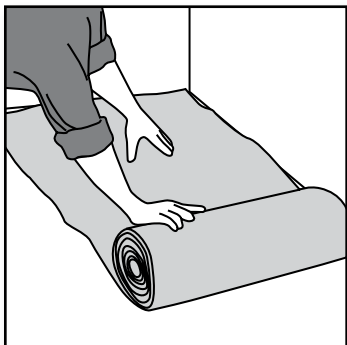


Typical Tools Required

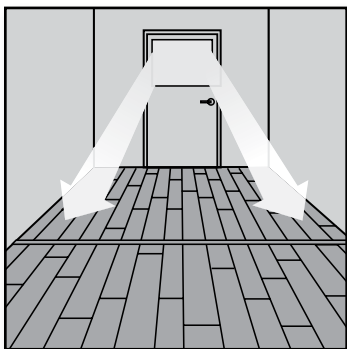
Broom, Electric Saw (carbide blade), Eye and Ear Protection, Glue, Hammer, Painter's Tape, Pencil, Pull Bar, Straightedge (6 ft), Tape Measure, Utility Knife, Wall Spacers (1/4"), Wood Chisel.



[2] Undercut doorjamb for a professional fit. Doorways less than 6' wide require T-Molding.



[3] Roll out just enough underlayment for the next few rows of planks you're installing.



[4] Try to run planks parallel to main light source. T-molding is only required for rooms of more than 1,040 sq. ft.

Glueless Laminate Installation Instructions—Beveled Edge Wood Designs

Preparation

Glueless Laminate can be installed directly over most existing floor coverings except for carpet. Wood flooring glued to concrete must be removed before installation.

Acclimation

- **[1]** Cartons of flooring must lay flat and unopened in the room in which they are to be installed for a minimum of 48 hours before installation.
- Relative Humidity should be maintained during the acclimation and installation periods at conditions of 60° F to 80° F and 35% to 65% relative humidity.
- Cartons should be stacked no more than 3 high with 4" of airflow around them, and should be stored away from any heating/cooling ducts or direct sunlight.

Subfloor Preparation

- Fill any low spots in the subfloor greater than 1/8" in 6 feet with a Portland cement leveling compound. Check this by using a 6' straight edge. Remove any high spots by sanding or grinding.
- Remove any existing floor molding (if any) except for the wall baseboards. (Unless you plan to replace with Shaw color coordinated Wallbase).
- **[2]** To undercut door frames, lay a loose plank upside down against the frame and on top of the underlayment. This will be your guide for proper height to allow installed planks to float under the door frame. Saw the bottom of the doorjamb case molding back to the wall studs so that 1/4" expansion gap is maintained when laminate is fitted under doorjamb case molding.
- Sweep the subfloor clean.

Subfloor Moisture Testing

- Test floor for excessive moisture **before installing over concrete, concrete covered with ceramic tile, marble, stone, vinyl tile, or linoleum.** To do so, cut 3' x 3' squares of polyethylene plastic (one plastic square for every 200 sq. ft. of floor space). **Spread plastic around different areas of the subfloor for a more accurate evaluation.** Firmly tape down all edges of the plastic sealing them directly to the existing subfloor. **Leave plastic down for 24 to 48 hours.** If moisture forms under the plastic or if the cement darkens, perform a Calcium Chloride Moisture Emissions test. The maximum allowable reading is 5 lbs./1000 square feet/24 hours. **Call Shaw Information Center at 1-800-441-7429 for more assistance.**

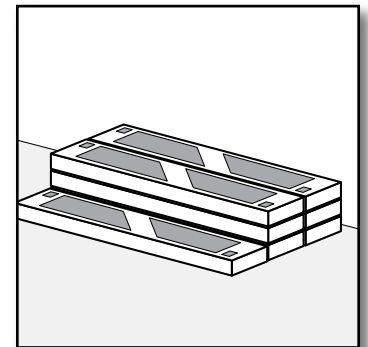
Installing Underlayments

When installing products with preattached acoustical underlayment:

