



Downtown Premium Engineered Hardwood

Pre-installation Instruction	2
Installation Instruction	8
Care and Maintenance	16
Product Warranty	18

Responsibility of Homeowners and Installers:

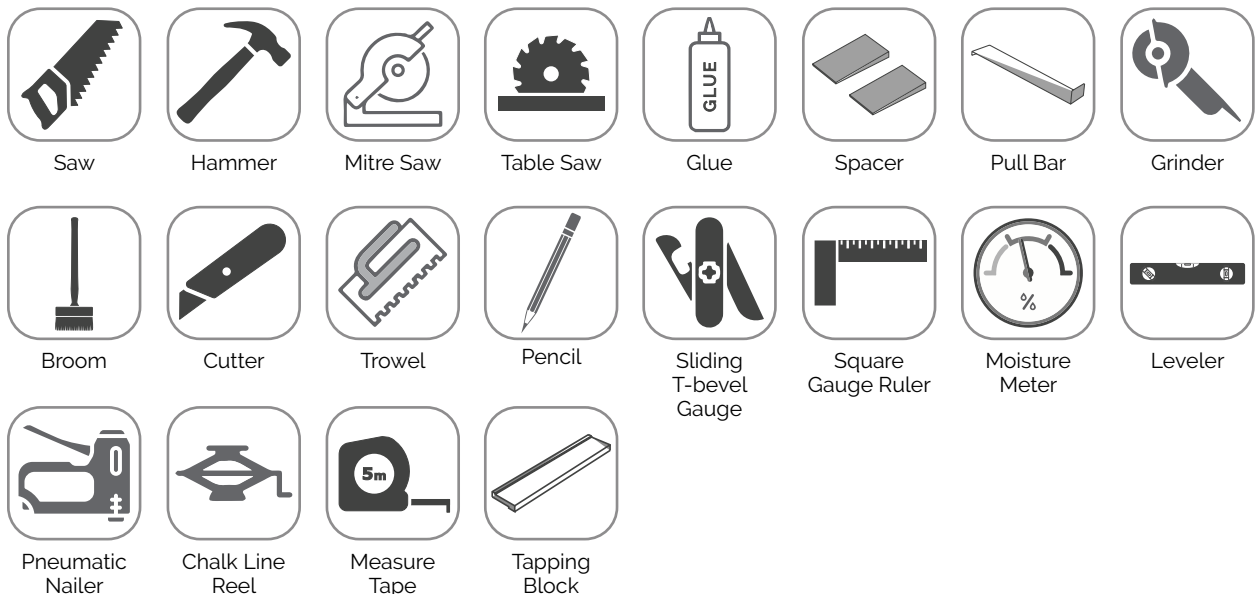
- It is a high recommendation for all installers to read through installation instructions thoroughly before commencing the job.
- Visit www.designer-specflooring.com to ensure an updated version of installation instruction is obtained.
- All NuFloors Flooring products are made from natural wood; each board will carry a unique characteristic of wood grain appearance, knots, and variation in color tone. All showroom sample is intended as a color reference only. It is too small to accurately reproduce all-natural wood characteristics occurring on a large floor area.
- A visual inspection of different boards by opening several boxes of the product with homeowners or project management is highly recommended before commencing installation.
- **Do not proceed to installation** if the product is not satisfying with colors or quality. Once a product has been installed, it is considered products are deemed to be accepted by customers.
- All NuFloors Flooring products are manufactured to meet practical industry standards with a maximum of 5% of defects as milling tolerance.
- It is the responsibility of the installer or customer to ensure all job site condition requirements are reached prior to commencing installation. Manufacture takes no responsibility for defects causing by improper job site preparation and installation procedures.

Do not install any defect or unsatisfactory planks.

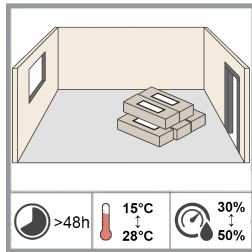
NuFloors Flooring accepts no responsibility for any cost related to the installation of an unsatisfactory product.

