XYLOFLOORING

P&L (UK) LTD
XYLO HOUSE SUITE 304
THE BUSINESS DESIGN CENTRE
52 UPPER STREET
ISLINGTON
LONDON
N1 0QH

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLING THIS PRODUCT:

DUE TO THE VARIATIONS IN BOTH COLOUR AND GRAIN CHARACTERISTICS THAT OCCUR IN ALL WOODEN FLOORING, WE RECOMMEND THAT ALL PRODUCTS BE APPROVED BY THE CONSUMER PRIOR TO FITTING.
WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY CLAIMS IN THIS REGARD ONCE THE PRODUCT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.

** RECOMMENDED STORAGE GUIDELINES **

All packages must be stored flat in a secure and dry area
(preferably in the room where flooring is to be installed).
Packages must never be stored directly on a cement floor.
Recommended storage temperature is 15°C. (not in a cold or hot environment and never outdoors).
Relative humidity should be between 45–65%.
Do not open package until ready to start installation. Open and lay one pack at a time.

LACQUERED/OILED

As we know 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder'. There is little difference in the purchase cost between a lacquered and an oiled floor; therefore it will most likely be the look of the flooring that determines which the consumer will choose. This said there are a number of other considerations, which should be born in mind when taking this decision.

Lacquered hardwood floors are pretty much non-maintenance. Obviously they need to be swept over with a soft broom from time to time and occasionally wiped over with a lightly moistened mop or damp cloth. They will however show scratch marks with usage, as would a lacquered tabletop. With a bad scratch, it is possible that a French polisher may be able to improve the appearance; however local repairs generally achieve limited success.

It is of course possible to completely sand and re-seal a lacquered floor, although this would not normally be required until such times as the flooring has given several years of hard wear. Unless the flooring has been badly damaged during its lifetime, this process will pretty much restore the flooring to 'as new' condition.

Oiled floors are on the other hand much more forgiving where scratching is concerned. Scratches tend to be less obvious and are also much easier to repair locally. A light sand, followed by the re-application of oil, will generally restore the appearance of the flooring without the need to re-finish the entire area.

There is however maintenance issues, which one needs to take on board, before purchasing an oiled product. It is the saturation of the timber surface with oil, which protects the flooring against spillage and soiling. It is important therefore to ensure that oil is applied to the surface of the flooring periodically.

How often the flooring needs oiling will depend upon the environment in which the product is laid. Logically; an oiled floor laid in the hallway of a country cottage, where one-steps immediately from the outdoors onto the flooring, will require more maintenance than an oiled floor laid to the lounge of a penthouse apartment in the West End of London. In the winter months; the proprietor of the cottage would also do well to consider providing some further protection of the flooring; by way of an entrance mat laid just inside the doorway of their home.

In conclusion, the use of common sense is your best aid in maintaining the long lasting good looks of an oiled floor.

T&G ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

(TONGUE & GROOVE GLUE SYSTEM)

BASIC PREPARATION

All packages must be stored flat in a secure and dry area (preferably in the room where flooring is to be installed).

Make sure that the area where the flooring is to be installed is free from moisture by heating the room(s) some days before commencing.

The sub floor must be dry (moisture < 5%), clean and level to within +/- 2 mm over a 1 metre run.

Dents or rises of more than 3mm must be levelled. Uneven concrete floors can be levelled with self-levelling compound. Uneven floors of wood can be grinded or planed.

New concrete floors should be allowed to dry at least 8 weeks before installation.

The flooring must be acclimatised to the room temperature for at least 48 hours prior to the installation.

Check all boards for faults or damage before you begin the installation.

Sweep or vacuum the sub-floor. Ensure it is clean and level before you commence.

In most cases an underlay with a DPM (Damp Proof Membrane) must be used.

For added insulation and noise reduction, an Acoustic Fibre Board Underlay with 26db, can be used as an alternative product.

Engineered wood flooring is designed to be a floating floor and as such, must not be fixed to the sub floor by any permanent means (i.e., nailed).

After installation, refit the skirting to the walls but never to the flooring.

Decorative beading should be fixed to original skirting only.

