

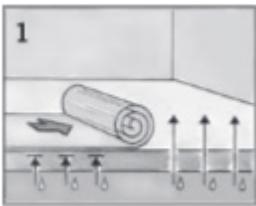
BUILDDIRECT LAMINATE INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT!

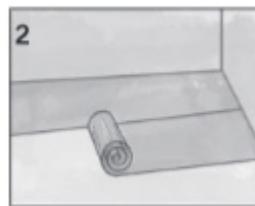
Do not open immediately. Before opening, acclimatize planks for 48 hours by laying each box horizontally and individually in center of room where they will be installed. Make sure subfloor is clean, dry and flat. Always use safety glasses and a mask. Visit www.builddirect.com for more help.

Suitable Subfloors For Manufacturer Laminate Flooring

- Existing floor surfaces including hardwood floors, linoleum, resilient vinyl, PCV (plastic floor surfaces must be permanently attached to the subfloor), needle felt, (dry) ceramic flooring.
- Cement floors on all grades/elevations (maximum residual moisture 2.0 CM%). With a calcium chloride test, the maximum acceptable reading is 5.0 lbs/24 hours/1000 sq. ft.
- Anhydrite and Anhydrite tiles (max residual moisture 0.3 CM%).
- Magnesium Cement (max residual moisture 0.3 CM%).



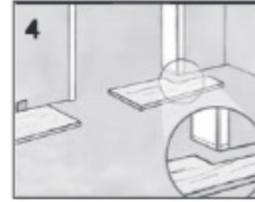
1 Install vapor barrier if subfloor is cement (6 mil polyethylene film).



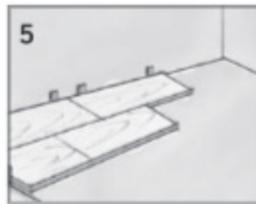
Always use an underlayment padding above the vapor barrier and below the laminate flooring planks. If pad is pre-attached, no additional underlayment should be used.



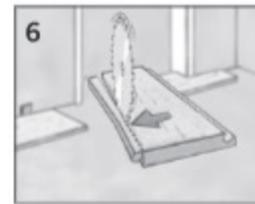
3 Install parallel to main light source; if no exterior light source, install parallel to longest wall.



4 If possible, start to lay panels under the door jam and finish installing planks on a wall without a door jam. See working with Limited Clearance section.



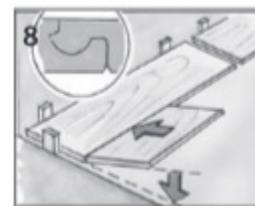
5 Start placing panels so that tongue sides face the wall.



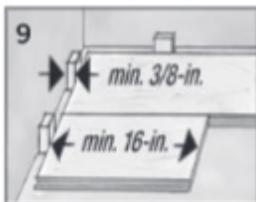
6 Remove the tongue on the panels that face the walls to allow room for spacers and prevent problems from spills.



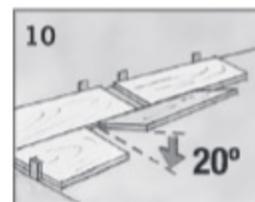
Lay panels close together on floor



8 Rock and lock in half-length panel with rotating motion. Install first and second row at the same time. This will help ensure end joints are perfectly square. Planks forced down without properly engaging the tongue into the groove can result in damage.



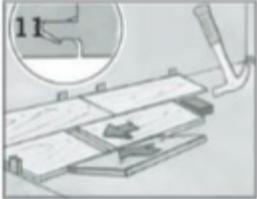
9 Observe 3/8" clearances for expansion and 16" minimum for smallest usable piece.



10 Lock in panel lengthwise. Allow 12" minimum end-joint stagger row to row.

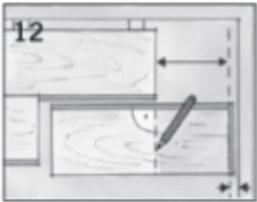
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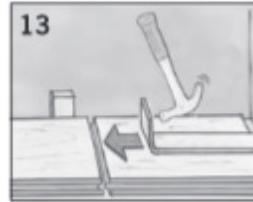


Use a 4"-6" piece to hold the tongue and the groove on the same plane, limit end joint damage and ensure planks engage quare. Tape end joints with multiple light taps, striking the tapping block evenly until end joints close.

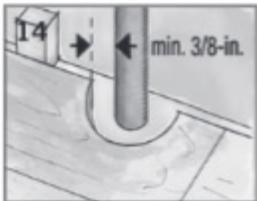
NOTE: Tapping too hard or striking the tapping block unevenly can result in installation-related damage or peaking.



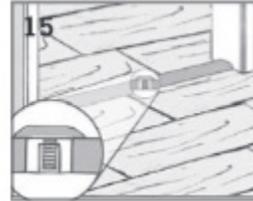
To measure and cut last piece in a row, rotate offcut section 180°, mark accordingly, cut,



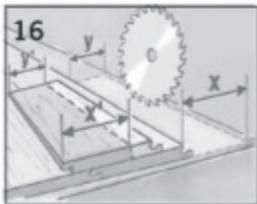
Fit the last panel in the row using a pull bar.



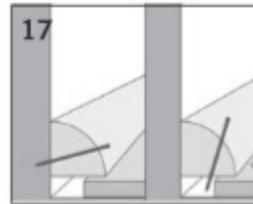
Always allow for expansion around fixed objects.



An expansion gap T-strip is required when length of planks measures 40' max and when width of planks measures 25' max. Transitions strips should be placed in all doorways directly under the door when the door is closed.

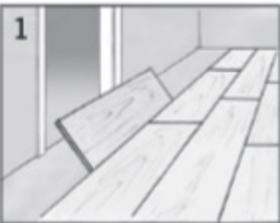


Cut the row along the wall to account for the unevenness of the wall while leaving 3/8" expansion room (2.5" minimum plank width).

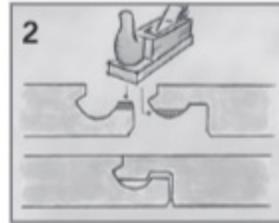


Ensure floor is able to expand.

Working with Limited Clearance:



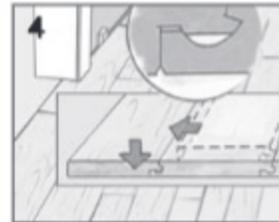
Some long edge joints cannot be installed using a 20° angle.



Remove top part of the tongue and groove profiles.



Use good quality wood glue to make the connection.



Slide panel into space horizontally and slot into profile. Use these modified planks under doorframes, radiators, cabinet fronts, etc. Use the pull bar to slide the planks where needed.