Natural Beauty Series Lux & Max

100% WATERPROOF WPC

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Thank you for choosing our WPC flooring. When properly installed and cared for, your new flooring will be easy to maintain and will keep its great look for years. Please read all the instructions before you begin the installation. Improper installation will void the warranty.

I. MATERIAL AND SITE PREPARATIONS

MATERIAL

- This decorative, durable, WPC product is not designed to be a structural material. This product is designed to be installed indoors only and out of direct UV light conditions.
- ACCLIMATION: Acclimation is not required under certain conditions. If the external temperature and relative humidity meet the internal living conditions of (60°- 85° F and 35-65% RH) then acclimation is not required. If the external temperature and relative humidity exceeds these ranges, acclimation is required for 48 hours at these conditions (60°- 85° F and 35-65% RH).
  - For installations involving 3 season scenarios, meaning, the dwelling or installed space is without climate control for extended periods during certain seasons of the year, the post-installation temperature range allowed is an ambient room temperature between 32°F and 100°F (0°C- 37.7°C). This allowance is for floating floors only and does not apply to glue-down installations.
- VISUAL DEFECTS: After the delivery of the material and prior to the installation, all the material must be inspected in daylight for damage. Other visible defects may be detected during the unboxing and mixing process prior to installation. No claims on surface defects are allowed after the installation is completed.
- DELIVERY: Proper handling of WPC flooring product is critical to the overall success of the installation. Damage of the WPC planks face and locking profile can happen during handling. To ensure safety during the staging and storage process, stack cartons flat on the back, never on the edge, and no more than 10 cartons high.

SITE

- SUB FLOOR CONDITIONS: The subfloor must meet or exceed all Federal, State, and Local building codes, and the recommended procedures in this document are not meant to circumvent those codes. However, if the minimum building code requirements do not meet the minimum requirements set forth in this document, additional adjustments will have to be made.
- The subfloor must be dry, secure and sound, clean, free from dust, debris, wax, sealers, and all contaminants.
- The subfloor must meet or exceed the floor flatness standard of 1/16” in 1’, 1/8” in 6’, 3/16” in 10’. Any areas (humps, bumps, peaks, depressions) in the installation that do not meet this standard will require corrective action by using mechanical grinding or a self-leveling compound 6,000 psi or greater.
- CRAWL SPACE: 100% percent coverage of an 8-mil vapor retarder must be in place and properly installed. A minimum distance of 18” between the bottom of the floor joist and the ground is recommended. The soil shall have ground fall away from the building of 3’/10’ for the first 10’ to ensure ground water will move away from the slab and foundation.
- CONCRETE OR BASEMENT: The soil is recommended to be below the height of the slab if possible. The soil shall have ground fall away from the building of 3’/10’ for the first 10’ to ensure ground water will move away from the slab and foundation.
- This product can be installed over most existing attached hard surface floor coverings, provided that the existing hard surface is clean, sound, securely fastened, dry, and meets the floor flatness requirements.
- Existing ceramic, porcelain, and mosaic tile floors are approved to install over as long as surface of the tile meets or exceeds the 1/16” in 1’, 1/8” in 6’, 3/16” in 10’ floor flatness requirements. Grout joints, depressions, deep groves, expansion joints, and other subfloor imperfections that do not meet this requirement must be addressed and filled using a patching or self-leveling compound of 6,000 psi or greater prior to installation.

DO NOT INSTALL OVER

- Hardwood flooring / wood subfloors / dimensional lumber or plywood that lay directly on concrete, glued to concrete.
- Existing carpet, carpet cushion, tack-less strip must be removed prior to the installation of the WPC.
- Existing glue down or double glue down carpet must be removed prior to the installation of the WPC.
- All existing floating floors must be removed prior to the installation of the WPC.
- All existing glue down resilient floors with attached pad or separate glued cushion must be removed prior to the installation of the WPC.
- All existing adhesives must be removed by mechanical grinding prior to the installation.
- All staples, nails, and all protruding fasteners above the face of the subfloor must be removed or depressed prior to the installation of the WPC.
- DO NOT install over sleeper construction subfloors or wood subfloors applied directly over concrete.

