



Arimar's Solid Hardwood Flooring Installation Instructions

Inspect Material for defects

SUBFLOOR:

1. 5/8" minimum thickness, preferred 3/4" or thicker plywood installed with long edges at a right angle to the 16" on center floor joists and staggered so that the end joints in adjacent panels break over different joists. Nail at each bearing with 6d threaded or 8d common nails spaced 10" on center along intermediate joists.
2. 1" x 4" to 6" wide, square edge, kiln dried coniferous lumber, laid diagonally over 16" on center wooden joists. The ends of all boards are to be cut parallel to the center of the joists for solid bearing. Face nail each board solidly at every bearing on the joists with two nails (7d threaded or 8d common).
3. 23/32" minimum O.S.B. on 19.2-inch maximum center floor joists with system properly nailed or minimum 7/8" subfloor with 24" on center floor joists or trusses.
4. Baseboards should be installed so that their lower edge is slightly above the level of the finished floor, but not nailed into the finished floor.
5. Basement and crawl spaces must be dry and ventilated when plank or strip flooring is to be installed over them. In crawl spaces a vapor barrier should be provided. Follow local building codes or black vapor barrier must be provided below subfloor on the ground. (6 mil. black)
6. Plank or Strip flooring is not to be installed below grade.
7. All subfloors, new construction or existing should be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. In general wood or plywood subfloors should not exceed 14% moisture content, or 4% moisture content difference between 2 1/4" wood flooring and subfloor, or 2% moisture content difference with plank floor. Check with your local distributor for your geographical variances.
8. Subfloor should be flat or made to be flat to 3/16" in a 8'ft. radius.
9. Particle board of any thickness is NOT ALLOWED!
10. Adequate and proper nailing as well as soundness of the subfloor should be ascertained. Foreign material shall be removed from the subfloor surface and swept clean.
11. The clean subfloor shall be covered wall to wall with 15lb. asphalt saturated felt, Aquabar®B, Moisture Mat. Lap the edges of this felt 4" when positioning it. Double the felt around heat ducts that may be in the floor.

GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Acclimation Instructions:** The "acclimation period" is the time which the hardwood floor is left in the environment in which it is going to be used. This acclimation period can vary greatly depending on the starting moisture content of the wood, the species and size of the planks. The greater the mass the longer it may take to acclimate; wider material will take longer than narrower material and factory finished wood will take longer to acclimate than unfinished wood.
To properly acclimate the wood flooring to the interior conditions of the building, the flooring needs to be removed from its boxes and cross stacked to allow airflow around the planks.
The installer must document the moisture content of the flooring or the sub-floor before beginning the work. The planks need to be acclimated to within 2% - 3% difference from the subfloor as per NWFA guidelines for plank flooring. Once the flooring has reached the EMC, equilibrium moisture content) required, the floor is ready for installation. It is the responsibility of the professional installer to insure that the wood has been properly acclimate and bring to the attention of their client any abnormalities or an

possible issue that may occur during or after installation.

2. Flooring should be laid at right angles to the floor joists and if possible in the direction of the longest dimension in the room.
3. Begin laying the flooring in a room corner with the groove of the flooring facing the wall. Provided not less than 3/4" expansion space or what will be covered by the baseboard and trim specified for the job.
4. End joints should be staggered to achieve the best appearance in the finished floor (Min. 6").
5. Nailing should be scheduled with the first run and last run of flooring to be faced nailed then countersunk, face nails should be placed in face of wood in grain to match filler/putty. 2 1/4" wide material should be nailed or stapled every 8" to 10". Plank should be nailed or stapled every 6" to 8". Also nailing is required within 2" to 3" of the end joints.
6. 3/4" plank and strip are pre-finished wood flooring products. Be sure to check nail gun faceplate to insure it will not damage the surface finish. (See fig. 1)
7. Both 3/4" plank and strip have a U.V. cured, Alpha Alumina polyurethane finish.
8. To avoid dimensional change and movement in hardwood flooring the Relative Humidity should be maintained year round at 35%-55% Relative Humidity. Exotic wood species require special attention as to acclimation, nailing and/or sanding.

Note

- Wood flooring not recommend for wet areas, full baths or shower rooms.
- Do not sand any subfloor that may contain asbestos or lead.
- Do not install over radiant heated floors.
- Do not install any product with visible defects.
- ALL crawl spaces must have 6mil. Black Polyethylene covering surface of crawlspace or follow local building codes.
- On or above grade only.
- For special applications such as glue to concrete call distributor or manufacturer. (No full spread applications)

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