Part 1 Pre-installation

A: INSTALLATION TOOLS



B: STORAGE



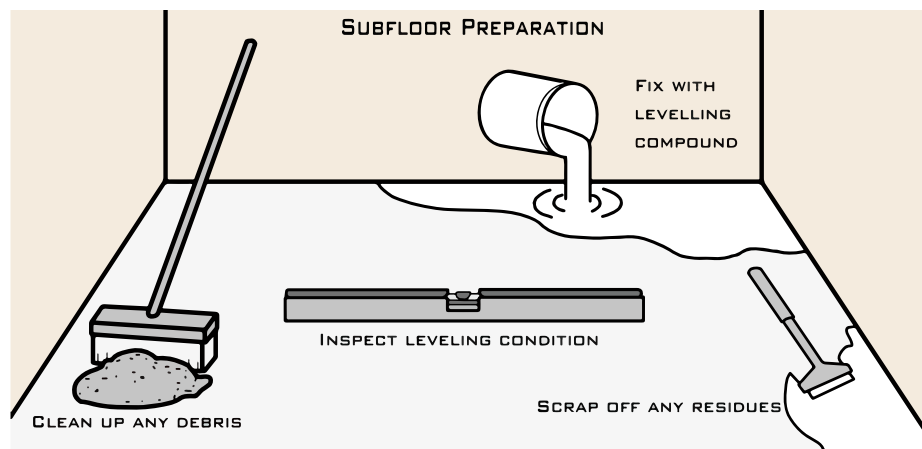
- **Delivery**
 - Please do not deliver flooring to the job site if the job site's climate conditions have not met, as described in section E.
 - During transportation, all packages must be well protected from the weather.
- **Storage before installation**
 - The panels should be stored unopened in the middle of the room at a room temperature of 15°C (59°F)-28°C (82.4°F) and relative humidity of 30%-50% for min. 48 hours.
 - Never store boxes on their sides.

C: APPLICATION



- NuFloors Flooring can be installed: below, on, or above ground level.
- Hardwood flooring consists predominantly of wood. Continual and repetitive exposure to dampness causes irreparable damage to the hardwood flooring.
- NuFloors Flooring should **never be installed in the bathrooms and laundry rooms.**
- NuFloors Flooring is intended for **indoor use** as flooring cover only.

D: SUBFLOOR CONDITIONS



- **Evenness**

The subfloor must be fixed to an even condition as follow:

 - Maximum +/- 0.1" per 6.6' (2.5mm per 2m) radius span.
 - Maximum +/- 3/16" per 10' (4.7mm per 3m) radius span.
 - Sand down any irregularities, fill any uneven spot with NWFA approved leveling compound.
 - No crack or deflection is allowed.

- **Existing subfloors**

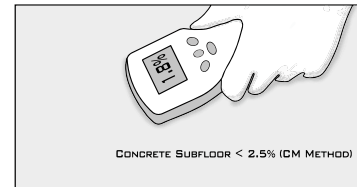
Old fixed carpets, Needle felt carpets are unhygienic and too soft for installing hardwood flooring over and must be removed. An installation on PVC and linoleum-coating can only be done if the existing flooring is glued down and has no loose areas and if there is no underfloor heating.

- **Cleanness**

The subfloor has to be clean before installing the hardwood flooring and free of any debris or any microorganisms.

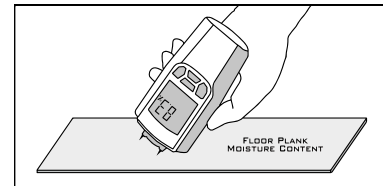
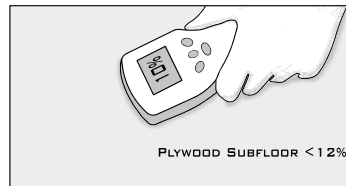
- **Installation on concrete**

The concrete subfloor must be tested for moisture content using the CM (Calcium Carbide Method) test method and must return a reading of no more than 2.5% as moisture content of the substrate.

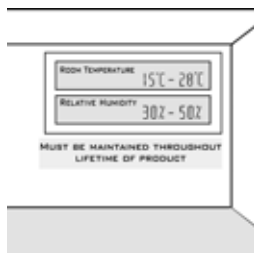


- **Installation on wood subfloors**

- Plywood subfloor moisture content must not exceed 12%, and the variance in moisture content between the subfloor and the flooring panels must not exceed 3.5%.
- All squeaking noise coming from the substrate should be fixed before the installation of new flooring.

