

## Floating Floor Installation – Clic System (Glueless)

This flooring must be installed with floating, glueless installation only. This flooring should NOT be installed using fasteners or adhesives of any kind. Use of adhesives or fasteners may result in damage to the floor and may void the product warranty.

### STEP 1: Establish a Starting Point

- Installation parallel to the longest wall is recommended for best visual effects, however, the floor should be installed perpendicular to the flooring joists unless subfloor has been reinforced to reduce subfloor sagging. Find appropriate subfloor from "Subfloor Type" section in this instruction manual.
- When possible, always begin layout or installation from an outside wall, as these are normally the straightest. It is important that the flooring be installed in perfectly straight rows parallel to the starting wall.
- Pre-plan the floor by counting the number of planks (in width) that it will take to complete the floor. Avoid finishing out with a rip narrower than 2". Plan to start the first row with a partial board, ripping it to the necessary width to avoid a narrow rip on the final wall.
- In at least two places 12"-16" from the corner, measure out equal distance from the starting wall and snap a chalk line. The chalk should be of a bright color so that it is visible through the underlayment or adhesive. Ascertain that the wall is straight. If it is not, scribe the first row to allow for irregularities.

### STEP 2: Installing the Underlayment

- Install the underlayment before installing the flooring. For best results use "Allwood's All in One" EVA underlayment.
- Roll the underlayment in the same direction that the wood flooring is to be installed.
- Extend the underlayment a few inches up the wall. Excess will be trimmed off prior to installing trim or moldings.
- Firmly bond the sheets together to cover the entire floor. The floating floor underlayment already has double-sided tape for ease of taping the precut overlapping seams.

### STEP 3: Installing the Floor

- **REMEMBER: DO NOT USE GLUE OR FASTENERS OF ANY KIND WHEN INSTALLING THIS PRODUCT.**
- Definition:
  - **Angle-In Installation:** Hold the new board at an angle of 20° to 30° to the previously installed board, and engage the tongue and groove joint at the butt end of the boards. Move the new board gently up and down while exerting gentle pressure along the long side of the board. The long side joint will click into place, locking the joint. This is the easiest method for installation and should be used for most boards.
  - **Flat Installation:** the new board is laid flat on the floor aligned to the previously installed board and, using a specially designed Unilin tapping block (available from your dealer) the boards are tapped together gently until the joint locks. Do not try to close the joint with a single hit on the block; use a series of light taps until the joint closes completely. This method should only be used in situations where the Angle-In method is not feasible, or for tapping closed joints that have not locked completely.
- Racking the floors: Open 2 or 3 packages of flooring and inspect boards to ensure there are no manufacturing defects. Remember, boards that have been installed will be deemed to have been inspected and accepted by the customer.
- Select your starting wall and check for straightness as described above. Decide in which direction you want to install (the flooring can be installed left to right or right to left). This manual will describe a left-to-right installation.

- Start at the left hand end of the starting wall. Have a quantity of 3/8" (10mm) spacers handy. Begin with a full board. Saw off the tongue on both the long and short sides of the board, and place the board with the sawn butt end against the wall on the left, and the sawn long side facing the starting wall, but set out about two feet from the starting wall. Insert a spacer at the left end of the board and nudge the board against the wall.
- Take a shorter board to begin the second row, and angle in to position against board 1, fitting together the long side joint. Place a spacer at the left hand end of the second board. NOTE: Lay a heavy object like a full box of the flooring on the end of the first two boards to help keep them in position while you continue the installation
- Install board 3. Hold it at an angle and fit the butt end joint into the end of board 2. Drop board 3 slightly to engage the butt joint, then lift boards 2 and 3 together and move gently up and down while pressing forward until the long side joint of board 3 locks into board 1. Ensure that all butt joints are staggered by a minimum of 6".
- Take board 4 and saw off the tongue joint on the long side only. Hold it at angle and fit the butt end joint into the end of board 1. Drop board 4 slightly to engage the butt joint with board 1, then lift board 1 & 4 together and move gently up and down while pressing forward until the long side joint of board 4 locks into board 3. (Kneeling on board 3 while you do this will help hold everything in place.)
- Install board 5 in the same fashion as board 3. Install board 6 in the same fashion as board 4. Continue until you have completed two full rows. At the end of the row, cut boards to fit, but remember to leave expansion space at the end of the row as well.
- NOTE: Start rows with a variety of different lengths of boards. You can also use off cuts from previous row ends to begin new rows, as long as they are minimum 6" (15cm) in length. Remember to stagger butt joints by a minimum of 6" (15cm).
- Continue installing in this manner until you have completed three or four full rows. Insert a series of expansion spacers along the starting wall and slide the assembled flooring against the starting wall.
- If a board cannot be angled into place – if it is under a door jamb or other obstacle, for example - use the flat installation method. Use tapping block and tap lightly into place.
- Lay the board flat on the floor and, using a special Unilin tapping block and hammer, gently tap along the edge until the joint is closed. Tap gently and repeatedly; do not use excessive force. To close a butt joint, use a series of light taps. To close a long side joint, tap gently and repeatedly along the entire length of the joint.
- Continue with the installation throughout the rest of the room. When you get to the final row, measure the distance to the far wall and 'rip' a row of boards to fit the gap – remember to leave 3/8" (10mm) expansion space against the far wall.
- To finish the job, trim away the excess vapor barrier around the perimeter of the floor and remove the expansion spacers. Install moldings, trim and transitions. Moldings and transitions must be affixed either to the subfloor or to the wall – never to the flooring itself.