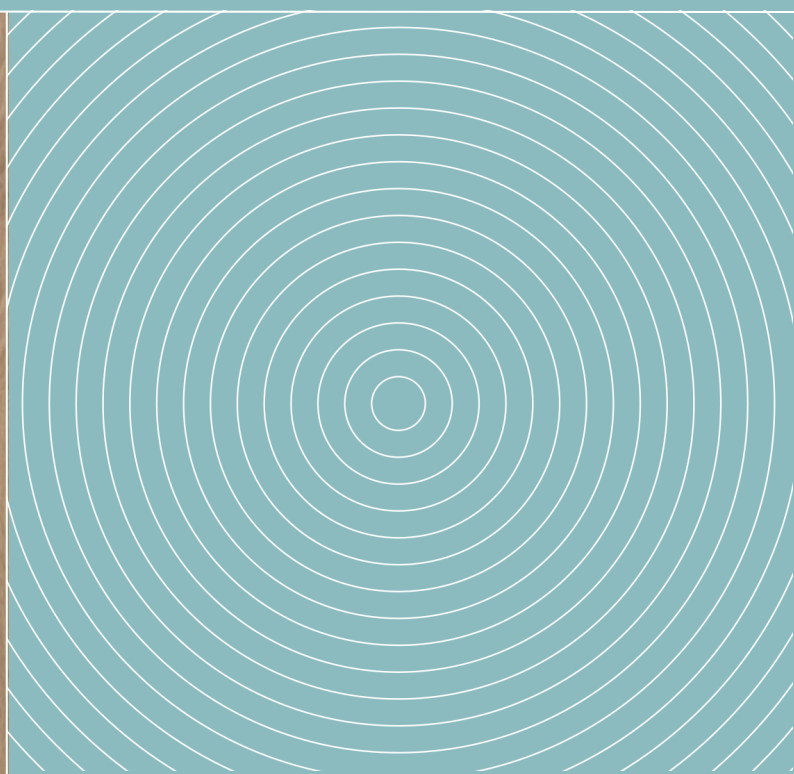


Installation Guide



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Transport and Storage

Ensure boxes stay flat during transport & storage. Never stack the boxes upright or resting on one end. Packs must not be stored at less than 0°C or above 35°C or in damp areas.

Tools for the job

Before beginning we recommend the installer is equipped with:

1. Utility Knife
2. Chalk Line
3. Hand Saw/ Multi Tool
4. Jigsaw
5. Measuring Tape
6. Knee Pads
7. Flooring Spacers
8. Pencil or Marker
9. Square Edge/ Tri Square
10. Rubber Mallet
11. Hammer and Tapping Block
12. Pull Bar
13. PVA Wood Glue



Visual Inspection

When opening the boxes, it is the responsibility of the installer to check for any visual damages, visual defects or variations. This should be done in adequate light conditions.

The installer should confirm at this point that the contents of the packs are the correct colour, specification and quantities.

It is recommended during installation, mixing planks from different boxes to avoid pattern repetition. Check all Lignum Core planks throughout the installation for any visible defects. Do not install any planks that have any imperfections or defects. Any plank defects that are visible prior to installation should not be installed. Wood Innovations Ltd will never assume responsibility for the uplift & relay costs, as installation implies acceptance.

Acclimatisation

Ensure that the building is “closed-in”. The product should be stored, unopened, in the desired install area for at least 48 hours prior to installation.





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Room temperature is to be between 18°C - 22°C, with a relative humidity level between 45% - 65%.

Boxes should be stored flat in groups of 4-5. If the delivery is for more than one room, the order should be broken down into the individual room quantities and stored in the respective rooms.

Under Floor Heating

Lignum Core is compatible with conventional water-based underfloor heating systems.

Wired electrical heating systems are only compatible with Lignum Core when encased in at least 9mm of an appropriate levelling compound. Direct contact with wired electrical heating systems must be avoided.

While some infrared heating panels may be suitable, caution is advised as certain systems can generate rapid and potentially damaging heat.

Following installation, gradually increase the underfloor heating by increments of 2°C per day until you reach the standard operating temperature conditions, with a maximum subfloor temperature of 27°C. Refer to the manufacturer's instructions for system suitability.

Subfloor Suitability

Understanding the composition and structure of the subfloor can offer crucial insights.

It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure that a pre installation survey is carried out, and an accurate assessment of the humidity levels, flatness,

compressive and tensile strength is assessed.

