EMILY MORROW HOME

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

For best results, we suggest using a National Wood Flooring Association Certified Professional to install your floor. A list of active NWFA Certified Professionals in your area can be found online at www.nwfacp.org

Prior to installation, installer should check material for appropriate grade, color, graining and finish quality. Installer should STOP THE JOB if any defects that are detectable by the eye or revealed through attempt to install are present. The manufacturer cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Installer must test the subfloor for humidity with a Tramex Commercial Concrete Moisture Meter or equivalent, to ensure the proper levels are present so that floor- ing will perform properly (35%-65%):

Note: Wood flooring installed in areas where the relative humidity is below 35% may cup, shrink in width/length, or crack and in these dry conditions a humidifier is necessary to bring relative humidity above 35%. Flooring installed on top of wet sub floors may crown, (and then cup), swell, (and then shrink), buckle, telegraph, or edge/tip raise. Flooring that is soaked from above will do the same.

***DO NOT INSTALL THIS FLOORING ON WET SUBFLOORS OR IN OVERLY DRY CONDITIONS without first correcting any deficient conditions.

Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the job site and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. The manufacturer is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory job site and/or subfloor conditions.

Temperature should stay between 65-75°F and should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least a week before installation of wood flooring. Humidity should be maintained between 30-50% RH with 6-9% MC levels.

Store the wood flooring in the installation area for 24 -72 hours before installation to allow flooring to adjust to room temperature. Do not store the boxes of flooring directly on concrete.

PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Subfloor should be structurally sound, clean (swept and free of wax, grease, paint, sealers & old adhesive residue which can be removed by sanding), flat to 3/16" in 10', Dry with moisture in plywood subfloors not to exceed 11% or concrete sub- floors with less than 3.5 pounds moisture as measured by Tramex Commercial Concrete Moisture Meter.

It is highly recommended, that if gluing down on concrete use the Bostik or Mapei Moisture Barrier Systems with specific products as appropriate for the particular job site conditions, and

they provide warranties to you. Ceramic tile, resilient tile and sheet vinyl covered Subfloors must be well-bonded to subfloor, in good condition, clean and level - defined as flat to 3/16″ in 10′.

Do not sand existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos.
Radiant heat: Use only floating installation over radiant heat. Subfloor surface temperature should never exceed 80°F. Check with radiant heat manufacturer's suggested guidelines to limit the maximum water temperature inside heating pipes. Switch off heating unit one or two days before flooring installation and bring heat up slowly after installation.

INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods: Tape measure, Tapping block (or trimmed piece of flooring), Pencil, Pry bar, Chalk line, Wood or plastic spacers (3/8″), Crosscut power saw, Hammer, 3M Blue Tape specifically designated for use with wood flooring.

Flooring adhesives: Use Bostik, Mapei, Sikabond, Stauf 9320, XL Brands or other urethane adhesive appropriate for the subfloor and flooring type.

(Note: Use only urethane adhesives – DO NOT USE water based mastics as they will cause this floor to fail)

On concrete slabs, which are on/below grade, we strongly recommend using the Bostik or Mapei Moisture Barrier Systems. Trowel per flooring adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.

For staple-down installation, you will also need:

Industrial Flooring Stapler or PowerNail Cleat nailer (model 2000F) with appropriate adapter shoe to assure the proper position for the L-shaped cleat / narrow crown staples 1/4″– 3/8″ x 1-1/2″ staples. Or 11/4″ hardwood flooring cleats (20 gauge) designed for engineered flooring, spaced as follows; every 3-4″ with staples, every 4-6″ with cleats, and within 1-2″ of end joints. For thick subfloors, and installer may choose to use 1-3/4″ staples or cleats (18 gauge).

For floating installation, you'll also need: 6-mil poly film, an underlayment designed for use with floating hardwood floors, Taylor 2049 Floating Tongue & Groove Adhesive, 3M Blue Tape designated for use with wood flooring.

