

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



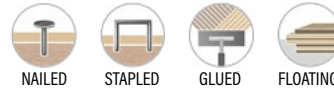
## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | GENERAL INFORMATION



### INSTALLATION LOCATIONS

- ✓ 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR
- ✓ 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR
- ✓ BASEMENT

### INSTALLATION TYPES



### INSTALLATION OVER A RADIANT HEATING SYSTEM

PG Cohesion engineered wood flooring can be installed over a radiant heating system if nailed, stapled, and/or glued. However, floating installation is not compatible with a radiant heating system.

#### ATTENTION!

**These installation guidelines provide minimal requirements. However, the installer must ensure compliance with legislation in effect in the country where the products are installed. Any installation that does not comply with these guidelines may void the warranty.**

**The installation of flooring should be the last step in the construction or renovation of a house.**

**Carefully read instructions and warranty information before preparing and installing your floor.**

## RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INSTALLER AND OWNER

The installer must examine each board before laying it down. Any board installed (nailed, stapled, glued or floating) is deemed to have been accepted by the installer and/or owner. Such boards may not be claimed under warranty on the basis of manufacturing defects or classification errors. If the owner hires a third party to install the flooring and cannot be present during the installation, the owner is responsible for the judgment of this third party. The installer should be able to evaluate wood quality (grade and shape) and lay out colours according to the natural variations of the species chosen.

PG Flooring cannot be held responsible for errors resulting from poor judgment on the part of the installer. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that the wood delivered is what was chosen and ordered.

If you notice any defect in the grade, structural quality, or finish of the wood, please stop the installation and contact your distributor immediately. Discard any board with a visible defect rather than installing it and compromising the overall appearance of the floor.

Before installing engineered wood flooring, the installer must ensure that the worksite and subfloors meet or exceed all applicable standards in the installation guide. PG Flooring declines any liability for problems resulting from defects in the subfloor, its surface, or the worksite itself.

### FOR NAILED INSTALLATION:

Manufacturers offer consumers a range of flooring nailers for hardwood floors to choose from, including manual and pneumatic (air-powered) models. It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that the fastener is properly driven into the flooring and that the spacing between nails complies with the recommendations outlined in this installation guide. Improper nail installation may result in a "telegraphing" effect—bumps caused by wood fibre compression from the nails—which is not considered a manufacturing defect. It is recommended to test a few boards: nail them and inspect the joints where the boards meet, especially for installations at a 90° angle to an exterior wall where daylight falls directly onto the floor.

### FOR INSTALLATION OVER A RADIANT HEATING SYSTEM:

Installation of flooring over a radiant heating system must be done according to the standards outlined in our installation guide or those approved by the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA).

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | PREPARATION

### BASE MATERIALS

- Broom or vacuum
- Ambient air and wood moisture indicators
- Mitre saw
- Hand saw
- Measuring tape
- Hammer
- Pull bar and tapping block
- Chalk line
- Putty knife
- Table saw
- Square and T-bevel
- Slip tongue and wood glue (if needed)
- PG Flooring maintenance kit
- Touch-up marker (selected to match your stain colour)

### ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR A NAILED OR STAPLED INSTALLATION



- Pneumatic hardwood flooring nailer and air compressor
- Hand drill and 3/32 in (2 mm) drill bits
- Nail punch
- Finishing air-hammer
- 2 in (5 cm) spiral finish nails
- Flooring screws
- Non-tarred vapour barrier paper
- "L" or "T" flooring nails

*\* It is recommended to use "L" or "T" flooring nails for installation. Installation can also be done using "U" staples, although this method is less recommended.*

THICKNESS	"L" OR "T" NAILS	"U" STAPLES	LENGTH	SPACING	DISTANCE FROM BOARD'S ENDS
1/2 in	18 ga to 20 ga	18 ga	1 1/4 in (32 mm)	4 to 6 in (102 mm to 152 mm)	2 in (51 mm)
3/4 in	15.5 ga to 18 ga	15.5 ga to 18 ga	1 1/2 in (38 mm)	4 to 6 in (102 mm to 152 mm)	2 in (51 mm)

### ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR A GLUED INSTALLATION



- Urethane-based, water-free glue  
*Recommended glues:*
  - Bostik: Best, EFA+, BST
  - Finitec: AD-532+, AD-844 MS
  - Titebond 811 Advantage
- Urethane adhesive cleaner
- 3M blue painter's tape or equivalent
- Trowel (refer to glue manufacturer's recommendations for tooth size)
- AcoustiTECH LEAD 3.3 membrane (recommended), or an equivalent with a maximum thickness of 5 mm,  $\geq 2$  psi at 25% compression, or 5–8 mm thickness,  $\geq 5$  psi at 25% compression

### ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR A FLOATING INSTALLATION



- PVA Type II wood flooring glue
- AcoustiTECH VP membrane (recommended), or an equivalent with a maximum thickness of 3.5 mm,  $\geq 5$  psi at 25% compression
- Vapour barrier adhesive tape recommended by the Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC)

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | PREPARATION

### ENVIRONMENT PREPARATION

#### TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY LEVELS

To ensure optimal installation, the installer must verify that the environment meets ideal conditions.

- During the week prior to installation, the home must be maintained at a constant temperature of 22 °C (72 °F) to stabilize both temperature and humidity.
- A few days before installation, ensure that the relative humidity level is stable and between 37% and 45%.
- At the time of installation, the ideal ambient temperature is 22 °C (72 °F).

#### STORAGE OF BOXES

Proper storage of flooring boxes is essential. They must be stacked on the ground floor or higher, away from exterior walls, at least 48 hours before installation, with a minimum air space of 4 in (10 cm) between the floor and the boxes.

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION | PLYWOOD OR ORIENTED STRAND BOARD (OSB)



#### FOR NAILED, STAPLED OR FLOATING INSTALLATION



#### MATERIAL SELECTION BASED ON JOIST SPACING



Before installing your hardwood floor, ensure that the subfloor is made of appropriate plywood or OSB. The thickness and type of subfloor material depend on the spacing between joists. Particle board is not recommended.

##### If joist spacing is 12 in (30.5 cm):

- minimum 5/8 in (16 mm) thick plywood;
- minimum 3/4 in (19 mm) thick OSB.

##### If joist spacing is 16 in (40.6 cm):

- minimum 5/8 in (16 mm) thick plywood;
- minimum 3/4 in (19 mm) thick OSB;
- 5/8 in (16 mm) CDX plywood.

##### If joist spacing is 19 in (48.3 cm):

- minimum 3/4 in (19 mm) thick plywood;
- minimum 3/4 in (19 mm) thick OSB.

#### PLYWOOD OR OSB SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

We recommend screwing the panels every 4 to 6 in (10 to 15 cm) in the field and every 2 to 4 in (5 to 10 cm) around the perimeter. It is always preferable to fasten the panels directly to the joists. Ensure the subfloor is secured using appropriate fasteners; screws should have smooth upper shanks to allow for solid anchoring into the joists. The use of drywall screws is not acceptable, while flooring and deck screws are well suited. All subfloor panels should be spaced 1/8 in (3 mm) apart to allow for expansion.

The subfloor must be thoroughly inspected across the entire surface to be covered. This inspection helps identify imperfections and potential sources of squeaking, allowing for necessary corrections. Remove any glue residue, staples, or protruding nails by properly driving them in. Then, level the area by sanding down any uneven spots and using a floor leveller.

The maximum allowable variation is 3/16 in (5 mm) over a span of 10 ft (3 m) for **nailed or stapled installation** and 5/32 in (4 mm) over a span of 8 ft (2.4 m) for **floating installation**.

Once inspection and corrections are complete, the subfloor must provide a flat and even surface, free of height variations. It is important to note that engineered wood flooring will not conceal structural defects in the subfloor. Careful preparation is therefore essential before installation.