This will guide the decisions on any required floor preparation, including the selection of levelling / smoothing compounds, moisture barriers, mesh reinforcement etc.

If you are uncertain about the subfloor's quality or composition, reference local installation standards or consult with the manufacturer/supplier of your preparative materials for expert advice.

Site and installation conditions must always comply with the relevant national regulations and installation standards. In case the national standard or regulation conflicts with the manufacturer's recommendation, the most stringent of the two prevails.

Subfloor Preparation

Buildings should be "closed-in" before installation begins. All "wet trades" should be complete.

The subfloor should be structurally sound, flat, dry and free from debris. Any adhesives or other residues should be removed from the surface.

Unevenness of the subfloor must not exceed a gradual incline/decline of 3mm measured over a length of 2m, measured with a suitable straight edge/level, over the entirety of the subfloor.

Individual sharp vertical inclines larger than 1.2mm are unsuitable for installation.

If the subfloor does not meet the above requirements, it should be resolved using a suitable levelling compound / plywood or sanded / ground down.



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The choice of appropriate materials, such as plywood, smoothing / levelling compounds, and related products, relies on the intended use of the space, the type of subfloor (Timber, Cementitious etc.) and necessitates agreement between the preparative material supplier and the flooring contractor. All floor preparation materials must adhere to the manufacturer's guidelines and meet national standards for laminate floor coverings.

The flooring installer / contractor should be consulted when selecting the correct materials to level a subfloor, considering specific site conditions, and must approve the subfloor prior to installation.

Mixed Subfloor

Areas with a mixed subfloor, for example a suspended timber floor meeting a screed floor, it is recommended to level the entire area ensuring there is no stepped height difference.

If UFH is present in only one of these subfloors, you must insert a break & Expansion Gap between the heated and un-heated areas.

You can use a colour matched Cover Strip profile from our Lignum Additions Profile range to disguise this break.

Subfloor Moisture Content

The moisture content of the subfloor must be in accordance with local or national standards for the installation of laminate floor coverings.

- Timber <11 MC%
- Underfloor heated cementitious screeds < 1.8 MC%
- Unheated cementitious screeds < 2.0 MC%
- Underfloor heated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) <0.3 CM%
- Unheated anhydrite (calcium sulphate) screeds <0.5 MC%



If a direct-to-earth concrete and stone subfloor is identified, then it must have an effective damp proof membrane (DPM) installed in accordance with the national standards for the installation of laminate floor coverings.

Follow manufacturer's detailed instructions for the installation of a surface applied DPM and the use of levelling compound.

The effectiveness of a liquid DPM heavily depends on the type of product, application and the site conditions.

It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure they have the correct advice from the manufacturer of the DPM and to apply it in accordance with their recommendations.



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Required Expansion & Wastage Allowance

Lignum Core is a “floating” floor. The planks should not be glued or fixed to the subfloor.

Once installed, the floor will expand and contract throughout its lifetime.

Be mindful that very heavy and fixed objects, including certain furniture, can prevent the floor from floating and moving freely.

An example of this would be a kitchen island or built in wardrobe which would prevent the free movement of the floor. Instead leave an expansion gap around the element as if it were a wall.

A minimum Expansion gap of 10-12mm should be left around the entire room.

In areas which do not join symmetrically and when the room length/width exceeds 8m, install expansion breaks and cover with a Lignum Additions profile.



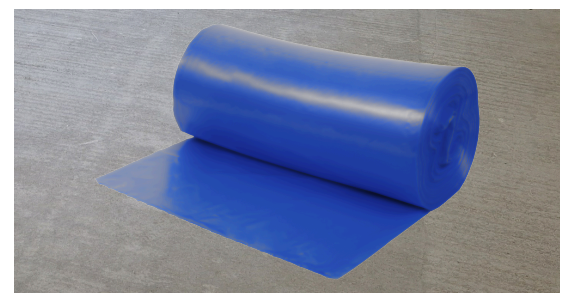
Vapour Barrier & Underlay

A water vapour control barrier must be installed prior to the installation of underlay and flooring.

This is not included with your flooring; it is the responsibility of the installer to provide and install a water vapour control barrier.



- Timber subfloor, use Kraft Paper breather membrane.



- Screed/mineral subfloor, use a 0.2mm Polythene (PE) film. Make sure the PE-film overlaps by a minimum of 200 mm.



