

Installation

Glue-Down Installation

1. For this method of installation, follow very carefully all the detailed instruction provided by the adhesive manufacturer for the usage and the application of their product, including all the recommended tools to do the job. Do not hesitate to seek professional advice whenever required.
2. This method of installation may also require fans to create airflow and to help speed-up the drying time of the adhesives. Sufficient cross-ventilation should also be provided during installation and up to 24 hours after it's complete.
3. Concrete sub-floors should have at least 3000-PSI compression strength.
4. The first step is to determine the working area to begin with the installation. Determine the longest wall in the room with access, and draw a straight line on the floor parallel to that wall, by a distance of $[6 \times (\text{width of 1 floorboard}) + 1/2 \text{ inch}]$. For example, when installing GreenBay Flooring with 127 mm (5 inch) width. The distance of the line should be $(6 \times 5 \text{ inch}) + 1/2 \text{ inch} = 30.5 \text{ inch}$ from the wall. The area formed between the wall and the line will be the working-area; the rest of the area in the room will be the installation-area; and the line itself will be the starting line.
5. Depending on the exact-width of the room, the working-area may need to be adjusted as needed, in order to avoid very narrow cut on the last floorboards for the final row. Make a test and lay floorboards beforehand if necessary. A starting block, i.e. a length of a straight, firm wooden block is recommended to help the initial floorboard's placements. Nail the starting block down firmly along the starting line, within the working area. This block will help to hold the first row of the installed floorboards firmly in place.
6. The type of installation does not need any cushioning underlayment, and once the working-area and the installation-area have been established, the adhesive spreading can be started. Following all the directions and recommendation from the adhesive manufacturer and using all the proper, recommended tools, the adhesive can be spread only over an area that can be laid with floorings within 1-3 hours, depending on the curing time of the adhesive used. Pick the first floorboard and align it with the starting-line/the starting block, along the groove side.
7. This way the installation should ideally start from the right side. Lay the first floorboard, ensure that a 12 mm (1/2 inch) gap from the adjacent wall is provided; use spacing wedge or nail it down if necessary. Pick the second board, apply 3 mm (1/8 inch) glue bead on the inner topside of the groove at the board's end, and start jointing the board in the row. Never apply glue onto the tongue. Continue the same steps with the next floorboards and complete the first row. Cut the last piece to allow 12 mm (1/2 inch) gap to the wall. Use a specially designed crowbar to pull the last board into place.
8. Push joints tight and drive spacing-wedges in. Clean any excess glue from the joints immediately. Start the second row by either using board left-over from the first row or fresh board, cut the board if necessary to create staggered joints at least 240 mm (6 to 10 inch) apart. Repeat steps similar to the first row and complete the second row.

9. Note that unlike the floating installation method, longitudinal tongue and groove gluing (along the length of each row) is not compulsory with this glue-down method. Tighten all joints and use soft-rubber mallet to speed up the process if needed. Make periodic checks of adhesive transfer during installation, by inspecting the back of a floorboard. Adhesive transfer must be adequate and should at least cover 80% or more of the floorboards back area. Add more adhesive with roller or brush onto that area when needed. Insufficient adhesive transfer may cause poor results.
10. To prevent any movement, tape down every 3 complete rows across the face together using temporary-adhesive/masking tape like 3M 2090 Blue Mask T tape. Never fail to wipe off any glue excess from all joints immediately. Repeat all steps and install the rest of the floor within the installation-area.
11. Every 2-3 hours and upon completion, roll the floorboards surface with 50-70 kg (100 to 150 pounds) roller to ensure that all boards are flat and in contact with the adhesive. Wrap the roller with cloth or thin foam-pad to avoid scratches or dents on the floor's surface if needed.
12. The last or the final row is usually narrow and it might be required to cut floorboards lengthwise to fill-in this row. Measure the remaining space and cut the boards accordingly, ensuring that a 12 mm (1/2 inch) gap to the walls should also be provided at all sides. Use the special crowbar to pull these last floorboards into place and to tighten their joints, and drive the 12 mm (1/2 inch) spacing wedges in afterwards. Add more spacing wedges around the perimeter of the installed floor if necessary, to keep all joints tight.
13. Next, cover the remaining, working-area. Remove the starting block and spread the adhesive in the same manner as described before. Install flooring the same way as the first stage, making sure to put glue beads on the inner topside of grooves at each board's end before joining the floorboards. Work from the area away from the access and work "backward" toward the access. Clean any excess glue from the joints immediately. Tape down rows and roll floorboards surface as before. Complete the installation and spare 12 mm (1/2 inch) expansion space to the wall. Put additional spacing wedges whenever required around the perimeter, or any stationary object.
14. Allow the finished floor to be free from load and heavy foot-traffic for at least 24 hours after completion. Remove all adhesive tape from the first stage area and clean the surface thoroughly using wood floor cleaner. Repeat the process afterward on the remaining area. Do not cover the surface and allow the flooring to breathe. Remove all the temporary spacing wedges and install all the skirting/molding the next day. Make sure that all skirting's/molding's are fixed onto the adjacent wall only, not to the floor.