

ANGLE-TAP LAMINATE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INTRODUCTION

These instructions are written as a guide to be used when installing Tarkett Flooring. These instructions, combined with our adhesives and flooring products, create a system. Utilizing this system will ease the installation process and provide the customer with a completed product that will perform to its intended purpose. Always visit www.tarketthome.com for the most current installation and maintenance instructions. Technical videos and tip sheets are also available. Contact Tarkett Technical Services at (800)-899-8916 with any questions.

For Care & Maintenance as well as Warranty information, visit www.tarketthome.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. When ordering product for your installation, calculate the quantity needed for the square footage of the area of installation, then add an additional 5-10% for standard (straight) installations or 15% additional for diagonal installations to allow for cuts and to have extra material left over that can be used if a future repair is needed.
2. Tarkett floors are intended for indoor use only.
3. Cartons must be stored horizontally on a sturdy base at all times.
4. All Tarkett products, flooring, and adhesives must be stored in an indoor climate-controlled space and be protected from the elements. Temperature must be maintained between 65°F and 85°F (18.3°C and 29.4°C) with a relative humidity 40% and 60%.
5. Protect carton corners from damage.
6. Carefully check flooring material for any defects. Contact your supplier immediately if any defect is found.
7. Tarkett Laminates require acclimation to the jobsite conditions prior to installation. Room temperature shall be between 65°F and 85°F (18.3°C–29.4°C) for 48 hours before, during, and after installation. Lay the cartons horizontally in the room of installation for a minimum of 48 hours prior to install. Do not open the plastic.
8. Exposure to direct sunlight can result in Tarkett Laminates fading and creates excessive heat directly on the finished flooring and surrounding structure which may result in movement. During peak sunlight exposure, the use of drapes or other window treatments are recommended.
9. Remove all existing transitions, quarter round, baseboard molding, or cove base prior to beginning the installation.
10. Undercut doorway moldings to the thickness of the flooring.
11. **Do not use additional padding under Tarkett Laminates that have a pre-attached pad.** For laminates that do not have a pre-attached pad, use an appropriate underlayment pad approved for use with laminate flooring.

SPECIAL NOTES

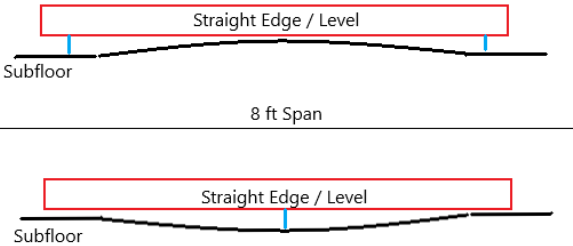
- For all installations of Tarkett Laminates*, a transition molding must be placed at egress doorways and when installations span greater than 40' (12 m) in any direction.

*NOTE: Installations of ShoreFlor do not require transitions regardless of maximum span in either direction.

SUBFLOOR GUIDELINES

Subfloor Construction	Requirements
All Subfloors	Permanently dry, clean, smooth, and structurally sound
	Minimum substrate temperature must be 60°F (15.6 °C). Substrate temperature should be a minimum of 5°F (2.8°C) higher than the ambient temperature and 10°F (5.6°C) higher than the dew point temperature. NOTE: Dew point calculators are available online. If your substrate is not 10°F (5.6°C) above the dew point, contact Technical Services at (800) 899-8916
	Residual adhesives should be mechanically removed to trace amounts and encapsulated with an approved cementitious patching compound or encapsulation. Do not use chemical adhesive removers or solvents. Always follow Resilient Floor Covering Institute's (RFCI's) <i>Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floorcoverings</i> . Caution: Some resilient flooring and adhesives contain "asbestos fibers" and special handling of this material is required.
	WARNING: Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead blast or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt or asphaltic "cutback" adhesive. These products may contain asbestos fibers or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content.



