IBRIDO

PLANK INSTALLATION GUIDE

PREPARATION IS KEY

Please read all the instructions before you begin the installation. Improper installation will void warranty.

Prior to Installation

Please note that the installer is solely responsible for determining the overall suitability of the chosen flooring in each individual case. It is important that they install the floor carefully and with competence. Ideally the installer should be an appropriately trained flooring installer and be suitably competent to carry out the pre installation sub floor checking, preparation and installation procedures as per these instructions.

Any deviation from the installation guidelines could result in an invalidated warranty. If any doubts exist in terms of suitability as to your intended residential or commercial installation, clarify your intended use / installation with your supplier prior to the installation commencing as it is the installers responsibility to ensure the product is suitable for the end use rooms/areas.

It is possible to lay our floors over some under floor heating systems provided that the subfloor surface temperature does not exceed a maximum of 27 degrees centigrade and should not be subject to any radical changes in temperature. Please note that the ambient room temperature is always a lower temperature than the floor surface temperature, the degree of which will vary so always check the systems floor temperature sensors/ readings to determine the floor surface running temperature is below 27°c. If the underfloor heating system does not have floor sensors, please speak to the manufacturer of the heating system to enquire if one can be installed.

It is recommended to avoid using this product over an electric coil under floor heating system unless it is enclosed in a screed.

Sunlight entering windows/doors on hot sunny days can generate excessive surface temperatures as the sun enters through glass.

Fit blinds, curtains, or awnings to prevent excessive heat entering onto your flooring on hot sunny days.

Inspect your sub floor and ensure it is dry and you have a clear and clean base with which to start, with no dirt or grease. The subfloor must be level to 2mm within a 2m span.

Ensure any laboured repair work has been successfully carried out prior to install (large cracks, protrusions, loose boards etc).

It is possible to lay our floor directly over another existing floor provided the floor you are laying over is securely attached to the subfloor, lump free, level to 2mm over a 2metre span and clean.

If laying over tiles, please ensure that you level out any grout lines using a suitable repair compound and always adhere to the manufacturer's guidelines.

For floor surface areas exceeding 100m² and or lengths exceeding 15m you will need to put a break in the floor using expansion gaps and mouldings (see below section on expansion gap).

With a floating floor you must always ensure you leave an appropriate expansion gap between walls and fixtures such as pipes and pillars, stairs etc. These gaps will be covered with trim mouldings after the floor is installed. Tip: When installing around pipes, drill the holes 20mm larger than the diameter of the pipes (see below section on expansion gap).

Upon receipt of the packs ensure that no delivery damage is present. If any issues are found report and discuss them with your flooring supplier before opening and installing them.

Carefully examine the flooring product, the installer must determine that the job site environment and the subfloor surfaces involved meet, or exceed, the recommendations and instructions contained within this leaflet and all, applicable industry standards both British and European.

If any non recommended or non guaranteed usage restrictions are applicable to your particular installation then ensure that the decision to use the product is confirmed by the property owner as to install the product implies acceptance of the usage limitations. No product failure claims will be accepted where the flooring has been installed into any advised unsuitable or non-guaranteed restricted areas/rooms or over any non-recommended subfloors.

Recommendations regarding the construction of the materials used as well as local codes must be followed. These instructions recommend that the construction and subfloor be suitably dry, stiff, of suitable load bearing strength and flat, (as per B.S 8201: 2011& B.S 8204-1: 2003).

It is important that the installer checks each board for any type of defect. Any minor defects or objectionable elements within individual boards should be dealt with by trimming, and or cutting of the panels. This is normal, good installation practice, accommodated for by the wastage factor tolerance, which has been added to the job quantity.

An acclimatisation period of 24 hours is advised with the room temperature kept between 18-27°c. Excessively high or low temperatures may cause this product to expand or contract and lead to visual defect that will not be warranted.

Similarly, if the packs of flooring were exposed to extreme temperatures (under 10°c or over 38°c) for 2 hours or more, then an additional period of 12 hours acclimatisation is required.

During the normal 24 hour acclimatisation process please ensure that all the planks are lying flat to the floor.

