



INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR FLOATING CORK FLOORS

TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND ACCLIMATIZATION

Transport and store cartons in a horizontal position. Tiles and adhesive must be acclimated on-site in its original packaging. Store on site 48 hours prior to installation so that the flooring can adapt to the ambient conditions. Remove the tiles from the original package just before starting the installation.

During storage and installation, maintain temperature and R.H. at a level similar to the conditions which will prevail when the building is in service. This means keeping the temperature range of 18 °C to 28 °C (65 °F to 82 °F) / R.H. at 35% to 65%

Evora Cork Flooring is a natural product and some shade variation is an inherent characteristic. To achieve a pleasing blend of shades, mix the tiles before installation.

INSPECTION

- Before installation, inspect the tiles in day light for any visible damage or defect

PREPARATION

SUBFLOORS

Evora Cork floating floors can be installed in indoor areas and in almost all commercial and residential areas, except in bathrooms, saunas and persistently high humidity areas. Evora Cork floating floors can be installed on most hard surfaces, such as resilient flooring, wooden floors and ceramic/stone floor tiles; soft floors such as carpet and similar must be removed.

The subfloor must be regular, flat, dry, and the unevenness should not exceed 3 mm in 2 m (0.12" in 6.6 feet). All kinds of concrete, wood and ceramic/stone surfaces must be completely dry.

Important: do not install Evora Cork floating floors without the use of PE film, moisture barrier with a thickness of at least 0.2 mm (.008"), going up 5cm on the walls and fixed objects.

MAXIMUM ACCEPTABLE MOISTURE:

Type of Subfloor	% CM Moisture Content	
	Heated	Not-Heated
Concrete	1,8	2,0
Anidrite	0,3	0,5

SUBFLOORS WITH UNDERFLOOR HEATING:

The temperature of the subfloor surface must not exceed 28 °C (82 °F) all hot water pipes and electrical heating elements must be embedded in the screed. For more information about installing Evora Cork floating floors on radiant subfloors, please contact a BuildDirect representative at 1-877-631-2845.

EXPANSION JOINTS:

Evora Cork floating floors are installed as a "floating floor", so the boards should not be fixed to the subfloor. Skirting boards cannot exert downward pressure so as to restrict movement of the floor. Leave a 10 mm (1/2") expansion gap next to the walls and other fixed



INSTALLATION

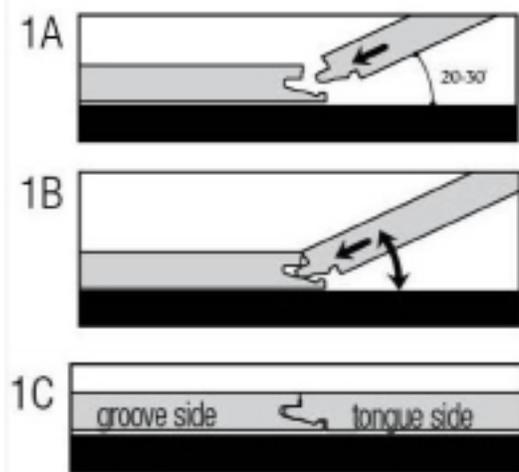
objects. Areas above 100 m² (900 square feet) or longer than 10 m (30 ft.) in any direction, transitions between two floor areas and asymmetric compartments require extra expansion gaps.

GENERAL:

Uniclic® is unique because you can install the planks in two different ways:

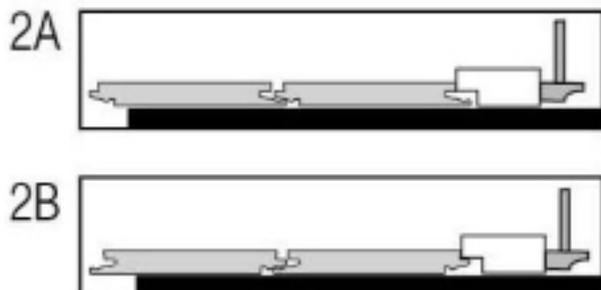
Method A - Angle-In installation method:

Position the panel to be installed at an angle of 20 to 30° to the panel already installed. Move the panel gently up and down and at the same time exert forward pressure. The panels will automatically click into place. You can either insert the tongue into the groove, or the groove on to the tongue. The tongue in groove method is the most common and the easiest way. See diagram 1A-1B-1C.



