

LUXURA FLOORS INSTALLATION GUIDE



LUXURA
Floors

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Thank you for purchasing Luxura Floors! We are proud to offer some of the highest-quality hardwood flooring in the industry—crafted for durability, beauty, and long-lasting performance. To ensure a successful installation and to protect your investment, please read this guide carefully in its entirety. Following these instructions precisely will help prevent avoidable issues during and after installation and ensure your new floor performs as intended for years to come.

PLEASE CAREFULLY REVIEW THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY BEFORE COMMENCING INSTALLATION.

PROCEEDING WITH THE INSTALLATION SIGNIFIES ACCEPTANCE OF THE HARDWOOD FLOORING PRODUCT AND CONFIRMS THAT ALL PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED HEREIN HAVE BEEN FULFILLED.



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PART I – JOBSITE PREPARATION BEFORE DELIVERY

JOBSITE CONDITIONS & PREPARATION

Before beginning the installation of Luxura hardwood flooring, the jobsite must be fully enclosed and climate-controlled. HVAC systems must be fully operational and must maintain a consistent ambient temperature between **65°F and 85°F** and relative humidity between **35% and 55%** for **at least seven days** prior to installation. These conditions must be maintained before, during, and after installation to allow the site environment to stabilize, which reduces the risk of wood expansion, contraction, or other dimensional changes.

All moisture-generating construction activities such as drywall taping, painting, plastering, texturing, and other wet work must be completed and thoroughly dried before flooring installation begins. Luxura strongly recommends that hardwood flooring be installed as one of the final steps in any construction or remodeling project.

Hardwood flooring should not be installed in areas exposed to repeated or excessive moisture, such as full bathrooms or laundry rooms, unless appropriate and approved moisture control measures are in place.

In preparation for installation, the hardwood flooring must be delivered to the jobsite at least **72 hours in advance** to allow it to acclimate to the ambient temperature and humidity of the installation environment.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS & PREPARATION

Subfloors must be **structurally sound, level, dry, and clean**, and must be free from dust, dirt, adhesives, wax, grease, paint, sealers, old adhesive residues, and any other substances that may interfere with the adhesion or stability of the hardwood flooring. Proper subfloor preparation is essential to ensure long-term performance and avoid installation issues.

FLATNESS & MOISTURE GUIDELINES

- Subfloors must be **flat within 1/8" over 6 feet or 3/16" over 10 feet**.
- Moisture content of subfloors must not exceed:
 - **3.5% for concrete**
 - **12% for plywood or OSB**
- Subfloors must remain dry year-round to avoid issues such as warping, cupping, or buckling.

Moisture Testing Requirements

Proper moisture testing is mandatory and should not be based on visual observation alone. Use a commercial-grade moisture meter appropriate for the subfloor material.

- For **concrete subfloors**, the moisture content must not exceed 3.5%.
- For **plywood or OSB**, the moisture content must not exceed 12%.

If moisture levels exceed these limits, identify and correct the source of moisture before flooring is delivered to the site. All **concrete slabs must have a minimum 6-mil poly film moisture barrier** between the ground and the concrete.

ACCEPTABLE SUBFLOOR TYPES

- **CDX Plywood** (minimum ½" thickness) and underlayment-grade particle board.
- **OSB** (minimum ¾" thickness), must be structurally sound and ≤12% moisture content.
- **Concrete slabs** (glue-down installation only) with minimum compressive strength of 3000 PSI.
- **Existing flooring:** ceramic tile, resilient tile, and sheet vinyl (glue-down installations only).

WOOD SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Ensure that wood subfloors are:

- Clean, dry, and securely fastened.
- Screwed or nailed every 6 inches along joists to eliminate movement or squeaks.
- Free of high spots (to be sanded down) and low spots (to be filled using an underlayment patch or leveling compound).
- Moisture issues must be addressed prior to installation. Any water-damaged areas must be thoroughly dried and repaired before proceeding.

CONCRETE SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Concrete subfloors must be:

- Clean and free of paint, sealers, old adhesives, and debris.
- Cured for a minimum of 60–90 days before installation.
- Ground or sanded to remove existing sealers if present.

A **6-mil poly vapor barrier** must be installed between the ground and the slab to prevent long-term moisture problems.

Moisture Testing for Concrete:

Use a moisture meter. If one is unavailable, perform a plastic sheet test:

- Tape a 2' x 2' clear plastic sheet to the slab with an airtight seal.
- Leave for 24–48 hours.
- If condensation or discoloration is observed under the plastic, the slab contains excess moisture, and installation should be postponed.

VINYL, TILE, AND STONE FLOORS

Existing vinyl flooring **must not be sanded**, as it may contain asbestos.

Ensure all surfaces are:

- Well-bonded to the subfloor
 - Flat, level, and structurally sound
- Glue-down installations only are permitted over these surfaces.