As this is a natural product, it will suffer contractions/expansions due to climate conditions therefore it is important to always allow expansion gaps of 12 - 15 mm between the flooring panels, walls, columns, piping, stairways or any fixed element.

LAYING

Tools and accessories for a correct installation:
You will need a hammer, saw, wedges, pull bar, knocking block and adhesive.

1. In most cases the boards must preferably be laid along the length of the room with the groove towards the wall. Wedges must be placed between the boards and the wall to create a 10mm expansion gap. A wooden floor must be able to move since it expands and contracts with the air humidity. If the walls are not fully straight, it is necessary to saw the first board line, so that it fits the wall.
2. All end joints must be glued on the whole tongue and groove and the boards are pulled together using a crowbar.
3. Begin the second row with the piece that was left over from the previous line. Remember that end joints in board lines, which lie against each other, must be displaced at least 50 cm.
4. The long side of the boards must also be glued with 10 cm glue every 50 cm. With this method your flooring can be moved. The glue line must be laid on the top side of the groove.
5. Knock the boards together using a straight knocking block, at least 25 cm long, to avoid damaging the tongue. Make sure that the ends of each board are pushed tightly together before pushing the sides together.
6. Start putting the sides together at the far end of the boards and work towards the end.
7. The last board line must usually be sawn lengthwise. Place it exactly on the last board line and measure the width as shown in the diagram.
8. Glue as before and press the last board line in its place with a crowbar. Finally, do not forget the wedges.
9. When the glue is dry, the wedges are removed and the expansion gap is covered with a skirting board or an alternative expansion strip, such as a scotia beading. To complete the installation fix thresholds or expansion profiles where necessary.
10. At heating pipe, a hole must be drilled with a drill that is 20 mm bigger than the pipe, after that a wedge is sawn out (A1).When the board is in its place, the piece which was sawn out is fastened with glue (A2). Press it in its place with a wedge. The hole is covered with a pipe cuff around the pipe.

B. Door frames are sawn off as shown in the picture so that the flooring board can exactly be placed under the frame.

PLEASE REMEMBER!! FLOORING WILL NOT BE REPLACED BY YOUR SUPPLIER ONCE IT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.


1


2


3


4


5


6

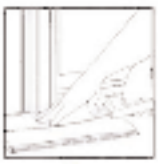

7


8


9


A1


AZ


B

CLICK ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

BASIC PREPARATION

All packages must be stored flat in a secure and dry area (preferably in the room where flooring is to be installed).

Make sure that the area where the flooring is to be installed is free from moisture by heating the room(s) some days before commencing.

The sub floor must be dry (moisture < 5%), clean and level to within +/- 2 mm over a 1 metre run.

Dents or rises of more than 3mm must be levelled. Uneven concrete floors can be levelled with self-levelling compound. Uneven floors of wood can be grinded or planed.

New concrete floors should be allowed to dry at least 8 weeks before installation.

The flooring must be acclimatised to the room temperature for at least 48 hours prior to the installation.

Check all boards for faults or damage before you begin the installation.

Sweep or vacuum the sub-floor. Ensure it is clean and level before you commence.

In most cases an underlay with a DPM (Damp Proof Membrane) must be used.

Engineered wood flooring is designed to be installed as a floating floor or glued down with flexible adhesive and as such, must not be fixed to the sub floor by any other permanent means (i.e., nailed).

After installation, refit the skirting to the walls but never to the flooring.

Decorative beading should be fixed to original skirting only.

As this is a natural product, it may be subject to contractions/expansions due to climate conditions therefore it is important to always allow expansion gaps of no less than 10 mm between the flooring panels, walls, columns, piping, stairways or any fixed element.

LAYING METHODS

Installation Type 1: Position the plank to be installed at an angle of 20 to 30° to the panel already installed, move the panel up and down while exerting forward pressure until the panel locks into place, you can either insert the tongue into the groove or the groove into the tongue.

Installation type 2: The planks can also tap into each other without lifting, for this method to work you must use a suitable tapping block

INSTALLATION

Tools and accessories for a correct installation: You will need a hammer, saw, wedges, pull bar and knocking block.
Begin the first row with a whole plank. First saw off the tongue on both the long and the short sides. See diagram 3.

