

CALI[®] hardwoods



Whiskey & Wine: Spiced Wine

Installation Guide

(888) 788-2254
CALIFloors.com

CALI Hardwoods T&G Planks and Accessories

P.A.C.E. and Pre-Installation

Pages 3 - 7

Installation Guide: Nail Down + Glue Assist

Pages 8

Installation Guide: Nail Down

Page 9

Installation Guide: Glue Down

Page 10

Post-Installation Care & Maintenance

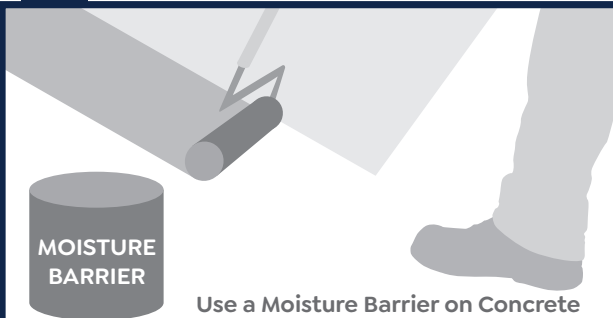
Page 12-13

CALI Hardwoods T&G Collections	Length	Width	Thickness
Barrel	Random Length up to 74 ³ / ₄ "	7 ¹ / ₂ "	¹ / ₂ "
First Press	Random Length up to 86 ³ / ₄ "	9 ¹ / ₂ "	¹ / ₂ "
Varietals	Random Length up to 74 ³ / ₄ "	7 ¹ / ₂ "	¹ / ₂ "
Whiskey & Wine	Random Length up to 74 ³ / ₄ "	8 ³ / ₄ "	¹ / ₂ "
Cellar	Random Length up to 82 ³ / ₄ "	8"	¹ / ₂ "
Meritage	Random Length up to 86 ³ / ₄ "	9 ¹ / ₂ "	9/16"
Reserve	Random Length up to 74 ³ / ₄ "	6 ¹ / ₂ "	3/8"

T&G Hardwoods Installation

Before you begin installation, remember to P.A.C.E. yourself with the checklist below. Full installation instructions and maintenance guidelines can also be found online at www.CALIFloors.com

PACE PREPARE THE SUBFLOOR

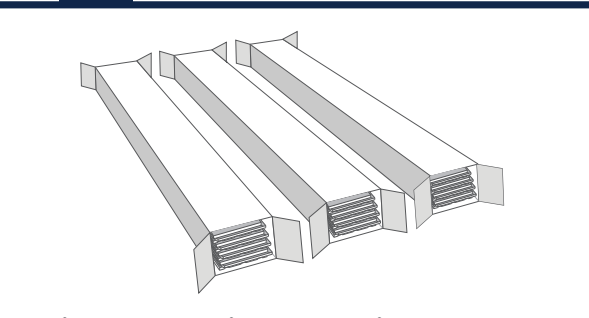


MOISTURE BARRIER

Use a Moisture Barrier on Concrete

The subfloor must be dry, fully cured and free of hydrostatic pressure. See instructions below regarding moisture testing your subfloor. A moisture barrier such as Titebond 531 over concrete may be necessary, or CALI Complete underlayment for floated floors. Make sure the subfloor is flat, level, clean and free of debris. *CALI is not responsible for adhesive failures or floor failures due to improper subfloor prep.*

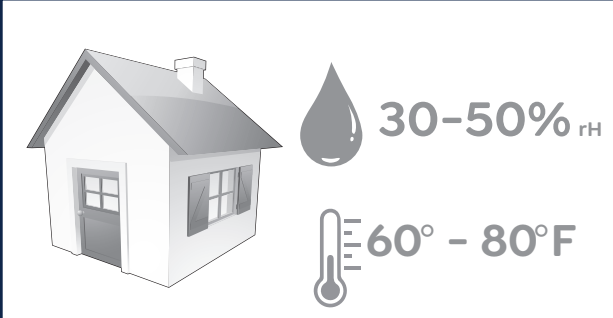
PACE ACCLIMATE FLOORING



Acclimate Your Engineered Flooring for 72 Hours

For Engineered flooring, lay boxes on the floor and only open box ends as shown above. Acclimate your floor as close to the installation area as possible for 72 hours in normal living conditions.