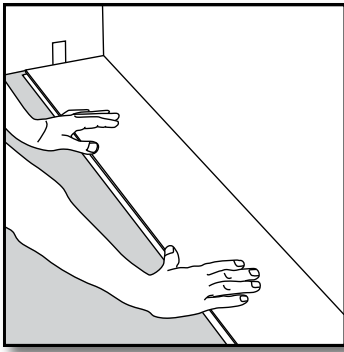
- **On Concrete Subfloor**—use minimum 6-mil polyethylene (plastic) sheeting as a vapor barrier. Roll out the plastic, overlapping the seam area 6 to 8 inches, and tape the seams with a clear plastic sealing tape.
- **On a Wood Subfloor**—no additional plastic vapor barrier should be installed.

When installing products without preattached acoustical underlayment:

- **On Wood Floors**—Use any of Shaw Laminate underlayments. **DO NOT** tape seams together when going over wood or organic subfloor.
- **On Concrete Floors**—Use Shaw SilentStep™ 2-in-1 or SilentStep Ultra 3-in-1 underlayments. 2-in-1 should be rolled out overlapping the poly flap only, SilentStep Ultra 3-in-1 should be rolled out with the seams pulled together. Both should go up the wall at least 2" when used over concrete. Tape underlayment seams using a 2" clear packaging sealing tape. If wood flooring is adhered over concrete, IT MUST BE REMOVED before installing Shaw Laminate Flooring.
- **[3]** Unroll one width of underlayment along the longest wall. Always work from left to right. Planks should run lengthwise against the longest wall, and if possible, **[4]** parallel to incoming sunlight.
- **[4]** Rooms larger than 26 x 40 feet (1,040 sq. ft.) require T-molding for expansion. Floor spans should not exceed 40' in any direction.



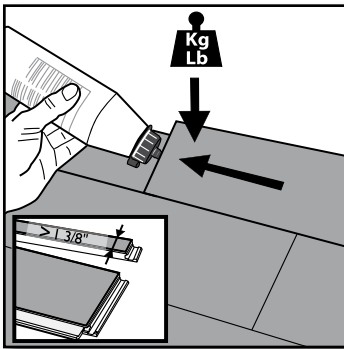
[1] Do not stack cartons more than 3 high. Do not store near heat/air vents.



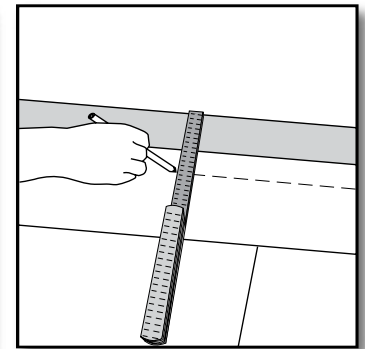
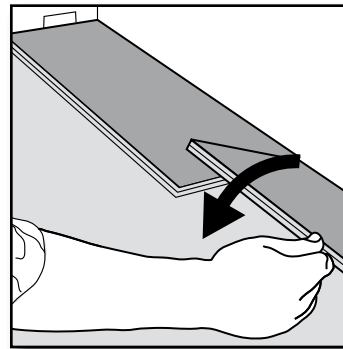
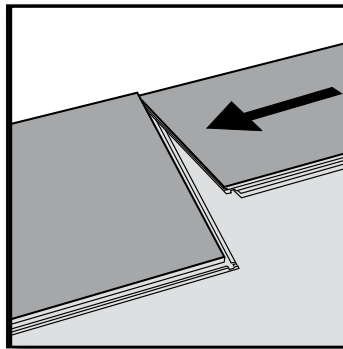
[1] Begin the installation in the left-hand corner. Place the plank a minimum of 1/4" from the left wall. Use the installation spacers throughout all perimeter areas to insure the correct expansion space is maintained.

