

ERF II Installation & Maintenance Guide

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Good preparation is essential for a trouble-free installation and is vital for an excellent floor. Any irregularities in the sub-floor will show through the finished floor. The sub-floor must be hard, smooth, clean, dry, free from defects and fit for purpose. When needed, scrape off and remove old adhesives and loose-laying levelling compound. Make sure the subfloor is flat and free from chemical substances. Jobsite moisture issues must be addressed and corrected prior to installation. In all cases, the sub-floor must be sufficiently dry, level and flat.

ACCLIMATISATION

Eco Resilient Flooring (ERF) floors must acclimatise in the room of installation, or an equivalent area for at least 48 hours prior to installation, or until such time as the product has achieved an ambient temperature.

- Unpack ERF floors and check all planks or tiles in daylight for possible defects or discrepancies in colour.
- Stack the plank or tiles in straight piles away from heat or windows with direct intense sunlight. This is to achieve a gradual acclimatisation.

INSTALLATION

1. Check groove on plank to make sure it is clean and free of debris. To start the first row press the end seam of the second plank into the end seam of the first plank, and then lock them together by laying the plank down. Complete the entire first row in this manner.

Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 1/4" (6.35mm) from the wall.

Also ensure a distance of 5mm to all fixed objects in the room, e.g. pipe passageways, door frames etc. The maximum area that can be installed without an expansion joint is 10m x 20m.

A length of approximately longer than 12.5m should be installed with an expansion joint.

- 2. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. Install the second plank in the second row by aligning the end seam of the plank directly above the end seam of the preceding plank. Insert the long side seam at a slight angle first, and as the top surfaces meet, gently press the plank down into the locked position.
- 3. Work across the length of the room installing planks along the wall in the first row and then aligning the planks in the second row. It is critical to keep these two rows straight and square, as they are the 'foundation' for the rest of the installation. Check squareness and straightness of the planks periodically.
- 4. Cut the last plank in the second row and leave an expansion gap of around 6~8mm. Planks may be cut with a utility knife using the 'score and snap' technique. The leftover of this plank may be used to start the third row if it is a minimum 25cm long.
- 5. Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with 2 end piece joints in a minimum of 20cm apart. Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the tapping block in order to avoid damages on the joints of the planks.
- 6. When fitting under door casings, etc., the flexibility and convenient connection of ERF becomes evident. If necessary, a flat pull bar may be used to assist in locking the planks. If needed remove the locking profile on the groove in order to slide the plank into place and apply seam sealer or equivalent to the edges to glue planks together.
- 7. When fitting around obstacles or into irregular spaces, ERF can be cut easily and cleanly using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer this pattern to the plank.
- 8. Protect all expose edges of the ERF by installing wall moulding, skirting and/or transition strips. Make sure that no plank will be secured in any way to the sub floor.
- 9. For wet areas such as bathrooms caulk the perimeter of the floor with a silicone caulk.
- 10. If you use spacers for expansion gap from wall, remove the spacers upon completion of the floor installation and install moulding pieces.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Prevention

- 1. Always protect floor when moving heavy objects and use appropriate floor protectors under tables, chairs or any heavy furnishing to prevent permanent scratches and tears.
- 2. Place walk-off mats at all entrances, it helps to protect the floor from water, grease, sand and dust.
- 3. During peak sunlight hours, the use of blinds or curtains is recommended. Prolonged direct sunlight can result in discoloration and volatile temperature variations do cause damage to the floor.

Routine Maintenance

- 1. Routine cleaning is important to prevent particles from abrading the surface of resilient floors.
- 2. General cleaning can be carried out by sweeping, vacuuming, mopping. For heavy soiling use a polyurethane cleaner.
- 3. Use a dry cloth or vacuum cleaner for cleaning. When water or any cleaning liquid is used, please squeeze out all water for cleaning. Avoid wet washing.
- 4. All stain-forming and aggressive substances must be immediately removed from the surface.