PACE CONTROL ENVIRONMENT



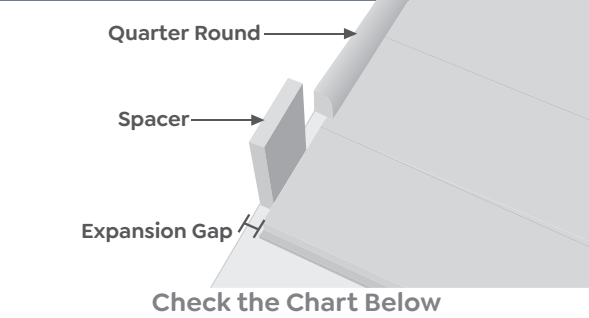
30-50% rH

60° - 80°F

Engineered flooring can be used in areas ranging from 30% to 50% relative humidity.

Engineered flooring can be used in temperatures ranging from 60° to 80° degrees.

PACE EXPANSION GAPS



Check the Chart Below

All hardwood requires expansion space between flooring and ALL vertical objects (walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.) Large flooring runs may require additional expansion space. For floating floors, use transition moldings between rooms and doorways 3ft. or less. Undercut door jambs and casing to provide adequate expansion space. Do not screw or nail cabinetry or other permanent fixtures to a floating floor. Check the chart below for the appropriate expansion space of your floor.

Collection	Expansion Space	Installation
Meritage	5/8"	Glue, Nail with Glue Assist
Cellar	1/2"	Glue, Nail with Glue Assist
Whiskey & Wine	1/2"	Glue, Nail with Glue Assist
Barrel First Press	1/2"	Glue, Nail with Glue Assist
Barrel	1/2"	Float with T&G Glue, Glue, Nail, Nail with Glue Assist
Barrel Varietals	1/2"	Float with T&G Glue, Glue, Nail, Nail with Glue Assist
Reserve	1/2"	Float with T&G Glue, Glue, Nail, Nail with Glue Assist

This P.A.C.E. guide does not cover all installation requirements. Refer to the guide below for comprehensive steps.

Pre-Installation

Proper installation and maintenance are key to achieving best flooring results. It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to follow all guidelines provided by CALI for success. **Please read through this document completely.** Additional installation materials such as videos, illustrations and more can be found at www.CALIfloors.com.

Important Pre-Installation Notes

Note: Flooring not used for its intended purpose will not be covered under warranty.

The following information provided by CALI is intended to serve as general guide and may not cover all site specific situations. Please read CALI's installation, maintenance and warranty documentation carefully, prior to installation.

CALI offers in house technical support as a courtesy to our customers. Consult with one of our flooring experts for answers to your specific installation questions.

Contact us by email: customerservice@CALIfloors.com; or by phone: 1(866) 799-1006 ext. 1.

- Select the installation method that best suits your project. Confirm with the chart on page 3 for the appropriate installation method for your floor.
- Order an additional 8% to account for cutting waste (5%) and grading (3%).
- CALI flooring meets industry standards. If you find that more than 5% of your order is unusable, do not install and contact your retailer immediately. Installation constitutes acceptance of the product; claims will not be accepted for visible defects after installation.
- Installer/homeowner is responsible for inspecting all flooring before installation. Set aside or cut boards with visible defects. Touch-ups with putty, filler, or markers are standard practice
- Wood naturally varies in color and grain. To achieve a uniform appearance, work from multiple cartons, mix planks during layout, and blend moldings accordingly. Natural variation is not covered under warranty.
- Installer/ homeowner is responsible for ensuring all jobsite, subfloor, and environmental conditions are suitable. CALI is not responsible for failures related to these conditions.
- Wood flooring is naturally is hygroscopic and will expand or contract with moisture changes. Maintain indoor conditions between 60 to 80F and 30% to 50% humidity. Proper acclimation and moisture control are essential for performance.
- Suitable for above, on or below grade installations. Glue-down is highly recommended for all below grade installations.



Job Site Preparation

Prior to installation, it is the installer's responsibility to determine that the jobsite, environment and subfloor conditions all meet the requirements outlined in this guideline.

During installation, it is the installer's responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, flooring moisture content, site relative humidity, temperature, and subfloor moisture content.

Delivering to Jobsite:

- Building must be enclosed with windows & doors
- Cement, plastering and other wet work must be completed
- Confirm consistent room temperature has been achieved
- Confirm proper drainage exists around the structure
- Permanent HVAC should be on and operational at least 5 days prior to installation
- If HVAC is not available prior or at time of installation, environmental conditions should be between 60-80 degrees and at the average yearly relative humidity of home
- Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause "hot spots" which must be eliminated prior to installation.

Acclimation & Conditioning of CALI Flooring

Acclimation is required prior to installation. The goal is to allow the moisture content of the flooring to fully adjust to its new surroundings before installation.