Method B - Flat installation method:

With Uniclic® you can also tap the panels into each other without lifting. For this method you must use the special Uniclic® tapping block. The planks should not be joined with a single tap and the tapping block should be sitting flat on the floor. To avoid damaging the panels you must tap them together gradually. see diagram 2A-2B.



Use this method only in cases where you are unable to use the Angle-In method (see below). The rest of your floor should be installed using the Angle-In method.

TOOLS FOR INSTALLING THE FLOOR:

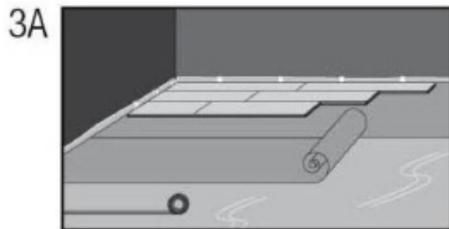
Besides the regular tools for installing glueless floating floors (i.e. hammer, saw, pencil, measure) you will also need the following accessories: pull bar, spacers (1-10 mm/0.039"-0.315") and Uniclic®-adapted tapping block, you may also need to saw the panels. To obtain a clean cut, the pattern side should face down when you use a jigsaw, sabre saw or circular handsaw and up when you use a handsaw, table saw or a crosscut saw.

FOCUS POINTS:

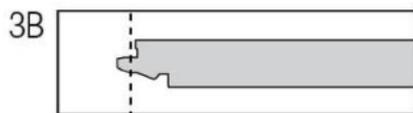
Thanks to the Uniclic® system, the floor floats and is installed without glue. You can walk on the floor during and immediately after installation. With Uniclic® panels you can choose where you want to begin. For right-handed people, from left to right - you can work in the other direction if you want. The floor should preferably be installed parallel to the main source of light. The ideal conditions are 15-20°C (59-68°F) at a relative humidity of 50-60%. Ensure that the end joints of the panels in two successive rows are never in line. Always ensure that the joints are staggered by at least 15 cm / 6 inches. We recommend you purchase a few extra cartons of flooring; this will be useful you have some damaged pieces, miscalculate the size of the room or miss cut some pieces. This also will help you if your floor needs a repair but your product is no longer manufactured.

INSTALLING THE FLOOR:

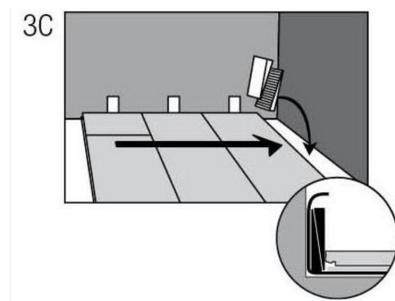
Install the damp-proof moisture barrier with adhesive tape as provided. For concrete, let the membrane run up the wall a bit before cutting to size. For wood, cut the moisture barrier 1 inch from the wall. A molding will be attached to this later. See diagram 3A.