Start of Installation

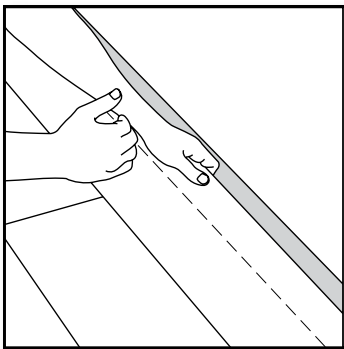
- The width of the first row of planks should be approximately the same width as the last row. This may require cutting the first row plank to a shorter width. Measure across the room (inches) and divide by the width of a plank to see how many full width planks will be used and what size width will be needed for the last row. The last row should never be less than 2" in width.
- Use 1/4" spacers to maintain the proper expansion gap around the entire perimeter of the floor. **Quarter Round** molding will cover this expansion gap. **IMPORTANT:** this 1/4" gap must be maintained around cabinets, pipes, toilet flanges and any other obstacles in floor.
- **INSPECT EACH BOARD CAREFULLY FOR DAMAGE PRIOR TO INSTALLING IT.**
- Do not install a damaged plank. If you have any concern about the product fit or finish, call Shaw Information Services at 1-800-441-7429 for information.
- Check groove on plank to make sure it is clean and free of debris.



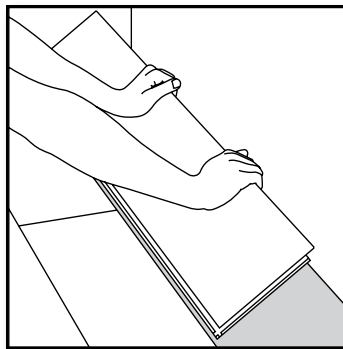
[2] To begin the installation, construct a starting row of planks against the wall by applying a 1/8" bead of tongue and groove adhesive on the bottom groove lip of each end seam plank. Place each plank end firmly into the end seam adhesive position and tape the seams with painter's tape, or weight them down to insure they remain flush while the adhesive sets. Use a clean, soft cloth to carefully clean up any excess adhesive on the surface of the planks. If the end seams of the first row are taped securely, it will not be necessary to wait for the adhesive to fully set before continuing with the rest of the installation.



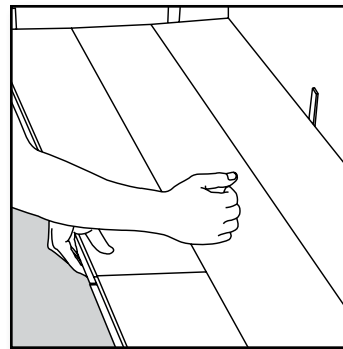
[3] If the starting wall is uneven, the planks must be adapted to its contours. Using a 2" square block and a pencil, scribe the contour of the wall onto the first row of planks. Do not forget to allow for the minimum 1/4" expansion space from the wall. Disassemble the first row, cut the planks along the line you have drawn, and then reassemble. Continue to use the spacers to maintain the expansion space along this wall.



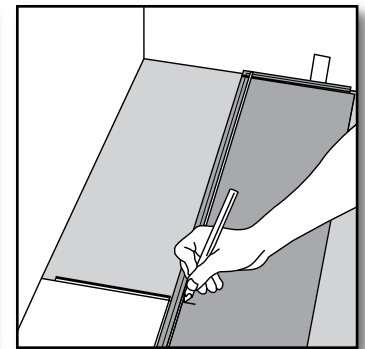
[4] Now remove the first row. Lift the planks a few inches and tap along the joint. Cut the planks as required.



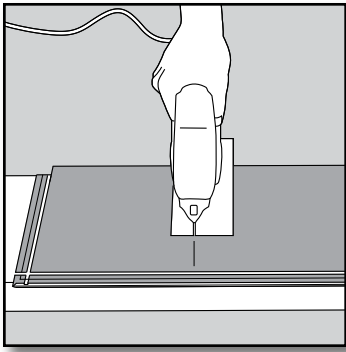
[5] Replace the first row by inserting planks from left to right. Press the first board with the groove toward the edge of the planks that are already in position.



[6] If you wish to remove the flooring, just lift the planks a few inches and tap along the joint.



