



**Very important Information Before You Start Installation:**

It is **HIGHLY CRITICAL** that you thoroughly read and fully comprehend this information prior to beginning installation as incorrect installations invalidate warranties.

**Installer/Owner Responsibility**

ALL material should be thoroughly inspected for defects prior to installation. If materials with visible defects are installed, they are not covered under warranty. Please Note: Due to the natural qualities inherent with wood, variations in product color, grain, and contains natural traits that fluctuates from plank to plank and is considered typical. We do not warrant against these natural differences between planks or variations between sample to plank. Keep in mind, if the flooring does not meet your satisfaction prior to installation, you should contact your dealer and **DO NOT** proceed with the flooring installation. To accept or reject the material, only full shipment of quantities qualify, not carton by carton or plank by plank. Material is manufactured to exceed industry standards (ANSI/HPVA EF 2009).

- Prior to installation, we encourage you, as the final inspector to visually confirm the correct color, finish, style, and quality. Confirm that the flooring is the correctly ordered material. Special attention should be given to remove or repair any undesirable characteristics that are observed. Manufacturer denies liability for any accrued costs when plank(s) are installed with observable defects.
- Minor corrections can be made using stain, filler, or putty stick during installation and should be recognized as standard procedure.
- A 5% cutting allowance, based upon layout, must be accounted for in the actual square footage amount required. (Installation methods that include a diagonal, herringbone, or bordered pattern will incur a higher percentage).

**NECESSARY TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT**

**CAUTION: WOOD DUST**

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has identified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen. Any sawing, sanding, and/ or machining processes of wood-based products can create harmful wood dust with the potential to create respiratory, eye, and skin irritations. Equipment should be fitted with a dust collector to minimize airborne wood dust. A NIOSH designated dust mask must be worn to limit exposure to airborne wood dust. Contact with eyes and skin should always be avoided. If irritation does occur, eyes or skin should be flushed with water for a minimum of 15 minutes. In the event of severe irritation, please seek medical attention immediately. For additional technical or installation questions, a Product Specification Data Sheet should be obtained from the manufacturer.

**WARNING:** Attention California Installers & Consumers- The installation of this product and any other wood-based product may produce wood dust, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer.



- Any “Wet” work – including paint, drywall, concrete, masonry, and plumbing, must be fully complete and dry ahead of time before the delivery of hardwood flooring. Gutters and downspouts should be installed and the exterior grade finished to suffice efficient water drainage diverted away from the building’s exterior perimeter. Flooring should not be exposed to any extreme levels of humidity or moisture.

- Permanent HVAC systems should be turned on and functional for no less than (5) days and stay within the range of 65 – 75 degrees with a relative humidity reading of 35%-55% before delivery

throughout the duration and following flooring installation.

- If HVAC is not available at time of installation, the required environmental conditions must meet or be near, normal living conditions in the range of 60– 80 degrees and fall within the average yearly relative humidity for the area. It is the responsibility of the Installer/Owner to establish that the conditions are sufficient before installation of the hardwood flooring begins. The manufacturer is not liable for any problems arising from the hardwood flooring associated to or resulting from unacceptable jobsite conditions.

#### Recommended Subfloor Surfaces

##### Concrete Subfloor Guidelines

Concrete slabs should sustain high compressive strength and be constructed to avert groundwater from penetrating the concrete. Installation of engineered hardwood flooring is suitable on, above, or below-grade concrete. Furthermore, it can be installed over above-ground, suspended concrete floors. The suspended concrete must meet 1 1/2 inches minimum thickness and confirmed to be structurally acceptable. Lightweight concrete is the exception to this, (as it usually contains high amounts of gypsum) having a 100 pounds density or less per cubic foot. Lightweight concrete should be tested with a nail to scratch the concrete surface. The concrete is NOT considered sound if it crumbles or turns to powder, and the hardwood flooring should NOT be installed. A floating installation method (5 ply products 3” or wider) should be used only for lightweight concrete subfloors.