- Acclimate flooring under the normal temperature and humidity expected in the building before, during and after installation.
- Operate HVAC systems normally and ensure proper ventilation during acclimation.
- Acclimate flooring in the center of the installation area (not near exterior walls, vents, or in extreme environments like garages) by opening box ends and removing shrinkwrap for 72 hours.
- Keep flooring in the boxes until planks are ready to be installed to avoid bowing.
- Surface checking (shallow cracks) can occur if the proper humidity levels or temperatures are not maintained after acclimation.

Important: Not properly acclimating wood flooring may cause excessive expansion, shrinkage, dimensional distortion or structural damage.

Subfloor Requirements

General:

- Subfloor must be structurally sound and meet all NWFA Guidelines.
- The subfloor must be flat to a tolerance of 3/16" within a 10' radius.
- The subfloor must be clean, thoroughly swept, and free of all debris, dust, oil, wax, old adhesive, paint, tape, etc.. The use of a chemical adhesive remover to remove substances from floor may affect adhesive bond.
- The subfloor must be dry. See instructions below regarding moisture testing for your subfloors.
- Do not install flooring directly over floor joist without proper subflooring.

Wood Subfloors:

- Must be securely fastened, must be rigid and free from movement. A best practice is to nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking.
- If leveling is needed, sand down high spots and fill in low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.
- Crawl spaces must have adequate ventilation and a minimum of 18" air space between the ground and the floor joists.
- A vapor retarder is recommended if installing above an unfinished space.

Appropriate Wood Subfloors Materials:

- CD Exposure 1 plywood (grade stamped US PS1-95)
- OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels (grade stamped US PS1-95)
- Solid-board subflooring should be $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $5\frac{1}{2}$ " (1" x 6" nominal), Group 1 dense softwoods, No. 2 Common, kiln dried

Joist System Spacing (inches on center)	Minimum Thickness Plywood	Minimum Thickness OSB
12" to 16"	5/8"	23/32"
16.1" to 19.2"	23/32"	23/32"
19.3" to 24"	7/8"	7/8"

Testing Wood Subfloor for Moisture:

- Use a wood moisture meter calibrated for the species being tested.
- Take a minimum of 20 moisture content readings per 1,000 square feet of the wooden subfloor, and an additional 4 per 100 square feet thereafter and average the results.
- If subfloor moisture is reading higher than 12% moisture, it is advised to find and correct the source of moisture intrusion before continuing installation.
- Installation should not occur until the flooring has reached equilibrium moisture content, and subfloor moisture levels are within approximately 2% of the flooring.

Concrete Subfloors:

- Concrete subfloors must be fully cured and at least 60 days old. 90 days old is preferable.
- If leveling is needed, grind down high spots and level low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.
- All on and below grade slabs must have confirmed and effective vapor retarder installed directly underneath the slab that meets the requirements of "ASTM E1745, Standard Specification for Water Vapor Retarders Used in Contact with Soil or Granular Fill under Concrete Slabs".

Testing Concrete for Moisture:

- Moisture content must be under 5lbs per 1,000 sq ft. per 24 hours using an anhydrous calcium chloride test according to ASTM F1869.
- If using ASTM F2170 in-situ probes, the RH must be less than 90% RH (relative humidity).
- Three tests should be conducted for areas up to 1,000 sq. ft. Perform one additional test for each additional 1,000 sq. ft. Always measure, record and keep your testing results.
- A moisture barrier such as Titebond 531 may be required to seal the concrete subfloor if the moisture content exceeds the limits noted above.
- A minimum of 6mil polythene is required for a floating installation.

Important: Engineered hardwood flooring is susceptible to moisture damage. Moisture intrusion from concrete (including hydrostatic pressure), flooding, plumbing leaks, or elevated alkalinity can cause issues such as cupping, warping, adhesive failure, or mold and mildew growth. Moisture may also become trapped beneath the flooring, leading to long-term performance failures.

The installer, not CALI, is responsible for ensuring that the subfloor moisture conditions are properly tested and within acceptable limits prior to installation. Failure to address excessive moisture or improper site conditions may result in flooring failure and is not considered a product defect.

Radiant Heat Systems

CALI flooring is only recommended for use over radiant heat systems if the special requirements specified by the National Wood Flooring Association are met (please refer to the NWFA's Radiant Heat Guidelines). Ensuring stable job site conditions, subfloor suitability and proper acclimation are especially important when installing over a radiant heat system. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure that the recommended environmental conditions are met for installation. Refer to your radiant heat system manufacturer to determine its compatibility with hardwood flooring, and to learn the specific requirements for installation.