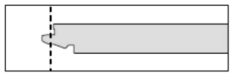
Put the plank with sawn off sides against the walls. Put spacers from the installation kit between the planks and the wall. This will ensure that your expansion joint is wide enough about 10 mm See diagram 4.

The diagrams indicate where the Uniclic® planks are clicked together by angling up and down or where they are tapped together flat. See diagrams 5 - 7

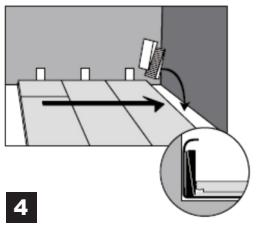
In places where it is too difficult to install the planks with the tapping block (e.g. against the wall), you can tap them together using the pull bar and a hammer. See diagrams below.
There must also be minimum 10mm expansion joint between the last row and the wall.

PLEASE REMEMBER!! FLOORING WILL NOT BE REPLACED BY YOUR SUPPLIER ONCE IT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.

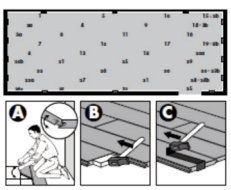
Please note all floating floors will have some movement etc.
Adhering the floor down where possible to the subfloor using Sika AT80 flexible Adhesive will allow minimum movement, thus reducing creaking to the floor.



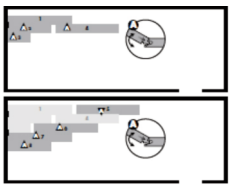
3



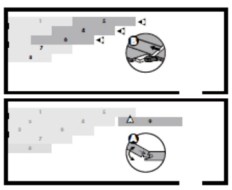
4



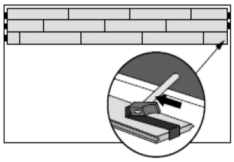
5

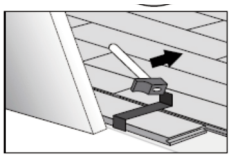


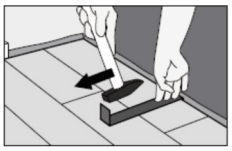
6

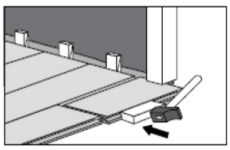


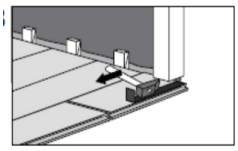
7











MULTILAYER ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

BASIC PREPARATION

Make sure that the area where the flooring is to be installed is free from moisture by heating the room(s) some days before commencing.

The sub floor must be dry (moisture < 5%), clean and level to within +/- 2 mm over a 1 metre run.

Dents or rises of more than 3mm must be levelled. Uneven concrete floors can be levelled with self-levelling compound. Uneven floors of wood can be grinded or planed.

New concrete floors should be allowed to dry at least 8 weeks before installation.

The flooring must be acclimatised to the room temperature for at least 48 hours prior to the installation.

Check all boards for faults or damage before you begin the installation.

Sweep or vacuum the sub-floor. Ensure it is clean and level before you commence.

In most cases an underlay with a DPM (Damp Proof Membrane) must be used.

For added insulation and noise reduction, an Acoustic Fibre Board Underlay with 26db, can be used as an alternative product.

Multilayer wood flooring is very versatile and therefore can be installed as a floating floor, glued down or nailed down and can also be fixed straight to joists.

After installation, refit the skirting to the walls but never to the flooring.

Decorative beading should be fixed to original skirting only.

As this is a natural product, it will suffer contractions/expansions due to climate conditions therefore it is important to always allow expansion gaps of 12 - 15 mm between the flooring panels, walls, columns, piping, stairways or any fixed element.

Tools and accessories for a correct installation:

You will need a hardwood flooring nailer, rubber mallet, hammer, saw, wedges, pull bar, knocking block and adhesive.

LAYING

USING FLOOR NAILER:

1. Draw a line with a piece of chalk parallel to the wall where you will start. This should be at least 10mm away from the wall. Make sure that this line is completely straight and check the angle to wall with a set square.
2. Choose the boards you will use for the first few rows and lay them on the floor in the way in which you will install them.
3. Boards with flaws may need to be re-cut and you may wish to place darker coloured boards more towards the edge of the floors.
4. Cut the board needed to complete the first row. The leftover board can be used to begin the second row.
5. Place edge of the board on the chalk line. The space between the board and the wall can be covered with either a moulding or a skirting board when you have finished laying the floor.
6. Use screw shank nails to install the first board. You will need to install first rows by hand and then, after use the floor nailer or correct adhesive for laying hardwood floors.
7. Make sure that the joins in the boards are offset between rows. This can be easily achieved by beginning each row with a slightly shorter or longer board than the previous.
8. After the first row, secure each board in place by nailing through the long tongue edge at 45degree angle at about every 25cm.
9. Make sure each row is securely nailed down before beginning the next row.

FLOATING FLOOR:

1. In most cases the boards must preferably be laid along the length of the room with the groove towards the wall. Wedges must be placed between the boards and the wall to create a 10mm expansion gap. A wooden floor must be able to move since it expands and contracts with the air humidity. If the walls are not fully straight, it is necessary to saw the first board line, so that it fits the wall.
2. All end joints must be glued on the whole tongue and groove and the boards are pulled together using a pull bar.
3. Begin the second row with the piece that was left over from the previous line. Remember that end joints in board lines, which lie against each other, must be displaced at least 50 cm.
4. The long side of the boards must also be glued with 10cm glue every 50cm. With this method your flooring can be moved. The glue line must be laid on the top side of the groove.
5. Knock the boards together using a straight knocking block, at least 25cm long, to avoid damaging the tongue. Make sure that the ends of each board are pushed tightly together before pushing the sides together.
6. Start putting the sides together at the far end of the boards and work towards the end.
7. The last board line must usually be sawn lengthwise. Place it exactly on the last board line and measure the width as shown in the diagram.
8. Glue as before and press the last board line in its place with a pull bar. Finally, do not forget the wedges.
9. When the glue is dry, the wedges are removed and the expansion gap is covered with a skirting board or an alternative expansion strip, such as a scotia beading. To complete the installation fix thresholds or expansion profiles where necessary.
10. At heating pipe, a hole must be drilled with a drill that is 20 mm bigger than the pipe, after that a wedge is sawn out (A1). When the board is in its place, the piece which was sawn out is fastened with glue (A2). Press it in its place with a wedge. The hole is covered with a pipe cuff around the pipe.

B. Door frames are sawn off as shown in the picture so that the flooring board can exactly be placed under the frame.


1


2


3


4


5


6

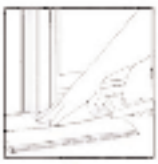

7


8


9


A1


AZ


B

PLEASE REMEMBER!! FLOORING WILL NOT BE REPLACED BY YOUR SUPPLIER ONCE IT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.

MAINTENANCE FOR PRE-FINISHED LACQUERED & OILED HARDWOOD FLOORS

Since wood is a natural material each board will be unique and will vary in colour and grain characteristics.

It will scratch and indent and can change colour when exposed to UV light. Your floor may expand or contract due to local changes in temperature or climate Osmo Hardwood Cleaner is recommended for normal cleaning along with vacuuming or sweeping.
A simple well rung mop or damp cloth can be used on occasional basis. Do not use soap, wax or polish as it will leave a layer of film behind making the floor look greasy.

As an added precaution use felt pas under furniture legs and pads or plastic wheels under chair legs.

Always use a doormat in an entrance.

AFTER CARE

One of the most common causes of damage to wooden floors are stiletto heels, these shoes can leave a small round indent on your floor, so beware!

Over wetting of your flooring during cleaning can cause the timber to swell so ensure that your mop is well rung or if liquids are spilt that they are wiped up immediately. Steam cleaning your Hardwood Floor is not recommended.

Rugs can add a touch of comfort to any room but remember that timber floors tend to darken or lighten with or lack of exposure to ultra violet light. Be aware of furniture or plant pots which can restrict light too.

Tables and chairs that sit on your wood floor should have pads adhered to the base of the legs or castor cups should be used.