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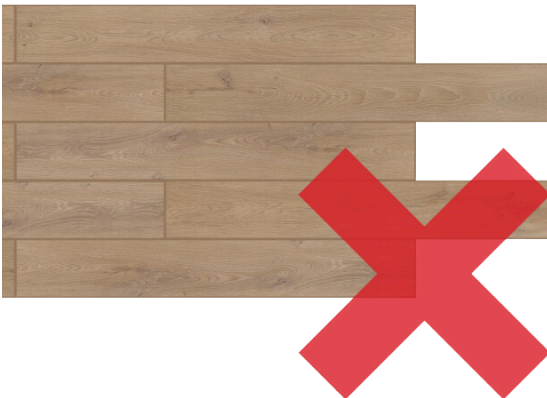
Joint Pattern Do's & Don'ts

Stagger end joints in adjacent rows by at least 200mm. This will provide structural strength to the floor and also improve the overall aesthetic

Avoid End-Joint line up



Avoid "H" Joints



Instead stagger the joints at random



Before you start



Ensure your subfloor is clean and clear of debris.

Ensure all Under Floor Heating systems have been switched off at least 24hrs prior to installation.

Best Practice

During installation, mixing planks from different boxes will help avoid pattern repetition.

Do not install any planks that have any imperfections or defects.

Any plank defects that are visible prior to installation should not be installed.

Room Layout

Start by deciding the laying direction of the planks. Consider the light source, as to how it best displays the grain/ finish.

Measure the dimensions of the room

If starting with a full width board in your first row results in the last row measuring less than 60mm, adjust the width of your first row by marking and cutting

Let's Install



Here, we will explain the installation for righthanded people, installing from left to right. You can work in the other direction if preferred.

Place the first plank against the wall with the long groove facing out. Use spacers to ensure an expansion gap of 10-12mm. Expansion space must be left around the entire field of flooring.

Next Plank



Insert the next plank with the facing edge (short side) into the groove profile of the previously laid plank at an angle of 30°.

Ensure the joint is aligned then lay the plank down flat on the floor.

Make sure that the long edges form a gapless straight line as any offset will create gaps in the long joint profile when laying the second row of planks.

Continue this process until you can no longer install full boards at the end of the first row.

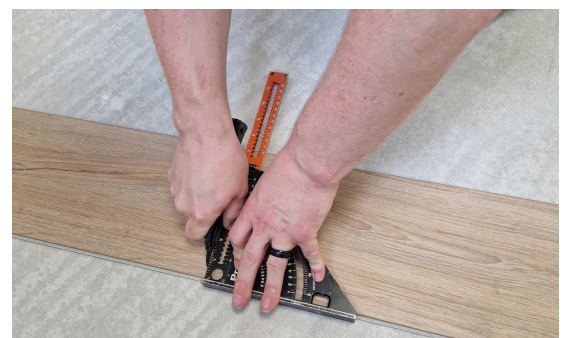
First Row, Last Plank



At the end of the first row turn the final plank 180° with the decorative layer facing up next to the existing row on the right side of the wall.

Using a spacer, allow a 10-12mm gap for expansion.

Mark the plank along its axis to the required length using your square edge/ tri-square as shown.



Using your utility knife, score the plank along the mark.



Snap along the scored line.



Preparation



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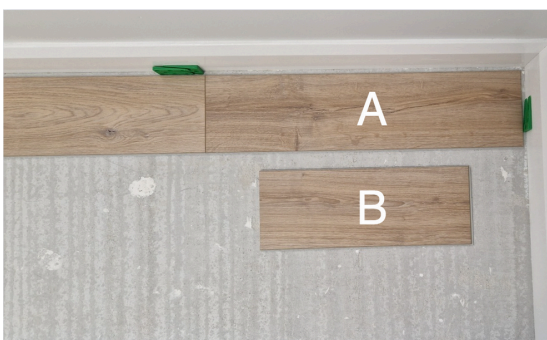


Using your utility knife again, cut through the underlay backing.

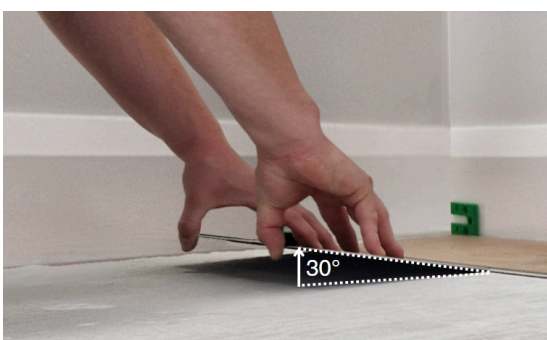


Finally, install the plank

Second Row



Start the second row with the B cut from the previous row.



