



WOODPECKER
TRADE

CRAFT HERRINGBONE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

www.woodpeckertrade.co.uk | 02920 888 223 | info@woodpeckerflooring.co.uk

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

The conditions must be ideal before any flooring is fitted. Wet floor screed needs to be fully dried out as residual moisture trapped below the new flooring may cause mould formation and related problems.

EXPERT TIP: A rule of thumb for the drying time of a sand and cement-based screed is one day per millimetre for the first 50mm, and 2.5 days for each millimetre thereafter. So, a 50mm screed should take about two months to dry out, and a 100mm screed will take six months. Plaster takes up to six weeks to dry completely.

PREPARING THE SUBFLOOR

The surface immediately beneath a Woodpecker floor must be in good structural condition, free from damp rot, fungal or insect infestation, and contaminating residues. It must be flat, smooth, and hard with uneven areas not exceeding 3mm over a 2m area. Naturally, the surface should be vacuumed and totally free of debris before fitting begins. Hot pipes should be well insulated to prevent localised hotspots, which can cause Craft Herringbone flooring to distort.

If installing over floorboards, ensure the voids beneath have a height of 600mm from the ground to the bottom side of the joists. We recommend using a suitable Woodpecker damp proof membrane to protect the floor from moisture. Check that the voids are vented around the perimeter and that these vents are positioned to allow air flow under the entire floor. As a rule of thumb, all venting should equal a minimum of 1.5% of the total m² of the installation. Keep the vents open throughout the year too.

N.b. The subfloor should be prepared for installation in accordance with the industry standards outlined in BS-8201-2011.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

The room temperature and humidity levels need to be stable before Woodpecker flooring is delivered to site. Heating and/or air conditioning systems should be on and working for at least two weeks before the floor is to fitting.

Once the floor has been fitted, the underfloor heating should not be switched on for another two to three days. Then the temperature should be raised gradually at no more than 1°C per day. The temperature of the floor should never exceed 27°C.

ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS

The room temperature shouldn't be lower than 18°C, or the floor temperature lower than 15°C. The Atmospheric Relative Humidity should be between 40 and 60%.

Note that wood floors are not suitable for wet rooms, or in areas where there is a regular flow of water.

ACCLIMATISATION

Nature is in no hurry when it produces trees, and likewise, an impressive wood floor installation is never rushed. The sealed, unopened boxes should be laid flat, in the centre of the room for three to four days beforehand. DO NOT store the flooring outdoors, in an outbuilding, or anywhere with damp or condensation problems. The conditions where the flooring is acclimatised should be as close as possible to the typical living conditions.

INSPECTION

At Woodpecker the highest quality control procedures are in place, however it's essential that every plank is carefully checked before installation. If there are any problems, get in touch with us so that we can rectify them. We are unable to consider any defects after the floor has been installed.

MOISTURE TESTING

Moisture can cause damage. Even when a subfloor looks dry, it may contain excess moisture in the substrate. Using a professional moisture meter such as the Protimeter MMS will tell you whether or not it's safe to go ahead with installation.

Readings shouldn't exceed:

- 70% Relative Humidity (RH) for cement-based concrete.
- 11% Wood Moisture Equivalent (WME) for wooden subfloors or joists.

EXPANSION GAPS

As wood is a natural substance, it will expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. That's why when a wood floor is fitted, expansion gaps need to be left wherever the boards meet a wall, structural support, stairs, breakfast bar, fireplace, central heating pipe...etc. Gaps must also be considered at doorways to allow for the differing expansion between rooms. Place spacers at regular intervals when fitting and then remove them before skirting boards, beading or trims are put in place. Allow a 2mm gap for every metre span of the floor with a minimum of 10-15mm gap regardless. For areas over 5m in width, extra provisions should be made for expansion.

SOME EXTRA TIPS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

LAYING THE FLOOR

All Woodpecker floors feature beautiful colour variations which naturally occur in real wood. To ensure the overall effect has a good balance of colour and details, take care to blend planks from several packs.

The natural texture of Woodpecker flooring will really come to the fore if the planks are laid in the same direction as the light entering the room. However, if the floor is being fitted over existing floor boards, it should be positioned at right angles to the previous flooring planks.

FLOOR PROTECTION DURING CONSTRUCTION

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.

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.

PIPES

Measure the position of any central heating pipes and mark them on the relevant plank, considering your expansion gap. Drill a hole 16mm larger than the pipe's diameter. Saw at a 45° angle to the pipe hole. When you've fitted the board around the pipe, apply glue to the sawn out piece of wood and fit it back into the gap, again taking into account the expansion gap spacers.

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.