#### CHECKING RELATIVE HUMIDITY LEVELS

At the time of installation, the moisture content of the subfloor must be less than or equal to 12%. Make sure that the moisture content of the engineered floor does not differ by more than 2% from the moisture content of the subfloor. If the subfloor is exceeding recommended values, heat, ventilate, or dehumidify the premises and delay the delivery and installation of the flooring.

#### INSTALLATION OF NON-TARRED VAPOUR BARRIER PAPER | FOR NAILED OR STAPLED INSTALLATION

Using non-tarred vapour barrier paper is **strongly recommended** for nailed or stapled installations. This paper acts as an insulator and slows down potential moisture transfer from the basement to the wood boards. Staple the vapour barrier paper to the subfloor parallel to the direction of the boards. Make sure to overlap the strips by 2 to 3 in (5 to 8 cm) to ensure consistent moisture protection.

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | PREPARATION

### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION | CONCRETE



#### FOR GLUED OR FLOATING INSTALLATION



#### CHECKING RELATIVE HUMIDITY LEVELS

Before measuring humidity, the concrete surface must have dried for at least 60 days at a stable room temperature of 22 °C (72 °F) and under relative humidity conditions between 37% and 45%.

Check the concrete's moisture level using a concrete moisture meter such as the Wagner C575. The reading must not exceed 12% (or 4% if the meter measures water content by volume). You may also perform additional tests using 24 in<sup>2</sup> (60 cm<sup>2</sup>) plastic sheets placed every 200 ft<sup>2</sup> (18.6 m<sup>2</sup>) of concrete surface, or conduct a calcium chloride test. The moisture emission rate must not exceed 3 lbs (1.4 kg) per 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup> (28.3 m<sup>3</sup>) over 24 hours.

If the emission rate is between 3 lbs (1.4 kg) and 7 lbs (3.26 kg) per 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup> (28.3 m<sup>3</sup>), an approved moisture barrier membrane must be used over the concrete. Never install flooring if the calcium chloride test result exceeds 7 lbs (3.26 kg) per 1,000 ft<sup>3</sup> (28.3 m<sup>3</sup>)

It is recommended to apply a liquid concrete sealer that is compatible with the adhesive being used, directly on the slab, to prevent long-term moisture buildup.

At the time of installation, the moisture content of the subfloor must be less than or equal to 12%. Make sure that the moisture content of the engineered floor does not differ by more than 2% from the moisture content of the subfloor. If the subfloor is exceeding recommended values, heat, ventilate, or dehumidify the premises and delay the delivery and installation of the flooring.

#### CHECKING THE LEVEL OF THE CONCRETE SLAB

The level of the concrete slab must be checked. The maximum allowable variation is:

- 1/8 in (3.2 mm) over a span of 6 ft (2 m), or 3/16 in (5 mm) over a span of 10 ft (3 m) **for glued installation;**
- 5/32 in (4 mm) over a span of 8 ft (2.4 m) **for floating installation.**

If depressions must be filled, use a cement-based water-free filler compound with a capacity of 3 000 lbs/in<sup>2</sup>. Be careful never to exceed the manufacturer's recommended maximum thickness. Exceeding the recommended thickness of filler in depressions may result in filled areas not being strong enough to support the weight of heavy objects.

#### SUBFLOOR CLEANLINESS

Sweep or vacuum the entire surface. Make sure that the surface is free of wax, paint stains, oil or other substances that might prevent the glue from bonding to the subfloor.

### SOUNDPROOFING (CONDOMINIUMS)



#### FOR GLUED OR FLOATING INSTALLATION



If you wish to add soundproofing in a condo (for example) an acoustic liner must be laid down. The liner should be glued to the subfloor. Boards are then glued to the liner using the same glue.

#### INSTALLING THE ACOUSTITECH<sup>MC</sup> LEAD 3.3 MEMBRANE | FOR GLUED INSTALLATION

To ensure acoustic performance and stability, we recommend installing the AcoustiTECH<sup>MC</sup> Lead 3.3 membrane (or an equivalent with a maximum thickness of 5 mm,  $\geq 2$  psi at 25% compression, or 5–8 mm thickness,  $\geq 5$  psi at 25% compression) before installing your PG Cohesion floor. The membrane meets all performance tests required for ideal installation. Failure to use this membrane may void your warranty.

