

Palais Collection Medallion 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 subfloor.

Sub-Floor Preparation:

- The sub-floor must be completely dry. 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 difference should be no more than 4% between the engineered wood floor and concrete sub floor. Gypsum based floor levelers must be treated with primer or a formative.
- If plywood is used as a sub-floor, the moisture content difference should be no more than 4% between engineered wood floor and plywood sub-floor. Plywood size for sub-floor is suggested to be ¾" x 48" x 48" and leave ¼" between sheets for expansion.
- The sub-floor must be free from any type of paint, oil, grease, dust and all other types of residues.
- The sub-floor should be level. The level drop must be no more than ¼" over a 10 feet distance.

Glue-Down Installation Guidelines:

- We recommend an acclimation period until the moisture content difference is no more than 4% between engineered wood floor and plywood sub-floor for all our engineered hardwood flooring products.
- Test sub-floor before every installation. (Please follow Sub-Floor Preparation instruction listed above).
- Apply a moisture barrier to slab if on or below grade. Bostik's MVP moisture barrier is recommended.
- A urethane-based adhesive should be used exclusively. Follow the glue manufacturer's instructions, which are printed in details on the glue container. It is essential to use the glue manufacturer's recommended trowel size and specification for this ¾" engineered floor.
- Observe the orientation of each and every panel to ensure that 100% of the panels have their pattern oriented to compatibility at time of placement.
- Determine your optimal layout of panels within the room. Draw a diagonal line from each corner of the room to locate the center of the room. Use this point to orient the starting positions and work out from the center. Ensure that the starting row of panels is sufficiently anchored so as not to move away from their original intended positions.
- Use slip tongues (aka splines) to join all grooves together. It is not necessary for the slip tongues to fill the entire length of each groove.
- Following the spread rate and curing time, spread the glue evenly on the sub-floor to cover the area so the installer can lay the panels in time for best result of the glue.
- Lay one row of panels along the entire length of work line. Add each additional row of flooring, watching the panels' alignment.
- Maintain a ½" expansion space around all room perimeters of the medallions.



- Finished areas should be covered with a protective paper immediately after installation to prevent damage from installation process.

Maintenance: Use DuChâteau Floor Cleaner & Protectant to nurture and clean the floors. Periodically (annually) apply DuChâteau Maintenance Oil to keep the floor nourished and more resistant to stains.

NOTE:

Be sure to immediately clean up any glue that 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 DuChâteau® Floors. Immediate clean up is required, any glue not cleaned within minutes will leave stain marks not covered under the DuChâteau Engineered 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.

Your Quality Engineered DuChâteau Hardwood Floors comes finished from the factory, fully saturated with our hard-wax oil. As a result, it is not required to apply DuChâteau Maintenance Oil immediately following installation, though regular annual oiling still applies. It is recommended, however, that you clean your floors after installation using only DuChâteau Premium Floor Cleaner and Protectant and still maintain the floor with DuChâteau Maintenance Oil regularly or as needed each year.

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

DuChâteau 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.