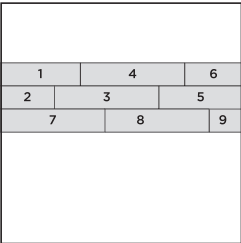
UNDERLAY			
	Check to see if there is a pad attached to the back of the panels. If a pad is attached, an underlay is not needed.		Lay the underlay parallel to the floor direction during installation. Start each new row of underlay upon reaching that point in the floor installation.
ANGLE IN THE SECOND PANEL			
	Place the tongue of the long side of panel 2 into the groove of the long side of panel 1 at 20-30° and angle down.		Sit with your knees on the panels to secure them during installation and keep them in place.
ANGLE IN THE THIRD PANEL			
	Angle in the short side of panel 3 into the short side of panel 2 at 20-30° and angle down.		Place your hands close to the joint and slide panel 3 towards panel 1. Angle the row of panel 2 and 3 up to an angle of 20-30°. Angle down to completely connect the panels.
MIND THE GAP			
	After installing a panel, check if all joints are fully connected and there are no gaps or height differences.		To ensure all gaps are closed, gently tap the tapping block with a hammer to completely close the joints.



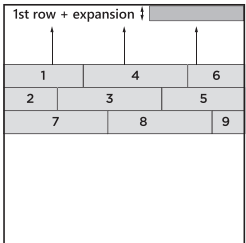
WATCH THE
INSTALLATION VIDEO

INSTALLATION CONTINUED

INSTALL ROW 1-3

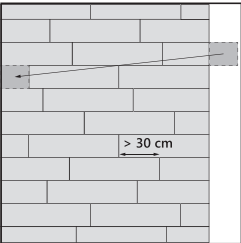


Continue installing the rest of the panels for the first three rows in the order of the drawing.

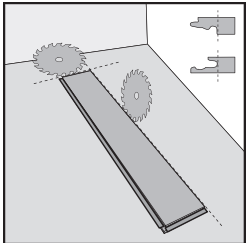


Move the rows closer to the wall, leaving a distance equal to the width of the start row plus the expansion gaps. Ensure the start row is at least 5 cm wide.

EDGE PIECES

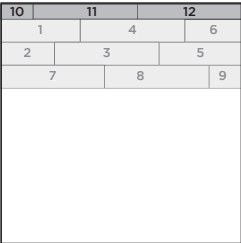


Tip: use the leftover of the sawed off panel to start the new row. Stagger the panels randomly and use an overlap of at least 30 cm to ensure a strong connection.

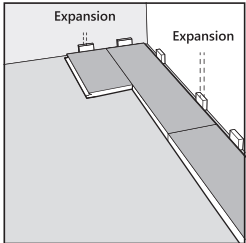


Remove the click profile on every side directly next to the wall to ensure the required expansion gap.

MOVE THE ROWS TO THE STARTER WALL



Install the start row by angling in the panels. Use the pull bar and hammer if necessary.

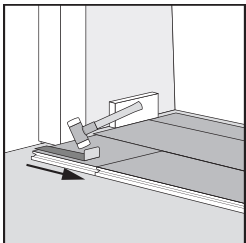


Place the spacers to ensure the correct expansion gap. For the correct expansion gaps, check the supplier installation guidelines.

CONTINUE THE INSTALLATION



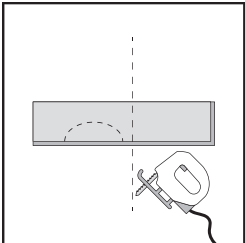
Continue installing the rest of the panels row by row in the order of the drawing.



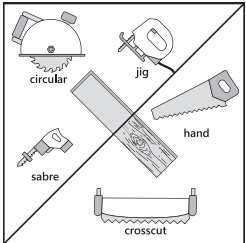
For edge pieces close to the wall, use the pull bar and hammer to completely secure the locking system. Gradually connect the panels in a few taps.