PART II – UPON ARRIVAL OF LUXURA FLOORING PRODUCTS

INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

Luxura hardwood flooring is a natural product and, as such, may contain inherent variations and imperfections. These can include minor inconsistencies in the factory finish, natural grading and color variation, milling tolerances, and general cutting waste. Industry standards allow for up to **5% of the total purchased flooring** to exhibit such characteristics without being considered defective. Additionally, individual planks may show **die lot differences** due to variations in the staining process.

It is the **responsibility of the Owner/Purchaser and the Installer** to thoroughly inspect the flooring **prior to installation**.

Randomly inspect boards from **at least three different cartons** to ensure the product meets expectations for appearance, quality, and consistency.

DO NOT proceed with installation if the flooring is found to be unsatisfactory. Stop opening additional cartons and immediately contact the Luxura retailer where the flooring was purchased.

During installation, the Owner/Purchaser and Installer must continue to inspect each plank before it is installed. The Installer is responsible for selecting boards, cutting around imperfections within manufacturing tolerances, and blending color variations to ensure a uniform and visually pleasing installation.

Important: Luxura Floors will not accept claims for flooring that was installed with visible defects or in cases where the material was not properly inspected before use.

Some longitudinal bending along the wood grain is normal and falls within factory specifications. However, if any planks exhibit **transverse bending** (across the width of the board), the Owner/Purchaser must stop the installation and immediately notify the retailer for further evaluation.

STORAGE GUIDELINES

- Store flooring flat on a dry surface with adequate air circulation.
- Remove plastic wrapping, but keep cartons closed until acclimation begins.
- Handle with care to avoid damaging edges or finishes.

ACCLIMATION & CONDITIONING

Wood flooring must reach moisture content equilibrium with the installation environment before installation. Luxura Floors requires proper acclimation to prevent structural damage and maintain warranty coverage.

- Store cartons on a flat, dry surface in the installation area.
- Maintain a consistent temperature of 65°F–85°F before, during, and after installation.
- Ensure relative humidity levels remain between 35%–55% (warranty coverage requires this range).
- Failure to maintain proper environmental conditions may result in irreversible structural damage and void related warranties.

Once acclimation is complete, the Installer must measure and record the moisture content of the flooring in relation to the subfloor. Before installation, the Installer should document all pre-installation conditions, including moisture testing results with photos indicating location, date, time, and initials for each area evaluated.

PART III – INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITY

Installation is the responsibility of the **Owner/Purchaser and Installer**. Only qualified and experienced professionals should install Luxura hardwood flooring. NWFA-certified installers are recommended and typically provide a warranty for their workmanship. Luxura hardwood flooring can be installed using the glue-down, staple, or nail-down methods, depending on the type of subfloor. Installer must mix planks from multiple cartons to ensure a visually balanced distribution of color and grain variation throughout the installed area.

IMPORTANT: Installation-related issues are **not** covered by the manufacturer warranty. The **floating installation** method is **not** recommended, and Luxura Floors' warranty DOES NOT cover products installed using this method.

GETTING STARTED

- Assess the room layout. Planks are typically installed parallel to the longest wall or a main exterior wall.
- Snap a chalk line offset by the **plank width plus ¼"** for expansion.
- Scribe the first row if necessary to follow the contour of the wall.

GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Approved subfloors:

- CDX Plywood
- OSB (structurally sound, <12% MC)
- Concrete (3000 PSI min.)

ADHESIVE REQUIREMENTS

Use premium hardwood flooring adhesives (e.g., Bostik). The use of cheap or non-approved adhesives will void the manufacturer warranty.

IMPORTANT: Adhesive or masking tape applied directly to the floor surface will damage the factory finish and void the warranty.

ADHESIVE APPLICATION

- Do not use the “wet lay” method.
- Follow adhesive manufacturer’s instructions for:
 - Trowel size
 - Application angle
 - Set time
- Work in sections to prevent premature curing.
- Maintain ventilation during and after installation for at least **4 hours**.

INSTALLATION PROCESS

- Start with the **groove side facing the wall**.
- Use a tapping block to gently lock planks together.
- Maintain expansion space at all vertical obstructions—typically equal to the plank thickness (e.g., ½” thick plank = ½” expansion space).
- Stagger end joints between rows by at least twice the plank width (e.g., 6” stagger for 3” wide boards).
- Check alignment with the chalk line as installation progresses.
- Use weights if necessary to keep perimeter planks in place during curing.

ADHESIVE CLEANUP

- Immediately remove adhesive spills using a soft dry or damp cloth.
- Do not use **acetone, alcohol, paint thinner**, or other harsh chemicals.

STAPLE-DOWN INSTALLATION

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

- CDX Plywood: 5/8" min. over 16" on-center joists
- OSB: 1" min., moisture content <12%

FASTENER SPECIFICATIONS

- 18-gauge, ¾" crown staples, minimum 1½" length
- Staple spacing:

- 4"–6" along planks
- 1" from each end
- 3"–4" for engineered planks <5/8" thick

IMPORTANT: Replace any planks damaged during stapling. Damage caused during installation is not covered by warranty.