MAINTENANCE FOR HARDWOOD OILED FLOORS
Place doormats inside and outside the front door to stop dirt and grit being walked in, as this can cause considerable wear.
Put protective pads on furniture to avoid unnecessary marks and scratches to your floor.
In rooms where you know water is frequently spilled and where it may also be left on the floor we recommend that the floor be treated with oil refresher after laying, sealing the joints between the boards and this gives better protection against liquids.
Wood floors expand and contract depending on the ambient climate to counteract excessive movement and consequential damage to the floor maintain a normal room temperature and a relative humidity of 45-65%.

CLEANING
For daily cleaning use dry methods such as sweeping or vacuuming and when necessary damp clean the floor with a well wrung out floor mop. The floor must only
become slightly damp. The film of water formed in this way must dry within 1 minute.
For best cleaning results use pH neutral cleaner (maximum pH 8). The frequency of damp cleaning depends on how much the floor is used and soiled it gets.
Regularly cleaning the floor prevents dirt from adhering to the oiled surface and unnecessary cleaning using damp methods can do more harm than good,

REMOVING MARKS
Remove marks as soon as possible using water and a neutral cleaner. If this does not work remove the mark using a liquid wax cleaner after removing the mark you may need to apply a little touch up oil to the area.
For heavy marks we suggest you contact a French Polisher.

PARTIAL REPAIR OF OILED FLOORS
Treat small surface scratches and large scratch marks with Oil refresher.
Deep dents will need to be filled with wood filler then oiled. Boards with major damage can be replaced.

MAINTENANCE FOR HARDWOOD OILED FLOORS

REMEMBER

Place doormats inside and outside the front door to stop dirt and grit being walked in, which can cause considerable wear. Put protective pads on furniture (not metal feet, which mark wood floors) to avoid unnecessary marks and scratches on the floor.

In rooms where you know water is frequently spilled, and where it may also be left on the floor, we recommend that the floor be treated with Oil Refresher after laying. This seals the joints between the boards and gives better protection against water.

Wood floors expand and contract depending on the ambient climate. To counteract excessive movement, and consequential damage to the floor, maintain a normal room temperature and a relative humidity of 45–65%.

Certain wood species such as Beech and Hard Maple are more susceptible to climatic variations than others.

CLEANING OILED FLOORS

For daily cleaning, use dry methods such as vacuuming. When necessary, damp-clean the floor with a well wrung-out floor mop. The floor must only become slightly damp.

The film of water formed in this way must dry within one minute.

For the best cleaning results, use pH neutral cleaner. (Maximum pH 8) Do not allow spilt water to be left on the floor, particularly on Beech and Hard Maple floors, which are particularly susceptible to moisture.

The frequency of damp cleaning depends on how much the floor is used and how soiled it gets. Regularly cleaning the floor prevents dirt from adhering to the oiled surface. Unnecessary cleaning using damp methods do more harm than good. This applies particularly to the first few weeks after maintenance with an Oil Refresher.

REMOVING MARKS

Remove marks as soon as possible using water and a neutral cleaner. If this does not work, remove the mark using a green nylon pad, e.g. Scotch- Brite. After removing the mark, you may need to apply a little Touch-up Oil to the area before applying new Oil Refresher.

REPAIR OILED FLOORS

UV oil is hardened using UV-light. As it is an industrial method, UV-oil cannot be applied on site.
The surface, therefore, cannot be recreated in its original condition.

PARTIAL REPAIR OF OILED FLOORS

Treat small surface scratches and scrape marks with Oil Refresher.
First fill deep dents, scratches and cracks with Wood filler, then oil with Touch-up Oil.
Boards with major damage can be replaced.