II. SUBFLOOR INFORMATION

CONCRETE

- NEW CONCRETE SLABS: Green concrete slabs less than 60 days old are not acceptable to install WPC over. All concrete slabs must be 60 days old. The building envelope must be complete, dry and acclimated. The HVAC must be operational for a minimum of two weeks prior to the installation of the WPC.

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- The concrete must be dry, secure and sound, clean, free from dust, debris, wax, sealers, and all contaminants.
- FLOOR FLATNESS: The concrete must meet or exceed the floor flatness standard of 1/16” in 1’, 1/8” in 6’, 3/16” in 10’. Any areas (humps, bumps, peaks, depressions) in the installation that do not meet this standard will require corrective action by using mechanical grinding or a recommended self-leveling compound 6,000 psi or greater.
- COLD JOINTS OR TRUE EXPANSION JOINTS: Do not install WPC over a cold concrete joint or true expansion joint. The joint must be maintained all the way from bottom to top with either a plate or transition piece.
- CONCRETE MOISTURE TESTING: Concrete moisture testing is required on all concrete slabs. Following the (ASTM F 1869 / MVER) the results must be < 5 lbs / 1000 sq. ft. / 24 hours or (ASTM F2170/RH) < 80% RH with an in-situ probe. Use the (ASTM F2659/CM Method) max 2.5% moisture content as an indication reading. If the readings are outside this parameter, site moisture abatement will be required prior to the installation of the product.
- PH TESTING: PH testing is required on all concrete floors. The PH of the concrete shall not exceed 9. If the PH exceeds 9, abatement will be necessary.
- CONCRETE POROSITY: If you are adhering the WPC floor, a concrete porosity test will be necessary for determining the correct adhesive. The results will be either porous or non-porous.
- The responsibility to conduct and record the test results may not be on the installation team. However, it is the responsibility of the installation team to confirm the tests have been completed, and that the results are available
- A 6-mil thick or greater (Class 1 VR) vapor barrier must be installed under the WPC on all concrete slabs. Vapor barrier must have standalone installation guide and warranty information.

LIGHTWEIGHT CONCRETE

All recommendations and guarantees as to the suitability and performance of lightweight concrete under resilient flooring are the responsibility of the lightweight concrete manufacturer. The installer of the lightweight product may be required to be authorized or certified by the manufacturer. Correct on-site mixing ratios and properly functioning pumping equipment are critical. To ensure proper mixture, slump testing is recommended.

- Lightweight aggregate concretes having dry densities greater than 90 lbs. per cubic foot may be acceptable under resilient flooring.
- Concrete slabs with heavy static and/or dynamic loads should be designed with higher strengths and densities to support such loads.
- Surface must be permanently dry, clean, smooth, free of all dust, and structurally sound.
- Perform Bond testing to determine compatibility of adhesive to the substrate. Shaw 9050 primer (or equivalent / comparable product) can be utilized to promote adhesion.
- Three internal relative humidity tests should be conducted for areas up to 1000 sq. ft. One additional test, for each additional 1000 sq. ft.

WOOD SUBFLOOR

- Do not apply sheet plastic over wood subfloors.
- SUBFLOOR TYPE: WPC is approved to install over APA rated Plywood, MDO/HDO Plywood, OSB, Particleboard, Chipboard, Waferboard etc.. All these subfloor types must be installed according to their corresponding manufacturers recommendations. In all wet areas such as bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms, treated plywood HDO/MDO plywood must be used. Slat wood floors are not acceptable for this installation method, an additional subfloor will be required on top of the slat boards. Subfloor must have standalone installation guide and warranty information.
- Resilient flooring is not recommended directly over fire-retardant treated plywood or preservative treated plywood. An additional layer of APA-rated 1/4” thick underlayment should be installed.
- SUBFLOOR THICKNESS: As WPC is not at structural floor and is designed to be installed multi-directional in relation to the floor joist, a minimum of 1” of structural subfloor must be used.
- FLOOR FLATNESS: The concrete must meet or exceed the floor flatness standard of 1/16” in 1’, 1/8” in 6’, 3/16” in 10’. Any areas (humps, bumps, peaks, depressions) in the installation that do not meet this standard will require corrective action by using mechanical grinding or a recommended self-leveling compound 6,000 psi or greater.
- SUBFLOOR MOISTURE: Wood subfloors require moisture readings using a pin probe. