

ELKa

real wood

engineered

flooring

**B/C/D RUSTIC GRADE
REAL ENGINEERED OAK
WOOD FLOORING**

General Instructions

Congratulations with your new 'Engineered Wood Flooring'. Before starting with the installation, it is critical that you read the following instructions carefully. Failure to do so will inevitably result in problems occurring and invalidate your warranty

**"INSTALLATION IMPLIES ACCEPTANCE"
NO WARRANTY WILL BE OFFERED FOR
APPEARANCE RELATED CLAIMS ONCE
THE PRODUCT IS INSTALLED.**

Moisture content

The screed must be dry. With cement-bound screed, maximum permissible moisture content of 4% impedance (Tramex CME) or humidity content of 2.5% max. (according to CM method) and 0.5% with an anhydrite-bound screed. A guideline for the setting time of newly-spread screed is + 1.5 weeks per centimetre of thickness, with sufficient ventilation. With thicknesses of more than 6 cm, a minimum of 3 additional weeks per cm extra should be taken into account. As a precaution against residual moisture, apply a 0.2 mm polyethylene moisture barrier. Overlap the seams by 30 cm and seal with plastic tape. Extend the underlay up against each of the walls. After installing the skirting, cut the underlay at the upper edge of the skirting's.

If the subfloor is between 4% Mc and 6.5% impedance Mc then ELKA 2 part Epoxy DPM must be applied to the subfloor and the flooring secured with a flexible adhesive such as Elka Trade / Trowel Flex.

Subfloors

Existing floor coverings will usually need to be removed; only vinyl floor coverings can be left in place. This wood flooring must be laid on an appropriate underlay. If polystyrene foam is to be used, foam density should be 25 to 30 kg/m³. As a general rule, the wood flooring panels should be installed in the lengthwise direction of the room. If you are installing your new flooring on top of existing floor boards, the new wood flooring panels must be installed at a right angle to the direction of the floorboards.

Acclimatisation

The wood flooring must be stored inside the room where the flooring is to be installed for at least 48 hours ahead of installation with the packaging left unopened.

Installation conditions

Room temperature should be at least 17°C and relative humidity in the room should be between 45 - 65% during acclimatisation and installation. Check to make sure there will be adequate clearance for doors to open and shut once the new flooring is in place. Maximum permissible length of installation is 12 m and 8 m in width. If longer, or in case of non rectangular room shapes, intermediate dilatation joints may need to be installed.

Always separate individual rooms from each other by using a dilatation joint in the door openings between the rooms. Heavy objects such as open fireplaces, kitchen cabinets or heavy bookshelves should not be installed on top of the wood floor.

This may affect the floor's natural movement and cause gaps along the joints.

TOOLS

Using suitable tools in good condition helps to make the job easier and achieve the best possible results. You may need the following: tapping block, ruler, tri-square, saw (fine-toothed), sharp knife (for fine adjustments etc), hammer, spacer blocks, pencil, crowbar, brace and bit (for holes around pipes). The bit should be 20 mm larger than the diameter of the pipe) **(9B)**.

Also required

Pipe rosettes, 0.2 mm thick age-resistant HDPE plastic sheet and appropriate underlay.

The best way to finish along architraves is to cut off the bottoms of the architraves as shown in **9A**. To do so, use an off cut of the flooring panel to make the cut at the precise height.

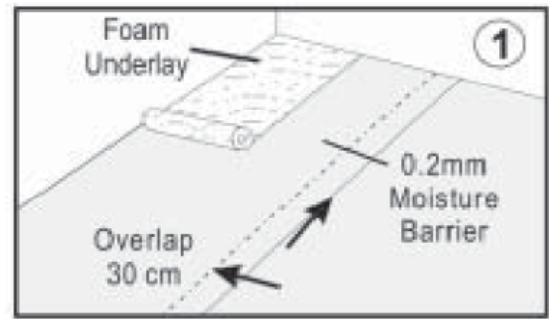
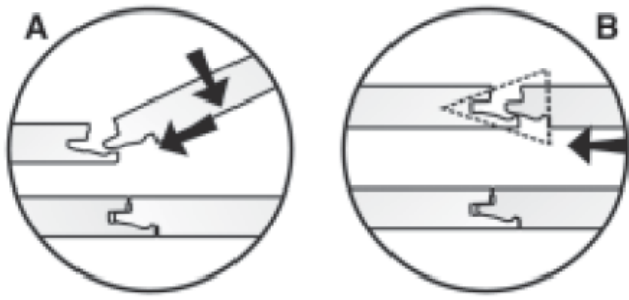
Important: prior to installation, inspect the boards in daylight for any visible faults or damage and also check colour and surface finishing. No claims are accepted once flooring boards have been installed.

Installer/owner Responsibility

Wood floors are a natural product and as such are subject to many variances in both colour and character, this is to be expected at all times. In order to establish a consistency of product a grading and manufacturing tolerance of 5% has been set to allow for de-selection of material if deemed unsuitable for the installation. A 5% cutting or waste allowance must therefore be added to the net square meters required for the site to be installed.

The installer or owner must determine that the job site environment and the sub-surfaces involved meet or exceed all requirements within these instructions; claims will not be accepted if a fault was visibly noticeable or preventable prior to installation.

- All flooring must be stored in the correct conditions prior to installing.
- This product “must not” be stored on site until all sub – floors; plastering, cement work; decorating and all other wet work is completely dry.
- **The nominated party “consumer or installer” that takes ownership has final responsibility to ensure that they have received the correct species and finish that was selected in store.**
- Always work from 3 to 4 packs at a time mixing boards to achieve the appearance you require, taking into consideration the texture of the wood and the natural change in colours.
- Each floor, even each board is an individual piece of nature, which is guaranteed to make your home a place of beauty.



How to install the floor (floating installation)

Uniclic can be installed by rotation or horizontally

A: Lengthwise direction of the panels: normal way of installation = rotation. If the panels cannot be lifted (under a door frame or under radiator elements), they can be tapped together.

Do not attempt to knock the Uniclic joint into place with one hit; it should be tapped together gradually. Begin tapping lightly at one end of the panel until the joint is made, then repeat the process some 30 cm further until the entire lengthwise edge of the panel has clicked into place. Do not tap too hard in order to avoid damage to the planks.

B: The short end of the panels can only be joined by tapping. Below, we describe installation of panel 4 (**2A, 3, 3a, 4, 5, 5a, 6A & 6B**). First rotate panel 4 lengthwise into panel 1 and 3. Then click a spare piece of panel or a cut-off on the joint of panel 4 and 2, to avoid damage while tapping panel 4 into panel 2. Then gently tap panel 4 into 2 and remove the spare part, for use on the next short joint.

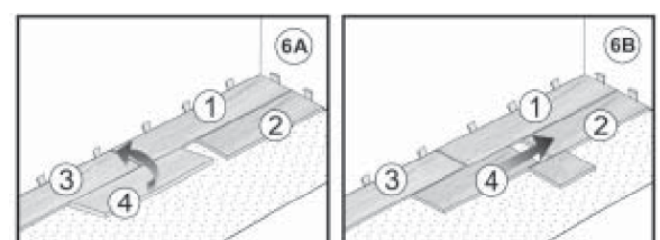
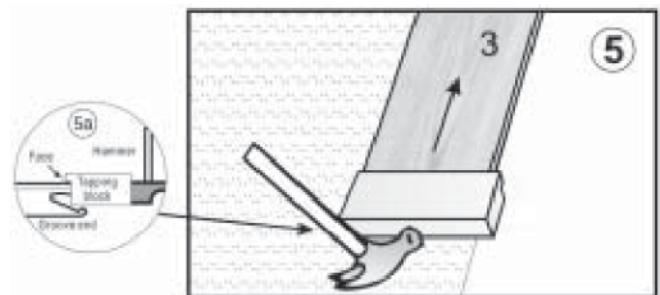
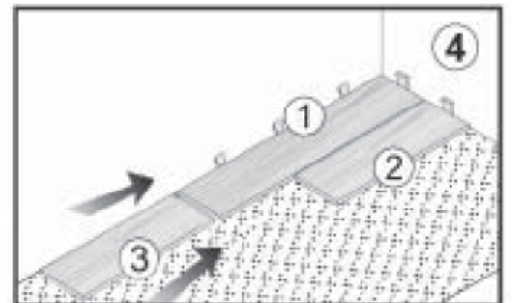
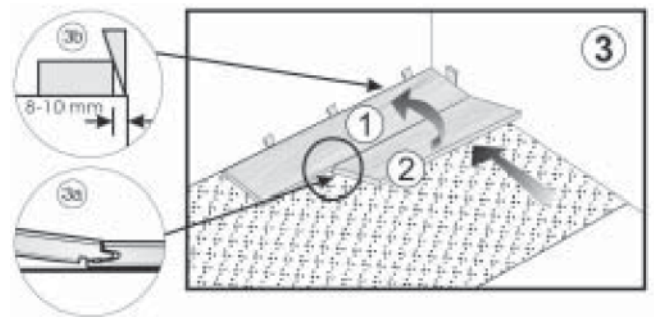
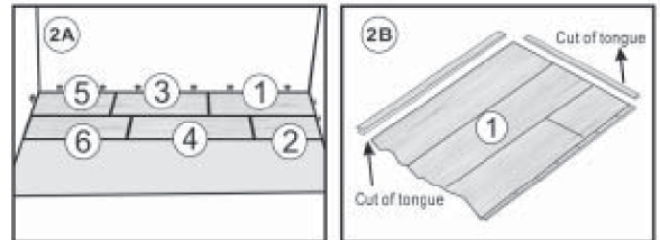
Since wood by its very nature expands and contracts with variation in air humidity, an expansion gap of 15 mm must be allowed to enable natural movement of the flooring (**3b**).

