



THE ATELIER SERIES

The Atelier Series® Hardwood Floor Installation Instructions

Moisture and Humidity – PLEASE READ BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION

Room temperature and humidity of installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least a week before installation of wood flooring. Room temperature of 65°F to 75°F and a humidity range of 35% to 65% should be maintained during acclimatization, installation, and at all times afterward. Warning – humidity levels below these recommended levels will likely cause movement in the flooring, including gapping between pieces and possible cupping and checking in the face. DuChâteau® cannot be held responsible for site conditions. Flooring formats, such as plywood based engineered wood flooring, are particularly susceptible to showing movement such as edge/end shrinking and face checking from relative humidity below the stated minimums on site and/or tip raising and subsequent end shrinking if installed over a wet sub-floor.

Sub – Floor Preparation:

- A new concrete slab will usually take 90 to 150 days to dry thoroughly depending on size of slab and weather conditions. The moisture content should be no more than 2% at the time of installation.
- If plywood is used as a sub-floor, the moisture content difference should be no more than 2% between the engineered wood floor and the plywood sub-floor. Plywood size for sub-floor is suggested to be 3/4" x 48" x 48" and leave 1/4" between sheets for expansion.
- The sub-floor must be free from any type of paint, oil, greases, dust and all other types of residues.
- The sub-floor should be level. The level drop must be no more than 1/4" over a 10 feet distance.

Glue-down installation guidelines for The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors: (Recommended method of installation for both concrete and plywood sub floor)

- We recommend installing all our engineered hardwood flooring products only when the difference between sub-floor moisture and moisture content of the engineered floorings is less than 2%.
- Test sub-floor before every installation. (Please follow Sub-Floor Preparation instruction listed above).
- For on-grade and below-grade installations, apply a moisture barrier to the slab. When gluing down the floor, you must use an epoxy or polyester-based moisture barrier.
- A Urethane based adhesive should be used exclusively. Do not use water-based glues. A two-component polyurethane glue is recommended.
- Read the glue manufacturer's instructions, which is always printed in details on the glue container to choose the correct size trowel.
- Create a working line parallel to the starting wall, in multiples of our engineered plank width, to set up the baseline of installation.
- Following the spread rate, curing time, spread the glue evenly on the sub-floor to cover the area the installer can lay the planks in time for best result of the glue.
- Lay one row of plank along the entire length of work line. Add each additional row of flooring, watching the pattern repeat and setting or staggering the joints at least 6 inches.
- Nailing of floors is not allowed.
- A 1/2" expansion space should be left around the perimeter.
- Finished areas should be covered with a protective paper immediately after installation to prevent damage from installation process. Nail-Down only installation of The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors is prohibited.

Floating installation guidelines for The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors: (Only The Atelier Series floors may be floated)

- We recommend an acclimation period of 3 days for all our engineered hardwood flooring products.
- Test sub-floor before every installation. (Please follow Sub-Floor Preparation instruction listed above).



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- For on-grade and below-grade installations, it is required to apply a moisture barrier to the sub-floor.
- Floating floors are probably one of the hardest installations to start as the boards want to move around on you in the starting area. It is imperative the first few rows be straight and gap free.
- Create a working line parallel to the starting wall, in multiples of our engineered plank width, to set up the baseline of installation.
- All grooved sides, including the end(s), must be fully glued. 750ml will cover approximately 150 square feet. D3 floor glue must be used.
- Lay one row of plank along the entire length of work line. Add each additional row of flooring, watching the pattern repeat and setting or staggering the joints at least 6 inches.
- A 1/2" expansion space should be left around the perimeter.
- When protecting completed areas, the floor must be fully covered and NO TAPE should be applied to the floor itself.

NOTE:

A floating floor installation method requires more cleanup as glue squeezes out of the tongue & groove when the boards are tapped into place. Measure the application along the groove carefully to avoid excess glue spillage. Excessive glue spillage will void the warranty of your Atelier Series Floors. Immediate clean up is required, any glue not cleaned within minutes will leave stain marks not covered under The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors Warranty. Please refer to DuChâteau Maintenance guidelines for cleaning and oil maintenance.

WARNING: Spontaneous Combustion Danger! Oil soaked materials (rags, wool pad, sanding dust, etc.) may spontaneously combust. Immerse oil-soaked materials in water.

Regardless of installation method, we do NOT recommend the use of any adhesive tape on any oil-finished floor for any period of time. Failure to comply may result in damage to the finish. Subsequent damage as a result of taping is not covered by the warranty.

After installation of your new Atelier Series Hardwood Floor, it is recommended to oil your floor with DuChâteau Maintenance Oil immediately following installation; be sure the floor is clean and free of debris before oiling. Refresh your floor with DuChâteau Maintenance Oil annually (or as needed) to maintain its luster and beauty and ensure lifelong performance. For weekly upkeep, it is recommended that you clean your floors thoroughly using the DuChâteau Premium Floor Cleaner & Protectant.

The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors Installation Guidelines are intended to offer general guidance as it relates to The Atelier Series Hardwood Floors and are NOT a replacement for a professional. For best results, we suggest using a National Wood Flooring Association-certified professional installer.

The Atelier Series **Hardwood Floors MUST be installed according to the National Wood Flooring Association's (NWFA) installation guidelines in order for the DuChâteau Hardwood Floors Warranty to be valid.** The most current publication of the NWFA guidelines is available to all NWFA members and can be found at www.nwfa.org. You can also search your area for an active NWFA-Certified Professional Installer on NWFA's website.