

SELECT SURFACES™ ENGINEERED HARDWOOD FLOORING

IMPORTANT NOTE: The owner/purchaser must inspect the product for color, finish, and quality before installation. This is a natural product, and color variations are to be expected. For best visual effect, use planks from several cartons and do not install boards varying greatly in color next to one another. The manufacturer cannot be held responsible for costs incurred when a floor with visible defects has been installed.

Select the installation method—floating, nail-down, or glue-down—and follow the requirements outlined in the corresponding section.

STANDARD TOOLS:

NOTE: Safety glasses and gloves should be worn at all times.

- Vapor barrier (minimum 6 mil/0.15 mm) (if needed)
- Transitional moldings (if needed)
- Measuring tape
- Carpenter's square
- Utility knife
- Safety glasses
- Pencil/marker
- Chalk line/string
- Dust mask (NIOSH-designated)
- Spacers
- 2 in. (51 mm) wide moisture-resistant adhesive tape
- Handsaw or doorjamb saw (fine-toothed blade)
- Power saw (any of the following): Cross cutting power saw, Table saw, mitre saw, circular saw or jigsaw
- Tapping block
- Pull bar
- Underlayment membrane with a maximum thickness of 1/8 in. [3 mm]; ≥ 5 PSI, with 25% compression.
- Blue painter's tape
- Rubber
- Screws

ADDITIONAL TOOLS FOR GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION

- Adhesive recommended for engineered floor (do not use water-based product)
- Clean white rags
- Adhesive trowel
- Mineral spirits / urethane adhesive
- Trowel per flooring adhesive manufacturer's recommendations

ADDITIONAL TOOLS FOR NAIL-DOWN INSTALLATION

- Asphalt saturated felt paper (or similar for stated use)
- Air stapler/nailer with the appropriate nail down adapter
- Nail/Cleat/Staple gauge should not exceed 18 in thickness
- Air compressor

ADDITIONAL TOOLS FOR FLOATING INSTALLATION:

- Wood adhesive recommended for engineered floor (do not use water-based product)
- Moisture resistant tape

PREPARATION

Acclimation: Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring must be acclimated to the conditions of your home before they are installed. To do so, cross-stack unopened cartons in the area where they will be installed, away from outside walls, heat, and air conditioning vents for 48 hours. Installation temperatures should be a minimum of 64°F (18°C). Maintain the humidity level in the installation space between 35%-55%.

Expansion Space: Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring expands and contracts with changes in relative humidity.

Leave a 3/8 in. (10 mm) expansion space for floating installation, ½ in (13mm) for nail installation and 5/8 in (16 mm) for glue installation around the perimeter of the entire room and all other objects. For rooms greater than 25 ft. (7.6 m), a 5/8 in. (16 mm) expansion space is needed. The expansion space will be covered by the wall base or quarter round once the floor is installed.

Maximum Room Size: For floating installation, Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring can be installed in a single room up to 40 linear feet (12 m) in length or 40 linear feet (12 m) in width. Installations in rooms that are over 40 linear feet in length or width must use T-moldings. Use a T-molding for rooms larger than 40 linear feet (12 m) in length and width and in any doorway.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Acceptable Subfloor types:

- Plywood (at least ¾ in./ 19 mm thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard, use underlayment membrane with a maximum thickness of 1/8 in. [3 mm]; ≥ 5 PSI, with 25% compression

(floating/glue-down only)

- Concrete slab (floating/glue-down only)
- Existing wood floor
- Ceramic tile (floating/glue-down only)
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl (floating/glue-down only)

A. General Subfloor Preparations and Precautions

- Subfloors must be clean and free of dirt and debris and structurally sound prior to installation.
- Subfloors moisture must be tested prior to installation. Wood subfloors should not exceed 12% throughout the installation area.
- Carpet is not a suitable underlay for engineered hardwood flooring. All carpet; carpet pad or carpet tack must be removed prior to installation.
- Variations in the subfloor flatness should not exceed 1/16in. per 3 feet (2 mm / m).
- There must be at least 1/2 in. (12.5 mm) between the surface of the floor and the bottom of electric baseboard heaters to allow heat to circulate.
- Installations over electric radiant heated subfloors are acceptable for floating installation method only. Provided that the wiring is embedded into the mat or subfloor. Glue down is NOT APPROVED. Consult the heating manufacturer before installing the floor over radiant heating to ensure the model is compatible with engineered hardwood flooring. Ensure the below installation precautions are followed.
 - It is recommended to maintain the temperature between 64-72°F (18-22°C)
 - Temperature should never exceed 84°F (29°C).
 - Radiant heat systems must be operating for a minimum of 3 weeks prior to installation of Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood floors.
 - Slight gaps may occur between engineered hardwood planks installed over radiant heating and will not be covered by the warranty.

