



DIAMONDLIVING HARDWOOD HDF CORE FLOORS INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PRE INSTALLATION GUIDE:

A. WHERE CAN THE FLOORING BE INSTALLED?

Install [DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING](#) in most rooms and most grade levels ONLY IF PROPER PREPARATION IS USED AND AREA MEETS MOISTURE TEST REQUIREMENTS.

B. KITCHEN, BATHROOM OR LAUNDRY FLOORS ARE NOT OK:

Do not install [DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING](#) in areas of excessive moisture.

PREPARATION OF FLOOR:

Install [DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING](#) on concrete, ceramic tile, terrazzo, marble or stone sub-floors that are smooth, level and well bonded. [DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING](#) may also be installed on wood or wood product sub-floors that are clean, well bonded and smooth.

[DO NOT INSTALL OVER CARPET OR ANY CUSHIONED BACKED PRODUCT. DO NOT INSTALL OVER ANY PRODUCT THAT IS NOT PROPERLY ADHERED.](#)

1. Sub-floors [MUST BE CLEAN, DRY, LEVEL, AND WELL BONDED.](#)
2. Remove all existing trim throughout the room.
3. Measure the door clearance. If the door will not clear the floor, the door must be trimmed to fit from the bottom.
4. Install plastic sheeting on sub-floors. Always use moisture barrier plastic sheeting on any below grade floor and on all concrete floors. Overlap the plastic sheet 6-8 inches and tape the plastic sheeting with 2 inch plastic or clear vinyl tape.
5. Use 1/4" spacers to maintain the proper expansion gap around the entire perimeter of the floor. In large rooms, a 1/2" expansion gap may be preferred. **IMPORTANT:** this 1/4" gap must be maintained around cabinets, pipes, toilet flanges and any other obstacles in floor.

6. Always work from left to right. Planks should run lengthwise against the longest wall, and if possible, parallel to incoming sunlight.
7. Always install tongue side facing wall.
8. A laminate approved UNDERLAYMENT MUST be laid down prior to applying [DiamondLiving HDF Hardwood Flooring](#).

Sub-Floors:

- ◆ Test floor for excessive moisture before installing over concrete, vinyl tile, concrete covered with ceramic tile, marble, stone, or linoleum. To do so, cut 3' x 3' squares of polyethylene plastic (one plastic square for every 200 sq. ft. of floor space). Spread plastic around different areas of the subfloor for a more accurate evaluation. Firmly tape down all edges of the plastic sealing them directly to the existing subfloor. Leave plastic down for 24 to 48 hours. If moisture forms under the plastic or if the cement darkens, perform a Calcium Chloride Moisture Emissions Test. The maximum allowable reading is 5lbs./1000 sq. ft./24 hours.
- ◆ Concrete Sub-Floors – use minimum 6-mil polyethylene (plastic) sheeting as a vapor barrier. Roll out the plastic, overlapping the seam area 6 to 8 inches and tape the seamed with a 2" clear plastic sealing tape.
- ◆ Wood Sub-Floors – no additional plastic vapor barrier should be installed.

INSTALLATION:

- ◆ Begin the installation in the left-hand corner. Place the plank a minimum of ¼" from the left wall. Use spacers throughout all perimeter areas to insure the correct expansion space is maintained. **(a)**
- ◆ Place the second plank tight against the short end of the first plank. **(b)**
- ◆ Fold down into the locked position with a single movement. **(c)**
- ◆ Place the final plank face down with the short side towards the wall. The remaining expansion space should be at least a minimum of ¼" from the wall. Draw a pencil line where the plank is to be cut. **(d)**
- ◆ Place the plank face down on the work surface and cut to size with a power saw. If you are using a hand saw, use a fine-toothed blade and cut the planks face up. **(e)**
- ◆ Begin the second row. The first and last planks in the rows should have a minimum length of 24 inches. **(g)**
- ◆ The minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows shall not be less than 24 inches. **(g)**