This expansion gap must be left on all sides of the floorings, including door trims, pipes, staircases, etc. For larger rooms, allow an expansion gap of at least 1.5 mm for each metre of the floor's width. The expansion gap is to be finished by means of skirting or mouldings.

Installation of the first rows

1: Apply a 0.2 mm polyethylene moisture barrier over a concrete floor. Overlap the seams by 30 cm and tape with plastic tape. Extend the moisture barrier up against each of the walls. Cut off the upper plastic sheet after installation of the skirting. Apply a 25-30 kg/m³ polystyrene foam underlay on top of the 0.2 mm polyethylene film.

Start the first two rows of planks along the long wall and install from right to left as shown in **2A**.



The tongue side of the panel must be along the wall. Remove all the tongues of the first row in order to get the right expansion joint. Also remove the short tongue of the first plank **2B**.

Use an ordinary cord to check if the planks of the second row are in a straight line, lengthwise. If necessary, correct by tapping with the tapping block.

Remaining part of the floor

Start row 3 with the balance plank from plank 5. Make sure you put in a 50 cm stagger and be sure to check the straightness of the rows from time to time **(7)**.

The last rows

If you have worked out that the last row will need to be cut to a size narrower than 5 cm, it is preferable to cut both the first and the last rows of planks lengthwise, so neither is too narrow **(8)**.

Combination with under floor Heating

If the following instructions are observed, this wood floor can be installed over underfloor heating systems embedded in the concrete. Permissible heating sources are either hot water or electrical resistances. Maximum surface temperature of the concrete flooring must not exceed 27°C (70°F) anywhere in the room.

Newly installed under floor heating systems

The cement screed must comply with DIN 18353, and with the instructions for heated floor construction issued by the Central Association of the German Construction Industry. Minimum waiting time to install a floor covering, after installation of the screed, is 21 days.

Expansion joints provided by the heating manufacturer must be retained.

After minimum 21 days, the underfloor heating can be started up. The inflow water temperature may be increased each day by a maximum of 15°C, until the maximum water temperature of 45°C is reached.

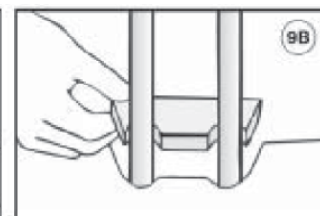
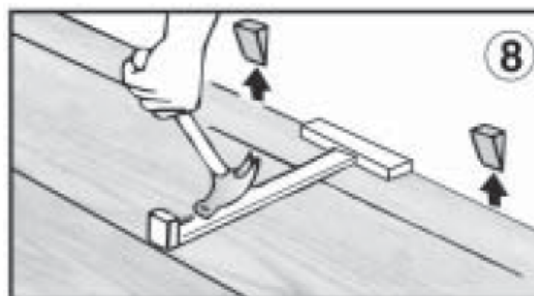
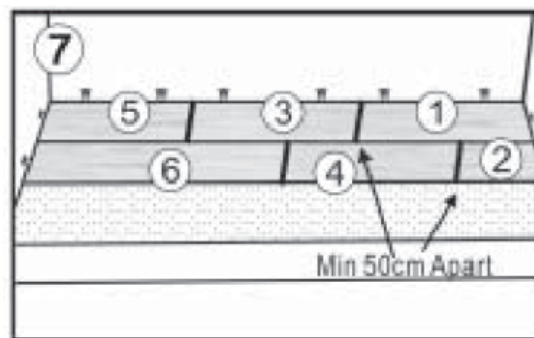
Continue at this temperature without interruption for 7 days at 45°C. Then reduce the water temperature by 15°C (41°F) daily, until the water temperature drops below 25°C.