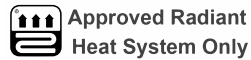
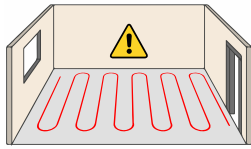


E: TEMPERATURE AND MOISTURE CONDITIONS



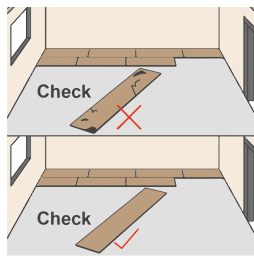
- It is also important that the flooring material is in the same temperature range as the installation site. Do not deliver flooring to job sites if climate conditions have not been met, as described below.
- Allow the flooring to acclimate at the climate-controlled job site for a minimum of **48 hours** when the desired climate range has met.
- The room temperature should be **15°C (59°F)-28°C (82.4°F)**, with relative humidity between **30%-50%**. These environmental conditions must be maintained for the life of the product. (before, during, and after the installation)

F: INSTALLATION OVER A RADIANT HEAT SYSTEM



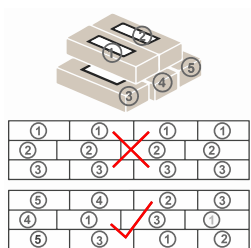
- NuFloors Flooring can be installed over the hydronic radiant heat system only. All hydronic pipes must be covered and isolated with minimum 3/8”(9.5mm) thick concrete or plywood.
- Ensure that the system is in full working order and has been fully tested and running for a minimum of two weeks before installation. The system should be turned off for 24 hours prior to installation in the install zone.
- It is strongly recommended to attach heat sensors onto the subfloor every 200sf of areas.
- **Never allowed the surface temperature of flooring go above 28°C (82°F)**
- Always adjust the temperature control at 4°C to 6°C gradually increments. Any dramatic temperature will cause damage to flooring.
- **** Collection with Sapelle and Hickory species are not approved for radiant heat direct glue-down installation.**

G: PRODUCTS INSPECTION



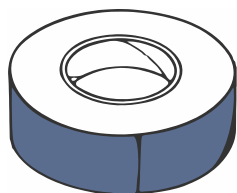
When racking, inspect all boards for visible manufacturing defects. The dealer may replace boards with manufacturing defects in excess of industry standards (5% of total quantity) under the terms of the product warranty. **Once installed, boards will be considered to have been accepted by the homeowner; even the homeowner is not present during installation.** Supplier accepts no responsibility for problems arising from this incorrect handling.

H: PANEL MIXING



- Prepare at least four packs of flooring. Mix panels from different packs during installation.
- We recommend the alternate fitting of the panels from four different packs at the same time.
- Keep alternating the panels across the entire floor area. This guarantees the best possible appearance of your NuFloors Flooring product.

I: USE OF MASKING TAPES

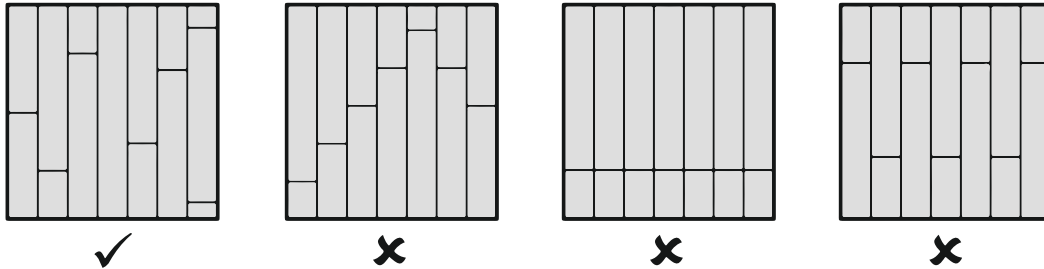


3M Scotch Blue Tape

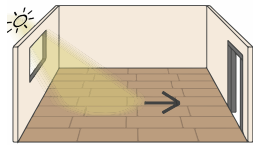
Only 3M scotch blue tape is allowed for all types of installation methods.

J: STAGGER PATTERNS

- Stagger short end (butt joints) with a minimum of 15.75" (40cm) for the adjacent two rows.
- Avoid using boards less than 10" (25.4cm).
- Avoid 'H' style, stair-step style in any adjacent rows.

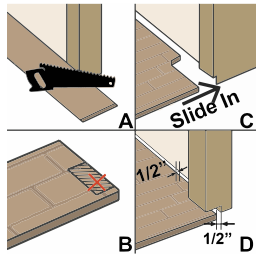


K: LAYING DIRECTION



- The recommended installation direction is lengthwise to the main light source.
- The joints are more visible crosswise than lengthwise to the light source.
- This is only a recommendation because there are also other influences.
- **The laying direction must be perpendicular to the subfloor joists.**

L: INSTALLATION TOWARDS DOOR FRAMES



Lay a panel next to the door frame (with the patterned side facing downwards) Cut into the door frame with the straight backsaw. Then slide the panel under the frame with the patterned side upwards. Don't forget to allow for freedom of movement here to 1/2" (12 mm).