Acceptable Subfloor Types:
• Plywood (at least 23/32″ thick), Underlayment grade particleboard -floating/glue-down only), OSB PS2 rated (at least 23/32″ thick) – Note: Some particle board and OSB may not be compatible with some flooring adhesives, resulting in flooring installation failure and/or squeaky floors. We recommend you test compatibility prior to installation as issues related to subfloor are not covered in this warranty.
• Concrete slab (floating/glue-down only)
• Existing wood floor
• Ceramic tile (floating/glue-down only)
• Resilient tile & sheet vinyl (floating/glue-down only)

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION
—Make sure subfloor is tested for moisture first and is properly prepared.

—Since wood expands with any increase in moisture content, always leave at least a 3/8" expansion space between flooring and all walls and any other permanent vertical objects, (such as pipes and cabinets). This space will be covered up once you reapply base moldings around the room. Use wood or plastic spacers during installation to maintain this 3/8" expansion space.
—When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 8". When cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. If cut-off end is 8" in length or less, discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length and use it to start the next row. Always begin each row from the same side of the room.
—To achieve the best visual, do not use boards less than 16" in the middle of the installation. Instead, separate out the shortest pieces and use them as starter boards against the wall.
—Work from several open boxes of flooring and "dry lay" the floor before permanently laying the floor, but never open more than a few boxes in advance. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colors and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. It also allows you the opportunity to select out very dark/ light pieces for use in hidden areas in order to create a more uniform floor. Remember, it is the installers' responsibility to set the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.
—To draw planks together, always use a tapping block, (a short piece of flooring), and hammer, as tapping the flooring itself will result in edge damage. When near a wall, you can use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints. Take care not to damage edge of flooring. For glue down & floating applications, use 3M Blue Tape (designated for use with wood flooring) to hold any pieces, which might have side bow and the need to hold them straight & tight until the adhesive sets up.

—Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight work- ing line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank plus about 3/8" for expansion space. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is out of straight.
—You may want to dry lay a few rows, (no glue or nails), before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line.

NOTE: If the flooring is to be installed adjacent to any cabinets, install cabinets first and run the floor to the cabinets. Do not install the cabinets on top of the floor. Water damage is common around cabinets and it will be much harder to spot repair the floor if the cabinets are installed on top of the flooring.

RECOMMENDED - GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION
Make sure subfloor is tested for moisture content first and is properly prepared (as referenced above).
—On concrete subfloors, which are on or below grade (ground level), always assume the worst and even if they measure dry, we now recommend taking the following installation steps to ensure a trouble-free installation. The cost of the Moisture Barrier system is little when compared to costs to rip out and replace a floor which has failed due to high moisture from the subfloor.
We recommend using the following, Mapei or Bostik both now offer Moisture Barrier Systems on which they provide a warranty that moisture will not pass through and damage your wood flooring.

*****DO NOT use water based adhesives!**

Follow adhesive instructions for proper trowel size and adhesive set time before beginning installation of flooring.

Once the spread adhesive has setup sufficiently per adhesive manufacturer's instructions, lay the first row of flooring with groove facing the wall, and continue laying flooring. Always check your working lines to be sure the floor is still aligned. Use tapping block to fit planks together, but be careful not to let installed floor move on the wet adhesive while you are working. When first section is finished, continue to spread adhesive and lay flooring section by section until installation is complete. Use urethane adhesive cleaner on a damp cloth to immediately remove any adhesive that gets on flooring surface. Warning – DO NOT allow adhesives to dry on the finished flooring as it is very difficult to remove it once dried without damaging the flooring. For info on an adhesive remover: Bostik's Ultimate Urethane Adhesive Remover. Remember to stagger end joints from row to row.

Always leave at least a 3/8" expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects (such as pipes and cabinets). Use wood or plastic spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space.

Walk each section of flooring in order to make sure it is well bonded to the subfloor within the adhesive working time. Floor- ing planks on the perimeter of the room may require weight on them until adhesive cures enough to hold them down. Make sure the floor is clean from debris to avoid unwanted denting.

