



HARDWOOD FLOORING

FLOATING FLOOR PRODUCTS

Lifestyle

Engineered Installation System

INSTALLATION TOOLS REQUIRED

- Armstrong Wood Floor Flooring
- Underlay
- PVA adhesive
- Plastic sheeting (minimum 0.2mm)
- 5cm wide polyethylene tape
- Tapping block
- Pull bar
- Spacers / wedges
- Clamping system
- Tape measure
- Carpenter's square
- Hammer
- Pencil
- Saw (hand or power)
- String line
- Clean cloths
- Dividers
- Mouldings/finishing trims
- Plastic scraper
- Bucket of rinse water

OPERATIONS INVOLVING SAWING, SANDING OR MACHINING WOOD PRODUCTS CAN PRODUCE WOOD DUST. AIRBORNE WOOD DUST CAN BE AN EXPLOSIVE HAZARD.

WOOD DUST MAY CAUSE RESPIRATORY, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION.

THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC) HAS CLASSIFIED WOOD DUST AS A NASAL CARCINOGEN IN HUMANS.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDED SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AND PRACTICES WHEN USING POWER TOOLS.

CAUTIONARY MEASURES IF POWER TOOLS ARE USED:

The power tool must be equipped with a dust collector. Use both the appropriate dust mask and safety glasses. Avoid dust contact with eyes and skin. Shut off sources of ignition in the work area and it's immediate surroundings.

FIRST AID MEASURES IN CASE OF IRRITATION:

Flush eyes and skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical attention if irritation persists.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Floating Floor Structure

Armstrong Lifestyle Collection is a "floating" floor. These floors are intended for indoor use only and can be installed over most existing floor structures. Since these floors are composed of natural cellulose fibres, they will expand and contract with changes in relative humidity.

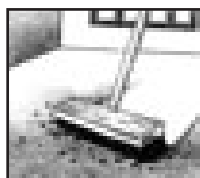
- Do not attach to the sub-floor at any point.
- Do not fit flush against any fixed vertical surfaces like walls, permanent fixtures, doorframes, pipes, staircases and where the floor meets other floor coverings.
- For most installations, where the relative humidity is between 50 and 65%, a minimum 10 - 15mm expansion gap is required around the perimeter of the room as well as against any fixed objects. This gap accounts for the normal movement of the floor system. Where the room is longer than 10 metres in plank length or wider than 8 metres across the width of planks, expansion joints must be provided.
- When installing the floor into several adjoining rooms, expansion joints must be provided at every doorway.
- Any expansion joint in the sub-floor must be provided with a matching expansion joint directly above in the Armstrong Wood Flooring.
- Temperature changes will have little effect on the movement of these floors.
- Do not install Armstrong Wood Floor Flooring in areas such as bathrooms, showers, and wash rooms, steam rooms or saunas where the floor is normally/frequently wet.
- The room temperature should be at a minimum of 18°C for 48 hours prior to, during and 48 hours after installation.

SUB-FLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Armstrong Wood Floor can be installed over most sub-floors and existing floors on all grade levels.

All sub-floors must:

- meet applicable building codes
- be structurally sound
- be dry, clean and flat



The sub-floor must not deviate by more than 2mm in 1.5 metres. All depressions greater than 2mm must be filled with a suitable levelling compound or the hump removed by abrasion.

The slope should not exceed 30mm in 2 metres.

CONCRETE SUB-FLOORS

Concrete floors must be cured properly and allowed to dry.

The maximum acceptable moisture content for Armstrong Wood Flooring is 5.5% when tested to Appendix A, Australian Standard 1884-1985.

TIMBER SUB-FLOORS

Timber sub-floors must be suspended and have a minimum of 450mm well-ventilated crawl space.

The maximum acceptable moisture content is 10%.

All boards must be properly fixed to the substrate. Loose or creaking boards will result in a squeaking floor after installation and must be securely fixed. All protruding nail heads are punched below the surface.

EXISTING FLOOR COVERINGS

All existing floor coverings must be securely bonded to the acceptable condition sub-floor.

