

Installation Instruction

EGGER Floor Products Laminate floors
with gluefree system profile JUST *clic!*



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1. Inspection responsibility

Laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products is produced in precise working steps in one of the most modern production sites. Half-finished, as well as finished products, will be constantly and strictly controlled.

Despite our strict quality controls, damages on single panels can occur, i.e. transportation damages. Always check the panels before and during the installation.

Attention! Laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products is not suitable for installations in wet rooms such as bathrooms, saunas or in similar rooms.

2. Sub floor requirements

2.1 All sub floors must be prepared for installation in accordance with normal sub floor preparation procedures and accepted tolerances within the flooring industry.

2.2 Before installing laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products there are the following points to consider:

Moisture test

The test will be carried out using a CM-device and should not exceed the following moisture level:

- ◆ for cement based concrete 2%CM
- ◆ for anhydrite concrete 0.5%CM

In North America, the maximum level of moisture allowed for concrete sub floors should not exceed 5 lb. / 1000 ft² / 24 hours measured with the Calcium Chloride Test Method according to ASTM F1869-98.

Evenness test

Evenness requirements are based on industrial typical standards.

Maximum tolerance of 4 mm per / m (1/8" per three ft).

Load capacity

The sub floor has to be a closed and self supporting surface.

Cleanness test

The sub floor has to be in a clean and vacuumed condition.

Test the climate condition in the room where the laminate flooring will be installed.

The following conditions should be fulfilled before, during and after the installation:

- ◆ a room temperature of a minimum of 18°C (64°F)
- ◆ a floor surface temperature of a minimum of 15°C (59°F)
- ◆ a relative humidity between 40% and 70%

3. Sub floors

3.1 Laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products installed as a floating flooring configuration can be installed on all sub floors which meet the above described requirements. Here are some examples:

- ◆ all types of concrete sub floors, including hot water radiant sub floor systems
- ◆ particle board sub floor constructions
- ◆ fibreboard sub floor constructions
- ◆ existing flooring surfaces such as PVC, linoleum, natural stone slab, ceramic tiles

3.2 Unsuitable sub floors are: textile surfaces = carpets

3.3 Limited suitable sub floors are: electrical radiant sub floor heating systems (controlled through the surface temperature)

Explanation and limitation for the use of electrical radiant sub floor heating system:

Basically, an electrical radiant sub floor heating system is an approved sub floor type only if the heating element is installed within the concrete or other sub floors and not installed as a foil heating element on top of the concrete or other sub floors.

Attention! The surface temperature may never exceed 28°C (83°F)!

Electrical radiant sub floor heating systems installed as a foil heating element may be used only if the manufacturer of the heating element can ensure that the surface temperature never exceeds 28°C (83°F).

3.4 Please note the following rules for the different sub floor types:

3.4.1 Concrete sub floors

If the laminate flooring system is installed over a concrete sub floor, you have to consider that possible rest moisture in the sub floor will seep to the surface of the sub floor. Based on the afore mentioned reason it is always necessary to install a 0.2 mm (8 mil) polyethylene film as a moisture barrier over concrete sub floors, except for mastic asphalt. The film needs to be overlapped by 200 mm (8") at least.

3.4.2 Concrete with hot water radiant heating systems

To ensure that radiant heating systems will work properly for many years to come, it is essential to plan and coordinate the different elements of the flooring construction (concrete – radiant heating system – laminate flooring).

All existing floor surfaces need to be removed prior to the installation of the new laminate flooring.

In addition to the standard sub floor tests it is necessary to provide a certificate that the proper “heating-up and cooling-down phases” have been done. A correct heating-up and cooling-down of the concrete construction will be necessary in every season of the year.

The heating-up and cooling-down phase:

- Start of the heating-up phase at the earliest 21 days after the cement based concrete has been installed, according to the manufacturer for anhydrite concrete but not before 7 days.
- Start the heating-up phase with a flow temperature of 25°C (77°F) which has to remain constant for three days.
- Increase the flow temperature daily by 5°C (9°F) up to the maximum flow temperature.
- Maintain the maximum flow temperature for three days without switching off the heater during the night.
- After three days reduce the flow temperature daily by 10°C (18°F) until you reach a surface temperature of 18°C (64°F).
- During, and three days after, the installation of the laminate flooring panels maintain a surface temperature of 18°C (64°F).
- Three days after the installation you can start to slowly increase the flow temperature.

Attention! The surface temperature may never exceed 28°C (83°F)!

It is always necessary to install a 0.2 mm (8 mil) polyethylene film as a moisture barrier underneath the underlay.

3.4.3 Natural stone slab and ceramic tiles

You may have to consider that any moisture remaining in the sub floor will seep to the surface of the sub floor and therefore an installation of a moisture barrier is required.

3.4.4 Particle and fibreboards

To improve the subsonic noise a sound proof underlay is recommended.

Do not install a moisture barrier.

3.4.5 Hardwood flooring boards

Screw down loose boards.