- Cut the membrane with a retractable blade or scissors;
- Install the aluminized side up;
- Cover the entire surface with the membrane. Seams must be joined without overlapping;
- Lay the membrane strips down perpendicular to strips of engineered hardwood;
- Begin along the wall. Fold lengthwise to uncover the subfloor against the wall;
- Spread adhesive on the uncovered part of the subfloor;
- Unfold the membrane over the glued part of the subfloor;
- Repeat until the entire surface is covered; do not leave an uncovered spot;
- Make sure seams are joined together and glued to the subfloor. It is not necessary to seal the seams with an adhesive tape;
- This membrane must be flattened using a 34 to 45 kg (75 to 100 lbs) roller to ensure proper adhesive transfer.

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | PREPARATION

### INSTALLING THE ACOUSTITECH<sup>MC</sup> VP MEMBRANE | FOR FLOATING INSTALLATION

To ensure acoustic performance and stability, we recommend installing the AcoustiTECH™ VP membrane (or an equivalent with a maximum thickness of 3.5 mm,  $\geq 5$  psi at 25 % compression) before installing your PG Cohesion floor. The membrane meets all performance tests required for ideal installation. Failure to use this membrane may void your warranty.

- Cut the membrane with a retractable blade or scissors;
- Install the aluminized side up;
- Lay the membrane strips down perpendicular to strips of engineered wood;
- Join and seal the strips together with a vapour barrier adhesive tape recommended by the Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC), do not overlap.

If a tear should happen during installation, seal the tear with a vapour barrier adhesive tape recommended by the CCMC

### PRE-INSTALLATION PREPARATIONS



**Before beginning work, ensure that the premises benefit from sufficient natural lighting.**

#### BOARDS ORIENTATION

To optimize the structural stability of the floor, it is strongly recommended to install the boards perpendicular to the joists.

#### PARALLELISM AND SQUARENESS

When flooring is to be laid in a house, the entire house must be checked for wall parallelism and squareness to determine if any walls are not parallel and to plan installation consequently.

By always using exterior walls as benchmarks, measuring squareness will precisely verify the parallelism of each interior wall and any obstacles (such as ceramic floors, stairwells, fireplaces, etc.). Thus, the installer will avoid relying on work carried out improperly beforehand.

Verify the squareness of each room by tracing two plane lines perpendicular to the exterior walls, as close as possible to the centre of the room. Then verify the angles formed using an angle plate. Once squareness is confirmed, you are ready to begin installation.

When installing for a full house, it is important to always begin the installation in a room where there is a exterior wall parallel to the starting point.

#### BENCHMARKS

The starting point for installation is often influenced by the squareness line. Ideally, begin along the most visible wall in the room—unless another feature, such as a tiled surface, offers a more strategic starting point.

For installations covering the entire home, it is recommended to start in the longest room, typically a hallway.

#### BASEBOARDS AND QUARTER ROUNDS

To remove baseboards and quarter rounds without damaging the walls, it is recommended to use a putty knife.

Once the floor is installed, baseboards and quarter rounds must be nailed to the wall, not the floor, to avoid restricting the natural movement of the wood.

It is also advisable to undercut door casings to allow planks to slide underneath, ensuring a clean finish.

**If you choose not to use quarter rounds and the baseboard is not wide enough to cover the recommended expansion gap, you may cut a strip of drywall at the base of the wall to fill the gap.**

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | PREPARATION

### EXPANSION SPACE

The expansion space around the perimeter of the room is a key element in ensuring the floor's durability. It allows the wood to respond to humidity changes and prevents aesthetic or structural damage.

According to standards, the expansion gap should be:

- 1/2 in (1.3 cm) across the width of the boards;
- 1/4 in (0.6 cm) along the length of the boards.