INSTALLATION CORRECT SIZE

LAMINATE



For all cuts
Use a saw to cut the panel to size



Design facing down:
jigsaw, saber saw or circular handsaw

Design facing up:
handsaw or crosscut saw

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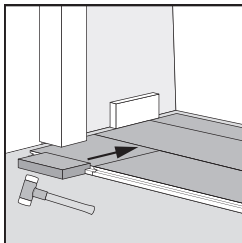
STRAIGHT LAY INSTALLATION



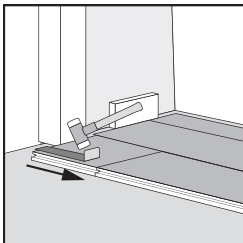
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INSTALLATION FINISHING

UNDER DOOR FRAMES

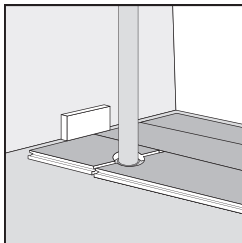


Install the panel on the long side with a tapping block or pull bar. Gently tap with a hammer to gradually connect the panels in a few taps.

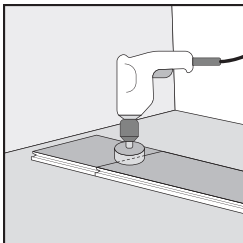


Slide the panel towards the already installed panels and gradually lock the short side of the panel with a tapping block or pull bar and hammer in a few taps.

PIPES

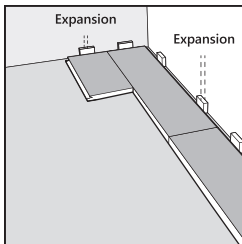


In rows where the flooring meets a pipe, ensure the pipe aligns exactly with the short sides of two panels.

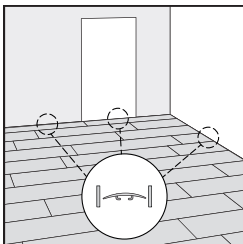


Click the panels together on the short side. Drill a hole centered on the joint between the two panels of the same diameter as the pipe plus 20 mm (3/4").

ROOM FOR EXPANSION

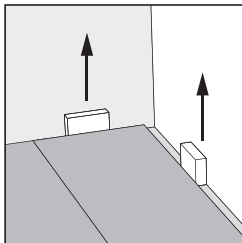


The floor must be able to expand and contract with changes in the indoor climate. For expansion joint guidelines, check the supplier's instructions.

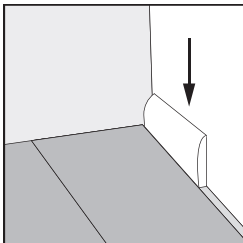


Provide expansion joints between different rooms or in large rooms. Check the supplier's guidelines for details.

FINISHING



After the floor and expansion profiles are completely installed, remove all spacers from the room(s).



Install skirting on the walls over the expansion gaps to complete the room.



WATCH THE
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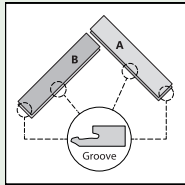
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HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

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HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION

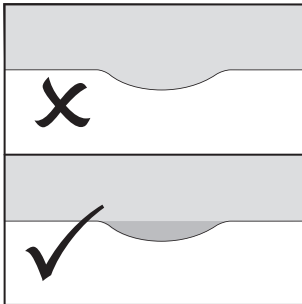
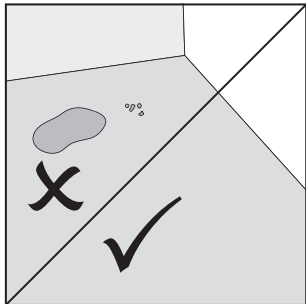
Make sure there is an equal amount of left side and right sided panels.



PREPARE THE ROOM

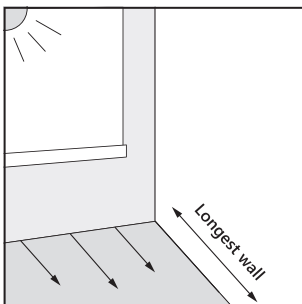
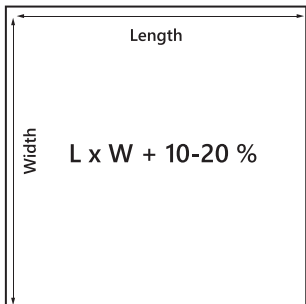
CLEAN SLATE

- Remove skirtings
- Remove all soft flooring (e.g. carpet)
- Make sure the sub-floor is dry and free of any grease, chemical residue or glue. Ensure a level and dry surface, smooth out bumps or irregularities
- Vacuum thoroughly to remove all debris and dust