(All Subfloors Continued)	Flat to within 1/8" in 8' (3.1mm in 2.4m). Any unevenness (humps or dips) must be sanded down or filled with a cement-based patching compound. EXAMPLE: Area of the BLUE line below cannot exceed 1/8" (3.1mm) 
Existing Flooring	Resilient Vinyl floors must be smooth, even, non-cushioned and well-bonded to the substrate. Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone tiles must be smooth, even and well-bonded with a grout line depth less than 1/16" (1.6mm). If grout joint depth exceeds the maximum allowable depth, fill with Portland based patching compound following manufacturer's guidelines. Strip Wood Hard Wood Floors must be smooth, even, with a maximum gap width between boards of 1/16" (1.6mm)
Wood Subfloors	Crawl spaces: All suspended wood subfloors must have at least 18" of well-ventilated air space clearance above the ground. The ground under the crawl space shall be covered with 10 mil or thicker polyethylene sheeting to reduce moisture vapor transmission. Wood joist or truss systems spacing must be a maximum of 16" on center. Wood or joist truss systems spacing of 16"-19.2 is acceptable for double wood layer construction Subfloor panels must be • dry, sturdy, smooth and dimensionally stable • 3/4" minimum thickness blocked or tongue and groove plywood or oriented strand board (OSB). NOTE: Tarkett Laminates may be installed over single wood construction in <u>residential applications only</u> • good one side and have a fully sanded face with a solid core (no voids). • exterior grade or classified as Exposure I. • panel joints offset by at least 16" so that four corners do not meet • securely fastened to the joists and free from spring or deflection (should not exceed 3/63" [1.1mm] per APA Product Standard 2-10 <i>Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels</i>. If glue-nail procedures are required, use a solvent-free construction adhesive. Wood subfloors not meeting the above requirements must be covered with 1/4" minimum thickness underlayment grade plywood. Follow all APA and manufacturer's guidelines for installing underlayment grade plywood. Tarkett recommended underlayments include: • APA Underlayment Grade Plywood A-C, B-C, or C-C Plugged • ACCU-PLY • SurePly • TECPLY • ULAY • C.S.A. (CanPly) and Proboard
Concrete Substrates	Cover all concrete subfloors with a minimum 6 mil polyethylene moisture vapor barrier prior to installation. Approved for properly constructed and prepared on-grade, above-grade, and below-grade concrete. Constructed as recommended by the American Concrete Institute's ACI 302.2 Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials. Prepared according to ASTM F710 Standard Practice for Preparation of Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring. The slab must be swept, damp mopped and/or vacuumed to remove any dust. Any surface materials present must be removed, such as loose paint, wax, grease, oil, adhesive residues, crayon, pen marking, etc. that may migrate to the surface of the flooring causing discoloration. Fill and level any cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves, or other irregularities with a high-quality, non-shrinking, latex-fortified, cementitious patching compound.

(Concrete Substrates Cont.)	DO NOT install Tarkett flooring over expansion joints, or other moving joints in the substrate. These joints must be respected and should not be filled with products that are not intended for that purpose. Contact an expansion joint cover manufacturer to meet specific flooring conditions.
	Complete 3 moisture tests for up to 1,000 ft² (add 1 additional test for every 1,000 after that) Test for moisture in accordance with: ASTM F2170 <i>Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Floor Slabs Using in situ Probes:</i> • Must test to within 70% RH -OR- ASTM F1869 <i>Standard Test Method for Measuring Moisture Vapor Emission Rate of Concrete Subfloor Using Anhydrous Calcium Chloride.</i> • Must test to within 5 lbs. / 1,000 ft² / 24 hours If the moisture test results exceed the limits above, the installation must not proceed until the problem has been corrected. Tarkett does not recommend or warrant any product or procedure for the remediation of high moisture in concrete substrates. There are several companies that manufacture products suitable for moisture remediation. Tarkett recommends: • Contact Moisture Remediation product manufacturer and supply testing results. • Follow the remediation recommendation provided using products that meet ASTM F3010 <i>Standard Practice for Two Component Resin Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Flooring Systems.</i> • Cap the moisture remediation system with a cementitious-based product per the moisture remediation system manufacturer's recommendations for primer, thickness, drying time, etc. • Install Tarkett flooring over the cementitious-based capping product following our standard installation instructions.
Gypsum	Refer to ASTM F2419 <i>Standard Practice for Installation of Thick Poured Gypsum Concrete Underlayments and Preparation of the Surface to Receive Resilient Flooring</i> for guidelines when pouring gypsum underlayments or preparing for use as an underlayment under Tarkett Tarkett Laminates. Follow the gypsum underlayment manufacturer's recommendations for proper application and preparation.
Radiant Heat	Must be embedded in concrete a minimum of 2" below the surface of the subfloor
	Check the manufacturer of the radiant heat system to ensure it is safe for use with resilient flooring
	Concrete surface must never exceed 85°F (29.4°C)
	24 hours prior to install, lower the thermostat to a minimum of 65°F (18.3°C). Maintain this temperature throughout installation and for 48 hours after completion
	48 hours after installation, gradually increase the thermostat in increments of 5° every twenty-four hours, never exceeding 85°F (29.4°C)

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

1. All substrates must be dry, clean, structurally sound, smooth, and free from all existing adhesive residues.
2. The substrate must be flat within 1/8" in 8' (3.17mm in 2.4m).
3. Fill and level concrete cracks, construction joints, control joints, depressions, grooves, and other irregularities. Use a latex fortified, cementitious patching compound. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for preparing.
4. Sweep and vacuum or damp mop substrate to remove all dust and debris.