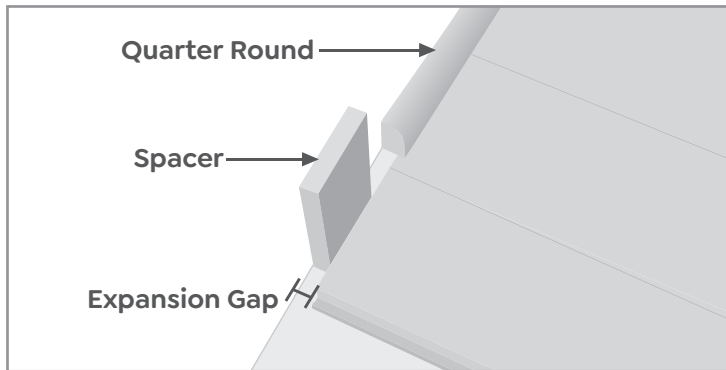
- Because of the wide variety of systems on the market (Hydronic, embedded in concrete, electrical wire/coil, heating film/mat), each with its own features and applications, it is recommended that the user consult with the radiant heating provider for best practices, installation methods and proper subfloors.
- Typically, the floating installation method is the most suitable for use with radiant heat systems.
- Radiant heat system must be turned on and in operation for at least 6 days before installation.
- The flooring must be acclimated per CALI's Engineered acclimation instruction over the radiant heat with the system turned on throughout the acclimation timeframe.
- The system must be turned down to 65°F and maintained 24 hours prior to installation.
- Once installation is complete, turn system back on and slowly bring back up to normal operating temperature over a period of 4-5 days.
- Floor should never be heated over 85°F. Consult with your radiant heating system manufacturer to successfully limit the maximum temperature.
- Always remember that rugs placed over radiant heated flooring can increase the surface temperature in that area by 3°- 5°F degrees.
- Relative Humidity must be maintained between 30-50%. The use of a humidifier may be necessary to achieve this.
- When turning off the radiant heat system it must be turned down slowly at a rate of 1.5° degrees per day. You should never just turn the system off.
- For additional information on radiant heating systems please refer to <http://www.radiantpanelassociation.org> or the NWFA's Radiant Heat Guidelines.

Note: Flooring styles with hickory veneers (such as Cured Hickory, Shaded Hickory, or Natural Hickory) cannot be installed with radiant heat. Damage caused by or resulting from installation of a flooring style with a hickory veneer over radiant heat systems is not covered under warranty.

Installation of CALI Flooring

Expansion Space Is Required

- Due to wood's natural expansion with moisture, always leave expansion space around all fixed vertical objects. (Confirm with chart shown on page 3)
- If installation area exceeds 30ft, increase expansion space by approximately 1/16" for every additional 10 feet
- Floating installations require the use of transition pieces in doorways and openings between rooms (halls, archways, etc) 3ft or less to allow separate areas to move without interference. Anticipate seasonal temperature and humidity fluctuation at time of installation by incorporating additional expansion space during low humid seasons.
- Undercut door casings and jambs, ensuring the floor has a 1/16" clearance underneath to allow for free movement. Remove existing baseboards and thresholds for replacement after installation.
- To cover expansion space, CALI carries color-coordinated accessories including reducers, t-moldings, and thresholds as well as a universal quarter round



Nail-Down + Glue Assist T&G Installation Method

This installation method is suitable for all collections on wood subfloors. Before you start, ensure that all conditions specified in CALI's installation guidelines have been met.

CALI requires nail-down with a glue assist for any of our floors that are 8" or wider. Confirm with the chart on page 3 whether your flooring requires nail-down installation with a glue assist

Recommended Tools

The selection and use of any nailer or stapler is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner. Use a tool specifically designed for tongue-and-groove flooring. CALI recommends PowerNail 50p flex, 50F, Primatch or similar for nailers, and Powernail 501/502 series, Primatch PT-SW50, Bostitch MIIIFS50-1 or equivalent for staplers. Installers must determine correct pressure/setting and ensure nails or staples are properly seated. Dimpling of the flooring face or edge is not a manufacturing defect.

