



VIENNA WOODS
QUALITY FLOORING CO.

GRAND OAK AND CHATEAU INSTALLATION GUIDE

There are two different types of oiled floors: hardwax oiled and UV oiled. Hardwax oiled requires more frequent oiling. UV oiled means that the oil has been applied and cured under UV light to make it more durable. UV oiled floors do not need oiling post-installation.

SITE CONDITION CONSIDERATIONS

The site where the floor is to be installed must be weather tight. Plastering and painting should be fully completed. Any leaks or dampness issues must be fixed prior to starting the installation. At the time of installation (and thereafter) conditions should be within the range expected when the building is in its intended use. The Relative Humidity (RH) of the air should be between 45% and 65% RH and the temperature should fall between 18 and 21 degrees Centigrade. The installer or owner assumes all responsibility for the final inspection of both the site suitability and product quality prior to installation. Claims will not be accepted if a fault was visibly noticeable prior to installation.

BEFORE INSTALLATION

Structural Engineered Flooring generally does not require a long period of acclimatisation in the room it is to be installed in. However, good practice would determine that the floor be placed in the desired room for 48 hours prior to installation. The flooring must remain in the sealed packaging up to the start of installation.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Our engineered wood flooring is suitable for installation over generally underfloor heating systems. We recommend hydronic water heating systems. For other types of heating systems please contact your supplier to check compatibility.

A surface temperature of 29° Celsius must not be exceeded by either hot water or electrical heating systems. The use of temperature indicators is necessary.

Important: By placing items that require a lot of floor space (e.g. larger furniture, low beds, heavy carpets) over a heated floor surface there is a risk of trapped heat. This can result in overheating! Screeds need to be dried out according to their standards before the installation of the floor. You should check that adhesive and moisture barrier used is compatible with underfloor heating.



SUBSTRATE FLOORS

This engineered wood flooring can be installed onto most types of substrate, which is clean, dry and level. Examples include: concrete slabs, timber floor boards, chipboard/particleboard, or plywood. It is the responsibility of the flooring installer or owner to check that the site conditions are in a satisfactory state for the flooring to be laid. Carefully check instructions on the adhesive and moisture barrier datasheets to ensure maximum moisture levels, humidity levels and minimum/maximum temperatures are complied with. Notes of all moisture readings should be taken before work commences.

Concrete & Screed Sub Floors: It is vital that the installer checks the moisture content of the concrete/screed to satisfy themselves that the sub floor is dry enough for the flooring to be laid. If measured directly with a moisture meter, the moisture content should not exceed 4%. The relative humidity of the air over the screed should fall between 45% and 65% at a temperature of 18-21 °C. The screed must be levelled to a tolerance of 3mm over a 3000mm straight edge.

Timber Sub Floors: Old floor boards, plywood or particleboard are suitable for installing engineered wood flooring on top of. The same 3mm tolerance applies.

NB: If installing over existing tongue and groove flooring, make sure all old boards are secure and no decaying. It is recommended to lay the new flooring at 90° to the existing sub-structure floorboards in order to negate any possible movement.

INSTALLATION METHOD

We highly recommend that all of our floors are installed by a professional flooring installer or contractor by glue down methods, using a trowel to spread adhesive over the entire area. It's vitally important to use an adhesive that is suitable for engineered wood flooring; these adhesives are flexible to allow some movement during humidity fluctuations and very strong.

1. Undercut the bottom of door frames etc to allow for the flooring to fit underneath it. Always work with a 10-12mm expansion gap around the full perimeter of the room.
2. Open 4 or 5 packs (where possible) and mix the boards to ensure an even distribution of colour and character.
3. The industry standard of up to 5% waste applies for defects. Allow up to approximately 9% extra for cutting/wastage in total.
4. If you discover a defective board, DO NOT LAY IT! You or your installer are the final judge of what is acceptable at the installation stage. Your supplier is not be responsible for costs associated with installing, finishing and/or replacing a board(s) that has been installed with visible defects.



5. Ideally boards should be laid 'end on' to the incoming daylight, or along the longest length of the room. The first board should be laid groove to the wall, allowing for a minimum expansion of 10mm between the board and wall. Do not butt up boards against ANY fixed surface, such as walls, door frames, fireplaces, pipes or window joinery. You can leave a small gap such as 3mm against window joinery

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

You must use a specialist wood flooring adhesive suitable for engineered wood flooring such as Parabond Parquet 480. Always ensure you adhere to the manufacturers guidelines for use and application. Do not deviate from the specific instructions provide or it may result in the failure of your flooring.

1. The glue should be applied using the full trowel method – apply directly to the substrate using the recommended size of notched trowel.
2. Gluing of the tongue and groove system is not necessary when using the above method.
3. Always try and keep glue off the surface of the boards. If you get glue on the surface of the wood remove using baby wipes (especially if your flooring has an oiled finish; do not use thinners or turps on oiled wood floors!). If the glue dries then usually you can rub it off using your fingers or a dry or lightly damp micro-fibre cloth. A nail brush can also be used to help brush any glue out of the textured wood surface.
4. Keep a distance of 10 to 12 mm from the wall using wedges so that the floor is able to expand. Ensure the gap you leave is not larger than the thickness of skirting boards. With tongue & groove planks we recommend drawing a chalk line onto the sub-floor surface for the next row. This will help to avoid contact between the tapping block and adhesive when knocking the planks together, initially at the short sides, then on the long sides. Do not knock on the top-layers (risk of damage).

Please note that occasional gaps are normal with tongue and groove boards, during prolonged periods of heating or dryness.

THE FINISHING TOUCHES

1. The last board of the first row should be fitted using a puller bar, ensuring that there is a 10mm expansion gap at the head of the board.
2. Tapping blocks should be used to help close up gaps and knock boards horizontally together. Direct contact with a mallet or hammer can damage the boards and is not recommended. Banging down on boards using a rubber hammer can leave discolouration's on oiled floorboards.



3. All perimeter gaps should be covered with skirting or a perimeter profile. We do not recommend undercutting of existing skirting unless you have large format skirting that is difficult to remove. You may leave a small 3mm gap to window joinery and fill with coloured flexible silicon. Floorboards laid on stairs should also have a 2-3mm gap against the stringer or wall; this can be filled with flexible silicon.

MANUFACTURING TOLERANCES

Engineered hardwood flooring is a natural product and as such is subject to a large array of variance in colour, texture and tone. Additionally natural wood flooring may feature knots, sap wood, heart wood, mineral streaks and small splits. None of these are classed as defects. They are classified as being a feature of the wood. All flooring is graded in the factory before any finishes are applied.

We always recommend working from 4 or 5 open packs where possible. This ensures a more natural colour mix and variation once installed.

Whenever flooring is being measured for a room, 9-10% wastage should be added. This allows for a margin of error for cuts and also builds in the industry standard of up to 5% loss for selection of material deemed unsuitable for installation.

The flooring is manufactured to a fine tolerances of the boards critical dimensions. Any boards out of tolerance should be dismissed as part of the 5% manufacturing tolerance mentioned above.

Colour variation with the wood and the reaction of the tannins in the wood can create variation in the final colour.