

Important Notice Regarding Warranty

Any faults that occur as a result of failure to comply with these installation instructions will not be covered by the product warranty.

The products must be inspected prior to installation and any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate replacement prior to the flooring being installed. Dunlop Flooring will not be responsible for installation cost claims where flooring was installed with obvious defects.

In order to enjoy the peace of mind of this product's warranty and ensure the optimum performance of your floor, you must comply with all instructions relating to preparation, subfloor, installation environment, installation method, and ongoing care and maintenance of the floor.

Special attention needs to be given to areas where direct sunlight from floor to ceiling windows can significantly raise the temperature of the floor. It is recommended that blinds, tints or window curtains are used to protect the floor from the heat of the direct Sun.

⚠ Please review all the information before installing this product.

APPROPRIATE SETTINGS

Suitable for use in residential settings or light commercial areas, such as hotels, conference rooms, health care, childcare, education, small offices, small department stores, boutiques and lobbies. This product is designed for internal installation only – it is NOT to be installed in areas that have a potential for flooding, such as saunas or outdoor areas.

This product is not suitable for installation in garages, as discolouration of the surface of the planks can occur as a result of prolonged contact with rubber.

For wet areas including bathrooms and laundries refer to the relevant National Construction Code (NCC) and Australian Standard 3740:2010.

PRE-INSTALLATION

- Pre-Installation should comply with Australian Standard AS1884:(2021)

A) ACCLIMATISATION

- It is best practice to acclimatise planks on site where they will be installed for 24 hours prior to installation. The temperature must be kept between 15-28°C for the acclimatisation and installation processes.
- Always handle, store and transport the planks carefully to prevent distortions. Store and transport cartons on a flat surface in neat stacks.

B) SUBFLOOR

The requirements below apply to all subfloor and careful attention must be paid in order to minimise the potential risk of issues occurring following the installation of the floor.

All substrates must be, structurally sound, plain, smooth, clean and dry:

- **Structurally Sound:** This product can be installed onto concrete subfloors and existing timber sub floors, provided they are not cushioned and are dimensionally stable (Refer to Timber Sub floor section). Hybrid Planks can be installed over existing PVC, Linoleum and Ceramic Tiles. Carpet, carpet underlay and/or existing floating floors are not a suitable subfloor. (For ceramic tiled floor coverings please see subsection B.2) Tile Sub Floor)
- **Plain and Smooth:** Deviations in any subfloor level must not exceed 2mm under a 1 lineal metre straight edge. Raised points must be sanded/ground down and depressions filled using levelling compound. Special attention for grout lines.
- **Clean:** Ensure the subfloor is clean, subfloor should be vacuumed thoroughly to remove any loose materials, prior to installation.
- **Dry:** It is essential that the moisture content of any subfloor complies with Australian standard 1884:2021 a maximum of 75% relative humidity for concrete subfloors and 10 – 14% moisture content for wood subfloors. A high reading of Relative Humidity (RH) or Moisture Content (MC) will affect the integrity of the subfloor.

The final responsibility for determining if the subfloor is adequately suitable for installation of the flooring, lies with the installer of the product.

B.1) TIMBER SUB FLOOR

- Hybrid planks can be installed on particleboard or strip timber subfloors; however, the installation of a 200-micron black builders' plastic must be installed under the Hybrid Planks to ensure the product's backing does not grip on the fibrous subfloor.
- Existing timber floors should be securely fixed, to minimise the risk of squeaking.

B.2) TILE SUB FLOOR

- The floor must be sound and firmly fixed, and any loose or powdery material removed from the joints.
- Any loose tiles should be removed and repaired to a structurally sound condition.

B.3) HEATED SUBFLOORS

Always refer to the underfloor heating system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance on installing Hybrid flooring and the compatibility with their system.

- Hydronic underfloor heating systems is recommended
- It is recommended that the heat be applied in a gradual manner after installing the flooring in 5 degree increments per day.
- Ensure the surface temperature never exceeds 28°C.

C) LAYOUT

- Check each plank for any manufacturing defects prior to installation. Dunlop Flooring will not be responsible for installation cost claims where flooring was installed with obvious defects.
- Hybrid Planks are manufactured to a consistent length with a limited pattern repeat. To achieve the most natural and realistic finish the planks should be laid randomly across the floor. This will result in a more natural looking floor, minimising pattern repeat.
- The boards should be fitted to run the length of the longest, straightest wall. In narrow hallways, install the floor parallel to the length of the hallways.
- Before laying commences, carefully measure the length and width of the rooms and hallways, plan the layout so the floors look balanced and ensuring borders are not less than half a plank width from the wall.

INSTALLATION

- Ensure you have read and understood all the subfloor requirements detailed in the previous section.
- Areas that exceed 15m in length and 10m in width must be compartmentalised by expansion joints.
- A perimeter expansion gap of a minimum of 10 mm is required around perimeter walls, permanent fixtures (benches, cabinetry, pipes, etc.). This gap can be covered with skirting, scotia or other profiles available.
- Skirting boards and door frames should be removed or undercut to allow for expansion.
- It is recommended a scotia / skirting of 15mm – 20mm is used as the floor may contract during colder periods / seasons allowing for coverage.