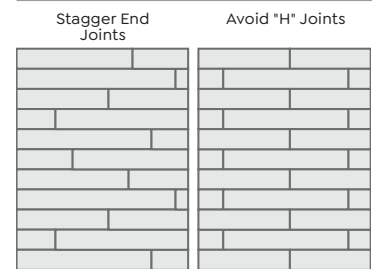
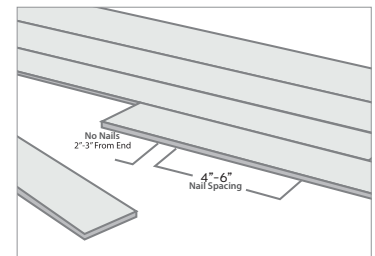
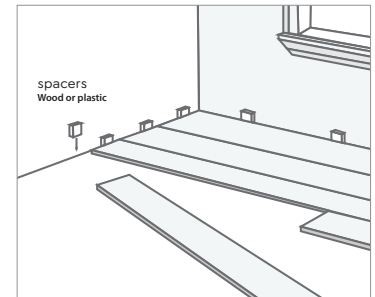
- Pneumatic 18-gauge tongue-and-groove flooring nailer or stapler
- Flooring adhesive
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Wood or plastic spacers
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Use 1-1/2" to 1-3/4" long, 18 gauge cleats or 18 gauge stapler
- Earplugs & safety glasses
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- Chalk Line
- Hammer
- Table Saw

Nail-Down Installation Steps

1. Use a high-grade urethane or MS polymer adhesive for best performance.
2. Install flooring perpendicular to floor joists.
3. Maintain required expansion space at all perimeters and vertical obstructions; use appropriate spacers during installation.
4. Dry lay several rows to confirm the layout plan before installation.
5. Test the air pressure and angle of the pneumatic nailer or stapler using a sample plank. Adjust as necessary to prevent surface dimpling, tongue damage, or improper fastener placement.
6. Begin installation next to an exterior wall to establish a straight working line (center starts are recommended for professional installers only).
7. The starter row will be secured using adhesive and face nailing. Subsequent rows will not require face nailing.
8. Apply adhesive using one of the following methods: serpentine pattern, parallel stripes, lengthwise stripes, or end-to-end grooves on the planks. If applying adhesive directly to the subfloor, spread only enough adhesive to install 2-3 rows at a time.
9. Connect the short edges of subsequent planks to complete the first row.
10. Cut the final plank to complete the row. Use the remaining plank piece to start the next row, provided it is at least 8" long.
11. Offset end joints of consecutive rows by a minimum of 8 inches for best appearance and stability.
12. Nail or staple each row after gluing, ensuring fastener heads are seated in the tongue pocket only deep enough to allow a tight fit with the adjacent plank.
13. The second row will be secured by using adhesive and blind nailing 1"-2" from the end joints and every 6" thereafter.
14. Continue the second row by connecting the short edges first, then tap the long edges together.
15. After the first two rows are secured, start the next row by nailing directly above the tongue at a 45 degree angle.
16. Fasten planks every 4-6 inches along the length of the board and 2-3 inches from each end.
17. As with previous rows, connect the short edges first, then tap the long edges together using a pull bar if necessary.
18. Check alignment frequently to ensure rows remain straight throughout installation.
19. Rip cut planks as needed to fit the final row.
20. Secure the final row in the same manner as the starter row using adhesive and appropriate face nailing.

After Installation

- Always remove any adhesive from the surface of the flooring (smudges, fingerprints, etc.) before it dries. Use Titebond's Adhesive Remover or Bostik's Ultimate Adhesive Remover Towels to immediately remove any adhesive on flooring surface as you go.
- Allow the newly installed floor to fully cure based on adhesive recommendations before walking or moving furniture onto the floor.
- Use wood filler or putty to fill any nail holes or to correct minor flooring damage if any occurred during install.



Serpentine (Sine-Wave) Pattern



Parallel Stripes Pattern



Ends and Grooves Pattern



Lengthwise Parallel Stripes Pattern



Nail-Down T&G Installation Method

Confirm with the chart on page 3 if this is an acceptable installation method for your flooring. This install is only suitable for a wood subfloor. Before you start, ensure that all conditions specified in CALI's installation guidelines have been met.

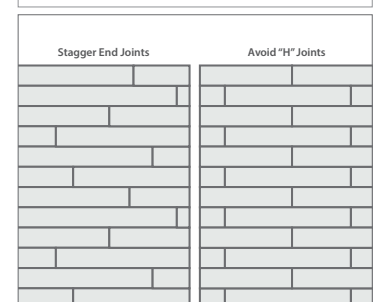
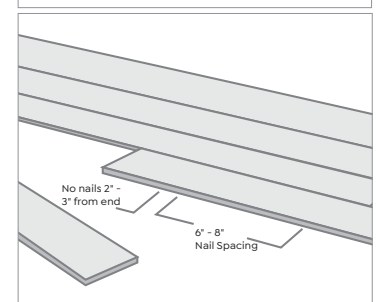
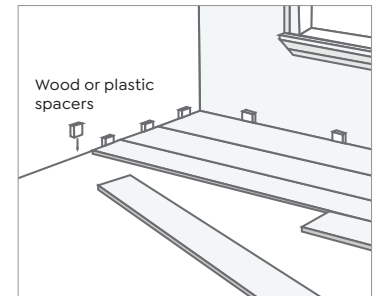
Recommended Tools

