

## **CAREFULLY READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE YOU COMMENCE INSTALLATION OF YOUR OGGIE HARDWOOD FLOOR.**

**Important:** Place the material in the room in which the installation is to be done, without opening the packaging, and allow it to acclimatise for at least 48 hours. The material should be placed flat on the floor in the horizontal position, at a distance of at least 50 cm from the wall.

Check that the floor panels are undamaged and fault-free. The guarantee only applies to hidden defects.

### **WHAT YOU WILL NEED**

The floor panels have a tongue and a groove all round, that enable the floor panels to be fitted into each other mechanically. The only tool that you need is a hammer, a fine-toothed saw, a folding ruler, a tensioning wire (cord) along the length of the room, a set square, and a installation set that consists of a stop block, a stop iron and spacer blocks .

### **STORAGE**

The room in which you will be installing the floor panels should be dry. In case of new buildings with a concrete floor, wait until it is dry. The floor panels should be installed at a room temperature of at least 16° C and a maximum 20°C. The relative air humidity in the room, to be measured using a hygrometer, should not be less than 40% and not exceed 65%. The humidity should also remain within these limits during and after the installation. If the floor panels will be stored (in the packing) for a lengthy period of time, such storage should always be at room temperature.

The storage space should have an average relative humidity not exceeding 65%. The floor panels should not be stored in a room with a high level of humidity.

### **BEFORE STARTING INSTALLATION**

Your floor has been manufactured with the best possible care. However, we would still advise you to check the floor panels for visible deviations such as damage, extreme colour differences and shape or dimensional deviations. Complaints concerning visible deviations will not be entertained after floor panels have been installed. Ensure good lighting when installing the floor.

You may remove the existing skirting boards and reinstall them after installation . To enable the floor to shrink and expand freely under the skirting boards, end-piece and transition skirting boards should be fixed on the walls. In other words, these skirting boards should not be fixed on the floor panels. Flat, self-adhesive skirting boards may be affixed to the floor panels.

### **SUBFLOORS**

Floor panels can be installed on practically any subfloor. This subfloor should however be permanently dry, hard, flat, clean, and have adequate load-bearing capacity. A floor is flat if there is less than 2 mm height difference over a distance of one continuous meter. Unevenness exceeding 2 mm/meter should be levelled out.

### **CONCRETE SUBFLOORS**

A concrete floor should not contain more than 5% moisture. You should install an insulating layer on top of this. A 3 mm rubber underlay will be adequate from the technical point of view . You should also always install a moisture insulation foil (for example building foil). Joints should be thoroughly sealed. The foil should extend behind and up the full height of the skirting board.

### **WOODEN SUBFLOOR**

If the subfloor is wooden (moisture content of wood 10%, with a tolerance of  $\pm 2\%$ ), check it for loose parts and tighten the same in place. Your supplier can carry out the required measurements using an OM meter. You may level the floor by sanding it down or installing a chipboard sheet. A 3 mm rubber underlay will be adequate from the technical point of view. But a 7 mm soft board plate has a better levelling effect and is recommended for floors with slight differences in height. Do not lay the boards if the crawl space is wet. Always make sure there is sufficient ventilation to allow the sub-floor to 'breathe'. Do not install floor panels in a wet crawl space.

### **UNDER-FLOOR HEATING**

If you want to lay a wooden floor on top of under-floor heating, there are certain rules you must follow. It is important to know what type of under-floor heating is being used, also the type of sub-floor underlay and the type of parquet. We advise that before you buy parquet you always first ask your supplier for advice.

### **REQUIREMENTS WITH REGARD TO NOISE REDUCTION**

There are situations where a sound-damping subfloor is required. Your supplier has various kinds of sub-floor underlay that meet these requirements. Ask for the test report.

### **MODIFICATION OF DOORS**

Check whether your doors can open and close with the combined height of the flooring and your sub-floor if any. If not, you may modify (shorten) your doors according to the changed situation.

