



INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

ALLINWOOD ENGINEERED FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

ALLINWOOD engineered hardwood floors are manufactured to the highest European standards and are designed for professional installation following NWFA (National Wood Flooring Association) guidelines. For comprehensive instructions, please refer to the NWFA website: www.nwfa.org

SHIPPING & DAMAGE POLICY

Due to the nature of hardwood flooring, minor damage during transit (less than 5% of the total order) is considered acceptable and is not eligible for refund or replacement. If damage exceeds 5%, please contact our claims department for resolution.

INSPECTION BEFORE INSTALLATION

It is the installer's responsibility to:

Verify that the flooring matches the purchase order.

Inspect each plank for color, finish, grade, or visible defects before installation.

Do not install any material that appears questionable—installed material is deemed accepted.

ACCLIMATION

Do not remove planks from packaging and acclimate like solid wood. ALLINWOOD engineered floors require controlled acclimation:

Store in sealed boxes in a dry area with 30–60% RH.

Open packaging 48 hours prior to installation inside the project space.

Ensure the subfloor and flooring moisture content are in equilibrium before installation.

SITE CONDITIONS

All moisture-generating construction (drywall, painting, tiling, etc.) must be complete.

HVAC systems must be operational and maintain:

Temperature: 60–80°F

Relative Humidity (RH): 35–55%

Maintain these conditions before, during, and after installation to avoid floor damage such as cupping, gapping, or checking.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Subfloor must be clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound.

Concrete subfloors must be level and may require a self-leveling compound.

Wood subfloors should be free from movement, water damage, or delamination.



INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

INSTALLATION METHODS

ALLINWOOD flooring may be installed:

Above, on, or below grade

Using glue-down, nail/staple, or floating methods

With glue assist when nailing/stapling wide planks

Adhesive Installation:

Use only premium adhesives. Follow adhesive manufacturer's trowel size and application instructions.

Flooring straps are recommended to secure rows during curing.

Nail/Staple Installation:

Use 16–18 gauge staples or cleats, 1½–2" in length.

Fastener spacing: every 6–8" and within 2" of each plank end.

Floating Installation:

Use adhesive in tongue and groove joints.

Install a moisture and/or sound barrier underlayment per manufacturer's specs.

INSTALLATION TIPS

- **Blend Planks from Multiple Boxes:** Open and work from at least 3–4 cartons simultaneously to blend color and grain variation. This ensures a more natural, aesthetically balanced installation and avoids unintended color blocking.
- **Stagger End Joints Properly:** For planks wider than 6", stagger the end joints by at least 12 inches between adjacent rows. This increases structural integrity and visual continuity, while reducing the chance of joint alignment issues.
- **Allow for Expansion Gaps:** Leave a 15mm (approx. 5/8") expansion space around all vertical obstructions such as walls, kitchen islands, cabinetry, columns, and pipes. Use spacers to maintain consistent gaps during installation. This is essential to accommodate seasonal movement due to humidity changes.
- **Avoid Surface Damage:** Do not apply masking tape, painter's tape, or any adhesive tape to the flooring surface. These can lift or damage the UV-cured finish, leaving permanent marks that are not covered under warranty.
- **Use Proper Tools During Assembly:** To avoid edge damage, use a tapping block or a pull bar to gently lock planks together. Never strike flooring directly with a hammer or mallet—this can dent, chip, or crush the plank edges.
- **Inspect and Clean as You Go:** Wipe away any adhesive residue immediately with a clean, damp cloth as it can be difficult to remove once cured. Frequently check for debris under the planks to prevent uneven installation or noise when walking on the floor.



INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

RADIANT FLOOR HEATING

ALLINWOOD engineered floors are compatible with radiant heat systems, with the following conditions:

Surface temperature must not exceed 80°F

Temperature changes should not exceed 5°F per day

Operate the system for at least 5 days prior to installation, and turn it off during install

Gradually increase heat post-installation (5°F per day)

Do not use rugs or mats over floors with radiant heat

Maintain indoor RH at 30–60%

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please note that if you choose to install your flooring over radiant (underfloor) heating, it significantly accelerates the aging process of natural wood floors.

The heat causes the adhesives to dry out faster, the finish to degrade sooner, and the boards to lose moisture and shrink over time.

What is meant to last for many years may only last half as long under constant heat exposure.

Visible gaps, cracks, and surface damage are more likely to occur.

We strongly recommend carefully considering the risks before installing natural wood flooring over radiant heating systems. Minor checking, shrinkage, or surface cracking near board ends or knots may occur and are natural in radiant heat environments. These are not considered defects.

NATURAL VARIATION & UV SENSITIVITY

ALLINWOOD floors are made from real European oak, a natural material. Variations in grain, tone, and texture are expected. Wood will react to UV exposure and may change color over time—this is a natural process and not a defect. We recommend using window treatments to reduce fading in areas exposed to direct sunlight.

For any installation questions or concerns, please contact your authorized ALLINWOOD dealer.

Visit us at: www.allinwoodusa.com | Email: info@allinwoodusa.com