##### Wood Subfloors Guidelines

Subfloor panels should adhere to U.S. Voluntary Product Standard PS1-07, Construction and Industrial Plywood and/or US Voluntary PS2-04 and/or Canadian performance standard CAN/CSA 0325.0-92 Construction Sheathing. Additional CSA standards also apply.

Suitable Panel Subfloors: Truss/joist spacing will establish the tolerated minimum thickness of the panel subflooring.

- For truss/joist spacing of 16” o/c or less the industry standard for single panel subflooring is minimum 5/8” (19/32”, 15.1 mm) CD Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4x8 sheets.

- On truss/joist spacing of more than 16”, up to 19.2” (488mm) o/c, the standard is nominal 3/4” (23/32”, 18.3 mm) T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels, (Exposure 1) or nominal 3/4” (23/32”, 18.3mm) OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4’x8’ sheets, glued and mechanically secured. *(continued)*



- Truss/joist systems that are spaced over more than 19.2" (488mm) o/c up to a maximum of 24" (610mm) require at least 7/8" T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels, (Exposure 1), or minimum 7/8" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4'x8' sheets glued and mechanically secured – or double layers of subflooring or brace between the truss/joist in adherence with the truss/joist manufacturer's suggestions and with local building codes. Some truss/joist systems cannot be cross braced while maintaining sufficient stability.
- For existing wood floors, new flooring should be installed at right angles to the existing flooring.
- Never glue, staple, or nail down hardwood flooring over particleboard, floating applications. (3" or wider products).
- Never install hardwood floors over any existing glue down floors.

**WARNING! DO NOT ATTEMPT THE FOLLOWING PROCESSES: SANDING, DRY SWEEPING, DRY SCRAPING, DRILLING, SAWING, BEADBLASTING OR MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZING EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.** These products may potentially contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Any creation of dust is strongly avoided. The inhalation of resulting dust carries the risk of cancer and/or respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals with exposure to asbestos fibers significantly increases the risk for severe bodily harm. Unless positive identification has been made that the product has no asbestos-containing material, it must be assumed that it contains asbestos. Regulations may order testing of the material to ascertain asbestos content and may conduct the removal and disposal material's current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings. For additional instructions and detailed information on removal of resilient covering structures, please refer to the most updated information at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com)

### **CERAMIC TILE AND TERRAZZO**

Any existing wax and sealers must be thoroughly removed using an acceptable cleaner/stripper product. Abrasion of ceramic tile and terrazzo is necessary for effective adhesion. Be sure to check for any loose tiles by tapping and re-adhere. Grout lines should be filled by using a cementitious latex fortified leveling compound. For resilient tile and resilient sheet vinyl: Material must be completely spread and attached to the subfloor. Never install over perimeter glued floors. Never install over more than one layer that exceeds 1/8" in thickness. Nail/ Staple Down Only - If current flooring is inadequate for installation of new flooring, then the new underlayment should be used as an overlay. A test should be performed to determine that staples/ cleats are sufficient to properly perforate and secure the flooring to the subfloor. Glue Down Only – Never install over more than one layer that exceeds 1/8" in thickness. Flooring should be cleaned with an approved cleaner and given proper drying time. When needed, the floor should be deglossed using an abrasive pad to improve the adhesive bonding process, if there are wax or other coatings present, the material should be fully removed with a quality stripper, floors should be rinsed and left to dry. *(continued)*



