



# Laminate Flooring Installation Instructions

Thank you for choosing HomeBauer laminate flooring. Proper installation is essential to ensure long-term performance, structural integrity, and aesthetic quality. Please read and follow all instructions carefully prior to installation.

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## 1. Pre-Installation Requirements

### 1.1 Site Conditions

- Installation area must be fully enclosed, dry, and weatherproof.
  - Maintain indoor temperature between 18°C – 27°C (65°F – 80°F) for at least 48 hours before, during, and after installation.
  - Relative humidity should be maintained between 35% – 65%.
  - Avoid installation in areas exposed to excessive moisture or extreme temperature fluctuations.
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### 1.2 Acclimation

- Store unopened cartons flat in the installation area for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation.
  - Do not store flooring directly on concrete; elevate cartons to allow air circulation.
  - Keep flooring away from exterior walls, windows, or heat sources during acclimation.
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### 1.3 Inspection

- Inspect all planks prior to installation for visible defects or damage.
  - Do not install damaged or defective planks.
  - Variation in color, grain, and texture is normal; mix planks from multiple cartons to achieve a natural appearance.
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## 2. Subfloor Requirements

The subfloor must be:

- Clean: Free of dust, debris, grease, wax, and adhesive residue
- Dry: Moisture levels must meet local building standards
- Flat & Level: Maximum deviation of 3/16" (4.8 mm) over 10 ft (3 m)
- Structurally Sound: No movement, squeaks, or deflection

Approved Subfloors

- Concrete (fully cured, minimum 28 days)
- Plywood / OSB (minimum 19/32" thickness, properly secured)
- Existing hard surface flooring (tile, vinyl, laminate) if level and stable

Not Suitable

- Carpet or carpet padding
- Uneven or unstable surfaces

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## 3. Underlayment

- Use underlayment only if not pre-attached to the product.
- Ensure underlayment is compatible with laminate flooring and provides moisture protection where required.
- Do not install multiple layers of underlayment.

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## 4. Tools & Materials Required

- Measuring tape
- Utility knife or laminate cutter
- Spacers (for expansion gap)
- Tapping block
- Pull bar



- Rubber mallet
  - Saw (for cutting planks where necessary)
  - Straight edge or square
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## 5. Installation Method

This product is designed for floating installation using a click-lock system. Do not glue, nail, or fasten planks to the subfloor.

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### 5.1 Expansion Gap

- Maintain an expansion gap of 8–10 mm (5/16" – 3/8") around all walls, columns, pipes, and fixed objects.
  - Do not fill expansion gaps with adhesive or fasteners.
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### 5.2 Layout & Planning

- Install planks parallel to the longest wall or main light source.
  - Stagger end joints by at least 200 mm (8 inches) between adjacent rows.
  - Avoid using planks shorter than 200 mm (8 inches) at row ends whenever possible.
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### 5.3 Installation Steps

#### 1. Start Installation

- Begin in a corner of the room, working from left to right.
- Place the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall, using spacers to maintain the expansion gap.

#### 2. First Row

- Connect end joints by angling and locking the short edges.
- Continue across the row and cut the final plank to size if necessary.



### 3. Subsequent Rows

- Start each new row using the off-cut from the previous row (minimum 200 mm length).
- Insert the long edge of the plank into the previous row at an angle, then press down to lock.
- Connect short edges and secure with a tapping block if needed.

### 4. Final Row

- Measure and cut planks to fit while maintaining expansion gap.
- Use a pull bar to lock the final row in place.

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## 6. Special Installation Considerations

### 6.1 Large Areas

- For areas exceeding 20 m (65 ft) in length or width, use expansion joints or transition moldings.

### 6.2 Doorways & Transitions

- Install transition moldings between rooms and at doorways.
- Maintain expansion gaps at all transitions.

### 6.3 Cabinets & Fixed Objects

- Do not install laminate flooring under fixed cabinets, kitchen islands, or heavy built-ins.
- Flooring must remain free-floating to allow natural movement.

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## 7. Post-Installation

- Remove spacers and install baseboards or moldings to cover expansion gaps (do not fasten moldings to the flooring).
- Clean the floor using a dry or slightly damp microfiber mop.
- Furniture may be placed after installation; use protective pads under legs.



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## 8. Important Notices

- Failure to follow these installation instructions may result in damage and may void warranty coverage.
- Installer is responsible for ensuring subfloor conditions and proper installation practices.
- Slight variations in color and texture are natural and not considered defects.

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## 9. Additional Support

For technical assistance, installation guidance, or product inquiries, please contact our customer service team.