## **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

### **FLOATING OF ENGINEERED PLANK WOOD FLOORING**

The boards are laid by gluing the panels together using water-proof wood glue. If the humidity level and temperature change, the floor may shrink or expand to some extent. For this reason, a play of 15 mm should be maintained with respect to all fixed boundaries such as: walls, thresholds, columns and central heating pipes.

Movement joints should be installed if floors are more than 10 m long or more than 6 m wide, as well as near door openings, between rooms, at turns in passages, etc. These movement joints may be finished using specially developed dilatation joint profiles. There should be an offset of at least 40 cm between the top ends of the floor panels in consecutive rows.

1. After the sub-floor underlay has been laid, the next step is to start laying the boards. We recommend that you start in a corner of the room which is immediately visible when entering the room. First calculate the number of tracks that you will be laying. You will obtain best results if the first and the last track are of approximately the same width. Now, lay the first panel with the groove of the length facing the wall. Usually, the panels are laid lengthways in the house (in the direction of the light).
2. An expansion joint of around 15 mm should be installed all around the floor. Place a spacer block at every 60 cm. Remove them 24 hours after the floor has been laid. Now place the second floor panel, and so on, until the installation of the first row of floor panels is completed. Now check whether the first row is fully straight by tensioning a rope along the length. After the third row has been laid, check again if the floor is level.
3. If the wall is not fully straight, you should transfer the unevenness to the floor panels. This may be done using a spacer with a lead pencil . After the floor panels have been marked out, saw the same as required so that the recesses, etc., fit together. Keep in mind the expansion joint. Use a fine-toothed saw for the purpose. If a hand saw is used, make sure the décor side is facing upwards; if a jigsaw is used, keep the décor side facing downwards.
4. Lay the first row of panels by gluing each subsequent panel on the short side. In the second row, start with the remaining part of the first row. This part however, must be at least 40 cm in length, so as to ensure that the floor has optimum stability and also to ensure minimum loss of material. The panels should be glued along the entire length and width. Do not use too much glue!
5. To tighten, use the stop block of a parquet-laying set. You can also use a wooden fillet of at least 30 cm. This is to avoid damage to the panels. After the panels have been tightened, remove any residual glue immediately with a slightly moist cloth. After the glue has dried, it will be almost impossible to remove any residue. 6. While fitting the last row of floor panels, lay the floor panels with the decorative side down with the groove against the wall. Now make the required markings and cut with the saw. Also keep in mind the prescribed expansion joint of 15 mm, and that the floor should be free all round. If it is difficult to reach the last row, lay the boards one by one as close as possible against the boards of the last row but one. Then push them together lengthwise using a pull iron and a hammer. The cross-cut ends are tightened using a stop block or a pull iron and hammer.

### **AFTER INSTALLATION**

You may start using the floor immediately after installation. You may now start finishing operations on the floor. The spacer block should be removed immediately. You may also start installing the skirting boards. In the case of pre-oiled floors, it is advisable to apply maintenance oil to the floor after installation.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Good maintenance will increase the life of your floor. For proper maintenance, we refer you to your sales point. Protect your floor by placing a good floor mat near the door in order to prevent the entry of sand. We also advise you to protect your furniture and chair feet with felt .

### **NOTE:**

In case of doubt concerning the correct processing of the floor panels, you may always contact your sales point before continuing with the installation. The final result depends largely on the conditions under which the floor panels are laid.

### **GUARANTEE:**

This engineered floor has been manufactured with due care. If however, hidden material and/or manufacturing defects appear within 10 years of the date of purchase, you may contact your sales point on presentation of your payment receipt.

### **CANCELLATION OF GUARANTEE**

The guarantee will not apply in the following cases: Damage due to improper use or by falling objects, abrasion by sand and/or scratches by a sharp object; if the floor is installed in a damp room, or subsequent damage by water or other liquids; rough and/or improper use. The guarantee will also lapse in the case of careless use of the flooring; or if a defect in the product could have been detected before installation.

**Important:** Please retain your purchase invoice as a guarantee certificate.