

A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ON PRAVADA FLOORS FINE PRODUCTS

SPACES

LAMINATES | INSTALLATION

PLEASE READ COMPLETELY BEFORE INSTALLATION

Please inspect product for color, finish, quality and style BEFORE installing any material. Pravada Floors' warranty DOES NOT cover materials with visible defects once they have been installed. Any defects should be reported to the flooring dealer IMMEDIATELY for inspection and/or replacement. Failure to follow recommended installation procedures may void warranty.

ALL PLANKS ONCE INSTALLED ARE CONSIDERED AS ACCEPTED BY THE INSTALLER AND/OR HOMEOWNER AND THE MANUFACTURER ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ABOVE.

TOOLS & ACCESSORIES

- Rubber mallet
- Tenon saw, hand saw or circular saw
- Electric drill, with a 3/32 inch (2mm) bit
- Square and measuring tape
- Utility Knife
- Tapping Block
- Pencil
- Underlayment (Float install)
- Moisture Meter
- Chalk line
- Level
- Flooring screws (to solidify sub-floor when installing over wooden sub-floor)
- Safety glasses and dust mask
- Broom and dust pan

TIP: To prevent damaging this flooring, avoid pounding on it with a rubber mallet during installation. Instead, use a tapping block against the edge of the plank.

BEFORE YOU START

PREPARATION

Remove wrapping and lay flooring panels out flat at room temperature for 48 hours. Check all panels for defects. Claims cannot be made for panels already laid. Ensure the surface to be covered with panels is clean, smooth and level. Uneven areas must be leveled. Do not install over carpets. Remove carpet along with any residual adhesive material and install on smooth, firm surface. A 'Patch Test' must be performed on concrete sub-floors. If there is any evidence of moisture, the concrete must be treated with an appropriate sealer. DO NOT install laminate floor if patch test reveals moisture build up, until concrete is sealed! It is recommended that a moisture barrier (Poly) be placed over all concrete sub-floors to protect against any possible moisture emissions.

MOISTURE BARRIER

To protect panels against moisture from surfaces where moisture is likely to occur, a moisture barrier must first be placed over the base surface. Use 6 mil (0.2mm) polyethylene film. Overlap the edges of the polyethylene by a minimum of 8 inches and seal the junction with moisture proof self-adhesive tape. Use on concrete floors and all floors below grade or other areas where condensation or moisture emissions may occur. Do not install panels in bathrooms, or other rooms exposed to excessive moisture. A moisture barrier should be installed over floors with radiant heat. Before laying the barrier, turn heat down to 15°C (60°F) one week before. Keep temperature below 27°C (80°F) at all times.



UNDERLAYMENT

Panels must be installed on top of underlayment. Use a good quality underlayment (Cork or High Density Foam). Underlayment seams should not overlap and should be taped with self-adhesive tape. If installing both a moisture barrier and underlayment, place the underlayment ON TOP of the moisture barrier, or use a reliable combination product if preferred.

MEASUREMENTS

Be sure to measure all floor surfaces with the required expansion gaps. Panel tongues are 5mm and must be part of the measurement when considering expansion gap. If preferred, you can cut off the tongue facing the expansion gap on the first row. It is also important to measure the room for squareness. If walls are not square, it is recommended that you use the longest, straightest wall as your line of reference, and draw perpendicular lines from it. **TIP: Draw your line at a distance from the wall more than width of the laminate panel so it is visible after you position your first row of panels. It is recommended that all installed panels be at least 12 inches (30.5cm) in length. *TIP: Measure the length of a row and cut the first panel of the row according to the length desired for the last panel of the row.*

DIRECTION OF PANELS

For appearance, panels are normally installed so the length direction of the panels is the same as the length direction of the room. This will also reduce the amount of cutting required. **Tip: Draw your line at a distance from the wall more than width of the laminate panel so it is visible after you position your first row of panels. It is recommended that all installed panels be at least 12 inches (30.5cm) in length.*

EXPANSION

Because changes in heat and humidity will cause laminate panels to expand and contract in both length and width, expansion spaces must be allowed on all sides of the installed floor. The use of spacers inserted between the panels and perimeter walls is recommended. The spacers should be removed after the panels

are installed and before mouldings are attached to the walls. For rooms up to 25 feet (7.6 meters) in width and 40 feet (12.2 meters) in length, allow for expansion between 3/8" and 5/8" (10mm to 16mm) along each wall.