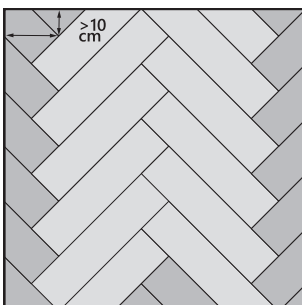
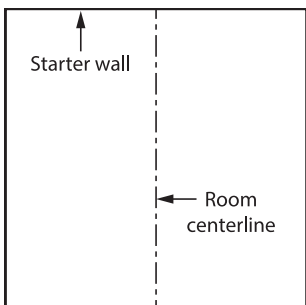
CALCULATE SURFACE AREA

- Width x Length + 10-20% cutting waste
- Make accurate measurements to ensure a smooth installation
- Take notes to avoid mistakes
- Plan the flooring along the longest wall or in the direction of the light for the most pleasing visual appeal.



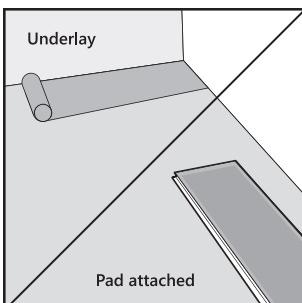
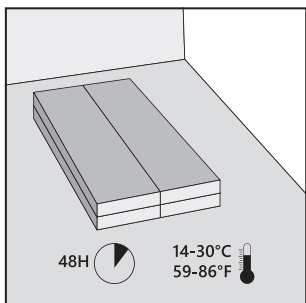
ALIGNING THE ROWS

- Indicate the middle of the starter wall to align the V-rows. Mark this line on the bottom of the wall so it will remain visible
- Plan out the different V-rows to ensure that each end piece is at least 10 cm wide
- If there are pieces that are too small, shift the middle line to the left or the right



PREPARING THE PANELS

- Acclimatize the panels in the middle of the room for 48 hours in the box
- Make sure to follow the instructions on the box before beginning the installation
- Shuffle panels from different boxes to ensure an even distribution of color and pattern
- Inspect the panels for damages
- Use an underlay



LAMINATE

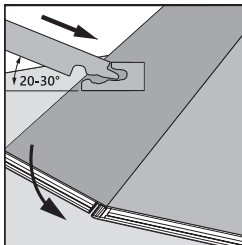
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION



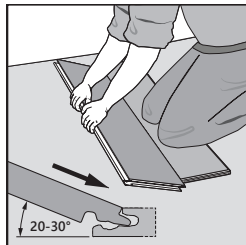
WATCH THE
INSTALLATION VIDEO

INSTALLATION LOCKING

INSTALLING METHOD A: ANGLE

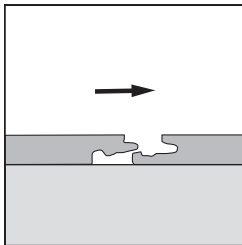


Start by locking in the long side. Position the panel at an angle of 20-30° to the panel that is already installed.

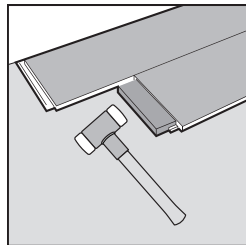


Place your hands close to the joint. Pull the panel towards the installed panels and angle down.

INSTALLING METHOD B: TAP

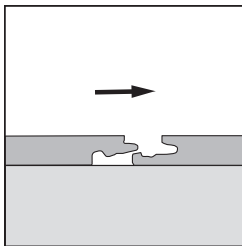


For locking in two sides or if angling is not possible, use the tapping method. If possible, angle in one side of the panel. Tapping is possible on the long and short side.

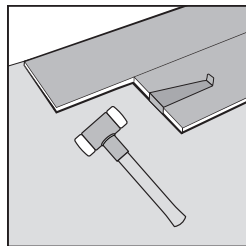


Use a tapping block and position it against the locking system. Gently tap the block with a hammer to gradually connect the panels in a few taps.

FOR HARD TO REACH AREAS

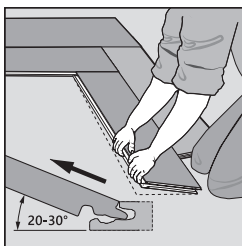


For areas where it is not possible to use angling or a tapping block, such as the end panels against the wall, use the pull bar. Start when the panels are flat on the floor.

