



## INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING

The suitable fitting methods for our engineered wood flooring are as follows:

**GLUE DOWN / BOND** - by far the best method of installing our engineered wood flooring is to glue / bond it directly to the floor screed using [MS Polymer floor adhesive](#).

**SECRET-NAIL** - this can be over any wooden subfloor.

**FLOAT** - if bonding or nailing of the floor is impossible or impractical, our engineered wood flooring can be floated. This involves gluing the tongue and grooves of every board. In effect making the floor one solid piece.

### INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Choose a starting wall for the floorboards to run parallel. The starting wall in most cases will be the longest unbroken wall in the room. Take into consideration fireplaces, doors, cabinets and floor transitions as well as the symmetry / aesthetics of the room. For multi-ply engineered flooring there is often a bow within the board. This can be up to 25mm and therefore it is important to ensure that the first rows are laid with the boards being interlocked to around half of the length. This will ensure the boards lie flat and permit installation.

### GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION



This method requires the floor to be free of dust, flat and even. The adhesive should be applied in accordance with the relevant MS polymer adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

Create a working line- parallel to the starting wall allowing the width of the board plus the tongue and an 8mm expansion gap.

Install a starter board along the edge of the working line and start the installation.



Spread the MS Polymer [adhesive](#) using a coarse notched trowel along the working line.

During the installation of flooring, push or gently tap boards flush to the previous row.



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Tap against the tongue; tapping the groove may damage the edge.

To prevent damage to the floor finish, avoid tapping the face of the board with the rubber mallet.

Use tensioners to maintain a tight floor and fit - ensure the boards are clamped while the glue is left to cure.

### NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION



A nail down installation can be over any wooden subfloor.

Our 20mm engineered wood flooring is End Matched (tongue and groove on all 4 x sides of the floorboard).

For normal domestic installations when installing over joists at 450mm centres, there is no requirement to support head joints on a joist.

If a heavier point loading is expected, all header joints must be supported.

If installing over an existing solid plank subfloor, the new floorboards must be laid at 45 / 90 degrees to existing planks.

Alternatively add a layer of minimum 12mm Class 1 plywood underlayment to the existing subfloor.

Create a working line parallel to the starting wall, allowing an 8mm expansion gap.

Lay one row of floorboards along the entire length of the working line. Secret-Nail the first row using appropriate fasteners.

During the installation of flooring, push or gently tap boards flush to the previous row.

For joists subfloors: Secret-Nail in each joist. For plank or panelled subfloors: Secret-Nail every 200 – 300mm.



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### FLOATING INSTALLATION



Do not install fixed items over floated engineered floors  
i.e. kitchen units or islands.

Do not float engineered floors where the room  
dimensions exceed 6m in width.

Create a working line- parallel to the starting wall allowing  
the width of the board plus the tongue and an 8mm  
expansion gap.

Install a starter board along the edge of the working line  
and start the installation.

Sparingly apply PVA wood glue to the top of the tongue on the lengths of the floorboards & head joints  
only. Using excess will cause hours of remedial sanding work to the floor surface.

During the installation of flooring, push or gently tap the floorboards flush to the previous row.

Tap against the tongue; tapping the groove may damage the edge.

To prevent damage to the floor finish, avoid tapping the face of the board with the rubber mallet.

Use tensioners to maintain a tight floor & fit - ensure the boards are clamped while the glue is left to cure.

### UNDER FLOOR HEATING

If you are fitting an engineered wood floor with underfloor heating, always check and follow the relevant  
underfloor heating manufacturer's instructions.

As a rule of thumb however installing engineered wood flooring over under floor heating systems requires  
the flooring to be acclimatised to the ambient room temperature, this should take around 4-5 days.

After installation the heating system should be gradually raised in temperature to a maximum of 27 degree  
Celsius, this should be done over a period of 2-3 days.

Expansion gaps around the perimeter of the floor area should be in the region of 8mm.

Prior to any installation, moisture readings of the screed should be taken.

Cement Screed – the screed must have a moisture content less than 3% and a relative humidity (ErH) less  
than 75% when tested with a BS 8203 hygrometer. Anhydrite screed must have a moisture content less  
than 0.3%.

Measurement can only be undertaken 48 hours after heating systems and dehumidifiers have been  
switched off.

If using the glue down method, bond the flooring directly to the screed using MS Polymer floor adhesive



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### INSTALLATION TIPS



An inset coir doormat looks lovely and a very important consideration for any installation. Furthermore this simple addition is the single most effective way to protect and maintain your wooden floor. Install preferably a large coir mat - ideally to allow two large steps across - which will force feet-wiping thereby trapping dust, dirt and most importantly grit.

Grit acts like sandpaper to any wood floor & finish. Doormats placed at external entrances are highly effective at extending the appearance and life of the floor, thereby reducing the frequency of refurbishment.

### FLOOR TRANSITIONS



Threshold and reducer strips, stained and matched to your luxury wooden floor, finish off an installation perfectly. We produce these to match your engineered wood flooring perfectly, in lengths a little longer than specified to allow for a perfect cut-to-size / fit on site.

Finishing touches and floor transitions are incredibly important for a professional seamless finish and very often an afterthought post-installation....

**T-Sections** are used for the flooring transition from engineered wooden floor to engineered wooden floor in doorways and to change the floor direction.



**Reducer Strips** bridge the gap between differing height floor level transitions e.g. engineered wooden floor to carpet. We produce our flooring transitions as bespoke orders so it is very wise to pre-plan and order these along with your flooring rather than wait a few weeks after installation for their production & delivery.

*Please note that the information provided within this guide should be used as guidelines only. No warranty or guarantee is offered or implied to the suitability of any system, installation and/or flooring products for any specific purpose.*