NOTES:

V.24-10

A series of 20 horizontal dashed lines for taking notes.

Part 2 Installation

A: NAIL-DOWN INSTALLATION

Tools and Fasteners requirement:

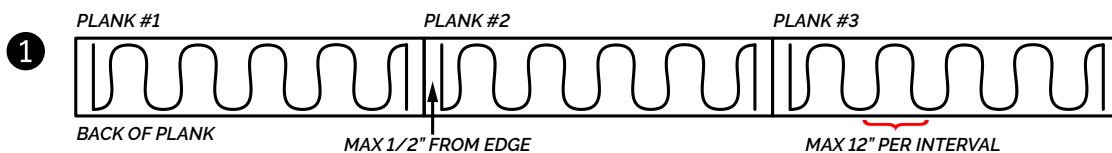
Tools and Fasteners (For Major Installation)						
Pneumatic Tools	Fasteners		Application	Nailing Schedule	Products	
	Cleat	Staple				
Pneumatic Blind Nailer	16 Gauge Length: 2"	15 1/2" gauge Length: 2"	Refer to the detailed installation instruction paragraph.	4" - 5"	Downtown Premium Engineered Hardwood	
Pneumatic Blind Nailer	18 Gauge Length: 1-3/4"	Not recom- mended		4" - 5"		
Tools and Fasteners (For Starting and Finishing Rows Only)						
Pneumatic Tools	Fasteners		Application	Purpose	Nailing Schedule	Products
	Brad Nails	Blind Nails				
Pneumatic Brad Nailer	18 Gauge Length: 1-1/2"	N/A	For top nailing of the first and the last row only.	Giving security strength when aligning the starting row's set up.	12"-14"	Downtown Premium Engineered Hardwood
Pneumatic Finish Nailer	N/A	16 Gauge Length: 1-3/4"	Nailing at a 45° angle to the tongue at starting and finishing few rows, when space allowed , use blind nailer (cleat/staple) instead.	same as above	4"-5"	
**All fasteners must be 1"-2" from the short end joints.						

**As wood flooring will expand and move as temperature and humidity changes. Minor noise after installation with the nail-down method is acceptable, according to NWFA.

Glue Assistance Required:

In addition to cleats/staples, the use of glue assistance method is recommended for products between 5" (125mm) to 6" (152.4mm) in width. And it's mandatory for products wider than 6" (152.4mm) in width.

Products	Plank Width	Glue Assistance	Glue Recommendation	Glue Pattern	Vapor Barrier Recommendation
Downtown Premium Engineered Hardwood	7 1/2" (189mm)	Required	Bostik Pro-MSP sausage	Refer to <i>Diagram 1</i>	*As Glue Assistance method makes it impossible to use regular vapour retarder underlayment/wax paper Recommended: Bostik Roll-Cote™ High-Performance Moisture vapour barrier coating. (Bostik.com for more details) or equivalent roll-on-style liquid moisture barrier.
	7 1/2" (190mm)	Required			
	6 1/2" (165mm)	Required			
	7" (178mm)	Required			
	6 1/2" (167mm)	Required			
	5" (127mm)	Recommended			



Full spread glue-down installation at the start and last three rows are **NOT APPROVED while using the nail-down method as the primary installation method.

**Apply glue onto the underside of the floor plank, NOT direct onto the substrate.

Plywood subfloor required:

5/8"(15.875mm) thick plywood or 7/10"(17.78mm) OSB construction subfloor is required for staple installation.

Expansion Space:

1/2" (12mm) expansion space is required throughout the whole perimeter of installation areas.

Underlayment required:

NWFA approved vapor underlayment or wax paper is required and should be laid down with 2" to 4" overlap with every previous run.

Obtaining the suitable compressor output pressure:

Set compressor from 80psi and adjust the pressure until fasteners are properly set to the tongue of boards. Failure of this step may cause squeaks noise. Refer to notes below for a proper way of securing fasteners.