For a room with a **maximum width of 26 ft (8 m) or maximum length of 52 ft (16 m)**, the established standard for an expansion joint is 1/2 in (1.3 cm).

For a room with a **maximum width of 40 ft (12 m) or maximum length of 80 ft (24 m)**, the established standard for an expansion joint is 3/4 in (1.9 cm).

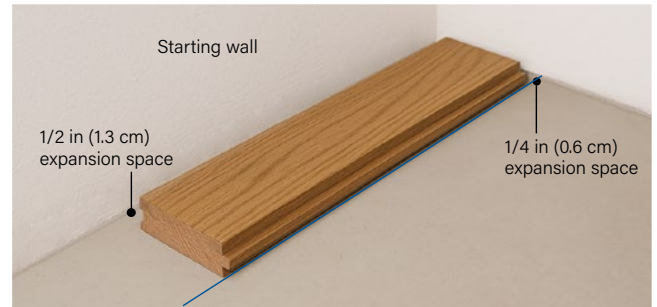
It is important to note that for rooms measuring **more than 40 ft (12.2 m) in length or width**, the installation of a T-moulding may be necessary. It is important to cut the bottom part of the drywalls to allow space for the floor's expansion.

To determine the expansion joint, use the larger measurement between the length and width

If there are baseboards and finishing trim, comply with installation standards for expansion joints.

If there are baseboards only and their width is insufficient to cover the expansion joint, cut a strip of gypsum at the bottom of the wall when an expansion space is required.

Strict adherence to these dimensions ensures the floor's stability in response to climate variations and the natural movement of wood.



### MARK THE START POINT

To make the installation of the first row easier, snap a chalk line that is parallel to the starting wall, at a distance of 3/4 in (1.9 cm) plus the width of your hardwood boards.

### BOARD SELECTION

Board selection allows you to create a representative sample of the final look. This is the time to define a harmonious layout by coordinating tone and size variations to visualize the finished floor.

Note that the industry standard of 5% acceptable imperfections does not include boards that must be discarded during installation.

Boards must be inspected by the installer before being installed. Each board that is installed (nailed, stapled, glued, or floating) is considered accepted by the installer and/or the owner and therefore cannot be subject to a warranty claim for manufacturing or grading defects.

### AESTHETIC TIPS

The joints between boards in each row should be staggered by at least 6 in (15 cm) from those in the previous row. This not only enhances the visual appeal of the floor but also improves its stability in response to humidity changes, allowing for even pressure distribution during wood expansion or contraction. For aesthetic reasons, avoid aligning joints of two boards with only one row between them (H-joint pattern). Also avoid creating step patterns, where joints of three or more boards are spaced at equal intervals

Joints too close together



H-joint pattern



Step pattern



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## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | INSTALLATION

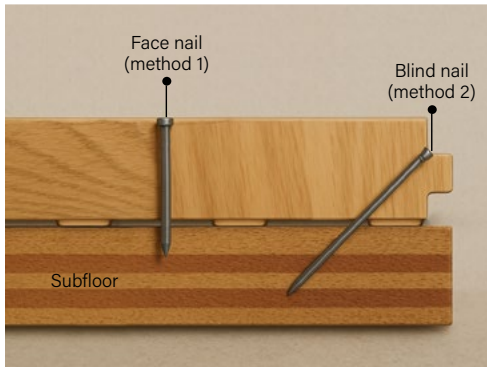


### NAILED OR STAPLED INSTALLATION



#### INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW

A line must be drawn for the first row to indicate positioning. There are two methods of installing the first row of boards.



#### METHOD 1: WITH FACE NAIL

This method consists of hammering a nail into the top of the board 1 in (2.5 cm) from the side of the wall. Ensure that the nail is well hammered in and hide it with your touch-up marker.

#### METHOD 2: WITHOUT FACE NAIL

This method is used when one does not want boards nailed down as in the first method. Glue is applied to the underside of the board at 6 in (15 cm) intervals. The type of glue used should respect wood expansion properties. Do not use woodworking glue. This method ensures board stability without any surface retention, which would prevent future expansion or contraction.