STAPLE/ NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION
Make sure subfloor is tested for moisture content first and is properly prepared and documented. Use Industrial Flooring Stapler from Bostik or Powernail – air stapler/nailer with 1/2" Nail down adapter or a stapler/nailer of your choice after testing to make sure that stapling/nailing will not cause dimpling in the finished floor.

For the first and second starting rows: Lay first plank inside chalk line with grooved edge toward wall. Loose Lay entire first row in the same manner. Always leave at least a 3/8" expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects (such as pipes and cabinets). Use wood or plastic spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space. In order to affix these first rows, use screws to set a strong and straight starting row rather than face nailing. Begin the subsequent rows, and once you have installed enough flooring whereby the nailer will not move the starter row off alignment, unscrew the starter row, throw away the damaged pieces and glue down replacement boards with a urethane adhesive. Set weight on top of these rows and allow them to set.

Subsequent rows: Lay by using floor nailer/stapler to blind-nail top inside edge of tongue at a 45 degree angle. Nail each board every 4-6" and within 2" of each end. Remember to stagger end joints from row to row and use a tapping block to fit boards together. It may be necessary to face-nail in doorways or tight areas where the nailer/stapler can't fit, (or glue down in these areas and weight them while the mastic sets). The last two rows will need to be face-nailed, (or glued down with urethane adhesive), in the same manner as the first two rows.

WARNING – Stapling/nailing can cause dimpling on the face if stapled incorrectly. Always make sure to visually check the installed floor as you go to ensure that the stapling/nailing is not causing dimpling on the face. (Note: be sure to look at the face of the installed flooring at a low angle from

a distance to see if dimpling is occurring as it is hard to see when directly above the floor.) If dimpling does occur, STOP and adjust the stapler/nailer shoe and angle/place of staple entry in order to avoid it. The manufacturer is not responsible for dimpling.

FLOATING INSTALLATION

Make sure subfloor is tested for moisture content first and is properly prepared. Not all underlayments are the same. ALL underlayment's must be approved prior to installation by the manufacturer and confirmed in writing for the warranty to apply.

—Laying an underlayment of polyfilm: If below or on grade, first lay a 6-mil polyfilm with seams overlapped 8″. Fasten seams every 18-24″ with duct tape. Run the outside edges of film up perimeter of each wall 4″ (trim after flooring installation is complete.)

Laying foam: Lay Foam Underlayment by butting edges, not overlapping. Tape full length of the seam.

—Installing the floor: Start first row with groove toward wall. Glue end joints of first row by applying a small but continuous bead of WF Taylor 2049 Floating Tongue & Groove Adhesive to bottom side of the side groove. Always leave at least a 3/8″ expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects (such as pipes and cabinets).

— Use wood or plastic spacers during installation to maintain this expansion space. Lay subsequent rows of flooring by applying glue to side and end joints and fitting planks together with a tapping block.

—Remember to stagger end joints from row to row at least 8″ apart. Clean up any adhesive on the floor by using a rag damp with water or mineral spirits – DO NOT allow adhesive to dry on the flooring face as it is difficult to then remove with- out damaging the flooring face.

DOUBLE GLUE WITH UNDERLAYMENT INSTALLATION

*****Gluing underlayment and hardwood to a subfloor is a considered a commercial application. This is considered a system of materials that must all work together. DO NOT INSTALL OVER UNDERLAYMENT WITHOUT WRITTEN CONFIRMATION FROM THE HARDWOOD MANUFACTURER THAT ADHESIVE AND UNDERLAYS ARE APPROVED and will be done so on a case by case basis.**

AFTER INSTALLATION

—Clean up any adhesive that is on the face of the floor by using a damp rag – DO NOT allow adhesive to dry on the floor- ing face as it is difficult to then remove without damaging the flooring face.

—If you decide to cover the floor , (to allow the other construction trades to continue working), in order to protect the floors prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use red rosin (or other protective, breathable material) to cover the floors. Tape protective paper only to itself and to walls or baseboards. NEVER TAPE DIRECTLY TO HARDWOOD FLOOR. The plasticizers in the tape may create a stronger bond to the finish than the finish to the wood itself, resulting in finish de-lamination, this is not a manufacturer issue.designed for use on finishes and other tapes may pull and damage the finish when removing it.