B. Concrete

Concrete subfloors must be properly cured and allowed to dry for at least 60 days prior to installation. Test the concrete subfloor for moisture prior to installation. A 6 mil (0.15 mm) polyethylene vapor barrier must be used when installing over concrete. Overlap vapor barrier edges by 8 in (20 cm) and seal with moisture-resistant adhesive tape. Run vapor barrier 3/4 in. (19 mm) up wall and trim after wall base is installed. Concrete subfloor should have a maximum allowable water emission of 5 lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours (2.26 kg per 101.6 m² per 24 hours).

C. Wood

Wood subfloors must be structurally sound and screwed or nailed to supporting beams. Wooden subfloors should not exceed a moisture content of 12% throughout the installation area.

D. Vinyl (sheet/tile), Linoleum, Ceramic Tile

If vinyl, linoleum, or ceramic tile is installed over concrete, a 0.15 mm (6 mil) vapor barrier must be installed on top of it. Overlap vapor barrier edges by 20 cm (8 in.) and seal with moisture-resistant adhesive tape. Run vapor barrier 2 cm (3/4 in.) up wall and trim after wall base is installed.

IMPORTANT WARNING: Your existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphalt cut-back adhesives, or other adhesives MAY contain asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. DO NOT grind, chip, sand, drill, saw, bead blast or pulverize this material in any way, either by hand or by machine. Avoid creating dust when working in contact with these materials. The inhalation of dust from these materials is a known cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Unless you are absolutely certain that the resilient flooring you are removing is a non-asbestos material, you must assume that it contains asbestos. Local regulations may require that the material be tested by an approved laboratory or agency for asbestos content and, if analyses confirm that the flooring contains asbestos, regulated removal and disposal of the material may be required. For more information, refer to the current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication: "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" (www.rfci.com).

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

Important: To draw planks together always use a tapping block (or a short, discarded piece of flooring) to hammer, as tapping the flooring itself will result in edge damage. When near a wall, use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints. Take care not to damage edge of flooring. Begin by installing the approved underlay and vapour barrier (if needed) before laying the first plank.

It is recommended that planks be mixed from at least three cartons to achieve the most natural and varied results. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colors (dark / light) and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. Inspect every plank for damage before installing it.

The first and last rows of the installation should be wider than 3.5 in. (9 cm). The first and last planks in a row should be a minimum of 10 in (25 cm) long and the rows should be staggered by a minimum of 8 in. (20 cm). Use spacers to maintain the 3/8 in. (10 mm) expansion gap.

FLOATING FLOOR INSTALLATION

Begin by installing the vapour barrier (if needed) and the underlayment before laying the first plank.

- Select a starting corner of the room, lay the first plank with the groove facing the wall.
- Glue end joints of the first row by applying a small continuous bead of adhesive to the bottom side of the side groove. Never glue onto the tongue and groove located at the end of the board.
- Clean up any adhesive that is on the face by using a damp rag immediately.
- Always leave at least a 3/8 in. (10) expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects such as pipes and cabinets.
- Use spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space.

- Lay subsequent rows of flooring by applying glue to side and end joints and fitting planks together with tapping block.
- Remember to stagger end joints from row to row at least 8 in. (20 cm) apart.
- Clean up any adhesive that is on the face of the floor by using a damp rag – DO NOT allow adhesive to dry on the flooring face as it is difficult to then remove without damages the flooring.

STAPLE/NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION

Begin by rolling out asphalt saturated felt paper (*or similar for stated use*), overlap joints 6 in (152 mm) and staple if needed

Use air stapler/nailer with the appropriate naildown adapter (or a stapler/nailer of your choice) to make sure that stapling/nailing will not cause dimpling in the finished floor. Use the correct gauge nail/cleat/staple.

First and second starting rows:

- Lay first plank inside chalk line with grooved edge facing the wall. Install entire first row in the same manner.
- Always leave at least a 1/2 in. (13 mm) expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects (such as pipes and cabinets).
- Use spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space.
- In order to affix these first rows, because it is difficult to get the nail gun in place next to the wall, it is recommended to secure these rows initially with screws and later replace the boards and glue them down rather than simply face nailing them and leaving unsightly nail holes which must be putty filled to match the wood flooring.
- After gluing down these starting rows with a urethane adhesive, set weight on top of these rows and allow them to set before commencing stapling/nailing the additional rows, as nailing the adjacent rows may cause the starting rows to subsequently move.
- Make sure the starting rows are straight and drawn tight.