This plank should measure at least 200mm, if smaller than this, cut a new plank and use it to begin the second row.



To insert the next plank, position the short end joint of the next plank to be installed at an angle of 30° to the short end joint of the plank already installed. Carefully drop the plank down, approximately 5mm shy, across the long-joint.



Next angle the panel to 25°, at the same time exerting forward pressure equally on both ends along the length of the plank.



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The plank will slide on the short-end and lock into place on the long-joint. Some planks may need to be tapped-in to close the gap, make use of a suitable tapping block.

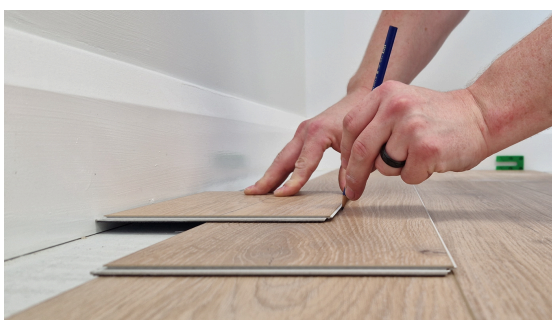


Once enough rows are installed, it is easy to continue the installation as follows:

Switch your position (now you kneel on the installed rows) and connect the short side of the panel into the previous panel. Now place BOTH hands on the long edge of the plank and sharply pull towards you to close the joint.

Last Row

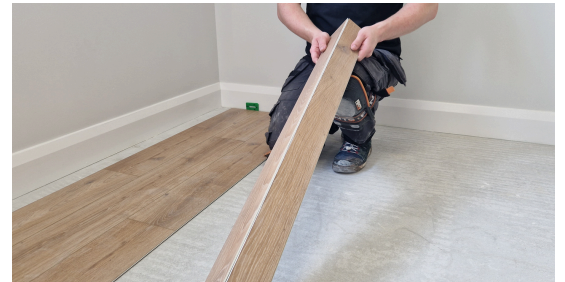
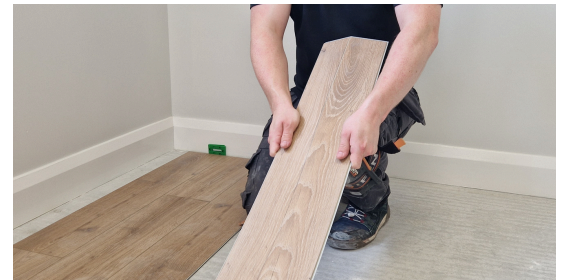
To fit the last row of planks, you will usually need to scribe them in.



Lay a plank on top of the previous row with the groove towards the wall, lay another plank up to the edge of the wall and mark the plank underneath.



Using your utility knife, score the plank along the mark.



Snap along the scored line.



Using your utility knife again, cut through the underlay backing.



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Around Pipes



To fit around pipes, first cut the plank to the right length, then place the plank next to its actual position and mark the centre of the pipe. Alternatively use your tape to measure this distance.



Next drill a hole that is at least 12mm wider than the pipe.

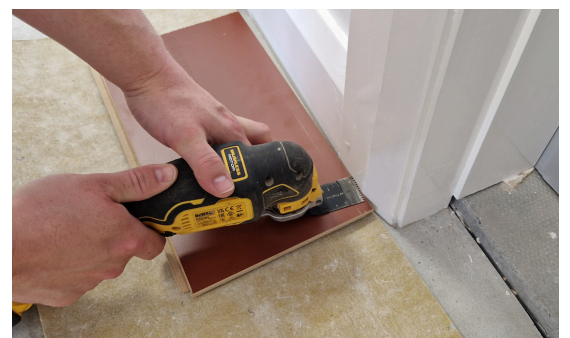


Using your saw, cut the plank along its width in the centre of the hole.



Install these two pieces in place.

Under Architraves & Doorjams



Doorjams and architraves also need to be individually fitted, maintaining a movement gap.

We recommend undercutting doorjams to accommodate the thickness of the Lignum Fusion Plank. Once cut, the plank can then be neatly installed underneath.