The selection and use of any nailer or stapler is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner. Use a tool specifically designed for tongue-and-groove flooring. CALI recommends PowerNail 50p flex, 50F, Primatch or similar for nailers, and Pownail 501/502 series, Primatch PT-SW50, Bostitch MIIIFS50-1 or equivalent for staplers. Installers must determine correct pressure/setting and ensure nails or staples are properly seated. Dimpling of the flooring face or edge is not a manufacturing defect.

- Pneumatic 18-gauge tongue-and-groove flooring nailer or 18-gauge cleats or 18-gauge crown staples
- Underlayment (see "Moisture Barrier Requirements")
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Wood or plastic spacers
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Earplugs & safety glasses
- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- Hammer
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Use 1-1/2" to 1-3/4" long,
- 18-gauge cleats or 18-gauge narrow crown staple

Nail-Down Installation Steps

1. The use of a vapor retarder designed for wood subfloors may be necessary (see "Moisture Barrier Requirements").
2. Install flooring perpendicular to the floor joists.
3. Maintain the required expansion space at all perimeters and vertical obstructions; use appropriate spacers during installation. (Confirm with chart above).
4. Dry lay several rows to confirm the layout plan before installation.
5. Test the air pressure and angle of the pneumatic nailer using a sample plank. Adjust as necessary to prevent surface dimpling, tongue damage, or improper fastener placement.
6. Measure the room to avoid ending with a final row less than 3" wide. Rip the starter row if necessary to balance the first and last rows.
7. Begin installation next to an exterior wall to establish a straight working line.
8. The starter row will be secured using adhesive and face nailing. Subsequent rows will not require face nailing.
9. Connect the short edges of subsequent planks to complete the first row.
10. Cut the final plank to complete the row. Use the remaining plank to start the second row, provided it is at least 8" long.
11. Offset end joints of consecutive rows by a minimum of 8 inches for best appearance and stability.
12. The second row will be secured by using adhesive and blind nailing 1"-2" from the end joints and every 6" thereafter.
13. Continue the second row by connecting the short edges first, then tap the long edges together.
14. Ensure fastener heads are seated cleanly in the tongue pocket only deep enough to allow the adjacent plank to fit properly.
15. Recommended fastener schedule is every 6-8 inches along the length of each board. For planks 7-1/4" wide or greater, tighten the schedule to every 4-6 inches.
16. Avoid fastening closer than 2-3 inches from the ends of each plank.
17. As with previous rows, connect the short edges first, then tap the long edges together using a pull bar if necessary.
18. Check alignment frequently to ensure rows remain straight throughout installation.
19. Rip cut planks as needed to fit the final row.
20. Secure the final rows in the same manner as the starter rows using adhesive and appropriate face nailing.



After Installation

- The newly installed floor is complete and can be walked on immediately.
- Use wood filler or putty to correct minor flooring damage that occurs during installation.

Glue-Down T&G Installation Method

Recommended Adhesive Products

This installation method is suitable for all collections. The selection, use and suitability of any adhesive/moisture control system is at the discretion and responsibility of the installer. Always use a moisture barrier and adhesive system manufactured by the same company – never mix products. CALI recommends using Titebond flooring adhesive and moisture barrier systems in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications to receive Titebond's Platinum installation warranty.

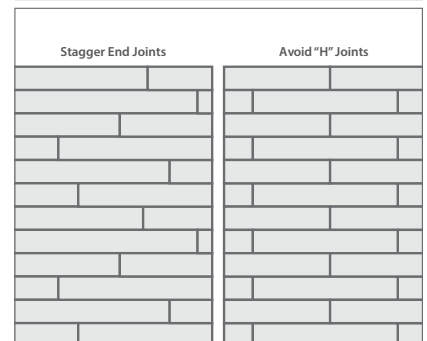
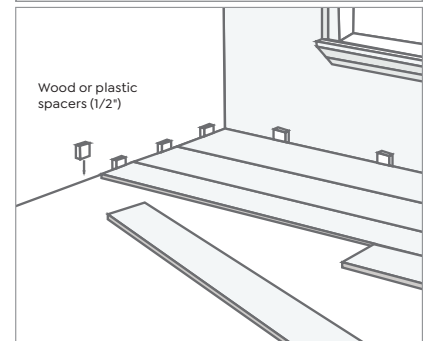
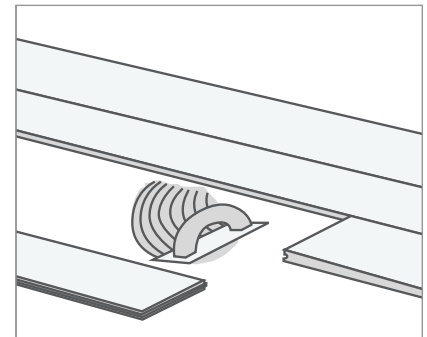
Remember: Always follow flooring adhesive recommendations. CALI does not warrant against adhesive related problems.