- ◆ Connect the planks in the following rows by aligning the end seam of each 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, rotate the plank down into the locked position. **(h)**
- ◆ The distance to the walls can be adjusted when three rows are completed. **(i)** Remember to place the flooring a minimum of ¼” from all walls or other vertical obstructions such as cabinets, pipes, or columns. **(j)**
- ◆ In areas such as a doorjamb or cabinet kick base where planks cannot be angled to lock into place, use a wood chisel to remove the locking ridge from the bottom of the plank groove. Apply a 1/8” bead of tongue and groove adhesive to the bottom groove and gently tap the plank into place using a pull bar and hammer. Next, apply enough strips of painter’s tape across this seam to hold the joint securely in place until the adhesive sets. Using a clean, soft cloth, carefully clean up any excess adhesive on the surface of the planks. **(k)**
- ◆ On the first and/or last row where there is no polymer tongue on the short side, glue the joint with Clear Elmer’s glue where they join on the short end. **(l)**

DISASSEMBLY:

Your floor can be disassembled very easily, enabling replacement during installation and also during use. **(m)** Disassemble the panels by sliding them apart horizontally at the end seams. **(DO NOT FOLD CONNECTED PLANKS UPWARDS!)** **(n)**

RADIATOR PIPES:

- ◆ Drill the holes ¾” larger than the diameter of the pipes. **(o)**
- ◆ Remove all spacers.
- ◆ Install molding and transition pieces. Attach wood color coordinated molding or your desired trim and transition pieces using nails, screws or adhesive. **NEVER ATTACH ANY MOLDING USING NAILS, SCREWS OR GLUE DIRECTLY TO DIMAONDLIVING FLOORING!**

CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

- ◆ **REGULAR CARE AND MAINTENANCE:** Regular cleaning and sweeping of sand and dirt will be required to maintain your new DiamondLiving flooring surface.
- ◆ **DAMP MOP ONLY: NO EXCESSIVE WATER:** Avoid mopping the surface with excessive water, use only a slightly damp mop or cloth. **DO NOT** flood the floor with water. Remove any excess water immediately with a mop or cloth.
- ◆ **SPILLS:** Remove all spills immediately. Use a dry or damp cloth to wipe the surface clean and allow to dry.
CAUTION: FLOOR SURFACE IS VERY SLIPPERY WHEN WET. ALLOW TO DRY BEFORE WALKING ON SURFACE.
- ◆ **MOPPING:** Mopping the floor with **DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING** approved products will protect the surface. Never use excessive water or harsh detergents or cleaners of any type on the floor. Never use wax or mop-shine products on the floor.
- ◆ **CLEANING:** Use **DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING** approved products to maintain your floor. Other approved hardwood floor cleaners can be used. Consult an approved dealer for instructions. Do not use harsh cleaners or abrasive cleaning products to clean **DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING**.
- ◆ **FURNITURE:**
 1. **NEVER SLIDE FURNITURE OR OTHER HEAVY ITEMS ACROSS FLOOR.**
Always protect the floor surface when moving items across the floor.
 2. **NEVER PLACE HEAVY OBJECTS ON THE FLOOR WITHOUT "FLOOR PROTECTORS".**
 3. **NEVER PLACE HEAVY FURNITURE ON FLOOR FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME WITHOUT FLOOR PROTECTORS. AVOID HARD ROLLING CASTERS. USE FLOOR PROTECTOR PADS FOR ROLLING CHAIRS.**
- ◆ **HOT ITEMS:** **NEVER** place "**HOT ITEMS**" on the floor surface.
- ◆ **PETS:** Clean up pet waste immediately as it is harmful to your **DIAMONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING**.

MAINTENANCE TIPS:

- ◆ Place door mats in all doorways to reduce dirt and moisture.
- ◆ Wipe up all moisture spills immediately.
- ◆ Clean the floor often.
- ◆ Do not use excessive water.
- ◆ Do not use heavy cleaners, soaps, or detergents.

USE DIMAONDLIVING HDF HARDWOOD FLOORING APPROVED PRODUCTS FOR LONG LASTING PERFORMANCE AND BEAUTY.