



Installation Instructions

Pre-finished 3/4" Solid Strip or Plank Flooring

Read The Following Instructions Before Starting The Installation!

ATTENTION! INSPECT ALL MATERIALS CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLATION. WARRANTIES DO NOT COVER MATERIALS WITH VISIBLE DEFECTS ONCE THEY ARE INSTALLED.

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site subfloor and jobsite conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for wood floor installation. Harris Wood declines any responsibility for wood floor failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies after

SUGGESTED TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES

- Pneumatic/Manual Nailer/Stapler
- Electric Mitre Saw
- Broom or Vacuum
- Wood Filler
- Touch Up Kit
- Tape Measure
- Chalk Line & Chalk
- Pry Bar
- Safety Glasses
- Hammer

HANDLING AND STORAGE:

Flooring must be protected from adverse moisture conditions during its transportation and must be stored 4" or more off the ground in dry warehouses under conditions which will prevent a significant change in its moisture content. Flooring should be delivered to job site 3 to 5 days before installation. Open cartons and allow flooring to acclimate.

SUBFLOOR:

Installer should ensure subfloor is nailed properly.

1. Construction:

a) Plywood/OSB:

- On truss/joist spacing of 16" on-center or less, minimum 5/8" CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels or 23/32" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels. 4x8 sheets
- On truss/joist spacing of more than 16", up to 19.2" on-center, 3/4" T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood Subfloor panels or 3/4" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels.
- On truss/joist spacing of more than 19.2", up to a maximum of 24" on-center, 7/8" T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels or 1" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, or two layers of subfloor. First layer of 3/4" Plywood or OSB subfloor panels, second layer of 1/2" Plywood subfloor panels.

b) Solid Board

- 1" x 4"-6" wide, square-edged, kiln-dried coniferous lumber, laid diagonally over 16" on-center wooden joists. Ends of all boards must be cut parallel to the center of the joist for solid bearing, face-nailed with 7d threaded or 8d common nails.

c) Concrete

- Follow National Wood Flooring Association Guidelines for installing a subfloor over concrete. 3/4" Solid Flooring is not recommended for glue-down installations on concrete.

d) Particle Board is not recommended.

2. Flatness

a) Subfloors should be flat to 3/16" per 8' radius. If subfloor prep work is required, high spots should be sanded down and low spots should be filled with a leveling compound or other material approved for use under wood flooring. Do not sand sub-surfaces such as vinyl or synthetic tiles that may contain asbestos.

3. Preparation of subfloor:

a) Adequate and proper nailing as well as soundness of the subfloor should be ascertained. Foreign material shall be removed from the subfloor surface and swept clean.

b) The clean subfloor surface shall be covered, wall-to-wall, with 15-lb. asphalt saturated felt. Lap the edges of the felt 4" when positioning. Double the felt around heating ducts.

Subfloor Flatness

Subfloors should be flat to 3/16" per 8' radius. If subfloor prep work is required, "hills" should be sanded down and "valleys" filled with an underlayment patch, developed by a reputable manufacturer for use with hardwood flooring. Do not sand sub-surfaces such as vinyl or synthetic tiles that may contain asbestos.

General Installation Instructions:

- Time at which to install 3/4" solid flooring: All wet trades must be complete and dry before delivery and installation of wood flooring may begin. The building interior shall have been dried and seasoned. DO NOT store wood flooring at the jobsite under uncontrolled climate conditions. The building shall be maintained at normal living conditions for temperature and humidity. 3/4" solid flooring AND the subfloor should be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. In general, wood flooring and subfloor should not exceed 14% moisture content, with no more than 4% difference between wood flooring and subfloor (2% for flooring wider than 3"). Check with your local distributor for your geographical variances.
- Laying direction of solid flooring: Flooring should be laid perpendicular to the floor joists and, if possible, in the direction of the longest dimension of the room.
- Wall line layout: Choose a starting wall, snapping a working line parallel and allowing not less than 3/4" expansion space or what will be covered by the baseboard and trim. In general, a 3/4" expansion space must be left around the entire perimeter and at all vertical obstructions. Door casings should be undercut to allow room for expansion and to avoid difficult scribe cuts.
- Starting to lay solid flooring: Lay one row of flooring along entire working line, face-nailing 6" apart and counter sunk. Blind-nail by hand if necessary. Continue to blind-nail each succeeding row by hand until the nailer/stapler can be used.
- Nailing schedule for solid flooring: All runs should be nailed/stapled at an angle of 45° to 50° every 6" to 8" at the tongue, using 1 1/2" to 2" fasteners. Also nail within 2" of each end joint. (Minimum of 2 fasteners per plank.)
- Racking the floor: To achieve the best appearance, stagger the end-joints of adjoining rows a minimum of 6". Avoid "H-Joints" or "stairstepping". Always install from multiple cartons to insure accurate mix of color and grade.
- Completing installation: Hand-nail and face-nail as necessary to complete the final rows. Install base and molding to cover expansion space.
- Humidity should be maintained year round at 35-55% RH.

IMPORTANT NOTES AND TIPS

- THE USE OF PUTTY TO FILL SMALL GAPS OR CORRECT MINOR DEFECTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED NORMAL IN ANY HARDWOOD INSTALLATION.
- HARDWOOD FLOORS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED YEAR ROUND AT 35-55% RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND A TEMPERATURE BETWEEN 60-80 DEGREES. A HUMIDIFIER/DE-HUMIDIFIER MAY BE NECESSARY IN SOME HOMES TO MAINTAIN THESE CLIMATE CONDITIONS.
- COLOR UNIFORMITY OF ALL GRADES WILL BE GOVERNED BY THE INHERENT VARIATIONS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE WOOD SPECIES.
- DO NOT INSTALL OVER RADIANT HEATED SUBFLOORS!
- DO NOT INSTALL PRODUCT WITH VISIBLE DEFECTS.