Suitable integrity of the adhesion bond should always be confirmed prior to installation. **CAUTION:** NEVER SAND over existing resilient tile, sheet vinyl flooring, or flooring felt as the content of asbestos fibers not readily identifiable may be present. The inhalation of asbestos dust can lead to severe bodily harm. Refer to local, state, and federal laws for proper handling of hazardous material prior to any removal attempts of these floors. Acoustic Cork Underlayment: (Glue Down Only) – Installation of the cork underlayment should be made in compliance with the manufacturer’s given instructions. The cork underlayment must be thoroughly adhered to the subfloor. The cork underlayment should consist of pure granulated cork combined with a polyurethane binder with a density of 11.4 lbs. per cubic foot or less and should not exceed more than 13 lbs. per cubic foot. Pre installation/ Job Preparation–Inspect the flooring material for acceptable color, finish, milling, and grade. Hold out pieces that differ from acceptable standards once installed.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** We do not assume any responsibility for costs accrued when plank(s) showing visible defects have been permanently installed. Undercut Door Casings - All door casings should be undercut to 1/16" higher than the thickness of the installed flooring. To accomplish this, a scrap piece of flooring can be utilized as a guide. Lay it on the substrate and cut the casing using a handsaw or power jamb saw adjusted to the proper height. Blending of Cartons- To achieve a consistent and uniform appearance throughout the entire floor, we strongly suggest that you open and work from several cartons simultaneously and dry-lay the flooring, mixing planks from the various cartons. This method allows you to effectively blend the planks for an optimal aesthetic appearance. Ensure that the room is sufficiently lit to confirm satisfactory color consistency as well as adequate visibility of defects to be seen and removed. Match Transition Moldings: To achieve ideal the appearance, all transitions and moldings should be blended with planks that display similar coloring and grain variations and should be set aside for use as needed.

Layout of Flooring: “Racking the Floor” is imperative to achieve a randomized appearance. Begin by using random-length planks found in the carton or by cutting four or five planks in various lengths, differentiating by a minimum of six inches. While you continue working across the floor, attempt to maintain a minimum of six inches between end joints. Install differentiating lengths at random, to avoid creating a patterned orientation. Do not waste materials; use the end cuts from starter rows at the opposite side of the room to finish rows or use to start the following row. Expansion space: It is essential to have necessary expansion space around the perimeter and should match the thickness of the flooring material. In floating installations, the minimum thickness shall be no less than ½” regardless of the of the material thickness. In commercial installations, a no less than ½” expansion shall be observed. *(continued)*





## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR GLUEDOWN METHOD

(Necessary tools & materials:)

- Hardwood Adhesive
- Clean White Rags Mineral Spirits or Urethane Adhesive Remover
- Adhesive Trowel Straight Edge

**NOTE: PLEASE CHECK THE ADHESIVE LABEL FOR SPECIFIC TROWEL REQUIREMENTS, SPREAD RATES AND IMPORTANT INSTALLATION APPLICATION GUIDELINES! NOTE:** Prior to using the following instructions, please review the Pre-Installation Job Prep guidelines above.

### Getting Started

1. Identify a starter wall, preferably an outside wall, which tends to work best as more likely to be straight and square with the room. Measure out from this wall, at each end, the width of two planks as well as the tongue any additional space needed (3/8" or 1/2") for necessary expansion.
2. Snap a chalk line from these points that runs parallel with that wall.
3. Before installing the flooring, fasten a straight edge inside the chalk line to act as a guide and to stop the row of planks from moving during installation. A straight piece of lumber or piece of flooring could be utilized as your straight edge. As another option, the first row can be face-nailed with finishing nails into the wood subfloor or sprig nailed into a concrete subfloor.

### Spread the Adhesive

Using the specified trowel as referenced in the manufacturer's adhesive label, position the trowel at a 45° angle to establish the correct adhesive spread rate. Pressure should be applied to allow the trowel to leave ridges of adhesive on the substrate with minimal adhesive left between the ridges. This will help ensure that the proper adhesive spread rate is achieved. Temperature and air flow across the adhesive can impact the open time of the adhesive. 3X (or urethanes) will have a longer open time in low- humidity areas and shorter open times will be observed in high-humidity areas. (Check Adhesive label for additional information).

### Install The Flooring

4. Spread out the adhesive from the chalk line/straight edge to roughly the width of two planks. Install the first row of starter planks along the chalk line/straight edge and fasten into place with the tongue facing the starter wall.

**NOTE:** Correct alignment is crucial. The misalignment of starter rows can result in the appearance of side and end gaps in subsequent rows of flooring. Once the starter rows are complete, you can start the next row.