Before installation is the best opportunity to inspect each individual plank, open one pack to confirm they are free of defects, and that their colour, finish and size are all correct.

- Check all click brackets are undamaged.
- Remember – No claims on surface defects will be acceptable after installation.
- Although this floor is waterproof it is not intended to be used as a moisture barrier. This product is also not to be installed in areas that have a risk of flooding such as wet rooms or outdoor areas.
- Measure the area to be installed: The board width of the last row shall not be less than 50mm. If so adjust the width of the first row to be installed. In narrow hallways, it is recommended to install the floor parallel to the length of the hall.
- Prior to fitting decide the installation direction. It is recommended to install the length direction of the planks parallel to the main light direction.
- For the best result, make sure to always work from 2 to 3 packs at a time mixing the planks during the installation.
- Calculate the room surface prior to installation and plan for an extra 10% of flooring for cutting waste.
- No glue or underlay is necessary; the floor should be clicked together and installed as a floating floor over the subfloor.

PLEASE NOTE:
Do not use any additional underlay other than that supplied attached to the backing of the board. If a separate soft underlay is used then excessive deflection of the boards and joints may occur underfoot and can lead to joint issues such as gapping and joint failure over time.
The manufacturer and distributor decline any responsibility for job failure resulting from, or associated with, sub-surfaces, sub flooring or job site environmental deficiencies, incorrect storage of the product, lack of or incorrect sub floor preparations and installation errors.

As our floor is backed with an underlay no separate/additional underlay is required beneath the product. It is designed to be installed without any additional underlay onto a suitably flat subfloor surface that does not allow any downward deflection of the boards beyond 2mm (as per BS standard above).

Our flooring is designed to be installed as a "floating floor", in that the planks should be locked together using their click profile edges and laid dry (un-glued) directly over a properly checked and prepared subfloor.

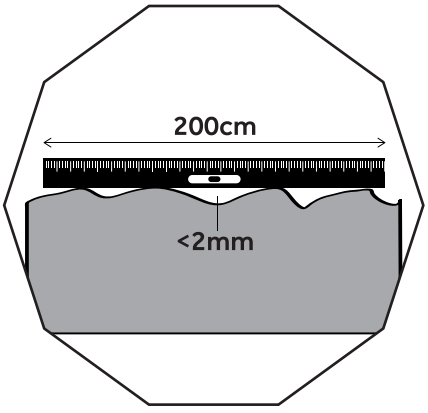
Any loose, soft or unsound existing floor coverings, eg lino, carpet etc, should be removed prior to installation.

Subfloor Preparation

Carry out any remedial works necessary to ensure the subfloor is less than 2mm variance per 2 linear meter run of subfloor before installing our flooring.

Concrete subfloors must have a moisture content by volume of below 3% and a relative humidity of less than 65% when checked with a hygrometer in accordance with B.S 8201:29011 & B.S 8204-1: 2003

Wood or wooden based subfloors must not have a moisture content in excess of 12%.



If the existing wooden subfloor is not suitably sound and any areas deflect or bounce underfoot the subfloor must be made stable and sound before the flooring is installed.

The subfloor surface should be free of all contaminants and loose material and must be appropriately flat dry and sound. If any doubts exist as to the suitability of your subfloors have it checked and repaired if necessary by an appropriate professional.

New and existing **sub floor surfaces must be solid, sound, flat and less than 2mm variance per 2 linear meter** run of subfloor as per B.S 8204 – 1: 2003.

NOTE: An uneven subfloor surface can result in joint failures, gapping, floor movement, excessive wear to high points and noise occurring from movement in the boards. Telegraphing of subfloor undulations, rough spots or high points can also occur with an uneven subfloor, all of the above mentioned issues, (resulting from uneven subfloors), are not covered by the product warranty.

Chipboard or ply panelled subfloors are suitable as long as they are appropriately sound, dry and flat.

Expansion Gap

It is advisable to leave applicable gaps when fitting this product.
Expansion gaps should be allowed around the edge of all walls to allow freedom of movement for any change in temperature.