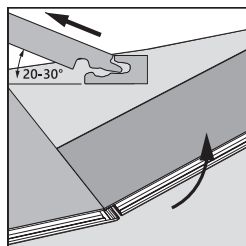


Place the pull bar against the panel. Gently tap the pull bar with a hammer to gradually connect the panels in a few taps.

DE-INSTALLING THE PANELS



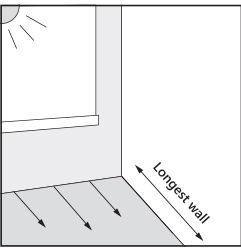
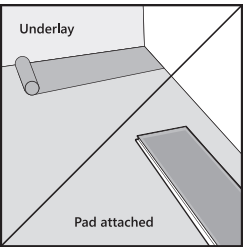
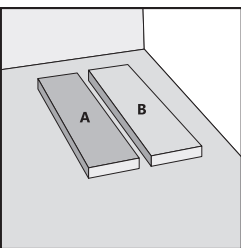
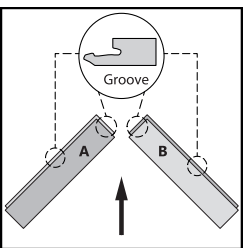
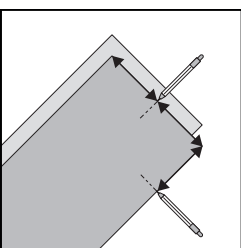
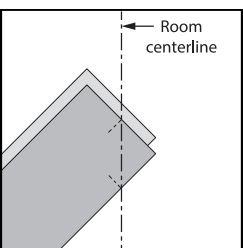
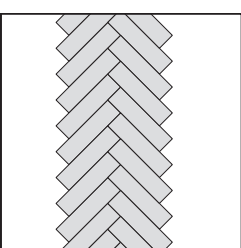
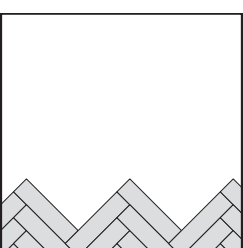
Start by angling out the panel by lifting the corner of the panel to about 20-30° and move the panel forwards and backwards until it releases.



Angle up the end of the panel to angle out the short side.

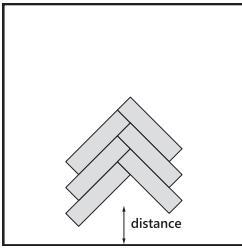
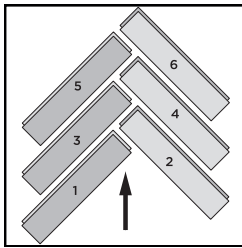
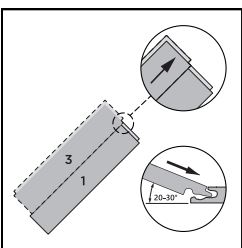
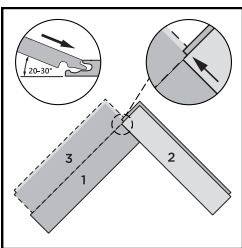
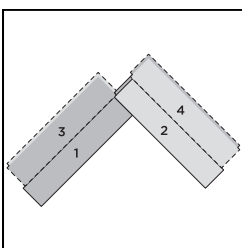
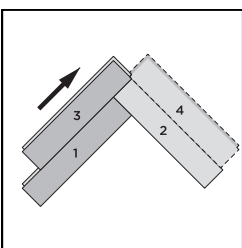
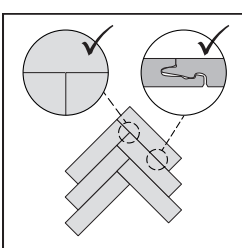
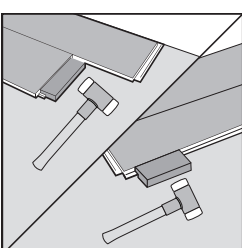
LAMINATE
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION

INSTALLATION PATTERN

DIRECTION OF THE ROWS		
	Plan the floor along the longest wall or light direction for the most pleasing visual appeal.	 If there is no pad attached to the panels, roll out the underlay in the same direction of the floor.
DISTRIBUTE THE PANELS		
	Make sure you have an equal amount of left and right panels.	 Lay down the panels in the correct start position with the groove side pointing away from the starter wall and to the outside of the V.
ALIGNMENT IN THE ROOM		
	Mark the middle of the short side of the panel. Take this distance and mark it on the long side of the panel.	 Align the markings on the panel to the center line of the room to ensure the correct angle of the panel and a straight installation.
INSTALLATION ORDER		
	Option 1 Finish the first V row and then continue to the sides. This is the installation method explained below.	 Option 2 Complete the first few rows of the complete width of the room.