INSTALLATION

FLOATING

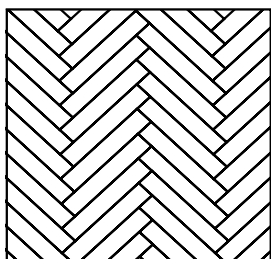
Craft Herringbone can be installed over concrete, anhydrite, existing wood floor chipboard, ceramic tiles, terrazzo, metal, PVC, linoleum, slate, marble, particleboard, OSB and plywood – but not carpet. Old parquet block floors can also be problematic.

CraftHerringbone has its own integral underlay, and additional underlay should not be used.

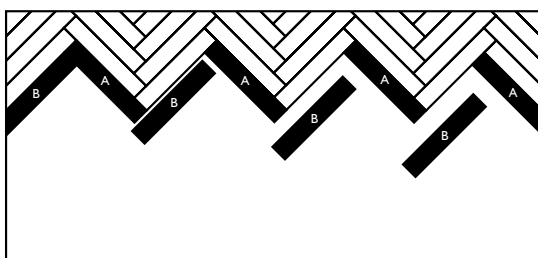
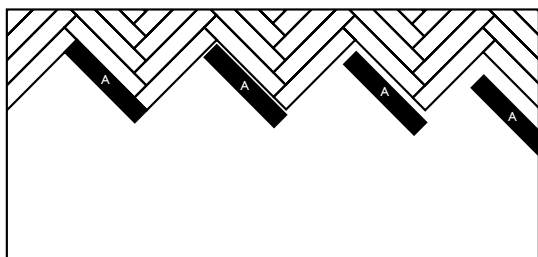
FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO INSTALL

Check all planks for possible damage or defects. We can't be held responsible for imperfect boards once they've been fitted.

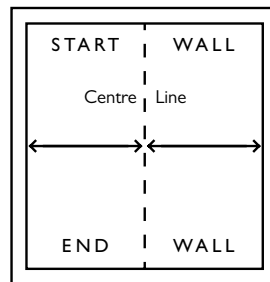
These instructions demonstrate how to install Craft Herringbone flooring in a single herringbone pattern.



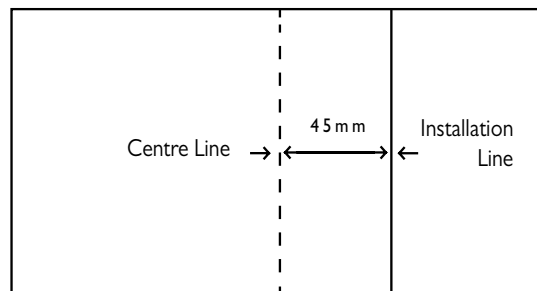
1. Identify the left-hand and right-hand planks before installation. The herringbone planks are designed to be laid working from side to side across the room in alternate batches of left-hand and right-hand pieces.



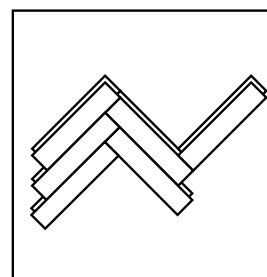
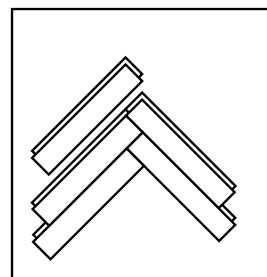
2. Measure the centre line of room area and mark on the floor.



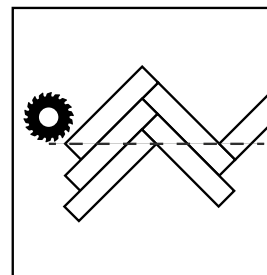
3. Measure 45mm to the right of the centre line and mark the installation line.



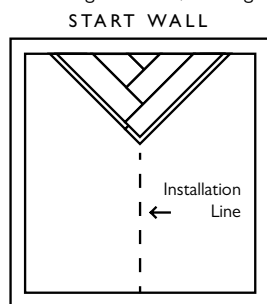
4. Take 6 pieces of board (both left-hand and right-hand planks) and put them together with the click groove side facing outwards.