Subsequent rows:

- Lay the plank by using floor nailer/stapler to blind-nail top inside edge of tongue at a 45-degree angle.
- Nail each board every 6-8 in. and within 2 in. from each end.
- Remember to stagger end joints from row to row and use a tapping block to fit boards together. It may be necessary to face nail in doorways or tight areas where the nailer/stapler can't fit, (or glue down in these areas and weight them while the mastic sets).
- The last two rows will need to be face-nailed, (or glued down), in the same manner as the first two rows.
- **WARNING** – Stapling/nailing can cause dimpling on the face if stapled incorrectly. Always make sure to visually check the installed floor as you go to ensure that the stapling/nailing is not causing dimpling on the surface. Note: Be sure to look at the face of the installed flooring at a low angle from a distance to see if dimpling is occurring, as it is hard to see when directly above the floor. If dimpling does occur, STOP and adjust the stapler/nailer shoe and angle/place of staple entry in order to avoid it. Select Surfaces™ is not responsible for dimpling.

GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION

NOTE: DO NOT use water-based adhesives. It is important to follow adhesive instructions for proper trowel size and adhesive set time before beginning installation of flooring. If the glue is poorly applied or of inadequate quantity, the joint could separate, while too much glue might unnecessarily complicate the task. The adhesive should not be applied in the groove or the tongue of the flooring.

- Once the spread adhesive has setup sufficiently per the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, lay the first row of flooring with groove facing the wall, and continue laying flooring. Always check your working lines to be sure the floor is still aligned.
- Use tapping block to fit planks together but be careful not to let installed floor move on the wet adhesive while you are working.
- When first section is finished, continue to spread adhesive and lay flooring section by section until installation is complete.
- Use a damp cloth to immediately remove any adhesive that gets on flooring surface.
- **Warning** – DO NOT allow adhesives to dry on the finished flooring as it is very difficult to remove it once dried without damaging the flooring. For info on an adhesive remover please contact the adhesive company.
- Remember to stagger end joints from row to row with at least 8 in. (20 cm). Avoid stair or "H" patterns in end joint placement.
- Always leave at least a 5/8 in. (16 mm) expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects (such as pipes and cabinets).
- Use spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space.
- Flooring planks on the perimeter of the room may require weight on them until adhesive cures enough to hold them down.

AFTER INSTALLATION

- If you decide to cover the floor, (to allow the other construction work), use rosin paper to cover the floors and only use Moisture tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor, in order to protect the floors prior to final cleanup.
- Only use the Moisture tape as this tape is designed for use on finishes and other tapes may pull and damage the finish when removed.
- Do NOT USE plastic film or other non-breathable type coverings, as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.
- Remove expansion spacers and reinstall the base and/or quarter-round moldings to cover the expansion space.
- Install transition pieces that may be needed (reducer, T-moldings, nosing, etc.).
- Do not allow foot traffic or heavy furniture on floor for 24 hours (if glue-down).

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring is among the highest-performing floors available, but it is not indestructible, and minor cosmetic scuffing is normal for any engineered hardwood flooring. To ensure your floors perform as well in the future as they do the day after installation:

- Place walk-off mats and area rugs at main traffic entrances and protective pads under furniture legs to prevent scratching.
- Vacuum or dust-mop to remove loose dirt or grit.
- Flooring cannot be wet mopped.
- Remove spills promptly. Do not allow topical moisture to remain on the floor.
- Do not use soap-based cleaners. Spot clean with water-based cleaners designed for engineered hardwood flooring on a need to basis.
- Do not use polishes, waxes or abrasive cleaners.
- Maintain the humidity level in the installation space between 35% and 55%. year-round. It may be necessary to use a dehumidifier in periods of high humidity and a humidifier in periods of low humidity.
- Product is intended for interior installations only and in temperature-controlled homes and rooms. Do not install over carpet or in saunas, seasonal porches, camping trailers, boats, and RVs.
- To reduce spotting, do not allow liquids to stand or remain on the surface of the flooring

WARRANTY

Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring is covered by a limited lifetime warranty for residential. The flooring will be free from manufacturing defects.

The following conditions apply to the warranty and may void the warranty if not followed correctly. The owner must follow the care and maintenance guidelines.

- The flooring must be installed according to the instructions provided.
- If filing a warranty claim, it must be submitted within 30 days of the discovery of the damage.
- A suitable underlayment must be used for all Select Surfaces™ engineered hardwood flooring installations. For installations on concrete subfloors, below grade, or in moisture-prone areas, a moisture-barrier underlayment is required to validate the warranty..
- Proof of purchase, such as a bill of sale, is mandatory when requesting warranty service.
- The manufacturer reserves the right to designate a representative to inspect the floor in question and remove samples for analysis.
- Removing flooring prior to contacting Select Surfaces™ Claim Department voids the warranty.
- The warranty includes the replacement material and excludes labour cost.
- The warranty only applies to the product installed indoors.
- Upon approval of a warranty claim, Select Surfaces™ will provide the claimant with instructions on how to proceed to have the flooring repaired or replaced. The claimant has 90 days to comply with the instructions. If the claimant fails to do so within 90 days, all rights under the limited warranty are waived.