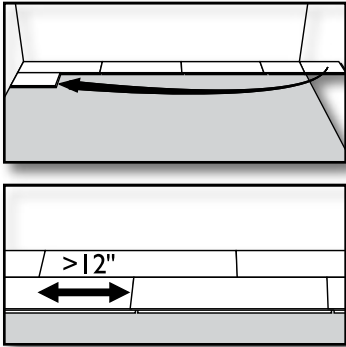
[7] Place the final plank face down with the short side (without the locking strip) towards the wall. The remaining expansion space should be at least a minimum of 1/4" from the wall. Draw a pencil line where the plank is to be cut.



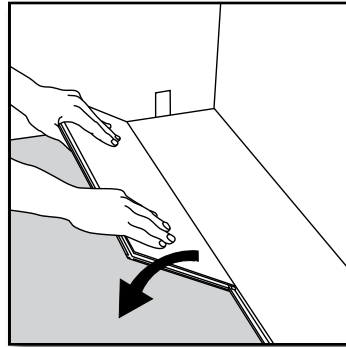
[8] Place the plank face down on the work surface and cut to size with a power saw. If you are using a hand saw, use a fine-toothed blade, and cut the planks face up.

Remainder of Floor

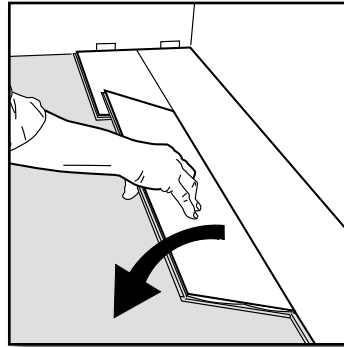
- Repeat the process of using random length start planks (minimum of 16") to ensure a more natural look.
- **Randomly pull planks from 3 cartons at a time** to ensure random appearance. Use cut pieces from the end of each row as starting planks. Always stagger end joints a minimum of 12"; make random so as not to show a repeating pattern.
- **All joints should be a tight fit with no gaps.** Stop and reconnect if a joint is not tight or if all edges are not even with adjacent planks. These planks can be engaged and disengaged several times if needed to help make a correct installation.
- When cutting the last row, place a full row of planks directly on top of the last row of installed planks (keeping the tongue in the same direction as that of the installed planks). Use the full width of scrap pieces of plank and insert a 1/4" spacer between wall and scrap piece of plank. **[15]** Place a pencil next to the edge and trace a line down the planks following the contour of the wall. Cut planks on the pencil line and connect last row.



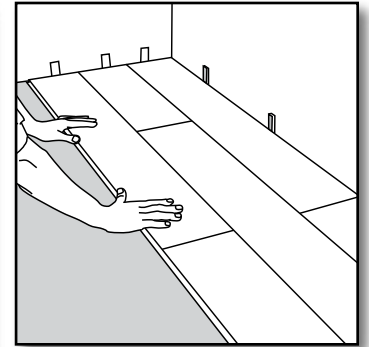
[9] Use a cut piece of board from the previous row to start the next row. This starting plank section must be at least 12" long. If the piece is too short, start with a new board. Cut the new board in one third, one half or two thirds length sections, depending upon what is required to maintain the random stagger from one row to the next. Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 12 to 16 inches from one row to the next.



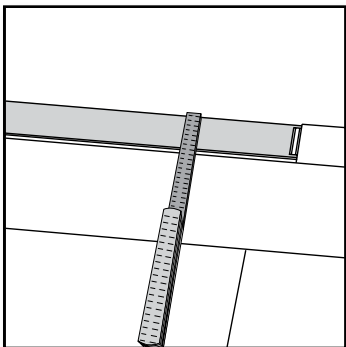
[10] Place the plank at an angle against the plank in the previous row. Press the edge forward against the previous row, and then fold down at the same time.