Switch off the heating system for 7 days.

Then increase the heating again for 4 days until the temperature reaches 45°C. Reduce heating once again to 25°C (77°F).

This schedule is the absolute minimum heating and cooling cycle to be observed. Each additional day is useful to reduce the humidity of the screed and to provide additional safety.

Finally, the installation of the wood flooring can get underway, in accordance with the installation



instructions above. Maintain the water temperature at 25°C during installation

The surface temperature of the screed must be at least 18°C and the relative humidity during installation must be 45 to 65%.

These conditions must be maintained for at least another 5 days after installation of the flooring.

Important

We cannot accept any liability unless the heat-up protocol is recorded and signed.

Existing under floor heating systems

With under floor heating systems embedded in the screed, that have already been in use for several heating seasons, we recommend that you raise the water flow temperature to 45°C (113°F) before installation of the flooring and maintain this temperature for one week without interruption.

Then reduce the flow temperature again to 25°C. As it is impossible to take into account the entire range of floor heating systems, please address any queries you may have on the matter to the dealer or manufacturer of the floor heating.

Indoor climate conditions

What is good for people is also good for hardwood floors.

We recommend a room temperature of 20°C (68°F) and a relative humidity between 45 and 65% all year round. Special attention must be given during the indoor heating season as the relative humidity can easily become too LOW. To prevent the wood from drying out, which may cause smaller gaps between the flooring elements, it is strongly recommended to use a suitable electric humidifier right from the start of the heating season.

Precautions

To preserve the quality and beauty of your hardwood floor, it is absolutely necessary to use suitable protective pads under chairs and furniture legs. Suitable and effective walk-off mats should be installed at each entrance from the outside, in order to minimise tracked-in dirt, grit and moisture. Castor chairs and office chairs must comply with the DIN EN 12529, i.e. they must be provided with soft type W castors and/or suitable office mats should be installed.

Care and maintenance

Do not use microfibre cloths or microfibre mops for cleaning.

OILED WOODFLOORING

Immediately after installation

Your wood floor has been oiled at the factory, in order to give it long-lasting protection. It is important that you clear any dust and wipe the floor with wood floor soap such as Elka clean immediately after installation (see general cleaning instructions below).

Maintenance instructions for oiled wood flooring
Oiled wood lends your home a natural sense of fashionable comfort. To make sure you continue to enjoy it for a long time, it is important that your floor is properly maintained from the outset. Gradually, your floor will become increasingly hardwearing and easily maintainable as the surface treatment forms a protective film that will keep dirt away from the wood floor.

General cleaning and maintenance

Vacuum or sweep the floor daily. Wood floors should be wiped regularly with a slightly damp cloth. Add wood floor soap to the water when you clean your oiled parquet. Wood floor soap not only cleans the floor, it also forms a protective film on the surface that will keep dirt away. Wipe the floor with a soap solution several times during the first couple of weeks. Never splash water onto the floor.

Intensive cleaning

If the floor is heavily soiled, use intensive wood cleaner.

After intensive cleaning, immediately wipe the floor with the "normal" soap solution.

Renovation

A floor that is starting to look grey or dull after a long time of wear can be given a fresh lease of life by means of a thin layer of Elka maintenance oil. Before this oil treatment, the floor has to be thoroughly cleaned with intensive wood cleaner and then left to dry for 4 - 8 hours. Apply the wood floor oil thinly using a machine roller or a cotton cloth. When the floor shows a low gloss sheen, you have applied the right amount of oil. Take care not to use excess oil on the floor surface. Finally, carefully polish the floor using a soft cotton cloth or a polishing pad.

Caution

To avoid spontaneous combustion of oil-containing cloths, it is important to soak all oily cloths, pads, etc in water immediately after use and then leave them to air-dry. Further information about wood flooring maintenance products is available from Elka.