Any loose sections should be re-fixed, replaced or the floor covering removed.

All sub-floors should be tested for moisture content.

CONDITIONING / ACCLIMATION

Store flooring flat in unopened packages in the centre (protected dry place) of the room in which it will be installed for a period of 48 hours prior to installation.

The room temperature should be at a minimum of 18°C for 48 hours prior to, during with an ideal relative humidity of 55% and 48 hours after installation.

During installation, the room temperature should not exceed 38°C.

Can be installed over under-floor heating systems. The surface of the sub-floor must not exceed 28°C.

The packages should only be opened just before the start of the installation.

Each board should be carefully inspected prior to installation, never install any damaged board.

The floorboards are supplied pre-finished. Open the packages as work progresses to minimise their exposure to humidity.

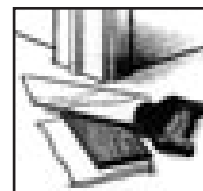
Should any obvious mistakes, damage be found when opening the package, call your Armstrong representative immediately, before installation.

PREPARATION

Ensure sub-floor is to acceptable standard (see sub-floor requirements).

Removal of existing skirting is optional.

Door trims and architraves must be undercut to allow the floor to move freely. Use a piece of floor and foam underlay to support the saw blade at the correct height for undercutting. It may be necessary to plane or cut the bottom of the door to accommodate the change in floor height.

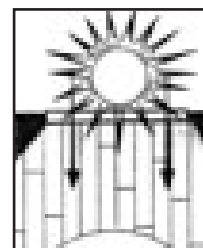


Sweep the sub-floor and remove all dust and debris. Vacuuming is recommended.

Cover the sub-floor with a moisture barrier such as polyethylene film of at least 0.2mm. The polyethylene sheeting should be laid with the seams overlapped by at least 100 - 150mm and taped with polyethylene tape. Ensure the polyethylene sheeting is turned up the perimeter of the area by 50mm. The excess should be cut to the height of the installed flooring after the floor has been installed.

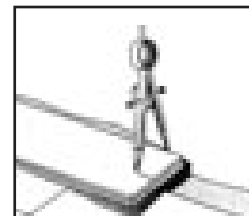
LAYOUT

The boards should preferably be installed in the direction of incoming light. Always, when installing over floor (strip) boards, the Armstrong Wood Flooring should be laid at 90° to the floorboards.



Avoid narrow pieces at the finish wall. Measure the distance between the starting wall and finish wall. Divide this measurement by the width of the board. If the remainder is less than 60mm, cut off 60mm from the width of the first row.

Any wall irregularities will require the first row of boards to be cut to fit the contour of the wall.

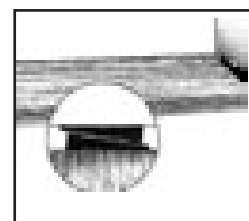


INSTALLATION

- Lay the underlay over the moisture barrier.
- Always work out of at least 3 packages of flooring alternatively.

DRY LAY THE FIRST ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Begin installing on the left hand of the starting wall, working to the right.
- Lay out the first row, always install with the (female) groove side facing the wall.
- Use spacers/wedges along all sides that butt up against walls to maintain a 10 - 15mm expansion gap. Wedges should be used in pairs horizontally.
- Cut last board of first row, allowing for the expansion gap.



CUTTING

- A good quality carbide-tipped cutting blade that has been designed for composition and laminate materials such as melamine, laminex or other hard, dense, man-made materials is recommended.
- When using a hand saw, cut with the decorative side of the board facing up.
- When using a power saw, the direction of the blade must cut into the decorative side of the board to minimise chipping.
- Cut the marked board in another area to keep sawdust away from the installation site.

DRY FIT THE SECOND ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Begin the second row of boards with the piece cut from the last board in the first row. If the piece is shorter than 500mm, cut a new board in half and use it to begin the second row. Whenever practical, use the piece cut from the last board of the preceding row to start the next row.
- To help reduce the risk of installing the boards out of square it is important that piece one from row two is shorter than piece one from rows one and three.
- End joints of first board and all subsequent boards should be staggered by a minimum 500mm.