5. After you are completely sure that the first two starter rows are straight and secure, spread the adhesive 2 to 3 feet wide across the entire length of the room. As a best practice, do not spread more adhesive than what can be covered in 30 to 45 minutes time. If the adhesive starts to skin over, dried adhesive should be removed and new adhesive should be troweled. *(continued)*



6. Continue installing planks and slide them into position. The tongue of the board should be placed into the grooves of installed boards and pressed into the adhesive. As you continue working across the floor, attempt to maintain a space of at least six inches between the end joints. Install differentiating lengths at random, in order to avoid creating a patterned orientation.

**NOTE:** Rubber mallets or hammers should never be used directly on the flooring to engage the tongue-and-groove. Such methods can damage the flooring and/or the finish.

7. Adhesive should be removed from the installed flooring surface as you work to help save time. A rag dampened with water or mineral spirits will remove adhesive. Towels should be regularly changed to prevent hazy films from developing on the flooring surface. NEVER use water for the removal of Urethane adhesives from the finish.

8. As you progress towards the end wall it may become necessary to cut the width of the last row – ensure there is also room for expansion space along the end wall. After the final cuts have been made, set the remaining planks into place.

9. Once the floor is complete, remove the straight edge and glue down the first two boards.

10. Prohibit all foot traffic for at least 6 to 8 hours and allow 24 hours before allowing furniture to be moved onto the floor.

11. Clean wet adhesives that remain on the flooring by using a clean, lightly dampened cloth. On dried adhesives, apply mineral spirits to a clean cloth for removal. If using a Urethane adhesive, be sure to apply the suggested urethane adhesive remover.

12. Roll and cross roll floor using a 100-150 lbs. (45-70 kg) roller upon finished installation to confirm adequate transfer of adhesive.

For installation of unfinished wood flooring, allow a minimum of 72 hours to pass prior to sanding. \*Final Inspection: Once floors have been thoroughly cleaned, be sure to visually inspect the floors for imperfections such as nicks, scratches, gaps, or movement between planks, as well as any other minor flaws that require touch up or repairs. Nicks and scratches can be resolved using designated touch-up products. In normal climates, the new flooring is ready to accept foot traffic within 24 hours. In areas that require extra curing time, additional time may be necessary.

## **NAIL OR STAPLE DOWN INSTALLATION GUIDELINES**

(Necessary Tools and Materials:)

- Drill Tapping Block Compressor Air Hose In-line Air
- Regulator
- Pneumatic Nailer/Stapler
- 15 lb. Roofers Felt

**NOTE:** Prior to using the following instructions, please review the Pre-Installation Job Prep guidelines above. We do not warranty our products against the occurrence of squeaking, popping or crackling if a staple-down or nail-down installation method is used. The potential for squeaking, popping, or crackling is considered typical and is plausible during staple-down or nail-down installation methods. Such symptoms may be emphasized in arid environments or during particularly dry conditions. *(continued)*

- Never install over carpet.
- When installing on top of vinyl, confirm that the vinyl is adequately secured to the subfloor. Never install over vinyl that is perimeter glued.
- When installing over an existing wood floor, flooring should be installed at right angles in relation to the wood floor.
- Be sure to secure any creaking and loose floorboards using screws.
- Never install over wood flooring that has been glued to a concrete sub floor.
- It is required to leave ½” expansion space at all vertical surfaces.

**Note:** Additional expansion space is necessary for larger rooms. 1/16” should be added to the expansion space width for each additional 3’ that the room extends beyond 25’. For dimensions that exceed 40’ in length or width—using a T-Molding for sufficient expansion is suggested.