As a guide we advise the following:

- For a standard room of up to 30m² – A minimum expansion gap of 5mm
- For larger rooms over 30m², in the path of direct sunlight or with under floor heating – a minimum expansion gap of 7mm. For rooms 15m in length and/or 100m² and above, expansion gaps must be allowed at all doorways.
- Do not use any type of filler in the expansion gaps.
- Unfortunately, the only type of room that is not suitable for this product would be conservatories, sunrooms or anywhere that constant direct sunlight is likely to impact the state and placement of your chosen floor.
- For any other queries on suitability, please call, the retailer you purchased the flooring from and they will advise on the best installation plan to suit your needs.
- As the floor can expand and contract do not place **kitchen units or kitchen islands** on top of the flooring but instead install the planks up to the units (allowing for the stated expansion gap), and cover the board ends with the unit plinths.

Tools Required

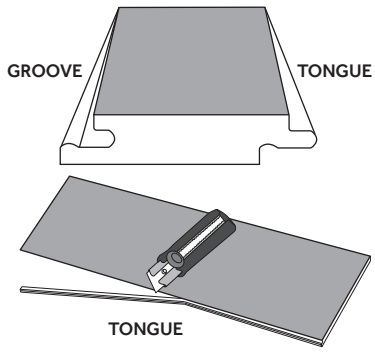
Utility Knife
Spacers
Hammer / Rubber Mallet
Straight Edge
Tapping Block
Tape Measure
Ruler
Pencil

Cutting shears may be required for special rounded cuts. If existing baseboard molding is difficult to remove, Quarter Round molding will be required to cover the expansion space needed between flooring and baseboard.

Installation

A

Remove the tongue (on the long side) from the first row of planks. This ensures the decorative surface is under the finished trim when installed. Use a utility knife to score through the tongue several times until it snaps off.

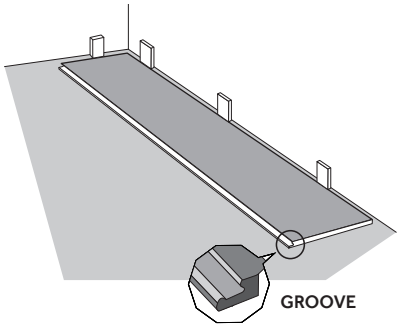


Note: The first plank may need to be trimmed for a better fit at the end of the installation. Measure the room and divide by the width of the plank. If there is a remainder of less than 2", cut first row accordingly.

Tip: Practice scoring on a plank prior to beginning installation.

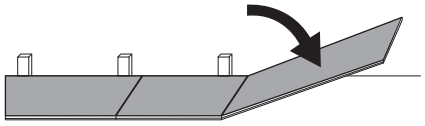
B

Starting in the left-hand corner, trimmed side towards the wall. Use spacers to maintain a minimum 5mm expansion gap between the wall and the flooring.



C

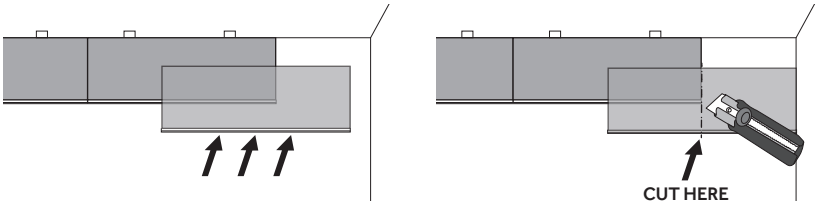
Join first and second plank ends by lifting and inserting tongue into groove of the first plank and rotating into place. Line up edges and corners carefully.



D

Continue to the last full plank. To fit the last plank, turn it over (face down). Place the plank in the corner so the tongue on the short end touches the adjacent wall. Measure using the installed plank (on the bottom on the upside-down plank) as a guide. This should leave the required distance from the wall.

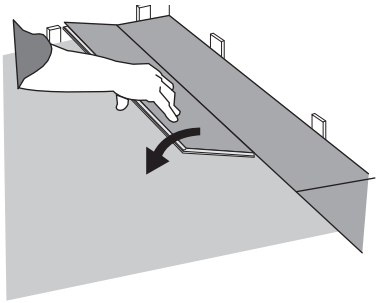
Using a sharp utility knife and a straight edge, score a line on the top surface of the plank. Score and snap. Replace utility knife blade if not splitting cleanly.