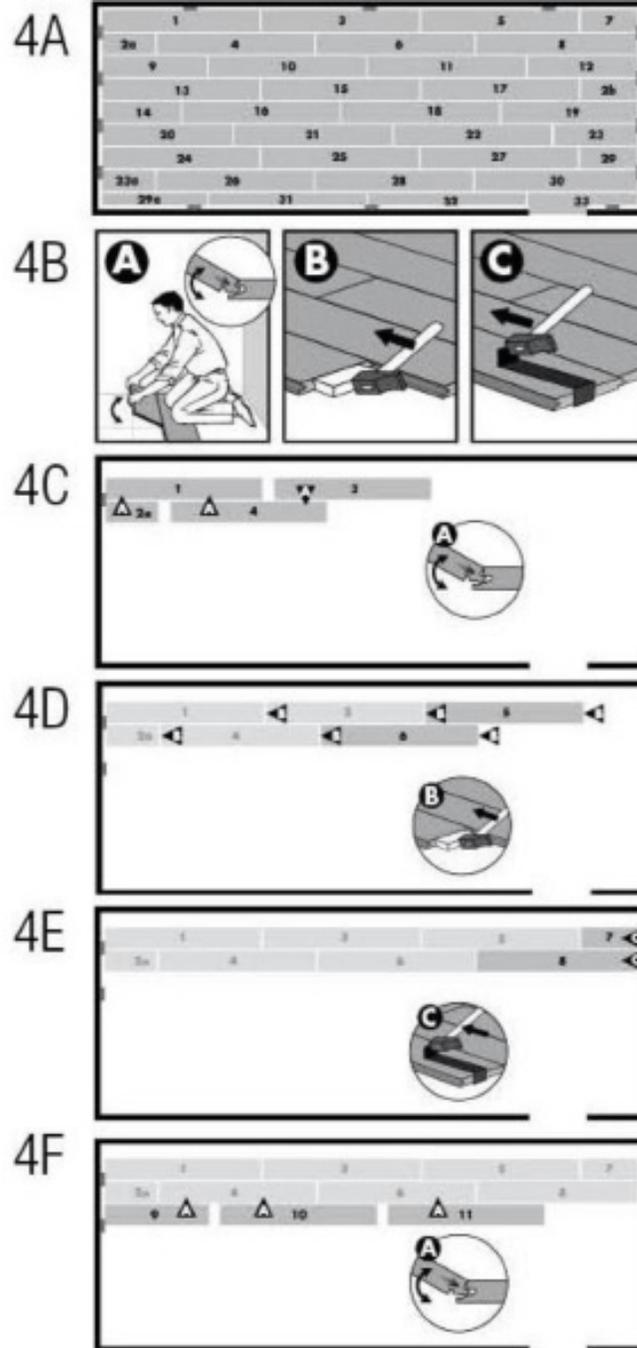
Begin the first row with a whole plank. First saw off the tongue on both the long and the short sides. See diagram 3B.



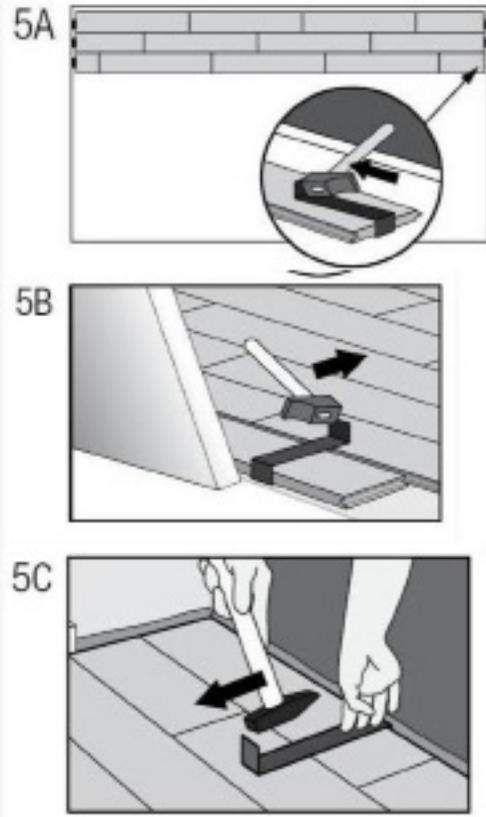
Put the plank with sawn off sides against the walls. Put spacers from the installation kit between the planks and the wall. This will ensure that your expansion joint is wide enough: 10 mm (3/8"). See diagram 3C.



The diagrams indicate where the Uniclic® panels are clicked together by angling up and down or where they are tapped together flat. Follow the diagrams precisely. See diagrams 4A-4F.