Checklist of Critical Guidelines

The following checklist must be completed before the Installation of wood floor products.

The information on the checklist MUST be followed in every way. If any of these requirements are NOT completed, you WILL be jeopardizing your wood floor performance and/or warranties and guarantees.

Allowing any items to be over looked, could cause the installation to fail in the short or long term. Once this information is secured, a signed copy should be kept in a safe place in case future concerns arise.

PRE-INSTALLATION EVALUATION OF JOB SITE:	
Date	Time
Job Name	
Address	
City	
Postcode	
Telephone	

UNTIL THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN MET, THE JOBSITE IS NOT READY FOR WOOD FLOOR INSTALLATION!

EXTERIOR CONDITIONS:

1 GUTTERS AND DOWN PIPES ARE PROPERLY PLACED TO DRAIN WATER AWAY FROM STRUCTURE:

YES / NO

2 SOIL SURROUNDING THE STRUCTURE IS PROPERLY GRADED TO DRAIN WATER AWAY FROM THE STRUCTURE:

YES / NO

INTERIOR CONDITIONS:

1 ALL WET TRADES (TILE, PAINT, PLASTER, ETC.) HAVE COMPLETED WORK ON SITE:

YES / NO

2 HVAC (HEAT VENTILATION, AIR CONDITIONING) ARE IN PLACE AND OPERATING PROPERLY: (3-5 days prior to delivery of wood floor products)

YES / NO

3 THE BUILDING IS ENCLOSED; WEATHER TIGHT, INCLUDING DOORS AND WINDOWS:

YES / NO

4 THE TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY WITHIN THE STRUCTURE ARE AT "NORMAL LIVING CONDITIONS" (TEMP- BETWEEN 18 -20°C AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY BETWEEN 45 – 55%)

YES / NO

CONCRETE SLAB CONDITIONS

1 DPM HAS BEEN INSTALLED UNDER THE SLAB:

YES / NO

2 CONCRETE HAS A MOISTURE CONTENT OF UNDER 4% IMPEDIANCE (2.5% CM Test / Din Standard):

YES / NO

3 IF WOOD FLOOR IS TO BE INSTALLED OVER SLAB, IT IS FLAT AND TO SPECIFICATIONS:

YES / NO

IF APPLICABLE ALL AIRBRICKS CLEAR FROM OBSTRUCTION

YES / NO

IF APPLICABLE TAR SATURATED CRAFT PAPER INSTALLED OVER FLOORS WITH A CRAWL SPACE BELOW

YES / NO

DELIVERY AND WORKING CONDITIONS:

1 DRIVEWAY AND SIDE WALKS ARE INSTALLED:

YES / NO

2 THE FLOORING WILL NOT BE INSTALLED BELOW GROUND LEVEL:

YES / NO

MOISTURE CONDITIONS

1 MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE WOOD SUBFLOOR IS NO MORE THAN 2 PERCENTAGE POINTS ABOVE OR BELOW THE FINISH FLOORING AND IS WITHIN REGIONAL MOISTURE CONTENT GUIDELINES.

YES / NO

2 MOISTURE TESTING OF CONCRETE BEGAN NO SOONER THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE SLAB WAS POURED. TEST RESULTS (BELOW 4%) INDICATED THAT IT IS SAFE FOR WOOD FLOORING INSTALLATION TO BEGIN, AND ALL READINGS HAVE BEEN DOCUMENTED:

YES / NO

WHAT TYPE OF TESTING EQUIPMENT WAS USED? MAKE & MODEL
RESULTS / READINGS: Subfloor % Mc Temperature Relative Humidity
Installer Company Tel:

I verify jobsite is ready for wood flooring installation Signed Date
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FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THESE GUIDELINES ARE MET, AND FOLLOWED TO THE LETTER. IF NOT, SOME ONE [BUILDER, OWNER, WOOD FLOOR CONTRACTOR, or ALL] NEEDS TO SIGN OFF THAT THESE ITEMS HAVE NOT BEEN FOLLOWED.

THAT PERSON COULD ULTIMATELY TAKE SOME, IF NOT ALL, RESPONSIBILITY

For further technical information on this product visit: www.elkaflooring.com
Important: Elka Warranty. Please remember to validate your Elka flooring warranty at www.elkaflooring.com

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