DO NOT USE plastic film or other non breathing type coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.

—Remove expansion spacers and reinstall base and/or quarter round moldings to cover the expansion space.
—Install any transition pieces that may be needed to cover required expansion spaces and transitions (reducer, T-moldings, nosing, etc.).
—Do not allow foot traffic or heavy furniture on floor for 24 hours (if glue-down or floating). —Dust mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the following information in regard to the proper maintenance of your wood flooring. In order to protect your new hardwood floor and to keep it looking new, it is important to follow some basic procedures to protect it for years to come. Our factory finish is one of the most advanced finishes made today. The finish contains aluminum oxide which offers increased protection that allows for a better wearing finish, yet the finish is still capable of scratching and losing some of the gloss level. By simply following our recommendations the floor will give you years of service.

RECOMMENDED COMMERCIAL FLOOR CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Preventative Care

1. Prior to placing furniture, heavy objects, or equipment on the hardwood floor, floor protectors should be placed on all legs or corners to prevent scratching or denting of the hardwood floor. Do not slide or drag objects across floor as they may scratch and/or dent the hardwood flooring.

2. Place commercially rated mats at all exterior entrances to absorb street dirt and moisture. The mats need to be periodically cleaned, changed or dried out as often as needed. In addition, place mats at high-wear traffic areas and/or pivot points. Example – checkout counters. Keep in mind that mats or area rugs may cause color differences due to variation in light exposure.

3. Maintain a humidity level between 35% - 55% Relative Humidity to help reduce and minimize gapping which can be more noticeable on lighter colored woods or stains.

4. When possible avoid direct sunlight from hitting the surface of the flooring as Ultraviolet light can change the appearance of wood flooring causing discoloration.

Routine Maintenance - COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

1. Sweep, vacuum, or dust mop daily to remove loose dirt or grit from the surface of the flooring. Doing so will help to prevent wear and scratches on the finish. Use only a soft bristle type broom or vacuum attachment that is recommended for hardwood floors. For dust mopping use only an untreated electrostatic type dust mop such as Swiffer® distributed by Proctor & Gamble. For information on Swiffer call 1-800-214-8734. Scrubbing machinery or power scrubbers are not recommended to clean the floor.

2. Blot up liquids immediately with a clean dry cloth. Do not allow spills or puddles to remain on the floor for an ex- tended period of time as it may cause damage to the wood flooring.

3. For routine cleaning — Use the Bona® Swedish Formula® Hardwood Floor Care System or Basic Coatings Squeaky Cleaner. For information on Bona Kemi products call 1-800-574-4674 (8-5 MST) or go to www.bonakemi.- com Information on Basic Coatings can be obtained by calling 1-800-441-1934 (8-5 CST) or visit www.basiccoatings.com. You may also use equivalent products made for cleaning pre-finished engineered hardwood.

4. Apply Hardwood Floor Cleaner to a clean rag to remove heels marks or stains.

5. Do not damp mop floor with water or allow water to remain on the floor as it may damage the flooring.Avoid the use of products that contain oils or wax that may leave a residue allowing the floor to be slippery or sticky and in addition these materials may prevent future coats of finish from properly bonding to the original factory finish.

REPAIR PROCEDURES

Use fillers or available touch up kits to help repair minor scratches and/ or gouges in the floor. In the event that a board has become damaged beyond repair it is possible to remove an individual board and replace it with a new one according to our installation instructions regarding single board replacement.

RECOATING PROCEDURES
When the hardwood floors have lost their shine, they usually can be recoated to restore the desired gloss level using the Bona PrepTM system with Bona TrafficTM or Bona StrongTM finishes or Basic Coating's Tykote® System with Street Shoe® or Street Shoe® XL. Prior to recoating the floors the finish manufacturer instructions must be followed properly to help ensure a successful application of finish.

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Made in the USA 🇺🇸 from American hardwood

To join our program call 📲 1-866-775-3877