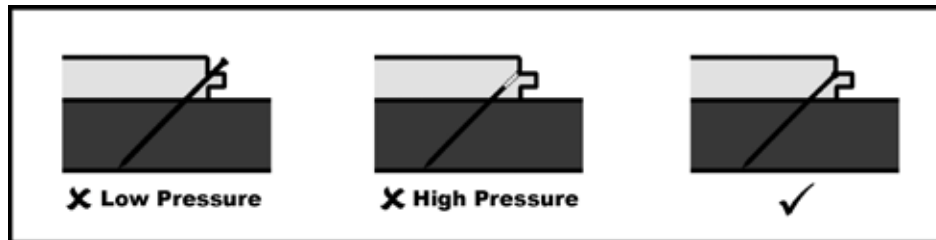
Installation over radiant heat system:

Nail down installation **IS NOT APPROVED** over any radiant heat system.

Proper penetration of the staples:

Staples should be 45 degrees penetrating through the tongue and flush with the nail pocket.

***** Failure of any of the above precautions will void the warranty*****



Starting your installation:

Layout your vapor barrier layer and make it parallel to the direction of the flooring layout.

Start your first row with the tongue side of boards facing away from the wall (if starting along a wall) to maintain a proper expansion gap (*For best result, mark a chalk line as reference for appropriate straight line up)

Top nail boards of the first row with pneumatic brad nailer every 12"-14", and maximum 2 inches away from each end of every board. Then use pneumatic finish nailer to snap nails at a 45 degrees angle to the tongue of boards. (Refer to nails spacing chart above).

Laser or chalk guideline to inspect a proper straight layout of the first row is recommended before continue on

Proper stagger boards for the subsequent rows (*Refer to the stagger guild lines above), and use a pneumatic nail or staple gun whenever enough space is allowed for the nailer to sit on.

Maintain proper expansion space along all walls and **ANY VERTICAL OBJECT**, and nailing schedule throughout the whole installation process. (*always inspect boards for defects during installation)

Use multiple lengths of boards at the beginning of every row to create a random, natural staggered patterns.

When installing the last few rows, there might not be enough space for a nail/staple nailer to be used, use the same installation tools and method as the starting rows.

Fill all top nail holes at starting row and last row with color matching wood fillers.

** The laying direction must be perpendicular to the subfloor joints.

B: FLOATING INSTALLATION

Underlayment requirement:

- The recommended underlay for this flooring material is **Good Neighbour** Underlayment or underlayment products with equivalent or higher specs for all floating installations.
- The vapor barrier is required for installations over concrete subfloors. (Minimum 6 mil polyethylene film)
- Addition layer of vapor barrier may be used when proceeding floating installations below ground level.

Glue requirements:



- Deccobond 18 T&G adhesive, or products recommended as per NWFA guidelines.

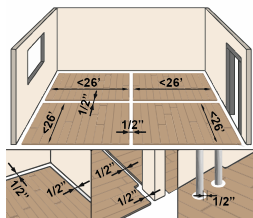
Tapes used during installation:

- Only 3M Scotch-Blue tape is allowed for security tightening of joints during installation, and all tapes must be removed within 24 hours.
- Slowly remove tapes at a 35° - 45° angle.

Installation over radiant heat:

- A dramatic change of temperature on the floor surface after installation must be avoided.
- Refer to the temperature control paragraph from the pre-installation section.
- Turn off the heating system and wait for 24 hours to turn on after installation.