The first boards of the first row are also held in place by nails driven into the tongue at 45° using the finishing air-hammer.

#### INSTALLING SUBSEQUENT ROWS

The second row of boards is also secured in place using the finishing air hammer to avoid affecting the alignment of the first row. Subsequent rows of boards must then be nailed down by a nail driven into the tongue at 45° along its length using the conventional floor nailer air hammer instead of the finishing air hammer.

Each row of boards, including the first row, must be nailed down with a minimum of two nails, ideally spaced at 4 to 6 in (102 to 152 mm) intervals, depending on board length. Note also that a nail located less than 2 in (50 mm) from a board end could eventually cause the board to split.

Stagger the joints of each row by at least 6 in (15 cm) from the previous row.

When a board must be cut to complete a row, it is better to start the next row using the remaining piece. However, ensure that the remaining piece is more than 6 1/2 in (16.5 cm) long.

THICKNESS	" L " OR " T " NAILS	" U " STAPLES	LENGHT	SPACING	DISTANCE FROM BOARD'S ENDS
1/2 in	18 ga to 20 ga	18 ga	1 1/4 in (32 mm)	4 to 6 in (102 mm to 152 mm)	2 in (51 mm)
3/4 in	15.5 ga to 18 ga	15.5 ga to 18 ga	1 1/2 in (38 mm)	4 to 6 in (102 mm to 152 mm)	2 in (51 mm)

#### AIR HAMMER AND RUBBER MALLET

When laying down a board, it is important to distinguish between the final adjustment of the board and nailing it down using an air hammer. The final adjustment of a board should be made using a rubber mallet only. The mallet serves to move the board slightly without damaging the wood. The air hammer is used only to secure the board in place after adjustment. The force applied by the air hammer must be measured with this sole aim in mind.

#### FINISHING

When the wall prevents the use of a flooring nailer—typically for the last three rows—you can proceed as follows:

- Drill holes at a 45° angle along the tongue side of the board.
- Fasten the board using finishing nails and a manual hammer.
- Set the nail heads using a nail punch.
- Use a crowbar to adjust the final board, as the rubber mallet cannot be used at this stage.

To fasten the last row of boards, there are two methods, similar to the installation of the first row:

#### METHOD 1 - WITH FACE NAIL

Drive a nail through the top of the board, 1 in (2.5 cm) from the edge. Make sure the nail is fully driven in, then conceal it using the touch-up pencil from your repair kit.

#### METHOD 2: WITHOUT FACE NAIL

If you prefer not to have visible nails, apply beads of adhesive every 6 in (15 cm) on the underside of the board. Then, nail the board at a 45° angle through the tongue at the end. Angled wood wedges can be placed between the last board and the wall to hold it in place while the adhesive cures.

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | INSTALLATION



### GLUED INSTALLATION

#### GUIDE BOARD INSTALLATION

Temporarily fasten a straight board along the starting line. Make sure this board is perfectly straight and square to the wall. The space between the wall and the starting point will represent the last section of flooring to be installed.



#### GLUE APPLICATION

Apply the glue using a trowel at a 45° angle, starting from the guide line and moving outward. Use the trowel recommended by the glue manufacturer to ensure even application. If using a plastic trowel, have several on hand and replace them when worn, as this can affect bonding performance.

It is important to follow the manufacturer's recommendations (trowel size, number of applications, drying time, etc.). Drying times can vary by brand, and bonding time may also vary depending on temperature, region, and ambient humidity.

Never slide or drag a board across the glue, as the thermomechanical memory of the adhesive may cause the board to shift.

#### BOARD INSTALLATION

Install the first board along the guide line, with the groove (female side) facing you and the tongue (male side) against the starting wall. Be sure to leave a ¼ in (6 mm) expansion gap between the wall and the ends of the boards.

