

OPTIMA & PRIMA COLLECTION INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Before you start read these Installer/Owner Responsibilities:

Before starting installation, it is important you read all instructions and warranty information. By starting installation of this product, you are agreeing that you have read and understand all installer/owner's requirements and responsibilities and are aware that deviating from the instructions and recommendations in this installation guide may result in voiding the product warranty.

Verify colour and finish before installation. Once the floor is installed, it is deemed to have been inspected, approved and accepted.

It is the sole responsibility of the installer/owner, prior to installation, to assure that the planned installation area is suitable for WPC flooring and meets local building codes. Confirm that all subflooring is dry, sound, flat and meets or exceeds all industry standards/local building codes; as well as the recommendations listed herein. The manufacturer accepts no responsibility for product failure extending from or related to failure to meet job area/environment and subflooring requirements.

The installer/owner assumes full responsibility for the final inspection of this product. Inspection should be done prior to installation and should include: print/colour/texture, factory finish and locking system. If the product is not acceptable, **DO NOT INSTALL IT**. Contact your retailer immediately for assistance. Flooring that has been installed will be deemed to have been inspected and quality accepted.

If you wish to install over a radiant heating system, consult with the manufacturer of your radiant heating system to ensure that it is compatible with WPC flooring. Temperature must never exceed 26° C (79° F) and changes in temperature settings must be gradual. Rapid temperature changes and/or excessive heat may damage the flooring and/or the finish. It is the responsibility of installer/owner to confirm the suitability of the radiant heating system for use with this product. Any damage to the floor caused by the radiant heating system will not be covered by the product warranty.

Installations in areas of potential rapid temperature change (solariums, sun-rooms, saunas, etc.) may exceed the temperature limitations of the product and void the product warranty. Verify the temperature fluctuations prior to installation to determine if the area is suitable for WPC flooring.

Product is rated for indoor use only within the required temperature range, do not install outdoors.

TOOLS REQUIRED:

Safety glasses	Tape measure
Mitre saw	Pry-bar
Straight edge	Saw
Chalk-line	Spacers

PRE-INSTALLATION

When calculating flooring square footage requirements, allow a minimum of an additional 10% for cuts, waste and defects. If installing a diagonal or other special pattern, allow for 15% additional materials.

Acclimatize WPC flooring for a minimum of 48 hours. We recommend you leave the products in its original packaging (straps left on each carton) until time of installation at a temperature of 20°C to 26°C (68°F to 79°F) in the area in which the flooring will be installed. Protect flooring from excessive heat/cold during storage.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS:

All sub-floors must be clean, flat (smooth) and dry prior to installation, regardless of installation method. Floors installed over non-flat subfloors may squeak and/or defect when walked on. Sweep or vacuum your subfloor immediately prior to installation ensuring there is no debris or grit, as it may interfere with installation.

Plywood subfloors: Recommended ¾" CDX plywood, OSB or boards must be flat, high or low areas exceeding 3/16" per 10' (5mm per 3m) or 1/8" per 6' (3mm per 2m) must be corrected. Sand down high areas, fill low areas. Nail or screw down any loose areas and replace any damaged sheathing (damaged, swollen or delaminating).

Concrete subfloors: most concrete subfloors (slabs) are not flat (smooth) and must be leveled before installation. In all cases, verify the subfloor using a 10' long straightedge to locate high and low areas, low areas should be filled with a self-leveling compound. The moisture content of the concrete subfloor should not exceed 5%.

Do not install WPC flooring over soft, rough, non-flat or uneven surfaces.

General Tips:

- **COLOUR RACKING:** It is always recommended to draw panels from a minimum of 3 different boxes during installation to assure an even distribution of any minor color variations and slight differences in embossing levels.
- Verify locking profile prior to installing, checking for debris or damage. Clean, trim or discard any affected sections.