To improve the subsonic noise a sound proof underlay is recommended.

Do not install a moisture barrier.

A sufficient ventilation system in the sub floor construction is necessary.

The laminate flooring has to be installed cross wise to the wooden boards.

3.4.6 Elastic flooring surfaces

On these kinds of flooring surfaces you don't need a moisture barrier because the elastic flooring works as a moisture barrier.

To improve the subsonic noise a sound proof underlay is recommended.

4. Installation preparations

4.1 Acclimatisation of the panels

Before starting the installation the laminate flooring has to be brought into the room where it will be installed or in a room with the same climate condition.

The acclimatisation will be carried out as following:

- ◆ in sealed unopened boxes
- ◆ for a time period of at least 48 hours
- ◆ flat laying with at least 50 cm (20") distance to the walls
- ◆ at a room temperature of at least 18°C (64°F)
- ◆ at a floor surface temperature of a minimum of 15°C (59°F)
- ◆ at a relative humidity between 40% and 70%

4.2 Installation direction

Laminate flooring looks its best when the laminate flooring panels are installed parallel to the light coming in through the windows. The only required installation direction is if you install laminate flooring over hardwood flooring boards. In this case you have to install the laminate flooring at a 90 degree angle to the existing hardwood flooring boards.

4.3 Planning the first row

After determining the best layout of the flooring and the starting wall, measure the width of the room and divide it by the width of the laminate flooring panels to determine the number of rows and the width of the last row. If the last row is determined to be less than 5 cm (2") wide, it should be adjusted by cutting the first row lengthwise.

4.4 Planning of expansion gaps

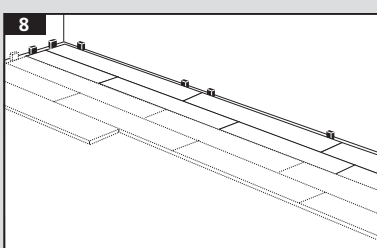
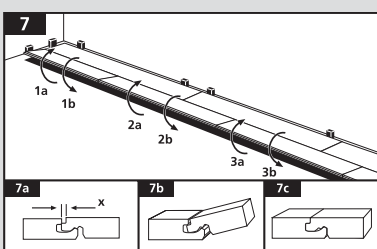
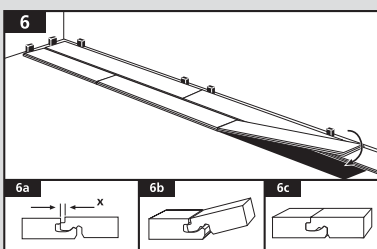
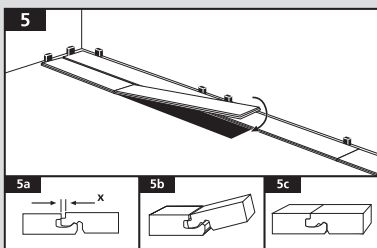
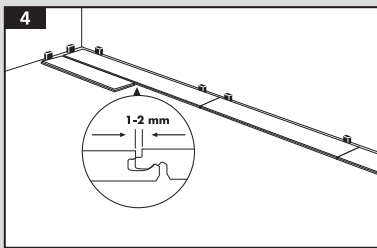
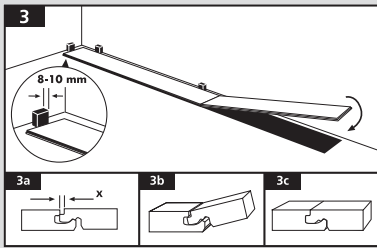
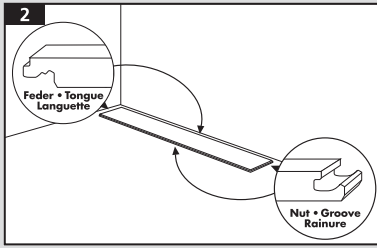
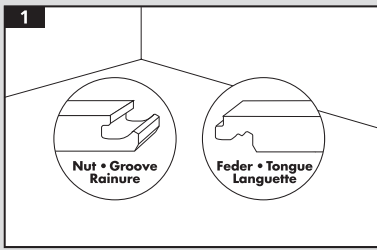
Since laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products is made of organic materials, it is subject to certain movement behaviors (shrinkage/expansion) due to changes in climate conditions. Through adequate expansion gaps to all parts of structures, the flooring will be able to shrink.

It is necessary to leave gaps of 8 mm to 10 mm (1/3" to 2/5") for the expansion in all parts of the structure i.e. walls, door frames, stairs, around pipes, ...

4.5 Planning of transition mouldings

Through the shrinkage and expansion behavior of laminate flooring you have to install transition mouldings in the following areas:

- ◆ at all door throughways
- ◆ at all passage ways
- ◆ angular rooms
- ◆ single room length and/or with more than 10 m (33 ft)



5. The Installation

Check all panels for possible damages/defects. Ensure you understand the difference between the tongue and the groove on the panel. Begin installing the first row from the left-hand corner of the room with both tongue sides of the panels pointing towards the wall. Place spacers between the edges of the flooring panels and the walls to provide the correct space for expansion. Connect the second panel to the first by placing the interlocking end of the new panel at an angle to the previously installed panel and then lower it into a horizontal position to lock.