### **Getting Started**

1. All doors and shoe moldings need to be removed. All door casings should be undercut 1/16” higher than the thickness of the installed flooring and underlayment. To accomplish this, a scrap piece of plank and a sheet of underlayment against the door casing can be utilized as a guide and cut the door casing using a hand saw or power jamb saw adjusted to the proper height.
  2. Once the direction to run the planks has been confirmed, the width of the room should be measure (the dimension perpendicular to the direction of the flooring). The final row of the flooring should be a minimum of 1 ½” wide; if less, the width of the starter row should be cut to prevent the last row being too narrow.
  3. Identify a starter wall, preferably an outside wall which tends to work best as it's more likely to be straight and square with the room. Measure out from the wall, at each end, including the overall width of the plank as well as ½” for necessary expansion space. Should the first row require ripping, measure the width of the ripped board from the wall and include ½” expansion space.
  4. Use brightly colored chalk to snap a chalk line from these points.
  5. Install Underlayment: Unroll the 6 mil. Poly sheeting overlapping edges 4” and apply clear plastic tape at the seams. Make allowance for the poly to run 2” up the wall and cut back once the flooring installation is complete. Install 1/8” foam underlayment.
- Note: The use of a floating floor 2-in-1 underlayment is acceptable. Please adhere to the manufacturer’s instructions for correct application when installing the 2-in-1 underlayment. *(continued)*



6. Before you install the flooring, fasten a straight edge (starter board) inside the chalk line to act as a guide and stop the row of planks from moving during installation. A straight piece of lumber or piece of flooring can be utilized as a straight edge. This is only temporary and will need to be replaced once the flooring is complete.

Install the Flooring

7. Insert the spacers at walls to sustain the expansion space between the wall and flooring.

8. Prior to gluing the planks, dry lay the first two rows of flooring. Begin installing the planks by working left to right so that the groove faces the straight edge (starter board). Once you've reached the end of the first row, cut the plank to fit as needed. On the first 4 rows, end joints should be staggered at least 16" and then 8" subsequently.

9. The remainder of the plank from the first row should be used to begin the second row. If the piece is less than 8" long, a new plank must be cut in half to be used for starting the second row.

10. Lay the remaining planks in the second row. Ensure that the rows are completely straight and there are no gaps on the sides or ends. After you have dry laid the first two rows, all the planks should be removed in order. You are now ready to start.

11. Start by gluing the boards; Apply a continuous bead of adhesive along the groove of the short side (width) and the plank's side groove (length). Correct alignment is crucial as misaligned starter rows can result in the appearance of side and end gaps in the subsequent rows of flooring.

12. Install the first row of planks, working left to right with the groove facing the straight edge, finish the first row and ensure that there are no gaps in between the boards. A tapping block should be used if the boards need to be pushed together. Excessive adhesive should be quickly wiped away using a clean, lightly damp cloth. **CAUTION:** Adhesive that is left to dry on the finish surface may be challenging to remove and may leave behind a hazy residue.

13. At the end wall, an end pry bar may be used, when necessary, to pull the ends of the planks tight.

14. Continue installing the floor by working right to left and repeat the process until the flooring is complete. Continue using the spacers on all vertical surfaces to stay consistent with the ½" expansion space. **NEVER USE** laminate straps as they may cause damage to the flooring.

15. The final row will likely require cutting to width but should be no less than 1 ½" wide. To accomplish this, the plank should lay face up, on top of the previous complete row installed. Use a scrap piece of plank and a pencil to trace the wall contour on the last plank.

16. Install the cut planks and pull into position using a pry bar. Install the spacing wedges in between the planks and wall.

17. Remove the straight edge (starter row) and use the pry bar to install the final row. The floor should be given at least 12 hours drying time before removing the spacing wedges and prior to permitting foot traffic. (*continued*)



18. The trim and moldings can be installed on the following day.

#### Radiant Heated Subfloors

Check Website or Sample board to verify if it as an approved product. Non-Approved products are not covered under warranty for use over Radiant Heat

- Before installation of flooring over radiant heat system, it is imperative that the following guidelines are strictly followed. Any failures to adhere to these guidelines may result in inferior quality and poor results.
  - The following instructions are for floating installations only, do NOT use in direct glue down methods.☒
  - Sub floor must be flat to 3/16” in 10’ or 1/8” in 6’
  - Before installation, concrete or using a pin type meter for wood sub floors should be tested for moisture and documented per ASTM test method 1869-89.
  - For concrete sub floors registered after a calcium chloride test, the moisture content must not exceed 2 pounds per 1000 square feet of area. If the reading exceeds these limits, the flooring should NOT be installed.
  - The jobsite’s relative humidity levels must remain between 35-55% relative humidity. A humidification system may be required to sustain the acceptable humidity level. If the specified humidity level is not consistently maintained, excessive dryness of flooring may occur.
  - It is strongly suggested that the radiant heat system be designed exclusively for accepting a wood floor
1. The It is required to use an in-floor temperature sensor in addition to a separate thermostat for the individual room.
  2. Use an outdoor temperature sensor to regulate water temperature according to projected heat loss.