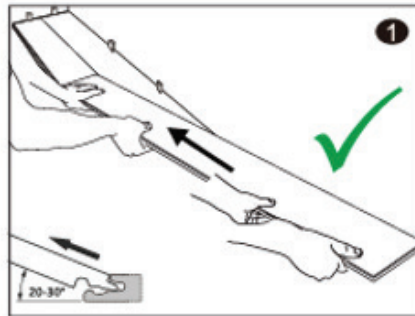
Note: Dunlop Flooring offer a range of trims for our Hybrid Plank ranges, that will cover these expansion gaps.

- Adhesives are not recommended for this product as it is a click floating system.
- In doorways between adjoining rooms, the use of expansion joints are to be utilised to compartmentalise the flooring to allow the area in the adjoining room to expand and contract independently.
- Do not install kitchen benches or fittings on top of the Hybrid planks. This will pin the floor in place and prevent it from floating freely.
- No fillers such as silicon or caulking agents are to be used around the perimeter of the installed area, as it will not allow the floor to float, expand and contract as it is designed to do.
- Never attach the skirting boards or scotia to the floor. This method does not allow the floor to expand and contract under the skirting boards/scotia.

HOW TO INSTALL

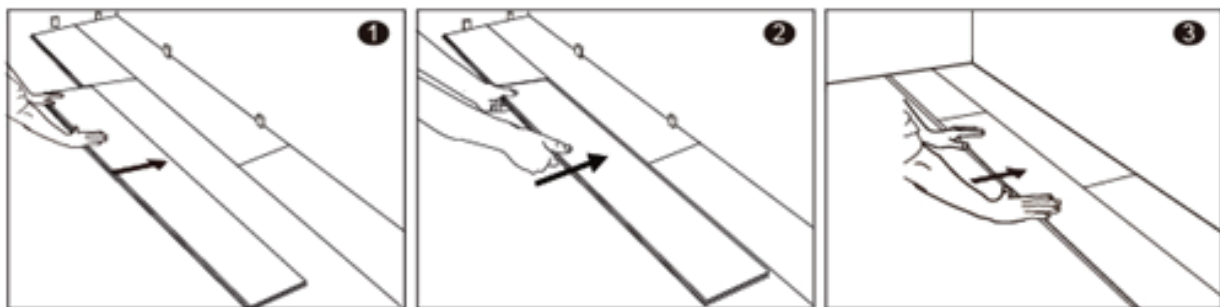
- These planks utilise an innovative Uniclic Angle to Angle locking mechanism. It is recommended to use an angle of between 20 – 30 ° when installing long and short sides. The boards can be installed using angle technique either pulling or pushing the boards to engage.

Angle top end – Tongue to groove – Male to female. Support the plank at an angle of 20 – 30°, engage the short side and lower board to the subfloor as per below photo.



How to Angle long end

Firstly, connect short side male into the female. Secondly, see below, slide the board toward the next board you want to engage into. Push / Pull the short end forward to get as close as possible to the long side. This should be done as straight as possible to allow the top joint to slide up towards the long end without friction or damage.



Thirdly, once you are as close as possible to the long side, line the plank up. Ensure the male is in the female the whole way along the long joint. Then engage by pushing or pulling into place. The board should now sit flat.

Visually check for no gapping or lipping. Run your hand along the joints to ensure it is smooth and level.

Disengagement / Separation of panels

DO NOT try to remove the board by simply lifting or pulling the plank up. To separate boards at short end if ever needed. It is recommended to Push left board forward, pull right board back. Again, ensure it is coming down along the channel parallel or it will be too tight to dis-engage, or it might fracture / damage the join.

- Planks are most commonly to be laid from left to right. The tongue in groove method is the most common and easiest way. Start with Groove away from the wall and always ensure a 10mm perimeter gap.

- Start with the first plank that will be installed in the corner. For planks of the first row (not in the corner), remove the click profile on the long side that will allow the plank to sit directly next to the wall. Any side of a plank that is directly next to a wall, must have its click profile removed, to ensure the required expansion gap of 10mm is maintained by the spacers.

- To make the start of the installation easier, assemble the first 3 rows away from the wall. Then slide the first 3 rows at the wanted position close to the wall with the required 10 mm distance spacers in place. Take a string line and hold it alongside the installed planks to check and adjust the straightness of your installed first 3 rows. It is recommended to make added checks throughout the install.

Note: End joins should never be closer than 150mm to the end joins of parallel rows. This weakens the stability of the floating installation and effects the aesthetics of the finished install.

Like natural flooring products, Hybrid flooring products also expand and contract with changes in temperature.

FINISHING OFF

- The perimeter of the floor can be finished by refitting any pre-existing trims that were removed for installation.

- Remember the use silicon or caulking agents will stop the floor from floating, expanding and contracting and will therefore void the warranty.

- At doorways, a door threshold strip is to be used to protect the edges of the floor and provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another



For more information contact Dunlop Flooring on
1800 622 293 or visit dunlopflooring.com.au