Without exceeding the recommended drying time for the glue, lay the boards on the floor. Work in small sections to prevent the adhesive from drying before the boards are installed.

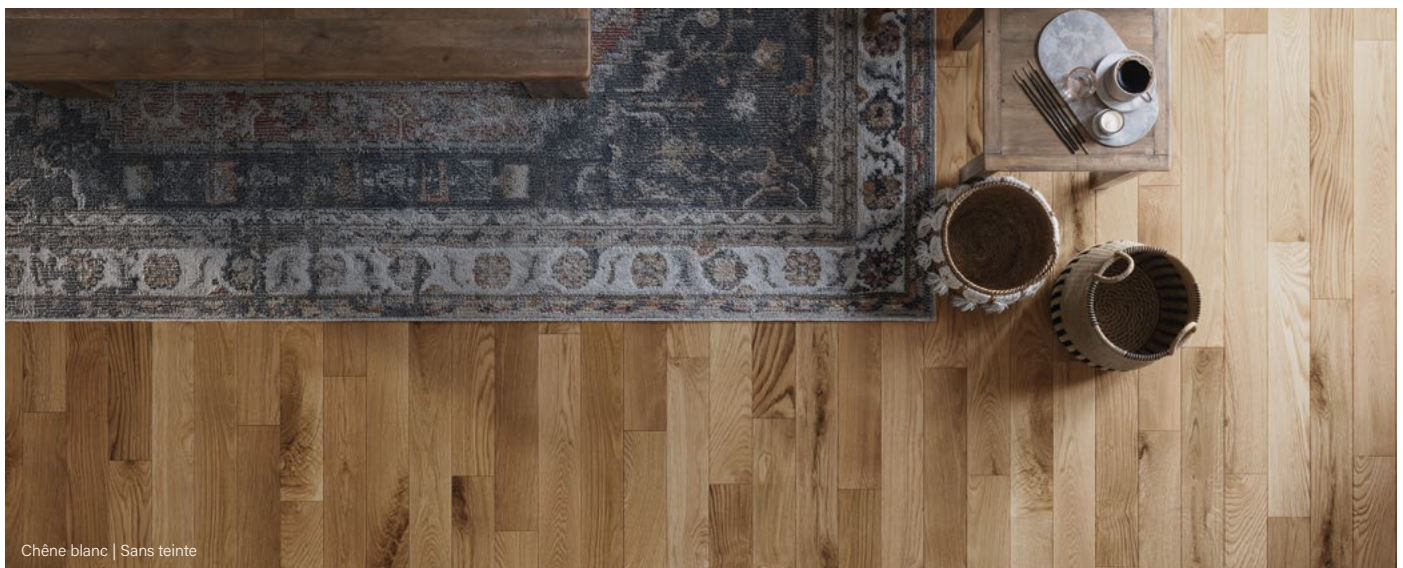
Stagger the joints of each row by at least 6 in (15 cm) from the previous row.

When a board must be cut to finish a row, it is best to use the remaining piece to start the next row, provided it is longer than 6½ in (16.5 cm).

Leave a ½ in (1.3 cm) expansion gap between the last board and the wall. Then remove the guide board, apply adhesive in the working area, and continue placing the boards.

#### IMPORTANT

- Keep your hands clean during glue application to avoid residue.
- Never strike the tongue directly with a hammer—always use a tapping block.
- Wait at least 24 hours before placing furniture or walking on the floor. If you must walk on a freshly installed floor, prevent board separation by taping them together using 3M blue painter's tape.



# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | INSTALLATION



### FLOATING INSTALLATION

#### GUIDE BOARD INSTALLATION

Temporarily fasten a straight board along the starting line. Make sure this board is perfectly straight and square to the wall. The space between the wall and the starting point will represent the last section of flooring to be installed.



#### INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW

Apply a small bead of glue to the tongue (male side) at the end of the first board, following the manufacturer's recommendations. Place the groove (female side) of this board against the guide board. Next, position the second board by fitting its groove (female side) onto the glued tongue of the first board. Adjust the boards using a hammer and tapping block—never strike the board directly with the hammer.



