

CAVERO

Installation Instructions

Laminate Flooring Installation Instructions

Job Site Conditions

It is important for you to review building code requirements and maintenance practices that protect homes from excessive moisture exposure. A moisture test is recommended on all concrete subfloors and wood subfloors constructed over a crawl space or in a basement. Maximum acceptable moisture reading for wood subfloors is 14%. Maximum acceptable moisture reading for concrete subfloors is 4.5% or a moisture vapor emission rate of 5 lbs/1000 sq. ft./24 hrs. Important Note: During a dry season, you may find that you get an acceptable moisture reading even if other job site conditions are not acceptable. Before installing floors, you must be sure that your job site conditions, as well as your moisture reading, are acceptable.

General Installation Instructions

Allow unopened cartons of planks to remain in the room where they are to be installed at least 48 hours (96 hours in drier or very humid climates) prior to installation. Laminate flooring can be installed over most existing subfloors.

However, carpeting and wood flooring installed on a concrete subfloor must always be removed. Your subfloor must be clean, dry and level. Any spots lower than 3/16 (4.7 mm) of an inch must be filled in with a Portland cement-based leveling compound and any ridges must be removed. On all concrete subfloors, including those covered by tile, vinyl, linoleum or sheet flooring, you must use a non-recycled (100% virgin) resin 6-mil (0.15mm) polyethylene film as a vapor barrier. An underlayment foam is required. Use installation spacers between the planks and the wall to allow for the required 1/4 inch (6.35 mm) expansion space. You will need approximately one spacer per square foot of installation area. Floors wider or longer than 33 ft (10 m) will require the use of T-moldings.

Care and Cleaning

Place felt floor protectors under the legs of moveable furniture. Place door mats at entrances. Use rubber casters only. Use 1 cup vinegar per gallon of water or 1/3 cup ammonia per gallon of water. Damp mop only. No wet mopping. Do not use detergents, soaps, waxes or polishes. Use correct hard surface vacuum tools and no rotating beater bars.

Never install laminate flooring in a room with a floor drain or over a floor that has a sump pump. The entire perimeter expansion space and all other expansion spaces in laundry rooms and bathrooms, including those around the toilet drain collar, must be filled with 100% mildew-resistant silicone sealant. Specific expansion spaces in the kitchen and other areas, where there is a potential for moisture or water leaks, must also be filled with sealant (i.e., in front of sinks, dishwashers, refrigerators, around the icemaker line, exterior doorways, sliding glass doors).

Proper precautions should be taken at all times when cutting wood/wood-based products with power equipment. Power tools should be equipped with a dust collector. Appropriate eye protection and a NIOSH/MSHA approved dust mask should be worn at all times when power equipment is in use. Repeated or prolonged breathing of wood dust and contact of wood dust with eyes and skin should be avoided. Wood dust causes respiratory, eye and skin irritation. Ensure adequate ventilation at all times. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified certain species of wood dust as a nasal carcinogen in humans. In case of contact, flush eyes and skin with water. If irritation persists, call a physician. Avoid wood dust contact with any type of ignition source such as pilot lights from hot water heaters and fireplaces. Airborne wood dust can cause a flammable or explosive hazard.

Sweep or vacuum dust for recovery or disposal.