Space for expansion & maximum size without expansion gap

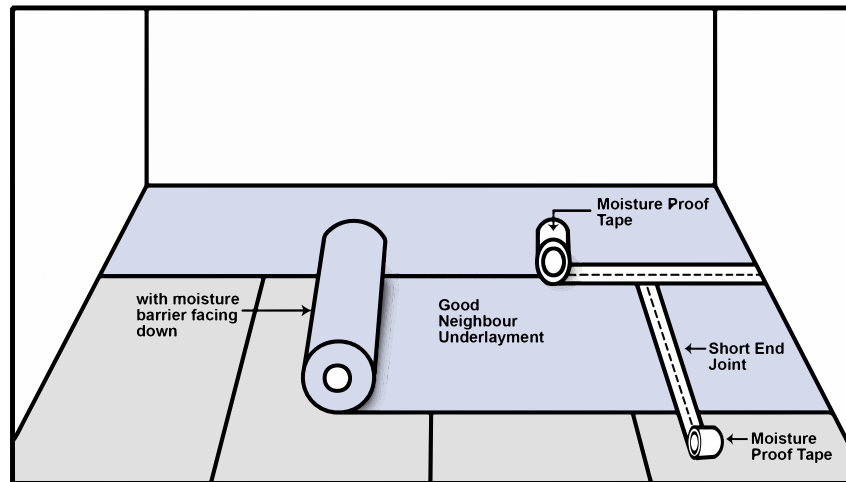


- Engineered Hardwood flooring will expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. To allow for this, during installation, leaving a 1/2" (12mm) expansion space around the entire perimeter of the floor between the flooring and the walls, and all vertical/fixed objects (e.g., door structures, fireplace). Undercutting vertical structures might be an option by ensuring no damage to the structural function of the objects.
- **No fixing with the subfloor.**
 - Under no circumstances must the panels be glued, nailed, or otherwise fixed to the subfloor.
- **Do not exceed 26 linear ft radius span** without an expansion gap and transition molding.
- All rooms need to be isolated from the hallway or adjacent rooms with a T cap transition to allow for expansion space.
- Do not place or fix any heavy object, such as kitchen island, fireplace, cabinets to floating installed flooring area.

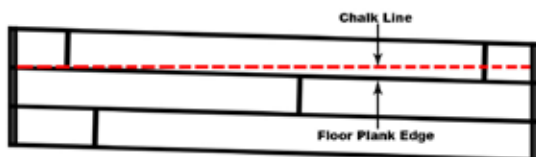
Starting your installation

Laying of underlayment (underlayment types with moisture barrier film attached)

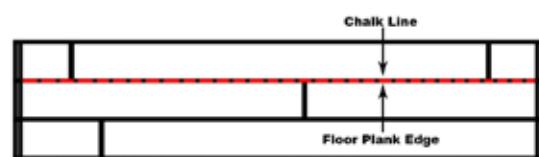
- Roll out the underlayment in a perpendicular direction to the flooring, with the vapor barrier side facing downward, laying the next row in the same direction as the first row with overlapping the second row on top of the (vapor barrier overlapping edge) of the first row. Peel off the adhesive strip on the edge of 2nd row, and attach it to the poly film portion of the 1st row. Moreover, make sure the underlayments tightly joint together, but without overlapping each other. At the junction of the short sides, moisture-proof mask tape needs to be used.



- Start the first two rows of flooring with the groove side of boards facing the wall. Apply Decco bond adhesive at all short side grooves of each board and joint boards. Apply adhesive at all long side and short side grooves of each board from 2nd row. Joint boards to the long side of 1st row while short jointing sides of the second row. (keep in mind, 1/2" expansion gap must be maintained) Ensure all boards are jointed tightly by using a professional tapping block.
- Use laser or chalk guidelines to ensure the first two rows are perfectly straight before continuing. 3M Scotch Blue tape is required to secure boards in place after straighten of boards have been obtained. Clean up any excess adhesive with a damp cloth.

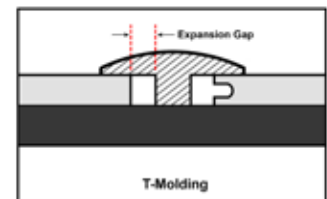


✗ Not Straight, Stop and Adjust



✓ Straight Set, Continue Installation

- ****STOP**** and wait for a minimum of 30 minutes before continuing the rest of the rows.
- Continue the rest of rows with the same skills as the 1st two rows. There're a few things that need to keep in mind throughout the entire installation:
 - 1/2" (12mm) expansion gaps must be maintained throughout the whole installation area. No object should be mounted on top of flooring with a floating installation (for example, cabinet, sliding door assembly)
 - Rules of stagger patterns
 - Cleanup of excess adhesive
 - Inspection of boards for defects before install
 - If installed on a radiant heat system, bring the temperature up gradually after a minimum of 12 hours, when the adhesive is completely dry out. (refer to Part 1 - F)



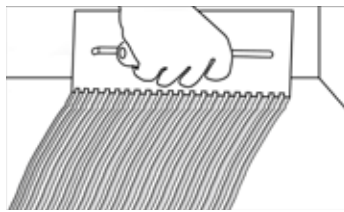
C: GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

Glue requirement:

- Urethane based adhesive with moisture control. Recommended brand: Bostik.
 - Choose the right type of adhesive under the Bostik brand according to different job site conditions.
 - Ensure proper adhesive removal agent is ready. Only Bostik's Ultimate™ Adhesive Remover is allowed in compliance with Bostik adhesive products. Please follow Bostik's guidelines for proper handling. (www.bostik.com)

Tapes used during installation:

- Only 3M Scotch-Blue tape is allowed for security tightening of joints during installation, and all tapes must be removed within 24 hours.



Trowel used:

- Use a metal trowel only.
- Use trowel styles recommended by adhesive manufacturers only.
- Replace any trowel that has worn teeth.