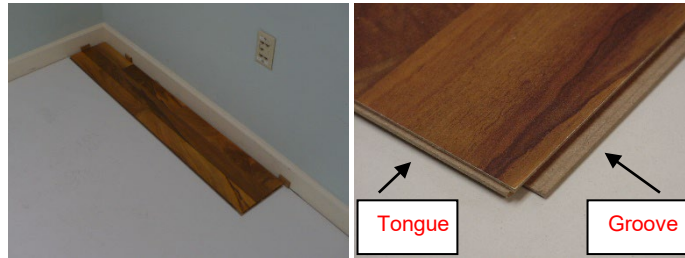
GETTING STARTED

1. Tarkett Laminates require acclimation to the jobsite conditions prior to installation. Room temperature shall be between 65° F and 85° F (18.3°C-29.4° C) for 48 hours before and during installation. Lay the cartons horizontally in the room of installation for a minimum of 48 hours prior to install. Do not open the plastic.
2. Sweep and/or vacuum the substrate to remove all dirt and debris.
3. Inspect all planks for visible defects and damage before and during installation. During installation, inspect the groove area and remove any debris that may prevent proper assembly of planks. Do not install damaged planks. Tarkett will not accept responsibility for claims on flooring installed with obvious defects.
4. Remove quarter round, baseboard molding, or cove base.
5. Undercut doorway moldings to the thickness of the flooring.
6. Leave at least a 1/2" (12.7 mm) between the surface of the flooring and the bottom of electric baseboard heaters to allow heat to circulate.

7. Prepare your layout to determine direction and orientation of planks. To make the room appear larger or if installing in very small rooms or hallways, it is preferable to lay the planks parallel to the longest room dimension. **NOTE: A transition molding must be placed at egress doorways and when installations span greater than 40' (12 m) in any direction (Except for installations of ShoreFlor which do not require transitions).**
8. Tarkett Laminates floors are floating floors and should not be adhered or nailed to the substrate. The only exception is when installing on stairs.
9. Do not install permanent, fixed cabinets on planks.
10. Carefully measure the room to determine squareness and also to determine the width of the last row of planks. If the width of the last row of planks is less than 2.5" (63.5 mm), excluding the tongue, the width of first row of planks will have to be cut accordingly. If the length of any cut piece at the end of any row less than 12", the first plank in the row will need to be cut accordingly.
11. A minimum 3/8" (9.53 mm) expansion space is required around all walls and vertical objects.
12. Use a tapping block and hammer to assemble on the short end joints. Make sure that the chosen tapping block is suitable for laminate products. Be careful not to over-tap as this can cause damage to the locking mechanisms.
13. There are guillotine-type cutters available for cutting laminate, however, the use of an electric saw will aid in the cutting process, especially if there are a lot of cuts required in the room. A saw must be used to cut the planks to reduce width (rip cuts). Follow all manufacturer's recommendations for safety and wear proper protective equipment when using a saw.

INSTALLATION

1. Begin laying planks from the left side of the starting wall and work to the right side. The tongue side of the plank shall face the starting wall. The Tongue portion is inserted into the Groove portion of the plank. **NOTE: If you have had to adjust the width of your starting row to accommodate that the width of your ending row will be a minimum of 2.5" (63.5 mm), you may not be starting with a full plank**



2. Place 3/8" (9.53 mm) spacers between the short and long side of the planks and the wall.



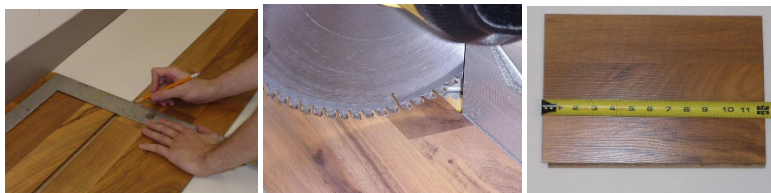
3. The end joints of the planks in the first row are assembled using a hammer and tapping block. Position the tapping block squarely along the groove side end joint and gently tap to engage the tongue side of the plank into the groove side of the previous plank. To avoid damaging the planks, make sure to tap in the center of the tapping block. Excessive force or tapping off center could cause damage to planks. Install remaining full planks in the first row. **NOTE: Use a tapping block with minimum dimensions of 1" thick x 2.5" wide x 8" long.**



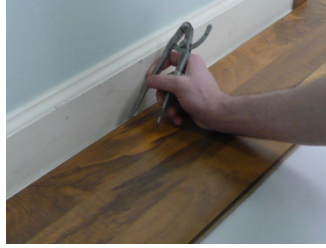
4. The last plank in the first row will need to be cut. Measure the distance between the wall and the surface of the last full plank. Subtract 3/8" (9.53 mm) from this measurement to allow for the spacer. If this measurement is less than 12" (30.4cm), the length of first plank in the row must be cut. This will allow for a longer plank at the end of the row. The first and last plank in each row must be at least 12" (30.4cm) in length.