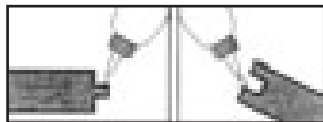
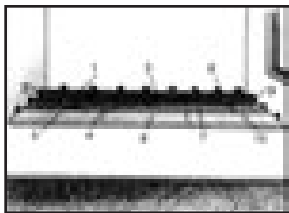
DRY FIT THE THIRD ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Lay the third row of planks in the same manner as the second row.
- Use the string line to ensure the first three rows are straight and true.

IF THE FIRST THREE ROWS ARE INSTALLED STRAIGHT, TRUE AND WELL BONDED, THE REMAINDER OF THE INSTALLATION WILL PROCEED SMOOTHLY.

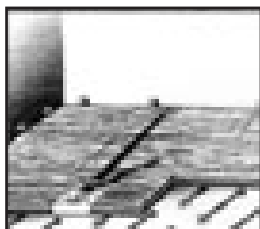
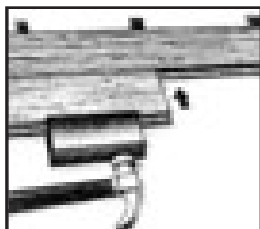
GLUING PROCEDURE

- Place masking tape on the face of each board laid in the first three rows and number in sequence. Do not write directly on boards.
- Number and install in a stair-step/pyramid fashion to aid in proper gluing and clamping. This is important for the first three rows only.
- Disassemble the first three rows.
- Apply a thin continuous bead of glue 2 - 2.5mm in diameter, to the top surface of the tongue of the first piece on the floor.
- Apply a thin continuous bead of glue 2 - 2.5mm in diameter, to the bottom lip on the groove of the first piece from row two.

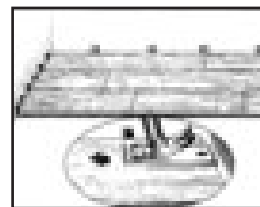


APPLY THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF GLUE TO THE TOP OF THE TONGUE AND THE BOTTOM OF THE GROOVE. APPLY IN A CONTINUOUS LINE. MORE IS NOT BETTER. LESS WILL RESULT IN AN UNSATISFACTORY JOINT WITHOUT THE CORRECT BOND STRENGTH AND MOISTURE RESISTANCE.

- Fit the groove over the tongue and push together.
- Place a tapping block against the board being installed and **gently** tap the block to tighten the joint.
- **Immediately** remove any excess glue that oozes to the surface. Use a plastic scraper and a damp cloth. Follow with a dry, clean cotton cloth.
- Continue to glue and re-assemble the boards in a pyramid fashion as you lay the second and third rows.
- Throughout the installation, use clamps as needed. Use adequate, but not excessive pressure to tightly close the joints between boards.
- Use the pull bar to pull the end piece in each row into place.



- Allow the first three rows to dry for at least one hour before proceeding with all the remaining rows. Do not walk on freshly glued boards.



Be sure to remove all excess glue from surface, and dry the surface well with a clean dry cotton cloth. This allows you to see any glue haze you may have missed. Change your rinse water regularly. If you allow the glue to dry on the surface of the flooring, removing the glue at a later time will be more difficult and time consuming.

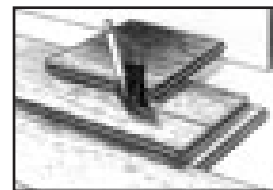
REMAINING ROWS

All joints must be properly glued

- Remove clamps from starter rows.
- Install rows of underlay. Butt join the underlay.
- Continue installing and gluing row by row.
- If there is a need to close a small gap in a joint and hold it temporarily until the glue sets up, use masking tape or a clamping system.
- Maintain the expansion gap around the perimeter.