****Only professional hardwood flooring installers should be performing glue down installations.**

Installation over radiant heat:

- Make sure the flooring product is approved for direct glue down over a radiant heat system.
- Refer to the temperature control paragraph from the pre-installation section.
- Radiant heat systems must be tested appropriately and operating for a minimum of two weeks before installation.
- Radiant heat system must be completely turn off at the installation zone for a minimum of 24 hours before installation.
- After installation, wait for 24 hours to turn on the radiant heat system.
- A dramatic change of temperature on the floor surface after installation must be avoided. A maximum of 4°C (39.2° F) increments per 10 hours.

****Any damage caused by the radiant heat system will not be covered by the product warranty.**

Starting your installation:

- Chose a starter point to set the starting row. The main exterior wall should be used as a reference wall to start. (Refer to Part 1 - K for laying direction guidance.)
- Set two chalk line reference points by measuring the same distance from each end of the reference wall, then snap your chalk line.
- Start spreading adhesive to the subfloor along the chalk line but not to cover it.
- Lay down the first row of boards along the chalk line and continue with the second row of boards.

- After the first two rows of boards been set, alignment procedure must be done by using a straight laser line or chalk line to ensure the starting rows are perfectly straight and parallel to the reference wall.
- Then use approved adhesive tapes (3m scotch blue) to secure joints of boards to secure the starting rows in place. If installed on a plywood subfloor, top nailing of the first row of boards is recommended. If installed on a concrete subfloor, adjustable spacers are recommended.
- It is recommended to leave the first two starting rows overnight and get the adhesive full cured before continue.
- Remove adhesive tapes within 24 hours and pull off tapes at a 45 degrees slow manner.
- Continue the installation by spreading approximately 3 feet span area along the starting row with adhesive. (Avoid spreading too much adhesive at a time).
- Install boards while ensuring every board is pressed and attached to the adhesive.
- As installation continues, avoid working directly on top of newly installed areas.
- Always have your adhesive remover and damp dry cloth ready. Any excess adhesive left on the flooring surface or hands of the installer must be clean off asap.
- Maintain proper expansion space throughout the whole installation zone.
- As the remainder of the floor has been installed, go back to the starting rows and finish up the remaining area behind the starting row.
- Touch up all nail holes with color matching wood paste and install transition moldings.
- Remove and tapes being left on top of the floor within 24 hours and wait for a minimum of 24 hours before regular traffic is allowed. If installation with a radiant heat system, do not turn on the heat until adhesive gets fully cured (24 hours of the wait time is recommended).
- Wait for a minimum of 24 hours before moving furniture onto the installation zone.

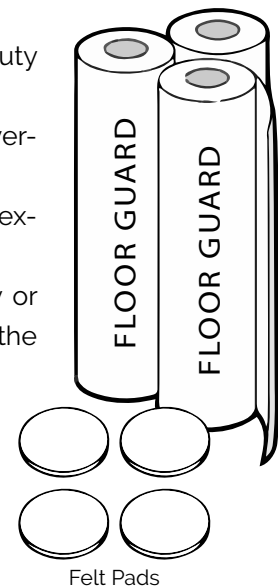
Part 3 Care and Maintenance

A: CLEANING

- Under no circumstances should the floor be cleaned with a wet cloth or mop or be soaked with liquid. Do not use steam cleaners.
- Sweep the floor regularly to keep it free of dust, grit, and other abrasive materials.
- Sweep the floor with a damp cloth towel along with the recommended cleaner. (e.g., Bona Hardwood Flooring Cleaner) Apply cleaner to the towel, not directly on the floor.
- Hardened glue-residue can be removed with acetone or a special glue solvent, or usual household cleaners may be used, please avoid scouring agents, wax or polish.
- For regular cleaning and preservation, we recommend Bona Hardwood Flooring Cleaner. Larger soiling and persistent stains like color, glue, nail varnish, or oil can easily be removed using acetone or any other alcohol-containing solvents. (Must be approved to be used for hardwood flooring according to NWFA guidelines.)
- If a vacuum is used, make sure a soft texture nozzle is attached to avoid scratching marks being left on the surface.

B: PROTECTION

- Use a heavy-duty floor protection membrane (e.g., Floor Guard heavy-duty floor protection) to cover all areas.
- Avoid taping protection membrane directly to the surface of the floor by overlapping each run of the membrane while taping different run together.
- Tape the end run of the membrane along baseboard or shoe base with extreme low adhesive tape.
- An extra layer of plywood, MDF board, might be used along the hallway or high traffic areas where furniture and appliances will be transferred into the premises.
- Putting felt pads on all furniture's legs are highly recommended.
- Keep in mind, the use of area rugs will create an uneven color variation due to the uneven exposure to sunlight.
- Rollable furniture should have soft rubber rollers (type W) in accordance with DIN 12529.
- Use a protective mat to protect areas around office chairs.