When cutting planks, make sure that the teeth of the saw blade are cutting into the decorative surface. Best results are achieved by using a carbide tipped cutting blade.

When installing the last plank of the first row, use a hammer and pull bar to assemble the short side of the planks.



5. Many walls are irregular. Scribe or trace the contour of the wall onto the first row. Carefully detach planks and cut along scribe mark. Reinstall first row of planks.



6. The remaining piece cut off from the last plank in the first row may serve as the first plank in the second row provided it is at least 12" (30.4cm) long. Position the first plank of the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the first row at approximately a 30° angle and rotate plank downward until lying flat. Place 3/8" (9.53 mm) spacers between the short of the plank and the wall. Always stagger end joints from row to row a minimum of 12" (30.4cm).



7. Position the second plank of the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the first row at approximately a 30° angle. Gently slide or position the plank so it is approximately 1/4" away from the previous plank. Rotate plank downward until lying flat. Position the tapping block squarely along the groove side end joint and gently tap to engage the tongue side of the plank into the groove side of the previous plank. To avoid damaging the planks, make sure to tap in the center of the tapping block. Excessive force or tapping off center could cause damage to planks. Continue with each plank in the row until row is completed.



8. Continue working from left to right maintaining the random appearance. Planks may be installed row by row or by working multiple rows using the stair step method. Be sure to maintain proper spacing at walls and vertical obstructions.
9. For rooms wider or longer than 40' (12 m), the use of transition moldings is required to account for the normal movement of the floor. When required, transitions should be positioned in areas such as doorways, archways, etc.

FINISHING THE INSTALLATION

1. After all planks have been installed, remove spacers from perimeter of room.
2. Install transition moldings. Do not fasten any moldings through the Tarkett Laminates.
3. **For Waterproof Laminates (excluding Invitation):** Create a watertight seal by filling the entire expansion perimeter, transition spaces, and other open areas with a 3/8" compressible PE backer rod.
Cover the backer rod and remaining gaps with 100% silicone sealant. DO NOT use acrylic sealants.
Prior to installing the molding, apply 100% silicone to the portion of the molding or transition that will contact directly with the laminate surface. Clean excess silicone immediately.
4. Pre-drill and install quarter round or baseboard molding. Molding must be sufficient size to cover the 3/8" (9.53 mm) expansion space. Do not fasten moldings through the flooring. Fasten into the wall at connections to door frames, transitions, or any other fixed objects.
5. Use plywood to cover the top of the flooring when moving heavy furniture or appliances into position.
6. Use proper floor protectors under the legs of furniture.
7. Avoid traffic on the flooring with narrow heeled shoes. Narrow-heeled shoes can damage the flooring causing permanent indentation that is not covered by the warranty.
8. Post installation temperature must be maintained between 55° F and 100° F (12° C and 38° C). Ideal ambient relative humidity is between 40% and 70%.

PLANK REPLACEMENT

Refer to complete Laminate Board Replacement instructions for further information.

1. Using a straight edge, clearly mark the damaged plank at the center approximately one inch from the edge of the adjoining planks.
2. Using a circular saw, use attic stock to set the blade to the thickness of the plank.
3. Carefully, cut the damaged plank along the mark. Take care not to damage the adjacent plank. **CAUTION: Follow all manufacturer's safety guidelines when using a saw.**
4. Carefully remove the center of the damaged plank. **NOTE: For replacements over concrete, if the vapor barrier is damaged during the damaged plank removal process, it must be repaired prior to placing the new board.**
5. Using a power drill with a 1/8" bit, drill from each corner back to the inside edge. Space the holes approximately 1/16".
6. Using a sharp chisel or lino knife, cut through the drill holes.
7. Carefully remove the edges of the cut plank. Do not damage adjoining planks.
8. Prepare the replacement plank by removing the tongue and groove on each short side and by removing the groove on the long side. This can be done using a table saw set to a height that does not cut through the decorative layer of the laminate.
9. Place a bead of Laminate adhesive on the top of the tongue of the existing plank (long and short side), and to the top of the modified tongue on the replacement board (long and short side). Wipe off the excess with a damp rag.
10. Position the replacement plank by inserting the tongue of the long side into the groove of the adjoining plank.
11. Rotate the plank downward into position.
12. Wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with water.
13. Weight the replacement plank down evenly across it's entire surface for a minimum of 24 hours.

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