INSTALLING THE LAST ROW

- The last row may need to be cut lengthwise to fit.
- Place the row of boards to be installed on top of the last row of installed boards.
- Use a divider or piece of the board as a scribe to trace the contour of the wall.
- Use a spacer between the marker and the piece of board. This adds the expansion gap required.
- Glue and install the last row.
- Use the pull bar to tighten the joints.
- Insert spacers to hold the row in place until the glue sets.



FINISHING THE INSTALLATION

- Allow the floor installation to dry overnight, before removing the spacers or walking on the floor.
- Cut the excess plastic sheeting even with the top of the floor.
- Remove the spacers and install moulding or finishing trims to cover expansion gap.
- Fix the moulding/finishing trims to the walls, not the floor.
- Always pre-drill the moulding/finishing trim.
- Do not force the moulding/finishing trim against the floor.



REMOVE ANY EXCESS GLUE

- Spray the glue with Armstrong Once 'n Done, diluted 40 parts water to 1 part Once 'n Done. Scrub with a non-abrasive sponge (such as a blue kitchen sponge). **Do not use coarse, abrasive scrubbing pads, steel wool, abrasive cleaners or scouring powders.**
- Wipe floor with a damp cloth and dry with a clean dry cotton cloth.

BASKETWEAVE WOOD FLOOR INSTALLATION

Install Armstrong basketweave floor following the Armstrong Engineered Installation System. Follow these guidelines replacing the same headings in the Wood Floor Engineered Installation System.

DRY LAY THE FIRST ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Begin installing on the left hand of the starting wall, working to the right.
- Lay out the first row, always install with the (female) groove side facing the wall.
- Use spacers/wedges along all sides that butt up against walls to maintain a 10 - 15mm expansion gap. Wedges should be used in pairs horizontally.
- Cut last board of first row, allowing for the expansion gap.

DRY FIT THE SECOND ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Begin the second row of boards with the new board.
- The starting point is 825mm from the initial board.
- End joints of the first board and all subsequent boards should be staggered by 825mm.
- All subsequent boards should be installed in an ashlar (brick bond) pattern.

DRY FIT THE THIRD ROW - DO NOT APPLY GLUE

- Lay the third row of planks in the same manner as the second row.
- Use the string line to ensure the first three rows are straight and true.
- Ensure all subsequent boards are installed in an ashlar (brick bond) pattern.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE TIPS

Please contact your local retailer or Armstrong representative.

ARMSTRONG WARRANTY

- 25 year Surface Finish Warranty
- Lifetime Structural Warranty

Please contact Armstrong for full warranty details:

NOTE: REMOVING VINYL SUBFLOOR

Vinyl flooring manufactured in Australia after January 1, 1984, DOES NOT contain asbestos. However, regulations, codes and directives as to the best method of handling asbestos do exist and it is the obligation of the installer to ensure that practices used are safe, without risk to health, and meet all legal requirements.

ALL ARMSTRONG WORLD INDUSTRIES (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD FLOORCOVERINGS, ADHESIVES AND ACCESSORIES ARE MANUFACTURED ASBESTOS FREE

WARNING !

Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverise existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt or asphaltic 'cut-back' adhesives.

These products may contain either **asbestos fibres or crystalline silica**.

Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard.

Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibres greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.

Unless positively certain that the product to be removed is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.

Note: Vinyl flooring manufactured in Australia after January 1, 1984 **does not** contain asbestos.

Disclaimer - Asbestos issues

The warnings and guidance contained in these instructions in relation to the potential for asbestos in floorcovering materials are given in good faith. However, regulations, codes and directives as to the best method of handling asbestos are under continual revision. It is the obligation of the installer to ensure that practises used are safe, without risk to health, and meet all legal requirements.

Armstrong World Industries (Australia) Pty Ltd accepts no liability for any loss, costs, expense or injury, however incurred, arising from the presence of any asbestos in any floorcovering materials or asphaltic 'cut-back' adhesives and/or any reliance placed upon the procedures and recommended practises contained in these instructions.

For further Armstrong information

Freecall 1800 800 518

www.armstrong-aust.com.au