C: MAINTENANCE

- At all times, a temperature ranges of 15°C(59°F) to 28°C(82.4°F), and a humidity range of 30% to 50% must be maintained.
- Do not drag heavy objects or furniture across the floor. When moving appliances or furniture, lay a protective item such as cardboard and walk the heavy item across carefully.
- Place dirt absorbing mats at exterior doors to reduce dirt and sand comes on the floor.

D: ENSURE THE PROJECT MANAGER OR HOMEOWNER OBTAINS A COPY OF THE MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION AND THE WARRANTY GUIDELINE. MAKE NOTES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE, IF NECESSARY.

V.24-10

A series of horizontal dashed lines for taking notes.

Part 4 Product Warranty

Downtown Premium Engineered Hardwood

A. 35 years of limited residential wear warranty

- NuFloors Flooring warrants the top coating (UV lacquer finish) from the original manufacturer, will not wear through in a residential application under normal residential traffic and usage, for 35 years from purchasing date.

B: 3 YEARS LIMITED LIGHT COMMERCIAL WEAR WARRANTY

- NuFloors Flooring warrants the products' top coating (UV lacquer finish) will not wear through in the light commercial application. (professional office, clinic reception area)
- All NuFloors Flooring products give no warranty for any use in any high humidity commercial premises, such as kitchen, bathrooms.
- Any high traffic commercial such as food court, supermarket, industrial zone, or entrance, the hallway of a business office is not considered as a light commercial wear warranty. It is not covered by this warranty.

C: LIFETIME STRUCTURE WARRANTY

- NuFloors Flooring warrants the products will not destructure under specified temperature and humidity conditions, and proper usage, for a lifelong period, from purchasing date.

D: FILING A CLAIM

- Copy of original purchase receipt must be submitted to the original dealer.
- Coordinate with inspection appointments set by dealer and distribution.
- A minimum of three full planks must be kept for testing purposes.
- NuFloors Flooring only accepts claims of defect products, with over 10% of the total quantity of products during the warranty covered period. Customers can claim for the same quantity as defect quantity with the same or similar products. But, in case a specific product has been discontinued, a similar product or portion of the original purchase value, which is equivalent to the defect quantity, can be refunded to the original purchaser.

E: WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS

- All installation must be performed in accordance with the NuFloors Flooring installation manual.
- Proper care and maintenance must be performed following NuFloors Flooring maintenance instruction.
- The surface sheen reduction is a natural aging of products and is not considered to be the defect of surface wear.
- Color changes due to exposure to an intense direct light are not covered. Avoid using area rugs to eliminate uneven exposure to sunlight.
- Any damage caused by chemical spills, water leakage, surface scratches, cutting, fire, high heel shoes marks, excess dryness, moisture, or abuse of any kind is not covered by warranty.
- Labour cost is not covered by this warranty.
- NuFloors Flooring is not responsible for the expansion and contraction of panels due to any improper temperature or moisture conditions.
- NuFloors Flooring accepts no responsibility for any problems arising from pets, insects, or micro-organisms.
- All surface wearing on transition or stair nosings are not covered by this warranty.
- Installation of products that are not compliant with radiant heat will void the warranty.
- The warranty of the products is not transferable and is limited to the original purchaser only.
- In accordance with flooring industry standard, 5% of industrial defect out of the total quantity of products is allowed and, as a result, 10% of wastage during any installation should be calculated before installation is performed.
- Any defect piece is found before installation should not be installed; once products are installed will be deemed to have been accepted by the customer. It is the responsibility of the installer and the homeowner to inspect products' defects before installation. NuFloors Flooring accepts no liability for any labour cost for all claims.
- The British Columbia province law governs this Limited Warranty set above. NuFloors Flooring assumes no liability for incidental or consequential damages arising from the product's use or non-use.
- Products sold as is; auction goods, discontinued/off the rack, or indirect trades in any kind by unauthorized dealer/individual.
- Failure of providing the original purchasing invoice from NuFloors.
- Under no circumstances will the value of a warranty claim exceed the original purchase price of the product.

There are no other extended warranties except statements set above.



www.designer-specflooring.com