Recommended Glue-Down Floor Tools

- Flooring adhesive: Low-VOC Adhesive by Titebond®
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Adhesive trowel as recommended by adhesive manufacturer
- Hammer
- Underlayment (see Moisture Barrier Requirements)
- Tape measure
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Chalk line
- Wood or plastic spacers
- Carpenter square
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Earplugs and safety glasses
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Table saw
- 3M blue painter's tape #280 (incorrect or aggressive tape can harm finish, do not leave on overnight)

Glue-Down Installation Steps

1. Before you start, ensure that the job site, subfloor and environmental conditions are acceptable for installation of CALI engineered flooring. All requirements specified in CALI's Installation Guidelines must be met.
2. It may be necessary to seal your concrete with an appropriate moisture control system prior to installation (see moisture barrier requirements).
3. Confirm with chart on page 3 for proper expansion space required around the perimeter of the room and all vertical objects. Use appropriate spacers for installation.
4. Measure the room to avoid ending with a final row less than 3" wide. Rip the starter row if necessary to balance the first and last rows.
5. Dry-lay a couple rows before starting installation to confirm your layout plan.
6. Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is the best reference for establishing a straight working line.
7. Lay the first row of flooring with groove facing the wall. Starter row should be secured by face nailing and gluing.
8. Connect short side of second plank together with mating side of the first plank.
9. Cut last plank and complete row. Use the remaining plank to start second row.
10. Offset end joints of consecutive rows by a minimum of 8" for best appearance and stability.
11. With the first row in place, trowel out some adhesive and lay second row by connecting short edges of planks first. Use a pull bar to tap long edges together. Always check your working lines to be sure the floor is still aligned.
12. Always check your working lines to be sure the floor is still aligned.
13. Use tapping block to fit planks together, but be careful not to let installed floor move on the wet adhesive while you are working.
14. The last row may require rip cutting the planks to size.
15. Flooring planks on perimeter of room may require weight on them until adhesive cures enough to hold them down.



After Installation

- Always remove any adhesive from the surface of the flooring (smudges, fingerprints, etc.) before it dries. Use Titebond's Adhesive Remover or Bostik's™ Ultimate Adhesive Remover Towels to immediately remove any adhesive on flooring surface as you go.
- Allow the newly installed floor to fully cure based on adhesive recommendations before walking or moving furniture onto the floor.

Floating T&G Installation Method

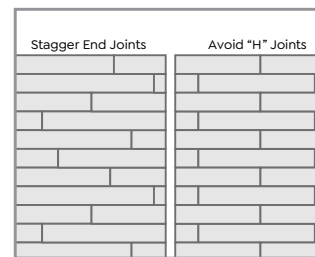
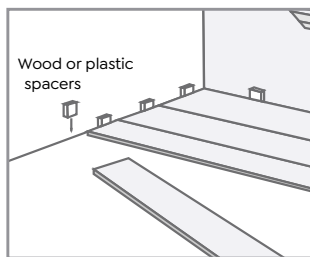
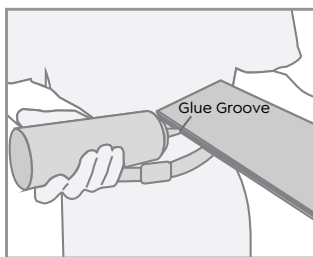
Confirm with the chart on page 3 if this is an acceptable installation method for your flooring. Before you start, ensure that all conditions specified in CALI's installation guidelines have been met.