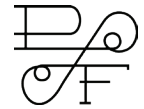
PIPES AND OTHER OBSTACLES

When installing a laminate panel around a pipe or other obstacle, leave the same expansion gap as you would next to a wall. Measure and precut the affected panel. If there is condensation from the pipe, cut the panel so there is sufficient space to keep the panel dry. It is recommended that you treat the exposed edge of the panel to protect it from pipe condensation.

**Tip: Fill the space around a pipe with caulking in order to protect the exposed (cut) edge of the panel. For rooms up to 25 feet (7.6 meters) in width and 40 feet (12.2 meters) in length, allow for expansion between 3/8" and 5/8" (10mm to 16mm) along each wall.*

BEFORE INSTALLATION

- Measure doors for clearance of installed panels. Cut away doorframe and jambs at bottom if necessary. Remove existing baseboards.
- Surfaces should be clean, smooth and level. Surfaces with slopes steeper than 3mm over 1m must be leveled.
- Measure the perimeter of the room's squareness, and the required width of the last row of panels. Allow for expansion gaps along each wall.
- Wear protective mask, safety glasses and gloves when sawing panels. Always cut laminate panels with the decor side facing down. An electric circular saw or miter saw with a finishing blade is recommended.
- Tongue and groove panels are easily installed without glue. Simply attach the tongue on one panel to the groove side of the other panel and the panels will lock snugly together.
- Start with the first panel flat on the floor, decor surface up, and the groove side away from the wall.



- Insert the tongue of the second panel partially into the groove on the first, while holding the second panel at about a 20° angle from the floor. Press the second panel down and use a hammering block to lock firmly into place. (Reverse the procedure to release.) Continue in a similar fashion for the remaining panels.

**TIP: After you have locked a few rows in place, you may find it easier to stand on the installed panels when setting the next row in place. Measure the length of a row and cut the first panel of the row according to the length desired for the last panel of the row.*

INSTALLATION

First Row

- Measure the row before laying the first panel. Cut the first panel according to the length required for the last panel. (See *measurements* above).
- Measure for straightness and cut the panels to make sure the inner edge of the first row panels is square before starting second row. **Tip: Measure the last row for panel width first. Then cut first row panels to the same width as last row. Less than 2 inches is not recommended.*
- Position the first row panels along one wall, leaving space for expansion between panels and the wall.
- Lock the ends of the panels together until the first row is finished.
- For rooms up to 25 feet (7.6 meters) in width with 40 feet (12.2 meters) in length, allow for expansion between 3/8" and 5/8" (10mm to 16mm) along each wall. **Tip: Measure the length of a row and cut the first panel of the row according to the length desired for the last panel of the row.*

Second Row

The first panel of the second row should be long enough so the ends of the second row panels reach past the end seams of the first row panels.

**Tip: If the remaining section of the last panel of the first row is long enough, use it for the first panel of the second row. Line up the first panel of the second row so the outside end is even with the outside end of the first panel of the first row. Lock the long side of the second row panel onto the panel of the first row. After locking in place, lay the remaining panels of the row by first locking the long side in*

Environment

- Maintain temperature between 65-75° F (18-24 °C) and R.H. at 35-55% for at least 3-5 days before installation, during and maintain after installation. HVAC systems must be operational for at least a week prior.
- Radiant heat systems must be operating at least one week prior to installation. Turn off and let sub-floor cool down to room temperature 3-4 hours before installation.
- Ensure basements and crawl spaces are sufficiently ventilated. (1-4% of open venting per 1000/ square feet (92.90 m2) of floor area).
- Insulate overheating and un-insulated heating ducts using a double layer of #15 asphalt felt paper.

Pravada Laminate floors can be installed on, above and below grade where proper care has been taken to ensure flooring conditions meet installation and warranty requirements.

Warranty

Please refer to Pravada Floors' Warranty Terms & Conditions available for download at pravadafloors.com