



WOODPECKER

NATURALLY INSPIRED FLOORING

BRECON

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

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Disclaimer: Installation guidance is advisory and is based on established good practice and the BS-8201-2011 standard. It is the fitter's responsibility to follow these procedures before, during and after installation. Woodpecker cannot accept responsibility for any issues relating to installation.

PREPARATION

BEFORE DELIVERY

Prior to delivery, ensure that all remedial works have been fully completed. The building must be adequately protected from external environmental elements that could adversely affect the installation process.

Room temperature and humidity must remain stable before, during, and after installation. Heating or air-conditioning systems should be operational for a minimum of two weeks, to establish a consistent environment. Where underfloor heating is installed, it must be fully commissioned in advance and then switched off at least 48 hours before installation.

SUBFLOOR

The subfloor must be structurally sound, dry and free from dust, debris, or any form of contamination. It should exhibit a maximum deviation of no more than 3mm when measured over a 2 meter span (SR-1). All hot pipes must be thoroughly insulated to eliminate the risk of localised hotspots, which may lead to warping or shrinkage.

SUBFLOOR REMEDIAL WORK

If remedial work to the subfloor is required, a suitable levelling compound must be applied to achieve a flat, even surface.

MOISTURE

Moisture is the primary cause of failure in resilient flooring systems. Even when a subfloor appears dry, excess moisture may still be present within the substrate. It is therefore essential that moisture levels are assessed using a professional moisture meter.

Acceptable moisture readings must not exceed:

- 75% Relative Humidity (RH) for cement-based subfloors, in accordance with BS 8203:2017.
- 11% Wood Moisture Equivalent (WME) for timber subfloors, joists, or other wooden substrates.

Note:

All subfloor preparation must comply with the relevant industry standards outlined in BS 8203:2017.

ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS

- Room temperature 18-27°C.
- Floor temperature must be above 10°C.
- Humidity 40-60%RH.

INSTALLATION

LAYING THE FLOOR

For the best results, we recommend using an experienced installer.

When installing a new floor directly over existing sound, flat floorboards, the new planks should always run perpendicular to the direction of the existing boards.

FLOATING

A floating floor is installed by laying the boards over the subfloor without fixing with nails, screws, or adhesive. This method is suitable for a wide range of subfloors including; concrete, cement based screeds, anhydrite screeds, ceramic tiles (max grout width of 3mm), chipboard, existing PVC bonded floorcoverings and linoleum. Existing floorcoverings must be assessed and deemed suitable prior to overlaying. All forms of textile floorcoverings must be removed and are not suitable for overlaying.

It is important to note that heavy, fixed furniture should not be placed on top of a floating floor after installation. Built-in units, kitchen islands, fitted wardrobes and other fixed structures must be installed first, with the flooring fitted around them.

The advanced locking mechanism is designed to connect smoothly and securely. If a board does not lock into place, inspect the joint for any debris, unevenness, or obstruction within the click profile. Remove the obstruction, realign the board, and attempt the connection again.

EXPANSION GAPS

The floor will naturally move with fluctuating temperature and humidity changes within an environment. To accommodate this movement, a minimum expansion gap of 5mm must be accommodated around the perimeter and all fixed objects.

Use the following guidance to determine the correct spacing:

- Floors manufactured with Stratex® technology require an expansion gap in all areas where temperatures remain within normal living conditions of 18°C to 27°C. In areas subject to higher or more frequent temperature fluctuations, additional expansion allowance must be provided to ensure the floor can move freely and to prevent stress or deformation.
- Existing skirting boards can be left in place, provided the floorcovering is installed up to them with the required expansion gap. Any new skirting boards fitted after installation must be fixed to the wall, not the floor, so they do not restrict or trap the floorcovering and allow it to move freely.

FLOOR PROTECTION

Always protect the surface of the flooring during installation. Use paper or cardboard that will allow the floor to breathe and tape this to the boards. Never use plastic or polyethylene sheeting to cover the flooring as this will trap moisture and could cause damage.

THE FIRST ROW

Before installation can begin a few calculations need to be made, and you might have to do some cutting before you can start laying. When you've chosen your starting wall, measure the width of the room from there and divide that by the width of the flooring panels. This will give you the number of rows of boards you'll lay and the width of the last row. If your last row is going to be under 60mm wide, cut the boards in your first row lengthwise accordingly so that your last row isn't too narrow.

DOOR JAMBS

If there is a wooden door jamb, we recommend undercutting it according to the thickness of the flooring. Install the flooring underneath the door jamb but leave the necessary expansion gaps.

TRIMS

When fitting trims, always fix them to the walls. Never fix them to the floor itself as this will prevent the natural expansion and contraction of the flooring into the expansion space.

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Check all planks for any damage or defects before installation. The installer is responsible for identifying and excluding imperfect boards prior to fitting.
2. Begin installing along the longest wall or an outside wall that is straight and square to the room. Using one of the longest planks, install the first board with the tongue facing away from the wall. Take extra care with alignment, any misalignment at the start will cause gaps along the sides and ends of the floor.
3. Use the off-cut from the final plank in the first row to begin the second row. As you continue installing, ensure all joints are staggered so there is at least a 300mm gap between joints in adjacent rows. This creates a more attractive appearance and helps reduce waste.
4. Install the planks individually. Engage the long edge first, then lower the board into place so the Easiloc mechanism activates and the header joint clicks securely into position without the need for tapping or force.