LAMINATE
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION

INSTALLATION FIRST ROWS

DISTANCE AND DIRECTION		
	Start the installation at a distance away from the starter wall for easier installation.	 Work in the direction away from the starter wall, with the V pointing away from the wall.
ALIGN THE SECOND PANEL		
	Use an alignment panel (3) to help align panel 2 by installing it 0,5 cm beyond the edge of panel 1.	 Angle the long side of panel 2 into the short side of panel 1 at 20-30°, slide it towards panel 3 until it reaches the corner of panel 3 and angle down.
MOVE TO THE B SIDE		
	Use another alignment panel (4) to help align panel 3 by installing it 0,5 cm beyond the edge of panel 2	 Angle up the long side of panel 3 into the long side of panel 2 at 20-30°, slide it towards panel 4 until it reaches the corner of panel 4 and angle down.
MIND THE GAP		
	After installing a panel, check all joints to see if they are fully connected and there are no gaps or height differences.	 To ensure all gaps are closed, gently tap the tapping block with a hammer to completely close the joints.

LAMINATE

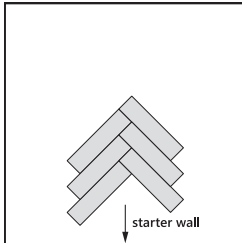
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION



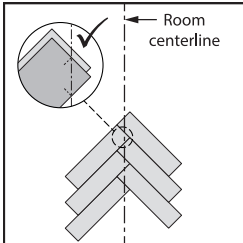
WATCH THE
INSTALLATION VIDEO

INSTALLATION CONTINUED

MOVE TO THE STARTER WALL

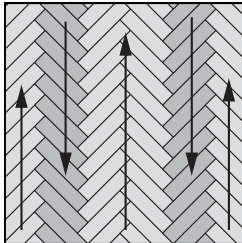


After a few panels, slide the row towards the starter wall, aligned with the center line of the room. Leave enough room for the expansion gaps.

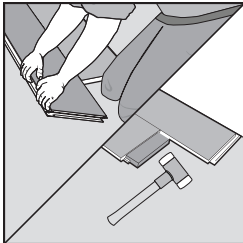


Align the rows to the middle line of the room, using the markings on the panel as a guide.

CONTINUE THE INSTALLATION

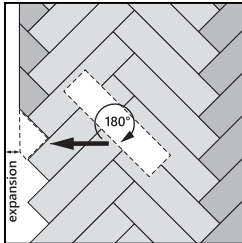


Complete the first V row with complete panels. Make sure to keep it aligned to the center line. Then continue on the sides, working in the opposite direction.

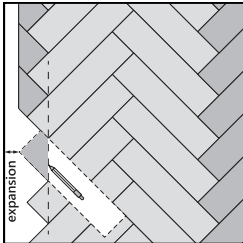


To install the next row, always connect the long side of the new panel into the installed panels. Use a tapping block to close the short side of the panel.

FINISH THE SIDES

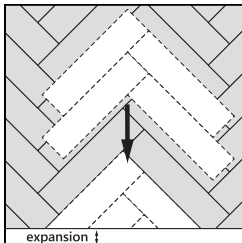


Position the panel in the correct position to be installed. Rotate the panel 180° and position it where it needs to be installed, while leaving space for the expansion gap.

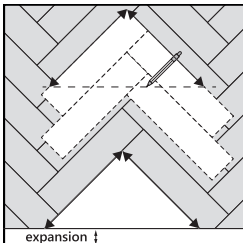


Draw a line by connecting the edges of the installed panels and cut along this line. Rotate the panel back 180° and install it by angling and using the pull bar.

