DuChâteau

HARDWOOD INSTALLATION

Quality Engineered

DuChâteau
Unlike any other

Quality Engineered 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 and 75°F and a humidity range of 35% to 65% should be maintained during acclimatization, installation and at all times afterward.

DuChâteau® cannot be held responsible for site conditions. Flooring formats, such as plywood based on 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 side and/or tip raising and subsequent end shrinking if installed over a wet sub floor.

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.
- 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 ½" 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 ¼" over a 10 feet distance.

Glue-down installation guidelines for QUALITY ENGINEERED DuChâteau® 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 contact of the engineered flooring is less than 4%.
- Test sub floor before every installation. (Please follow sub floor preparation instruction listed above.)
- Apply moisture barrier to slab or use DUAG87 following instructions for use as a moisture barrier.
- Use for urethane based adhesive applications, use DUAG71 adhesive in accordance with instructions on the pail.
- For glue down applications where additional protection against moisture and added sound attenuation are desired, use DUAG87 adhesive in accordance with instructions on the pail. 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 the 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 offsetting or staggering the joints at least 6 inches.

- A ½" expansion space should be left around the perimeter.
- Roll whole floor with a 150 lb. roller within 3-6 hours after installation.
- Finished areas should be covered with a protective paper immediately after installation to prevent damage from installation process.

Nail-Down Installation Guidelines for QUALITY ENGINEERED DuChâteau Hardwood Floors:
(Only for plywood sub floor)

- We recommend installing our engineered hardwood flooring products only when the difference between sub floor moisture and moisture contact of the engineered flooring is less than 4%.
- A 15 lb. felt paper moisture barrier should be applied to the concrete sub floor with 6" overlaps installing the new wood floor.
- Create a working line to the starting wall, in multiples of our solid plank width.
- Install the first row of wood with the groove side towards the wall using top nails as necessary to hold the first row firm and in place. Adjust as necessary.
- Use adjustable pneumatic power hammer or nailing machine with 1-½"-2" nails as is required and make sure nailing foot is appropriate to the nails/staples used. To avoid damage to the tongue be sure to adjust for proper pressure on the compressor.
- Add and adjust each additional row of wood planks, offset or stagger the end joints at least 6" to prevent repeating the pattern.
- A ½" 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.
- See NWFA guidelines for nail spacing at www.nwfa.org.

Floating Installation Guidelines for QUALITY ENGINEERED DuChâteau Hardwood Floors:
(Only DuChâteau engineered 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 instructions listed above.)
- Apply a moisture barrier to slab. SLC EP21 moisture barrier is recommended.
- After the moisture barrier has cured and dried apply a floating floor poly-foam underlayment, please follow manufacturers installation instructions.
- 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.
- A bead of adhesive should be applied all along the groove of each plank, Cal-Flor's EuroBond D3 Floating Floor Glue is recommended.

- Lay one row of plank along the entire length of the work line. Add each additional row of flooring, watching the pattern repeat and offsetting or staggering the joints at least 6 inches.
- A ½" 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.

NOTE:

A floating floor installation method requires more clean up as glue squeezes out of the tongue and 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 us 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 Floor comes finished from the factory, fully saturated with 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 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.