#### **JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS**

Before beginning the flooring installation, the radiant system must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. Prior to installing the flooring material, it is required to follow the conditions below.

1. Concrete moisture content must not surpass 2.0 lbs. per CaCltest method (ASTM1869-89) Wood sub floors must not surpass 12% and be within a 4% range of the wood flooring.
  2. Concrete must be given adequate curing time and dry for at least 4 weeks before operation of the radiant heat system.
  3. Set the radiant heat system to operate at 2/3 maximum output for at least 2 weeks before flooring installation to completely allow moisture to dissipate from concrete and arrive at a final moisture content reading. These steps must be followed in both heating and non-heating seasons.
  4. Before installation (4 days) the temperature should be reduced to 65°.
  5. Floating Installation - Follow the floating floor installation guidelines and install accordingly. It is required to use a 2-in-1 underlayment. (*continued*)
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6. Begin gluing the planks and apply continuous bead of adhesive in the groove on both the end and length of the board.
7. Excess glue that protrudes out onto plank surface should be removed using a clean, damp rag. The rags and water should be changed occasionally to prevent leaving a hazy residue on the surface.

#### **POST INSTALLATION & SEASONAL OPERATION**

- 48 hours following the finished installation, gradually increase the temperature of the heating system to the desired operating level within a timeframe of 5 days. Do not permit the surface temperature to surpass 80°. The humidity level must stay within the range of 35%-55% R.H.

- Seasonal gapping should be anticipated.
- Surface checking can be assumed if the adequate humidity levels is not consistently maintained between 35-55% R. H. or if the floor's surface temperature surpasses 80°.

#### **FINAL FINISHING TOUCHES TO COMPLETE THE JOB – ALL INSTALLATIONS**

- Sweep or vacuum floors until they are clear of any construction dust and debris.
- Clean the floors using a Bering-approved hardwood floor cleaner
- Install the transition pieces - (thresholds, t-moldings, base boards and quarter round). Nail moldings to the wall only, not the floor.
- Conduct a complete visual inspection of the finished flooring and seek out any nicks and/or minor gaps – resolve any minor imperfections using a suitable color wood putty.
- Leave any unused material with the owner and ensure that it is stored in a dry, climate-controlled location in the event of future repairs.
- A plywood or hardboard can be utilized for moving heavy appliances or furniture across the floor.

#### **Protecting Floors During Construction**

Once installation is complete, you may want to protectively cover the floor. Ensure the flooring is completely covered, especially since some wood species -more sensitive to light and uncovered areas may be subject to fading or other color changes. A covering material with a vapor permeance (perm rating) of 1 perm or more (tested in accordance with ASTM E-96) should be used to prevent trapping moisture/vapor on or within the flooring. Tape down floor coverings to base or shoe moldings using a low-adhesion tape. Taping to the finished floor should be avoided. If taping paper or sheets together, make sure to tape them to each other and not to the floor.

#### **Making Smooth Transitions with Moldings**

**T-Moldings:** Use for creating transitions between floor coverings of similar heights or to conceal an expansion gap.

**Stair Nosing:** Use in combination with flooring installed over steps or for providing a finished edge. To secure, glue and nail/ screw into place. Holes should be pre-drilled to prevent splitting.

**Reducer Strips:** Used for transitions of floor coverings of varying heights in the following applications: wood floor to vinyl, vinyl composition tile, or low-pile carpet. Also used for fireplace borders. *(continued)*



**Thresholds:** Use for transitioning floor coverings or to develop a break between floor wood to carpet floor coverings, can also be used for trim moldings around fireplaces or with sliding glass doors.