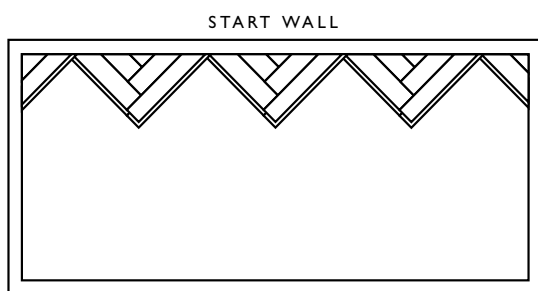
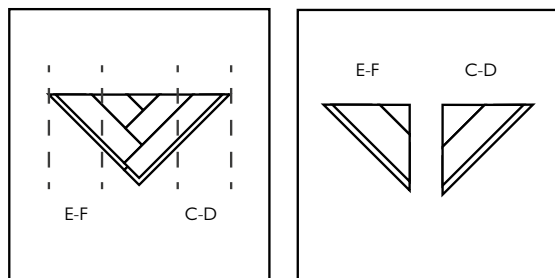
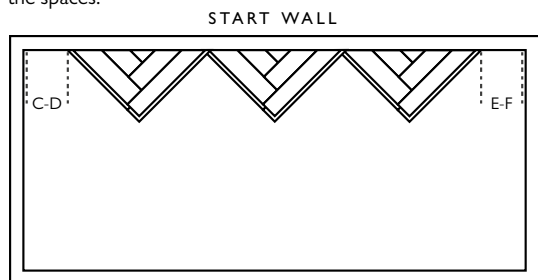
5. Then cut along the back to form the starting triangle.



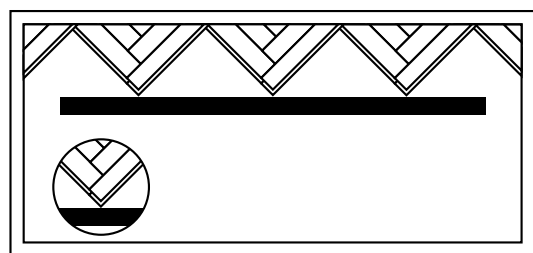
6. Place the back edge against the end wall of the room, with the click groove side facing outwards, and align the front corner with the installation line.



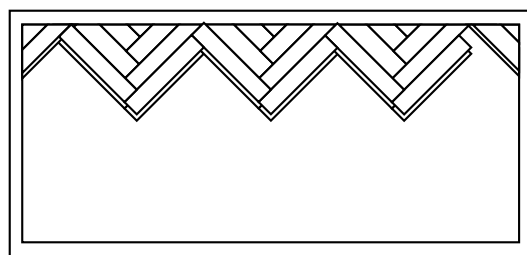
7. Measure the total width of the room and calculate how many starting triangles will be needed. Form and place these triangles as before. Measure the remaining spaces at both sides of the room and form the extra triangles to fill the spaces.



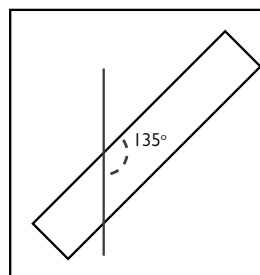
8. Ensure all the starting triangles are perfectly aligned.



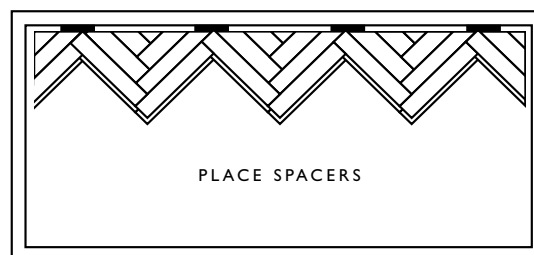
9. Add additional pieces to link all the starting triangles together across the whole room.



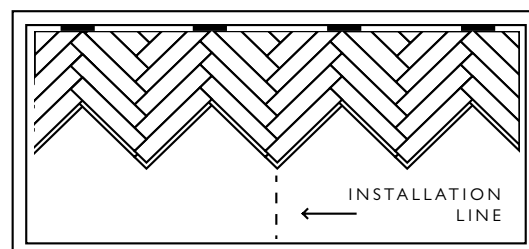
10. Mark and cut end pieces to complete each row.



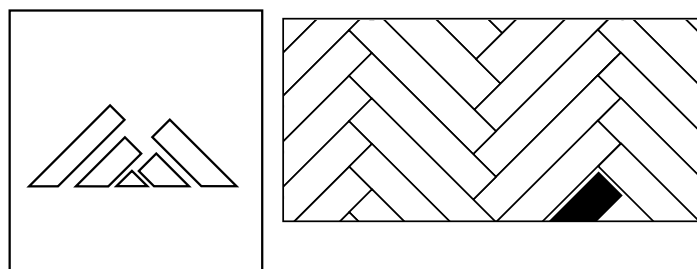
11. If perimeter expansion gaps are needed, insert temporary spacers.



12. Continue to install the rest of the area, working from side to side across the room in alternate batches of left-hand and right-hand pieces. Frequently check that the pattern aligns with the installation line.



13. Retain off-cuts to complete the flooring at the end of the room.



INSTALLATION VIDEO

Scan the QR code to watch the installation video.