INSTALLATION OF HARDWOOD FLOORING IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNDER FLOOR HEATING

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS A GENERAL GUIDE FOR HOT AIR/WATER PIPE/ELECTRICAL MATTING UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS

Where the under floor heating system incorporates a screed above the piping/electrical matting, the heating should be run on half load for at least 14 days after the sub floor has reached its ultimate hardness. The heating system should be ready to function at least 2 weeks prior to the installation of the flooring and then switched off 2-3 days before the flooring is fitted. The maximum moisture content of the screed should not exceed 2.0%MC at the time of installation or otherwise less than 70%RH. Care should also be taken to ensure that the under floor heating is installed in such a manner as to not create 'hot spots' on the surface which would be detrimental to the performance of the floor covering. Where an electrical matting system is installed, provision should be given for thermostatic probes at various points across the floor area to avoid localised overheating which can cause serious damage to the flooring. Failure to allow sufficient drying of the screed can cause numerous issues, including discolouration of the surface/opaque appearance of the surface lacquer on lacquered products. The heating should not be operated within 48 hours of installation of the flooring. Engineered hardwood flooring is generally deemed to be suitable for use with under floor heating, however special consideration should be given to ensuring a comfortable environment for the flooring. An excessively dry atmosphere should be avoided as this may create stress within the structure of the boards. Ideally the Relative Humidity should be maintained within the range 45% to 65% RH. This can be easily monitored with the use of an inexpensive hygrometer gauge. Relative Humidity is a measurement of the degree to which air has the ability to hold water at a given temperature. Therefore the warm air to be found in the summer months may typically present a moisture content of 70% RH. Damage to the construction of boards when used in conjunction with under floor heating is most commonly caused during the winter months, when the relative humidity of the air outside is low, typically 30% RH. Static shocks in the home or workplace are a common indication that the RH is too low. In the interests of maintaining a comfortable environment for flooring throughout the winter months, consideration should be given to the provision of a humidification unit. Otherwise pot plants will assist in maintaining a reasonable level of humidity.

With regard to the operation of the under floor heating system a rapid increase or decrease in the temperature of the under floor heating will cause discomfort to the flooring. In consequence the heating should not be turned on suddenly or the temperature of the floor raised or lowered quickly .The temperature of the system should be raised/lowered slowly, recommended 1 degree centigrade per day. Recommend that rather than waiting for a marked drop in temperature in the winter months prior to activating the heating, that ideally the system be set low early on, then brought up to a comfortable level and run throughout the winter months at a constant temperature. This will allow the flooring to remain stable and thus avoid dimensional changes which may cause the floor to shrink, crack or delaminate. Maximum comfort for the occupants of the property will usually be achieved somewhere between 16 and 21 degrees centigrade. Please note that the maximum recommended temperature for under floor heating in conjunction with our products is 25 degrees centigrade (this allows for more nervous species).

There are differing schools of thought regarding the best method for the installation of engineered hardwood floors over under floor heating. On the one hand it can be argued that over larger areas, adhesion of the flooring to the subfloor with a flexible adhesive may help restrict the potential movement of the flooring. Where solid timbers are concerned there is also the question of whether or not to glue the header joints? Arguably if there is cumulative expansion this may be less noticeable if there is provision for the header joints to move apart than if they are glued together, as would be standard practice on an unheated floor.

Directly Adhered Floors

For those who are considering an installation where the hardwood flooring is directly adhered to the sub floor, bear in mind that should the flooring need to be uplifted, the potential for the under floor heating system to become damaged or destroyed in the process is considerable. Furthermore where the pipe system is immediately below the underside of the boards, there is also greater potential for damage to the pipe work in the event of a board replacement.

Floating Floors

When the flooring is installed as a floating floor, an underlay should be used which offers a low resistance to heat conduction, allowing maximum efficiency of the heating system. Provision should also be given to a minimum 0.2mm PE-film to act as a vapour barrier. This will often be incorporated within the construction of the underlay. The joints of this film should overlap by at least 20cm.
Gluing of the tongue & groove on T&G products must be carried out using a high quality PVA D3 adhesive

Failure to allow due consideration to the information above may result in excessive gapping, splits appearing on the wear layer of the flooring or de-lamination within the construction of the boards. Due to our inability to control either the local environment in which the flooring is installed or the manner in which the under floor heating system is operated, we cannot accept any claims in this regard. Furthermore due to the constant innovation within the under floor heating industry and the numerous systems on offer, we would advise that specific recommendations concerning all installations of hardwood flooring be sought from the respective supplier of the under floor heating system in question.