Mark the last panel in the first row to the required length (place tongue to tongue) and cut. Start the second row with the off cut from the last panel of the first row. Always make sure the off cut is at least 200 mm (8") long, if not then cut another piece which is greater than 200mm long. Start all subsequent rows with the off cut piece from the previous row.

Attention! Ensure all the short ends are staggered at least 200 mm (8"). If you install panels with a bevelled edge and/or you want to achieve a special pattern (e.g. checkerboard with tiles), please make sure that you stagger the short ends according to the bevel and/or your pattern idea.

When the first row has been installed, start the second row with the off cut piece from the first row or with a panel which has been cut to follow the course of the bevel and/or to achieve a special flooring pattern. Place the tongue of this piece on the lower protruding lip of the first panel of the first row and connect all other panels of this row with their short sides – as described above – until you have arranged the complete row. Afterwards all short sides of the panels in this row are adjusted and connected with each other. Slightly raise the first panel or panel section and connect its long edge with the first row. Continue to do so until you have connected the whole row with the previously laid row. Pay attention that the panels are not displaced along the short sides.

You can now continue to lay board after board, row after row.

In order to mark the last row of boards for scribing, take the new board and place it exactly on top of the row before last. Using an off cut of a board (element width + edge joint width) it is possible to transfer the wall profile to the board within a pre-chosen distance.

5.1 Installation in commercial areas – WITH GLUE (For products suitable regarding the classification 31, 32 and 33.)

In commercial areas you have to anticipate additional exposure to moisture. Therefore additional sealing with the specially designed E.F.P. Strip EX sealing glue is recommended in these areas. Apply the Strip EX sealing glue to the top of the tongue on the short and long edge. The glue should ooze out along the complete long and short edge after the panels have been connected together. It is easy to remove excess sealing glue from the surface either immediately or after a short drying period.

Attention! Make sure that there is no gap in the flooring joints under the sealing glue.



5.2 Fitting around pipes

1. Measure the position of the pipes and mark it on the panel – consider also the expansion gap (Fig. 1).
2. Take measurements from the spacers into account. Drill a hole of 16 mm (5/8") bigger than the pipe diameter - expansion provision (Fig. 2).
3. Saw at a 45 degree angle to the holes (Fig. 3).
4. Apply glue to the sawn out piece and fit in with the pull bar (Fig. 4).
Again, do not forget the spacers.



5.3 Door jamb installation

If you have a wooden door jamb, we recommend undercutting the wooden door jamb according to the thickness of the flooring plus the possible underlay. Install the flooring now underneath the door jamb – leave the necessary expansion gaps.

In the case of completing your installation underneath a door jamb, we recommend that you remove the locking part of the protruding groove of the pre-installed panel with a utility knife or a pocket plane. The newly layed panel can now be pushed horizontally over the groove of the previously layed panel. Use "Strip-EX sealing-glue" from EGGER Floor Products on top of the tongue to secure the connection.

If you have a door jamb which cannot be shortened, e.g. metal door jamb, we recommend that you cover the expansion gaps with mouldings or fill them with elastic acrylic sealants.



5.4 Transition and wall mouldings

After a correct installation of the laminate flooring, install the transition moulding as well as wall moulding. A short installation guide for the uncomplicated installation of the moulding is included with the accessories.

6. Cleaning and care

- ◆ Use door mats (or rugs) in the entrance area in order to keep away coarse dirt, grit and stones from the floor.
- ◆ Attach felt floor protectors to the legs of chairs and tables and all other easily moveable furniture.
- ◆ When moving heavy furniture, lift it, do not drag it across the floor.
- ◆ Use only roles of type W (soft) for castor chairs.
- ◆ Remove immediately any water spillage or other liquid from the floor.
- ◆ Do not clean the floor with vapour cleaners.
- ◆ Do not wet wash the floor ➔ a well squeezed damp cloth is sufficient.
- ◆ Never use abrasives on laminate flooring.
- ◆ Do not use residue building cleaning products (we recommend our laminate flooring cleaner "Clean it!" from EGGER Floor Products).
- ◆ Do not wax or polish your floor.
- ◆ Do not seal the floor with any additional sealants.

A detailed cleaning instruction, as well as a warranty card, are available at your local flooring dealer.

In the unlikely event of the hardwearing laminate flooring panel being damaged, there are several options for a repair. Provided that the damaged area is relatively small, it can be treated using a special material designed specifically for repairing the laminate flooring from EGGER Floor Products which is available as part of our accessories.

If the damage is more serious, a professional installer will be able to replace an entire panel. For more information please contact your local distributor.

For special installation techniques, i.e. installation on stairs or for at any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact your local distributor or visit our web site at www.egger.com/floorproducts.

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