Apply a light bead of glue to the tongues at the ends of the following boards to complete the row.

Cut the last board to size, allowing for the required expansion space. Position this final board using a pull bar, protecting the wall to avoid damage.

#### INSTALLING SUBSEQUENT ROWS

To minimize waste, carefully select the last board of the first row. Ideally, it should be longer than 16 in (41 cm) so the off-cut can be reused as the first board of the next row.

Apply a 1/8 in (3 mm) bead of glue to the tongue of the boards in the previous row. Fit the new board against the glued tongue, then adjust it using the hammer and tapping block.

Install the following rows in the same manner. Regularly check the alignment of the installed rows to detect and correct any misalignment early.

Stagger the joints of each row by at least 6 in (15 cm) from the previous row.



**When applying adhesive to the tongues, it is recommended to leave a gap of approximately 1 inch every 8 to 10 inches.**

#### FINISHING

Measure and cut the boards for the final row, allowing for the required expansion space. Boards in the last row must be at least 2 in (5 cm) wide. To ensure better adhesion of narrow pieces, apply a thin line of wood glue in the groove. Never fasten the last row directly to the floor.

Once the floor is in place, remove the guide board and install the last row using the same steps.

# INSTALLATION GUIDE



## PG COHESION ENGINEERED WOOD | FINAL STEPS AND SPECIAL CASES

### FINAL STEPS

#### INSTALL MOULDINGS

Cut the mouldings to the appropriate length and glue them to the floor using wood glue.

#### CLEANING

Once the installation is complete, vacuum and inspect flooring surface. Remove excess glue using a manufacturer recommended product. Then apply cleaning products offered or recommended by PG Flooring and follow instructions.

#### APPROVAL OF WORK

If you are a contracteur, we recommend that you have your work approved by the owner or person in charge of the premises.

### SPECIAL CASES

#### REVERSE INSTALLATION

Sometimes flooring laid down from one room to another requires that boards be installed in reverse order using a slip tongue. The slip tongue transforms a board groove into a tongue, making it possible to lay a board down in the opposite direction.

- Drill holes into the female groove of the last installed board and secure it with finishing nails;
- Apply wood glue to the slip tongue and insert it into the groove;
- Fit a new board onto the tongue and continue installation in the opposite direction.

#### WALLS AT 45°

Walls at 45° decrease the amount of support provided to subsequent rows of boards by the first rows. In order to avoid possible misalignment, use a finishing air-hammer or ordinary hammer to nail in finishing nails for added support. Do not forget to avoid hammering in nails within 2 in (5 cm) of board ends.

#### ABUTTING CERAMIC SURFACES

At junctions with ceramic flooring, we recommend that a board of the same species of wood as the flooring be used to limit ceramic flooring contours.

#### NOSING

Special boards called nosing can demarcate flooring at a landing. Glued and nailed in vertically, they provide a solid end to flooring.

#### REDUCER STRIPS

Room level may vary from one room to the next. Reducer strips solve the problem. Glued and then nailed at 45°, they provide the junction between two heights and compensate for a change in level between rooms.

#### INSTALLATION OVER A RADIANT HEATING SYSTEM

PG Cohesion engineered wood flooring can be installed over a radiant heating system if **nailed, stapled, and/or glued**. However, floating installation is not compatible with a radiant heating system.

Because radiant heating causes faster changes in wood moisture than traditional heating systems, it is mandatory to control the ambient humidity level, keeping it between 37% and 45% year-round. Depending on the season, this may require the use of a humidifier or dehumidifier.

If you are installing your PG Cohesion engineered wood floor over a radiant heating system:

- Ensure that a heat and pressure test has been performed;
- The system must be turned on and off several times over a few weeks prior to installation;
- The heating system must be turned off and at room temperature before installation begins;
- After installation, gradually increase the system temperature by no more than 3 °C (5.4 °F) per day;
- The surface temperature of the radiant heating system should never exceed 28 °C (82.4 °F).