Recommended Floating Floor Tools

- Titebond® Tongue & Groove Flooring Glue
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Underlayment (see "Moisture Barrier Requirements")
- Hammer
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Tape measure
- Wood or plastic spacers
- Pencil
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Chalk line
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Earplugs & safety glasses
- 3M blue painter's tape

Floating T&G Installation Steps

1. Use Titebond® Tongue & Groove Flooring Glue for floating applications.
2. Before you start, ensure that the job site, subfloor and environmental conditions are acceptable for installation of CALI engineered flooring. All requirements specified in CALI's Installation Guidelines must be met.
3. CALI requires a minimum of 6mil plastic for all floating installations.
4. Measure the room to avoid ending with a final row less than 3" wide. Rip the starter row if necessary to balance the first and last rows.
5. Maintain the required expansion space at all perimeters and vertical obstructions; use appropriate spacers during installation. (Confirm with chart above).
6. It is recommended to install the planks parallel to the longest wall.
7. Dry lay (do not glue) a few rows before installation to confirm your layout plan.
8. Begin by laying the first plank in a corner with the long grooved side toward the long wall.
9. Apply a small continuous consistent bead of Titebond™ T&G flooring glue along the bottom side of the flooring groove.
10. Connect the short edges of subsequent planks to complete the first row.
11. Cut the final plank to complete the row. Use the remaining plank to start the second row, provided it is at least 8" long.
12. Make sure to offset the end joints of consecutive rows by a minimum of 8 inches for best appearance and stability.
13. Connect the short edges first, then tap the long edges together using a pull bar if necessary.
14. The last row may require rip cutting the planks to size. Be sure to cut enough to maintain proper expansion space.
15. CALI recommends using 3M blue painter's tape to help keep planks together while Tongue & Groove adhesive dries. Do not leave tape on overnight.



After Installation

- Always remove any adhesive from the surface of the flooring (smudges, fingerprints, etc.) before it dries. Use Bostik's™ Ultimate Adhesive Remover Towels to immediately remove any adhesive on flooring surface as you go.
- Allow the newly installed floor to fully cure based on adhesive recommendations before walking or moving furniture onto the floor.

General Care

- For general cleaning, use Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Cleaner & Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Mop.
- Never use a steam mop or wet-mop as standing water may cause permanent damage. Excessive moisture will dull the finish and could lead to a cupped floor. You may periodically use a very slightly dampened (near dry) mop to spot-clean. The moisture from the dampened mop should evaporate off the floor very quickly.
- Avoid excessive moisture on the floor. We recommend soaking up spills immediately using a dry towel or dry mop. For flooring in the kitchen, place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink.
- Maintain indoor conditions at 30-55% RH and 60-80F. Seasonal expansion and contraction is normal and not a defect.
- Use a humidifier/dehumidifier as needed, even when the home is unoccupied
- To clean up dried glue use either Bostik Ultimate Adhesive Remover or Titebond Adhesive Remover cleaning wipes.

Preventative Care

- Vacuum or sweep the floor with a broom or dust mop on a regular basis or as needed to remove dirt, sand, or grit to protect the floor from scratches. A grain of sand has dozens of sharp edges and can create scratches if tracked across the floor. Be careful of other debris such as small rocks and pebbles being dragged across the floor.
- Do not use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off; brush or felt vacuum heads are recommended as opposed to hard heads.
- Fit furniture legs with felt tips and fix rolling furniture with soft rubber casters to avoid scratches. Periodically check the felt tips for wear or buildup of grit/debris and replace as needed.
- Pick up heavy furniture or appliances; do not slide.
- Keep pet nails trimmed to avoid excessive scratching.
- To prevent dents and scratches, avoid walking on the floor with cleats, sports shoes, and high heels. High heels concentrate pressure in a small area and may dent the floor.
- To prevent indentations and scratches, remove small diameter buttons/ends from furniture legs and replace with non-staining floor protectors with a surface no less than 1" in diameter. Heavier objects may require wider floor protectors.
- Use interior and exterior doormats at entrances to prevent dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the floor. Area rugs are also recommended in front of kitchen sinks and in high traffic areas. Rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment. We recommend using a breathable rug underlay; mesh or grid patterns are best. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings as this may damage the finish.

- Natural products, especially those that are smoked/fumed or reactive stained, will change color over time as a result of oxidation and UV rays. This color change is inherent and not a defect. Limit direct sunlight on the floor by using curtains and blinds in areas that are exposed to high UV rays. We recommend rearranging rugs and furniture periodically so that the color changes evenly, especially in the first few months the floor is installed.
- Abrasive or harsh chemicals should not be used to clean the floor. Never use any of the following products on the floor: mineral spirits, paint thinner, acetone, ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, detergents, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials such as vinegar. Never apply wax treatments to the floor.
- Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause “hot spots” which must be eliminated prior to installation.
- Lighter colors and darker colors naturally show more dirt, flaws, and marks and are considered higher maintenance flooring colors.