**Shoe Base Moldings:** Use for covering the expansion space between flooring and vertical surfaces. Can be used as an alternative for Quarter Round moldings when space is limited.

**Quarter Round Moldings:** Use to conceal the expansion space between the Wall Base and the hardwood floor. Can also be used to create smooth transitions between the floor and cabinetry.

**Wall Base Moldings:** Stain and finish to match the flooring color and use as a substitute to paint baseboards.

### **Floor Care and Maintenance**

As with any factory-finished floor covering, it should be expected that signs of wear will appear on our wood floors over time. The amount of visible wear will largely depend on the size and lifestyle of the occupants in the space. Being mindful of a few important precautions and adhering to a consistent cleaning routine and maintenance schedule is the best way to reduce wear and extend the beauty of your flooring. The examples below include the most essential maintenance needs you should expect. These are intended to be a general reference and are not an exclusive list. (Refer to our specific care and maintenance guide for engineered wood floors for more detailed information).

1. Floors should be swept and/or vacuumed on a regular basis due to the build-up of grit that can abrade and damage wood surface. A soft vacuum head should be used, such as a brush or felt attachment. Be sure to always confirm that the wheels of the vacuum are clean before use to prevent inadvertently damaging the finish. Never use a vacuum with a beater bar head.
2. Quickly mop up spills by using a soft cloth and manufacturer-approved cleaning products.
3. Do not wet or damp-mop the floors. Do not clean floors using water or other products. Doing so can seriously damage your floors and result in the invalidation of warranties. Never use hardwood floor cleaning machines or steam cleaners. Review section on Incorrect Maintenance.
4. Only use the manufacturer's approved Hardwood floor cleaners and apply using a clean terry cloth mop. Be sure to sweep or vacuum the floors before applying any wood floor cleaners. Never let excess cleaner to sit on the flooring surface as this may result in irreversible damage to the wood fiber.
5. Important Note: Never use oil-based soaps, liquids or paste wax products as well as any other household cleaners that contain the following: citrus oils, lemon oil, tung oil, silicon, or ammonia as damage attributing from non-recommended products is not covered under warranties. Using the above listed products and similar products will hinder the long-term quality and performance of your flooring and may also impact the ability for recoat. (*continued*)



6. Never use 2-in-1 cleaning products that contain polish as well as products that may contain acrylics or urethane polish for gloss restoration – the application of these products will not only revoke the finish warranty but may also lead to poor results when improperly applied.
7. Pets' nails should be kept trimmed, and paws clean without dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
8. Protective felt pads placed under furniture legs and feet are necessary to limit scratches and dents on the flooring surface. Pads should be replaced as often as necessary.
9. When moving heavy objects, furniture, or appliances, a dolly and protective sheets of plywood should always be used.
10. Confirm that furniture casters are clean and are functioning correctly (a vinyl surface that is at least 1" wide should be used where there is contact with wood). Occasionally clean wheels to remove dirt and debris.
11. Take care to remove shoes that have spiked or damaged heels prior to walking on floors.
12. Sun and UV ray exposure is known to expedite the natural oxidation process and result in premature aging of the wood. This can result in staining and/or fading and/or to color changes of the wood. We suggest rearranging rugs and furniture on occasion to promote more even aging of the floors. Various exotic wood species like Brazilian Cherry are more vulnerable to color changes as the wood ages. Damage associated with sun and UV ray exposure are not covered under these warranties.
13. Area rugs should be utilized, specifically in high traffic areas and pivot points which include stair landings, room entrances, etc.), this is especially important in large families or where indoor pets are present.
14. Relative Humidity levels in your home should be kept in the acceptable range of 35%- 55%. A humidifier can be used during heating seasons to help prohibit the potential for wood shrinkage because of low humidity.

Bering warrants its product to be free from manufacturing defects for ten years from the date of purchase. Bering does not warrant against and cannot be held responsible for faulty installation. Installation errors should be addressed with your installer. Therefore, it is important to choose an installer who has demonstrated expertise in installation of commercial flooring. For complete warranty information, limitations and terms and conditions please call Bering customer support at 1-855-792-1010