

# LAMINATE FLOORING DO'S & DON'TS *Tips and Maintenance*

## INSTALLATIONS

### **DO: LEVEL YOUR SUBFLOOR PRIOR TO INSTALLATION**

Sand high points and fill low spots. An uneven subfloor makes assembly difficult, forces seams to open up and leads to premature wear.

### **DO: USE A POLY VAPOUR BARRIER**

A must over concrete or radiant heat and strongly recommended above grade as inexpensive protection against moisture penetration from below.

### **DO: LEAVE A PROPER EXPANSION GAP DURING INSTALLATION**

All wood products expand and contract with changes in humidity. If the floor cannot move safely beneath mouldings, walls or door jambs then it will heave itself up from the subfloor.

### **DON'T: TAP ON THE GROOVE DURING INSTALLATION**

Use a proper knock block on the **TONGUE SIDE ONLY** to avoid chipping the wear surface.

### **DO: USE LAMINATE FLOORING GLUE IN HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS**

Glue keeps joints tighter and helps prevent water from seeping into the seams.

### **DO: INSPECT EACH PIECE PRIOR TO INSTALLATION**

Grading rules for all types of flooring include a 5% allowance for manufacturing defects. Flawed pieces can be trimmed or used in out-of-sight locations such as closets. If a consistent problem is noticed, please suspend the installation until the supplying dealer has been consulted.

## MAINTENANCE

### **DO: SWEEP OR VACUUM YOUR FLOOR REGULARLY TO REMOVE ABRASIVE GRIT**

Use liquid cleaners only as required to remove smudges. Overuse of liquid cleaner may result in a residual buildup that will detract from the appearance of the floor.

### **DO: USE A CLEANER FORMULATED FOR LAMINATE FLOORS**

Cleaners containing water will cause the joints of the floor to swell and may cause the finish to become cloudy. Cleaners containing ammonia will damage the finish.

### **DO: USE PROTECTOR PADS ON FURNITURE LEGS AND MATS IN HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS.**

While laminate flooring is more scratch resistant than other types of wood flooring it is **NOT SCRATCH PROOF**.

### **DON'T: APPLY ANY CLEANER DIRECTLY ONTO THE FLOOR.**

This will result in liquid penetrating into the seams. Instead, spray a small amount of cleaner onto a cloth or mop and then wipe the area being cleaned, making sure no excess cleaner remains on the floor.

### **DON'T: WET MOP YOUR FLOOR**

Wood and water don't mix. A slightly damp cloth is usually all that's needed to wipe smudges.



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