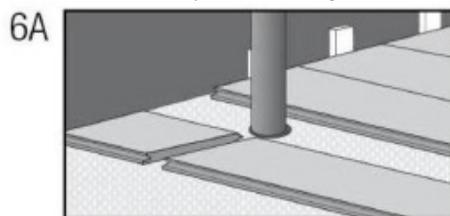
For a more pleasing appearance, the floor should be installed with a staggered random length for the starting planks in each row. Be careful not to create a repeating pattern. For example, start the first row with a whole plank, second row with 1/3 of a plank, third row with 2/3 of a plank, then a whole, then 1/2, then 1/4, then back to whole, then short, then medium, etc. Alternating the length of the starting plank on each row will avoid creating a zigzag or stair step pattern on the floor. In places where it is too difficult to install the Uniclic® planks with the tapping block (e.g. against the wall), you can tap them together using the pull bar and a hammer. See diagrams 5A--5B--5C.

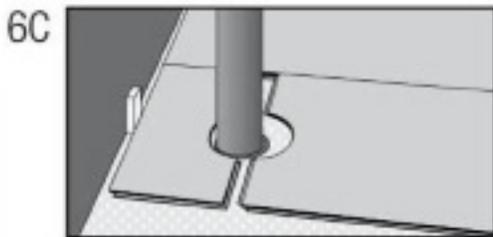
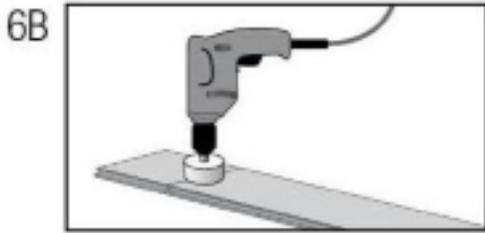


There must also be a 10 mm (5/16" to 3/8") expansion joint between the last row and the wall. Keep this in mind when sawing the last row of panels.

PIPES:

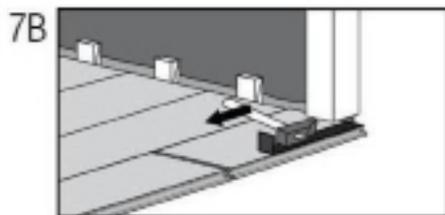
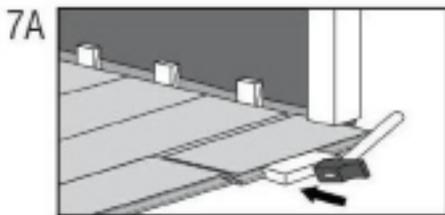
In rows where there is a pipe, make sure the pipe falls exactly in line with the short side of two panels. Take a drill bit with the same diameter as the pipe plus 20 mm (3/4") for the expansion gap. Click the panels together on the short side and drill a hole centered on the joint between the two panels. Now you can install the panels in the floor. See diagrams 6A-6B-6C.





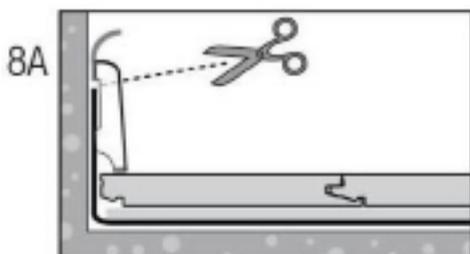
UNDER DOORFRAMES:

When sawing the panels, ensure that the expansion joint under the door is at least 10 mm (3/8"). If you cannot lift the panel, use an adapted tapping block or pull bar and hammer to tap the panels together with the planks flat on the floor. See diagrams 7A-7B.



FINISHING:

Remove all spacers. Install the molding on the plastic membrane that runs up the wall from under the floor. Never attach the molding to the floor. This method allows the floor to expand and contract under the molding (see diagram 8A.)





INSTALLATION

For a perfect finish around pipes, use rosettes or flexible silicone caulking. In places where profiles or skirting cannot be placed, fill expansion gaps with flexible silicone caulking.