EDGE PIECES



Pre-build the edge pieces with enough panels to cover the gaps. Measure the edges of the remaining floor, taking the expansion gap into account.



Mark the dimensions on the pre-build panels and cut to size. Install the remaining pieces one by one. Use a pull bar if necessary.

LAMINATE

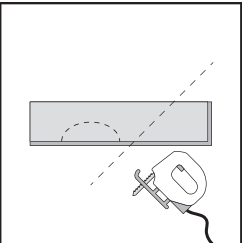
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION



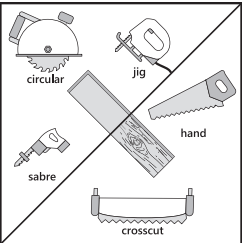
WATCH THE
INSTALLATION VIDEO

INSTALLATION CORRECT SIZE

LAMINATE



For all cuts
Use a saw to cut the panel to size

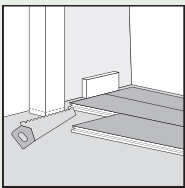


Design facing down:
jigsaw, saber saw or circular handsaw
Design facing up:
handsaw or crosscut saw

LAMINATE

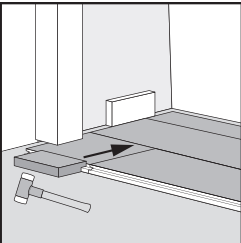
HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION

Undercut the doorframes or moldings to enable the expansion of the panels

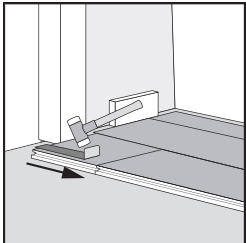


INSTALLATION FINISHING

UNDER DOOR FRAMES

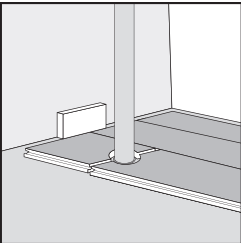


Install the panel on the long side with a tapping block or pull bar. Gently tap with a hammer to gradually connect the panels in a few taps.

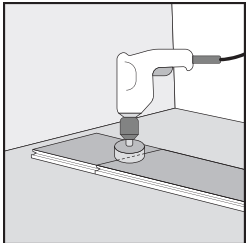


Slide the panel towards the already installed panels and gradually lock the short side of the panel with a tapping block or pull bar and hammer in a few taps.

PIPES

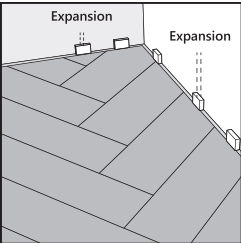


In rows where the flooring meets a pipe, ensure the pipe aligns exactly with the short sides of two panels.

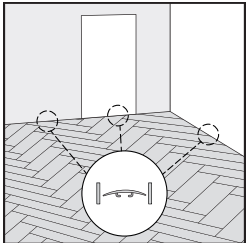


Click the panels together on the short side. Drill a hole centered on the joint between the two panels of the same diameter as the pipe plus 20 mm (3/4").

ROOM FOR EXPANSION

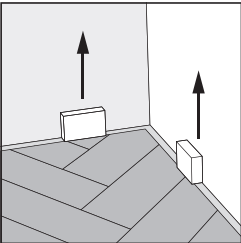


The floor must be able to expand and contract with changes in the indoor climate. For expansion joint guidelines, check the supplier's instructions.

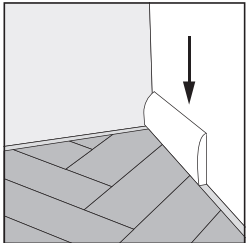


Provide expansion joints between different rooms or in large rooms. Check the supplier's guidelines for details.

FINISHING



After the floor and expansion profiles are completely installed, remove all spacers from the room(s).



Install skirting on the walls over the expansion gaps to complete the room.

LAMINATE

HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION

DISASSEMBLING

To disassemble, simply lift the planks one by one following the opposite sequence as the installation.

For any assistance please contact Signature Floors on 1800 150 554.

WARRANTY

Further information is available in our Laminate Care & Warranty guideline from your place of purchase and Signature Floors website

www.signaturefloors.com.au

www.signaturefloors.co.nz

Laminate - Installation Guidelines

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