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LIGHTWOOD

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maxWOOD

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maxWEAR

Detailed laying instruction

This laying instruction is a complement to the instruction that follows the floor packs. It shows more details, examples and clarifies. This instruction is to be used with Lightwood, Maxwood and Maxwear from Golvabia.

GOLVABIA

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Before installing

General

The humidity should be between 30 - 60% and the temperature min. 18°C (64,4°F) before, during and after the installation. The building should be heated and ventilated in good time before floor installation takes place, so the right indoor climate can be secured.

Storing of floor material

Before the floor is installed, the boards should have a temperature of 18°C (64,4°F). The floor package should not be opened before installation. Open the package in the same pace as they are being installed.

Subfloors

The subfloor should be dry, clean and flat. The installed wood floor cannot perform better than the condition of the subfloor allows.

The requirements of the subfloor are:

When measured with at 2 m steel ruler it s allowed a tolerance of +/- 3 mm and with a 25 cm steel ruler a tolerance of +/- 1,2 mm is allowed.

Underlayment

We recommend 2 mm cork, flooring paper or max. 2 mm foam suitable for wood- or laminate flooring.

3 mm underlayment or thicker should not be used.

Vapor barrier

A vapor barrier should always be used if there is a risk for moisture from the subfloor. Further should a vapor barrier always be used when there are concrete subfloors at ground level, concrete slabs, floors installed in a room above hot and moist areas (e.g laundry room), as well in areas with underfloor heating and suspended foundation.

The vapor barrier should be age-resistant 0,2 mm PE, or similar.

Fixed furnishing

It is of great importance in not attaching any furnishing, kitchen islands, walls, frames in the wood floor, since the floor should be able to float. Therefore the furnishing should be installed prior to the installation of the wood floor, and afterwards install the floor with enough expansion gap against the fixed furnishing.

Further can heavy furnishing affect the movement of the wood floor and should therefore be considered so it doesn't restrict the floors movements.

Fireplaces like a stove for heating shouldn't be placed on the wood floor as it is heavy and locks the floor from moving. If a stove is installed afterwards, you should create an expansion gap around it, in order for the floor to move free.

Underfloor heating

The floors are suitable for installation with underfloorheating. Max allowed surface temperature is 27°C, also under rugs and furnitures. The heating should be equally distributed over the whole flooring surface. Electrical underfloorheating is often difficult to regulate, so it cannot be generally accepted.

A vapor barrier shall always be used, when the flooring is installed on underfloorheating. The barrier should be next to the floor.

Wood floors with toplayers of beech and maple should not be installed on underfloorheating.

Expansion gaps

Variation in humidity causes natural movements in all floating wood floors over the seasons of the year. When it is dry – normally in the winter, the floor shrinks. When it is humid – normally in the summer, the floor grows.

There must be expansion gaps so that the floor can grow or shrink at door openings, thresholds, heating pipes, by changes to other floors etc. It is also important that the shrinkage of the floor during wintertime is covered by the floor mouldings.

The width of the expansion gap should be 1,0 mm/meter floor. It should never be less than 8 mm

The floor moulding at the wall should be 1,5 x expansion gap to cover the movements of the floor.

When you install floating floors through areas with complex layouts, there is a risk that it sticks or has difficulties to move. The result of this can be openings in the floor. This can be when the floor is installed in several rooms next to/after each other without separating joints in the opening between the rooms or open areas where several areas are connected to each other or long corridors with rooms at the side. We always recommend that expansion gaps are made between rooms and on plausible places so the floor can move easily. Ask a professional before installing in this type of spaces.

To consider during the installation

Connecting the boards

Golvabias floors have the modern, 5G locking system and can be installed with ease. No tapping or bigger force is needed to get the joints together. Tapping and excess force should be avoided, since it could damage the floors. If the floorboards are difficult to assemble, then examine if there is debris that hinder the joint from easily click together.

The floor should not be installed standing and pressed together with the foot.

Doorways/Arches

When installing the floor through doorways and arches, the floor should be provided with an expansion gap in the opening.

Displacement of short ends joints

The short end joints should always have shift of 300-400mm against the short end joints in the previous row. This should be applied since the floor gets stronger when it is laid in a formation and minimize weaknesses that can occur when short end joints are close to each other and minimize the risk of the floor rising when it is high humidity.

Last row

Prepare your installation so that the last row is more than 50 mm wide. Use glue in the butt end on narrow pieces where the click joint cannot work properly. The same goes for the first row if this also is made in a reduced width.

Controlling during installation

The installer should always make sure that the floorboards are free from visible damage, color faults, and fitting problems. Make sure to have the same lighting during installation as the floor is intended to be used with afterwards. Golvabia do of course replace defective products, however the cost for replacement are the responsibility of the installer of the defective products.

To consider after the installation

Installation of mouldings and skirting boards

Mouldings/skirting boards should be installed without too much pressure on the floor, so they cannot restrict the floor from floating. The width of the mouldings/skirting boards should be chosen according to the size of the expansion gap.

When moulding are installed with screws, be careful that it is not screwed into the floor and that the moulding is tightened so hard that the floor cannot move also make sure that there is enough expansion gap under the moulding.

Coverage of the floor

If the floor should be covered after the installation for protection, then a covering material should used that is able to let moisture through and doesn't discolor the floor. Tape should never be used to attach the covering material since it could damage the surface of the floor.

Kitchen appliances often have small and hard wheels which can cause scratches and marks through simple protection paper. Therefore it better protection should be used, when the kitchen appliances are to be moved in or out.

Entrance carpets

The reason for damage and wear on the new wood floor is most often dirt. By placing entrance carpets both in- and outside of the entrance, the dirt that damages the wood floor can be minimized.

Other to consider

Pets like dogs, can scratch the wood floors. Sharp objects also causes scratches in the surface.