Note: End piece must be longer than 8". This may require a cut to start the row, depending on size of the room(s).

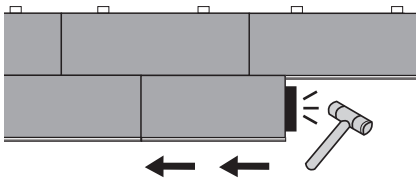
E

Use leftover piece from previous row to begin the next to stagger pattern. This piece should be a minimum of 8" (20cm) long and the joint offset from the previous row should be at least 10" (26cm) apart. Attach plank by tilting up 15–25° and rotate down to click into place. The plank will click into place with light pressure.



F

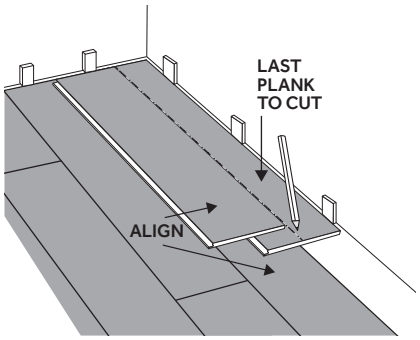
Install the next plank by inserting the tongue of the long side into the existing row. Align short ends. Tap gently with tapping block and mallet



Note: Tap block should touch the top of the groove only. Continue placing planks long side first, tap short ends.

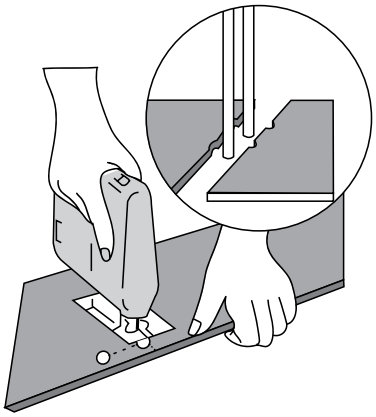
G

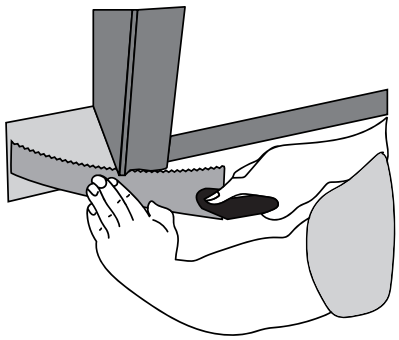
To fit last row, lay panel on top of the previous row. With the plank against the wall, mark a line down each of the planks. Be sure to keep the loose plank against the wall. Disengage the row and cut the pieces along the marked line. This will become the last row. Continue the installation. Remember to use a different length on the first and last piece. After the row is installed, the cut row will fit into place with the appropriate space being left for expansion.



H

For door frames/heating vents, allow expansion space. Mark and cut plank accordingly. Trim door frames by laying plank upside down and sawing the necessary height. Install quarter round moulding with finishing nails directly into the baseboard, not the flooring.





Maintenance Tips & Warnings

Maintenance: Use dust mop or broom daily. Clean with moist cloth or mop and light detergent. Never use polish, wax, oil soaps etc. as they can damage or leave film on the flooring.

Tips: Use felt tip protectors. Keep pet nails trimmed. Don't slide furniture – use pads. Use area rugs. Beware of spikes/heels. Keep floors clean.

Warning: Never use rubber protective mats.

For any additional questions or concerns regarding the Installation of this product please contact your retailer of purchase directly and they will be able to assist.

Warranty

SPC is warranted to be free of material and workmanship defects. Examine ALL products before installation. Do not install questionable planks.

Warranty covers finish, wear, and stain under normal residential use. In case of a claim, we may repair or replace product. Warranty covers product cost only. Claims must be in writing to place of purchase.

Failure to follow procedures may void warranty. This limited warranty is non-transferable and applies only to the original end user.