

## **Engineered Flooring Installation Guidelines**

This guideline contains technical information about Wood-Be Floor installations. We highly recommend reading it and sharing the knowledge with your team to assure a proper installation.

A perfect flooring consists in a high quality product and a proper installation.

### **Wood floor is a natural product - Disclaimer**

Wood is a natural product. Wood-Be Engineered Floor is made with high quality plywood multi layer base and hard wood top layer.

Due to the unique natural characteristics of each plank, no two pieces are alike. Although we design our samples to be the closest representation of the finished product, the finish floor may contain more or less variation in color: shading, grain, knots and distressing that may not be evident in a small sample.

All natural hardwood can dent and scratch. Due to varying hardness of different wood species, some are more resistant than others. To reduce scratching and denting follow proper care and maintenance both during installation and thereafter.

### **Inspect flooring material before installation**

Before installation, any concerns about the milling or grading of this product must be directed to and resolved with the manufacturer. After the product is installed, the customer assumes all responsibility. The manufacturer will not be liable for any costs of product or replacement if issues are not resolved prior to installation.

To make it the final result more uniform, we recommend to open 3 to 4 boxes of products, and mix the boards, for a more harmonized color pattern.

Contact your local distributor or Wood-Be Team: [info@wood-be.com](mailto:info@wood-be.com)

### **Job site conditions**

Wood flooring should be one of the last jobs completed on the construction projects. Evaluate the jobsite for potential problems before the installation begins, and before wood flooring is delivered to the jobsite.

Do not deliver wood flooring to the jobsite or install wood flooring until the building is enclosed and all concrete, masonry, plastering, drywall, texturing and all finished walls coverings and paintings should be completed.

The subfloor must be flat, without cracks, loosen pieces or water leaking. In case you find any of these issues, contact your client and ask for fixings.

The gap on the sub floor per square meter can not be more than 2mm

### **Appropriate Temperature and Humidity Conditions**

Appropriate temperature and humidity conditions are defined as those conditions to be experienced in the building after occupancy. An acceptable humidity range is 40 to 60%, and an acceptable temperature range is 15° to 30° Celsius.

1. Heating and /or air conditioner needs to be used. If it is not possible for the heating and/or air conditioning system to be operated before, during and after installation, a temporary heating and/or dehumidification system that mimic normal temperature and humidity conditions can be used.
2. Basements and crawl spaces must be dry.

### **Subfloor condition**

To be ensure to install the boards under the condition of dry sub floor. the humidity of cement ground is no more than 2%

Ideally the subfloor must be in good ventilation condition for at least 27 days in the summer or 40 days in other seasons

Keep the wall flat and straight otherwise its easy to have seam when install the flooring angular line

Check the ground no sands and no seams. Check for cracks and loosing pieces. In case of any occurrence, the subfloor must be fixed prior to the installation

When installing in heated floor, check for likings. Switch the floor two days before the installation. The room temperature may not be lower than 18C when the floor is installed.

### **Acclimation**

Acclimate according to the geographical location and jobsite location. Before installation it is recommended to allow 2 to 5 days acclimation after the permanent heating and/or air conditioning system is operating.

### **Protective Floor Coverings**

After installation, if you choose to protectively cover the floor, cover the floor completely, since some species are light sensitive and uncovered areas may change color. However, covering glue down application may not allow some adhesives to properly cure. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendation. Use a covering material with a vapor permeance (perm rating) of 1 perm or more to avoid trapping moisture/vapor on or within the floor. A common reinforced builder's paper is a good choice. Any covering should be taped using a low-adhesive tape, to base or shoe moldings. Avoid taping to finished floor. When taping paper of sheets together, tape them to each not, not to the floor.

### **SUB FLOOR GUIDELINES**

Our products could be used in different subfloor types:

Wood Subfloor, Concrete subfloor, Glued subfloor over concrete, Nail down subfloor

If you have a floated subfloor, ask our company for guidances on material selection.

## **INSTALLATION GUIDELINES**

Open three to four boxes. Each piece in each box should be installed alternatively one by one in order to keep the floor in balanced color and esthetically harmonized.

The boards should be installed along with the longest wall of the site. if the site is in square shape, the boards should be installed along the sunlight coming into the site.

To polish the door jamb according to the thickness of the floor in order to spare space for the boards to be embedded into the door jamb

Leave space in advance to keep the boards 15mm off the wall

The boards should be installed alternatively one by one in order to keep the horizontal seam of each board in distance bigger than 30CM

When the installation is finished in the first line, the left-over materials which are bigger than 30cm can be re-used in next installation

Gently tap any gapped joints by using a block and hammer

Remove adhesive rests on the surface of the boards by using wet cloth

Skirting boards or moldings to overlap the expansion gap

The boards can be put in use 48 hours later after the installation for Concreate material or according to the glue manufacturer for Wood-Be products

**Glue down** is most welcomed installation , Wood-Be recommend Concreate Adhesive should be fully applied on the subfloor with the right trowel for easy apply , for more details pls check **[www.concreate.net](http://www.concreate.net)**

**Nail down** plywood subfloor only recommend to do nail down.

**Floating** Wood-Be wider planks are not recommend for Floating for extreme weather changes condition. For more details, ask our sale team.,

## **OVER RADIANT HEAT**

Wood-be products are suitable for heat system floors, including radiant heat ones.

### **General radiant heat installation guidelines**

to minimize the effect of rapid changes in temperature on the moisture content of the wood floor, we recommend that an outside thermostat be installed. If one is not present, suggest it to your customer. Unlike conventional heating systems, radiant systems work most effectively, and with less trauma to the wood floor if the heating process is gradual, based on small, incremental increases in relation to the outside temperature.

Subfloors should have proper moisture tests according to the moisture testing procedure in this manual.

The essential requirement in proper applications of wood flooring over radiant heated systems is to avoid penetration of the heating element. Radiant heated subfloor systems can be concrete, wood or a combination of both. If the subfloor is concrete and it has cured, turn the heat on, regardless of season, and leave it on for at least 5-6 days to drive out residual moisture before installation of the wood flooring.

Some installation systems, particularly glue-down applications, required the heat to be reduced or even turned off before installation of the flooring begins, so the adhesive does not cure excessively.

With water-heated radiant systems, a pressure test must be performed and documented by a qualified plumber or the system installer prior to beginning the installation of the wood flooring.

If flooring materials that conduct heat at different rates are on the same circuit or heating zone, check with the HVAC mechanical engineer before proceeding.

The maximum allowable subfloor surface temperature is 30°C.

Expect some heating season shrinkage

The following installation and subfloor systems can be used successfully over radiant heat:

- glue-down, engineered: use an approved adhesive, concrete adhesive recommend. for more details pls check **[www.concreate.net](http://www.concreate.net)**

-- the heating system has to be turned off before installation.