CLICK FLOATING GENERAL INSTALLATION INFORMATION

- For a click floating installation, follow the directives noted above regarding sub-floor preparation.
- Floating installations may be made over most subfloors including: Plywood or OSB, ceramic/ porcelain tile, smooth stone, marble, granite, and linoleum. Do NOT install over carpet.
- Important note: For floating installations, the maximum run in either direction is up to 80* feet (24 m). Installation areas exceeding this require the use of a transition or flexible silicone.
***Contact your PurParket retailer for further instructions on applications over 40 feet.**
- Begin by measuring the width of the room and divide the total width of the room by the width of the panel. Adjust the first row width so that you finish with at least a half a width of a panel on the far wall.
- Set up starting line for the first row by measuring the width of the (adjusted) panel. Add 1/4" (6mm) to this number and mark the floor at each end of your starting wall, approximately 6" (150mm) away from the corners.
- Using a chalk-line, carefully snap a line between these two points. Check to make sure there will be approximately 1/4" (6mm) between the edge of your first row of panels and the wall. This space allows for any slight expansion of the WPC flooring and will be covered by the baseboard / quarter-round.
- Lay out the first row of panels, the short tongue should be facing the wall. First panel should start 1/4" (6mm) from the wall. Cut the last panel to finish 1/4" (6mm) from opposite wall. We recommend you use temporary shims to keep the floor away from the walls, as the floor will shift during installation due to it being a floating floor. Place the shims every 2-3' (60-90 cm) along the starting wall, plus at the end of each of the starting rows so panels do not shift when set into place.
- Assemble the end joints by inserting the tongue on the short side of the panel at an angle of approx. 25 degrees, and lower it into place. Continue in this manner until the first row is complete.
- To start the second row, use the remainder of the last panel of the first row if it is longer than 30cm (12") long, otherwise, cut a new panel in half and proceed. To ensure structural integrity of your floor, it is mandatory to ALWAYS STAGGER THE END JOINTS FROM ROW TO ROW BY AT LEAST 20cm (8").
- Install one panel at a time, so that the end with the large lip is exposed to receive the next plank. Using a sacrificial cut piece with the profile that locks into the large lip end of the panel, gently tap on the sacrificial cut piece until the ends of the panels lock together and repeat for rest of row. Do NOT use too much force when tapping the panels together, as this may damage the locking profile. For final board in row, use a pry-bar to pull it tight and lock the end profiles. Do NOT strike directly on the locking profile to tap the panels together, as this may damage the locking profile.
- In the case where you are unable to angle panels (eg. under a doorframe or radiator), you can cut away the locking edge of the lip of the bottom groove by using a utility knife. Run a bead of Seam Sealer on the now modified tongue and groove. Tighten the panels gently with the use of a pull bar and a hammer.
- If a doorframe must be undercut, lay a panel of flooring next to the doorframe with the patterned side facing down. Undercut the doorjamb with a saw, then slide the flooring panel under the doorjamb

with the decorative pattern facing upwards. Please note that the floor must be allowed to expand under the doorjamb and recommended expansion gap must be respected.

- Ensure there is a minimum 1/4" (6mm) gap around the entire floor perimeter and any obstacles. Measure and cut the last panels to fit so that there is a minimum 1/4" (6mm) gap along the last wall.
- Remove all temporary shims, sweep & vacuum immediately.
- **Note:** You must use a "T" molding transition strip or expandable silicone between rooms. Failure to do so may cause damage to the floor and will void the warranty.

FINISHING DETAILS AND MAINTENANCE

- **General cleaning:** It is recommended that you sweep & vacuum the area immediately after installation to remove potential damaging grit and debris.
- Further cleaning with an approved pre-finished floor cleaner is also recommended, as required. Please contact retailer for details.
- Do not buff, wax or use cleaning products that contain surfactants.
- Never steam clean or use a steam mop on the floor.
- **Baseboards and quarter rounds:** Replace or install new matching baseboards and quarter rounds in all areas. Baseboards are to be nailed into the wall and quarter rounds into the baseboards. **DO NOT** nail either of these into the WPC flooring.
- **Transition pieces:** If you have removed any transition pieces and not covered their place with WPC flooring, reinstall them immediately.
- **Furniture & appliances:** If you are moving and placing furniture and appliances in areas with WPC floors, cover all feet and floor contact points with heavy self-adhesive felt pads to protect the floor. Lift heavy objects when moving (furniture or appliance) **DO NOT** roll or slide them across the floor.
- We recommend that areas with "rolling loads" (wheelchairs, hospital beds, carts, racks, tables, etc.) should be glued down using a resilient flooring adhesive.
- Felt pads on chair legs should be replaced periodically, as they wear and accumulate grit with use and can damage the floor.
- Outdoor footwear, hard soled shoes and stiletto type heels should not be worn when walking on your WPC floor, as they may mark, abrade or otherwise damage the surface and finish of your floor.
- Keep pet nails trimmed, especially dogs, as they may damage the floor.
- Toilet training accidents should be cleaned immediately. Do not keep litter boxes or food/water dishes directly on the flooring.