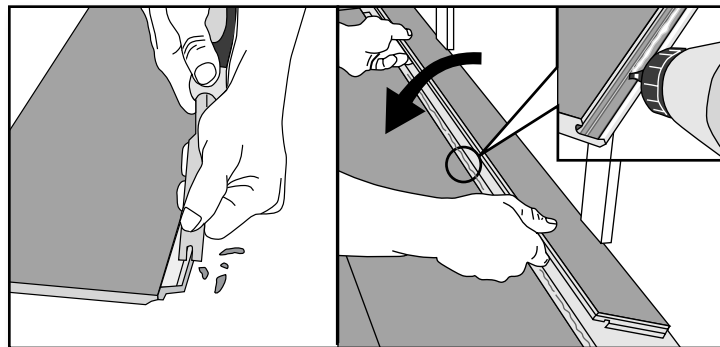
[11] Connect the planks in the following rows by aligning the end seam of each plank directly above the end seam of the preceding plank. Insert the long side seam at a slight angle first, and as the top surfaces meet, rotate the plank down into the locked position.



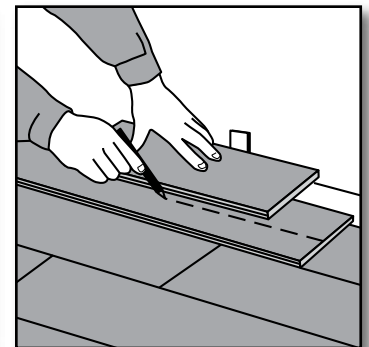
[12] The distance to the walls can be adjusted when three rows are completed. Remember to place the flooring a minimum of 1/4" from all walls or other vertical obstructions such as cabinets, pipes, or columns.



[13] Measure and cut the planks in the last row to fit. Remember to allow for a minimum of 1/4" expansion space from the wall.



[14] In areas such as a doorjamb or cabinet kick base where planks cannot be angled to lock into place, use a wood chisel to remove the locking ridge from the bottom of the plank groove. Apply a 1/8" bead of tongue and groove adhesive to the bottom groove, and gently tap the plank into place using a pull bar and hammer. Next, apply enough strips of painter's tape across this seam to hold the joint securely in place until the adhesive sets. Using a clean, soft cloth, carefully clean up any excess adhesive on the surface of the planks.



[15] Use a full width scrap plank and 1/4" spacer to mark your cutting line on the last row.