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS

- Damage due to improper installation, care, cleaning, or maintenance.
- Damage caused by severe impact, scratching, or cutting, fire, water damage, alterations, or any other wear or damage caused by acts of God.
- Slight gaps may occur between engineered hardwood planks installed over radiant heating and will not be covered by the warranty.
- Peeling and wear in bevelled-edged products along the edge of the panels less than 5 mm (3/16 in.) from the edge is not covered by the warranty.
- The limited warranty does not apply to moldings.
- The warranty applies only to flooring purchased through an authorized dealer.
- This warranty does not cover defects caused by improper subfloor/surface preparation (proper installation is assumed to include a moisture test to ensure excessive moisture does not exist in the subfloor). A vapor barrier must be used for those on concrete subfloors, below grade level or in moisture-prone areas.
- This warranty does not apply to damage caused by water or moisture in the subfloor or underneath the flooring, including but not limited to damage from subfloor hydrostatic pressure (water or moisture under the floor that is transmitted to the surface through exerted pressure) or other conditions that result in water or moisture below the floor.
- When excessive moisture accumulates on buildings or on building materials, mold and/or mildew growth can occur. This warranty excludes damage resulting from mold and/or mildew growth due to prolonged exposure to moisture.
- Environments where heavy snow or water will be tracked in and not cleaned up are excluded from the warranty.

Select Surfaces™ offers no other warranty, expressed or implied. This warranty replaces all other warranties.

WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust and Formaldehyde, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.

Precautionary measures: If dust level is high, avoid inhalation of wood dust by wearing the appropriate NIOSH designated dust mask. Use adequate personal protective equipment to avoid dust contact with eyes and skin. Equip machine power tools with a dust collector to reduce the emission of wood dust.

IMPORTANT HEALTH NOTICE FOR MINNESOTA RESIDENTS ONLY: SOME OF THE BUILDING MATERIALS USED IN THIS HOME (OR THESE BUILDING MATERIALS) EMIT FORMALDEHYDE. EYE, NOSE, AND THROAT IRRITATION, HEADACHE, NAUSEA AND A VARIETY OF ASTHMA-LIKE SYMPTOMS,

INCLUDING SHORTNESS OF BREATH, HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS A RESULT OF FORMALDEHYDE EXPOSURE. ELDERLY PERSONS AND YOUNG CHILDREN, AS WELL AS ANYONE WITH A HISTORY OF ASTHMA, ALLERGIES, OR LUNG PROBLEMS, MAY BE AT GREATER RISK. RESEARCH IS CONTINUING ON THE POSSIBLE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE TO FORMALDEHYDE. REDUCED VENTILATION MAY ALLOW FORMALDEHYDE AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS TO ACCUMULATE IN THE INDOOR AIR. HIGH INDOOR TEMPERATURES AND HUMIDITY RAISE FORMALDEHYDE LEVELS. WHEN A HOME IS TO BE LOCATED IN AREAS SUBJECT TO EXTREME SUMMER TEMPERATURES, AN AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM CAN BE USED TO CONTROL INDOOR TEMPERATURE LEVELS. OTHER MEANS OF CONTROLLED MECHANICAL VENTILATION CAN BE USED TO REDUCE LEVELS OF FORMALDEHYDE AND OTHER INDOOR AIR CONTAMINANTS. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF FORMALDEHYDE, CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR OR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

FILING A CLAIM

Any claim under the above warranty must be made within 30 days after the issue is detected by contacting Select Surfaces™ Technical Support by email at techsupport@selectsurfaces.ca or by telephone at 1-855-250-8167. Proof of purchase (indicating the date of purchase) must be presented to file a claim. Select Surfaces™ reserves the right to send a representative to inspect the floor and remove samples for analysis. If the claimant fails to give reasonable cooperation to the representative to inspect the flooring and remove samples, Select Surfaces™ shall be under no obligation to provide any remedies to the claimant.

Important to note: The warranty applies only to the original purchaser and is non-transferable. The owner/purchaser must inspect the color, finish and quality before installation. The manufacturer cannot be held responsible for costs incurred when a floor with visible defects has been installed.

For questions regarding installation, please contact our Technical Support Department by email at techsupport@selectsurfaces.ca or by telephone at 1-855-250-8167. To purchase matching moldings, please contact our Customer Service Department at info@selectsurfaces.ca or visit www.selectsurfaces.ca.



**HAVING TROUBLE?
WE CAN HELP**

**To view our installation video visit
www.selectsurfaces.ca**

**CONTACT US
techsupport@selectsurfaces.ca
1-855-250-8167**