INSTALLATION TIPS

- Pre-rack 3–4 rows to plan joint staggering.
- Maintain 1/4" expansion space at all vertical surfaces.
- Remove adhesive spills promptly.
- Never apply tape directly to the surface.

GLUE-ASSISTED STAPLE/NAIL-DOWN INSTALLATION (FOR PLANKS WIDER THAN 5")

WHEN REQUIRED

Glue-assist is required for planks wider than 5" or when using mechanical fasteners on wood subfloors. This method enhances stability and compensates for fewer fasteners per square foot.

ADHESIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Must be **elastomeric**
- Must be compatible with the subfloor and any vapor barrier

SURFACE PREPARATION

- Clean and vacuum the subfloor thoroughly
- Remove all dust and debris to ensure proper bonding

ADHESIVE APPLICATION METHODS

- Use a glue gun or notch trowel
- Application patterns:
 - **Serpentine Pattern:** S-shape, approximately 2 curves per board width
 - **Parallel Stripes:** 6"–8" apart, across or diagonal
 - **Ends and Grooves:** Within 1" of board ends and groove side
 - **Lengthwise Stripes:** Along both edges and center
 - Leave a **1" margin from edges and ends** when applying adhesive.

PART IV – FINISHING THE JOB & POST-INSTALLATION CARE

FINAL INSTALLATION STEPS

Once the flooring installation is complete:

- **Remove all expansion spacers** from the perimeter of the room.
- **Install or reinstall baseboards and/or quarter round moldings** to cover the required expansion gaps. Do not fasten moldings directly to the flooring to allow for natural movement.

- **Install appropriate transition pieces** (e.g., T-moldings, reducers, stair nosing, and threshold strips) wherever the hardwood meets other types of flooring or transitions between rooms.
- Ensure that all installed trim and transition components are securely fixed and flush with the flooring surface to prevent tripping hazards and maintain a finished appearance.

INITIAL CLEANING AFTER INSTALLATION

- Use a **vacuum with a soft brush attachment or a microfiber dry dust mop** to remove all dust, dirt, and installation-related debris.
- Do **not** use water, wet mops, or cleaning products during the initial cleaning process.
- Avoid any contact with harsh cleaning agents such as acetone, paint thinner, ammonia, mineral spirits, bleach, or alcohol. These substances will **damage the factory finish** and **void the manufacturer warranty**.
- If adhesive residue is present on the surface, gently clean it off immediately using only a dry or slightly damp cloth approved for use on hardwood surfaces.

IMPORTANT: Never wet mop the flooring, especially when cleaning drywall dust. When mixed with water, drywall dust can create a pasty residue that will mar the surface and damage the factory finish.

CURING TIME & USE RECOMMENDATIONS

For glue-down installations:

- **Avoid all foot traffic for a minimum of 8–12 hours** after installation is complete.
- **Do not place heavy furniture or objects on the floor until at least 24 hours have passed** to allow the adhesive to cure fully.
- Do not use rugs or mats on the flooring surface for at least **7 days**, to allow the finish and adhesive to stabilize.

For all installation types:

- Use **felt pads or protective glides** under all furniture legs to prevent scratching.
- When moving furniture or appliances, **lift** rather than drag across the surface.
- Protect high-traffic areas with rugs or mats that are **breathable and non-rubber-backed**.

PROTECTION DURING ONGOING CONSTRUCTION OR REMODELING

If additional work is taking place at the jobsite after the flooring has been installed—such as painting, cabinetry, or electrical work—the flooring must be **fully protected** from damage, dust, and debris:

- Cover the floor completely using **clean, dry, plain uncoated cardboard** or **heavy-duty contractor-grade bond paper** (such as Ram Board® or similar products).
- **Do NOT use** plastic sheeting, red rosin paper, felt paper, wax paper, or any **reused cardboard**, as these materials can trap moisture, release dyes, or transfer contaminants to the finish—causing permanent damage.

IMPORTANT: Any damage caused by improper covering materials is **not covered** under the manufacturer's warranty.

COVERING GUIDELINES

- Clean and dry the flooring thoroughly before applying any floor covering.
- Overlap covering materials by at least **4 inches**, and **tape only to the covering material itself**, never directly to the flooring.
- Secure the covering at the **perimeter walls or baseboards** to keep it from shifting or exposing areas of the floor.
- Ensure that **construction debris, wet paint, drywall dust, or adhesive** cannot reach the flooring surface under the protective material.

IMPORTANT: Never apply masking tape, painter's tape, duct tape, or any adhesive product directly to the hardwood flooring surface. Doing so will **damage the factory finish** and **void the manufacturer warranty**.

ONGOING MAINTENANCE

To maintain the appearance and durability of your Luxura hardwood floor:

- Follow the specific instructions in the **Luxura Floor Care & Maintenance Guide**.
- Maintain indoor environmental conditions between **65°F–85°F** and **35%–55% relative humidity** year-round. This range is critical to preserving the stability and appearance of the hardwood flooring and maintaining warranty coverage.



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