Molding and Transitions Installation

- A complete line of trims and transition pieces are offered to finish your floor, including **T-Molding**, **Reducers**, **End Molding/Carpet Transitions**, **Wallbase**, **Quarter Round** and **Stairnosing**.
- The transition pieces, (excluding **Quarter Round** and **Wallbase**) can be easily secured in place with the **Molding Track** which can be screwed, nailed or glued with silicon adhesive directly to the subfloor. The use of **Molding Track** provides a fast, secure transition installation and minimizes the use of screws or nails through the decorative surface of the transition piece.
- **T-Molding** is used when two level flooring surfaces meet, like in a doorway or a narrow archway. In a doorway, center the **T-Molding** under the space that the closed door occupies. Likewise, in an archway, the **T-Molding** should be centered. To install the **T-Molding**, first install the molding track by gluing, screwing or nailing it 1/4" from the edge of each adjoining flooring surface (equals about 1 1/8"). Push the **T-Molding** into the track, working from left to right.
- When laminate flooring meets a flooring surface that is lower, use a **Reducer Strip**. Leave 1/2" space between the finished floor and the front edge of the reducer. Install the **Molding Track** by gluing, screwing or nailing it 1/4" from the edge of the flooring. Push the reducer into the track working from left to right.
- The **End Molding/Carpet Transition** works great when finishing the floor in areas that meet vertical objects and is also ideal for transitioning between your laminate flooring and carpet. To finish the flooring in areas that meet vertical objects like exterior doors, sliding glass doors, tubs or shower basins, raised hearths or low sills, leave a 1" space between the floor and the vertical object. Install the **Molding Track** by gluing, screwing or nailing it 1/4" from the flooring. Push the molding into the track working from left to right.
- When transitioning from laminate flooring to carpet, leave a 1" space between the finished floor and the front edge of the carpet. Install the **Molding Track** by gluing or nailing it 1/4" from the edge of the flooring. Push the molding into the track working from left to right. Finish the carpet by tucking it between the molding and the tack strip.
- **Note:** In heavy traffic areas, use screw-type fasteners or nails to permanently secure the molding into the **Molding Track**.
- The **Stairnosing** is used to finish stair treads and risers, which have been fully adhered to the floor using a **Shaw** approved multipurpose flooring adhesive. Stop the flooring about 1 1/2" from the step's edge. Install the **Molding Track** by gluing, screwing or nailing it 3/4" from the edge of the stair tread. Apply construction grade adhesive to the **Stairnosing** where the molding makes contact with the stair tread. Push the **Stairnose** into the track from left to right. You must use either screw-type fasteners or nails through the face of the **Stairnose** to permanently secure it to the track. Place screws/nails into the **Stairnose** 2" from the end and 6" to 8" apart. (**Note: riser piece should be in place under Stairnosing before screws or nails are used**).
- To finish the perimeter of the room where the expansion space was left for the seasonal expansion and contraction of the flooring, remove spacers and install **Wallbase** and/or **Quarter Round**. Both of these moldings are installed by nailing them directly into the wall. Never allow nails or screws in the **Wallbase** or **Quarter Round** to enter into the laminate flooring or the expansion zone around the flooring perimeter, as it will prevent proper expansion and contraction of the flooring. You must pre-drill nail holes in both types of wall moldings before nailing, to eliminate any splitting. Be sure to nail the **Quarter Round** into the wall or **Wallbase** and not into the flooring as it will prevent expansion and contraction of the flooring. Use **Shaw Color Coordinated Putty** to fill the countersunk nail heads.
- Silicone sealant should be used in expansion zones in bathrooms, near kitchen sinks, dishwashers and refrigerators with icemakers.
For any questions, call the Shaw Information Center at 1-800-441-7429.

Glueless Laminate Flooring Care Guide

Glueless flooring is designed to stand up to the toughest household conditions. However, to keep it looking its best, follow these simple instructions for protection and care.

Routine Care Instructions

Follow these quick and easy steps to care for your new flooring:

- Avoid extremes in temperature or humidity conditions. Laminate flooring will perform at its best when climate-controlled conditions of 60°F to 80°F and 35% to 65% relative humidity are maintained in the home or office.
- Never use any type of dust attraction product on your laminate flooring as these products may leave sticky or slippery residues on the laminate surface.
- Remove loose dirt by using a non-beater bar vacuum or a dust mop.
- Occasionally clean using a dry-damp sponge mop or cloth slightly dampened with plain water. Do not saturate floor. Always dry-damp mop the floor as needed—never wet mop the floor.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool, soap based detergents, waxes, polishes, or scouring powder because they will scratch, dull, or leave residue on the flooring surface.
- For heavier cleaning, we recommend using Shaw R2x® Hard Surfaces Flooring Cleaner with patented R2x technology. Earning the "Good Housekeeping" seal of approval, this cleaner is excellent for removing tough dirt, grease and scuffs with no need to rinse.
- For resistant stains, such as indelible marker, call the Shaw Information Center at 1-800-441-7429.
- For tough spots such as candle wax or chewing gum, harden the spot with ice and then gently scrape with a plastic scraper; being careful not to scratch the flooring surface. Wipe clean with a damp cloth.
- Wipe up spills immediately. Do not allow liquids to stand on your laminate flooring. Avoid exposure to pet urine.
- Do not use any type of buffing machine.
- A more frequent dust mopping or vacuuming schedule may be required in very sandy areas such as a beach home.

Scratch and Wear Protection

Any laminate flooring may scratch if not cared for properly. Therefore, follow these simple and protective steps to keep your flooring looking new:

- Place floor mats at outside doorways to collect dirt and moisture.
- Place glides or floor protectors under furniture legs.
- Use chair pads under rolling chairs.
- For questions and applicable warranty information, call Shaw Information Center at 1-800-441-7429.

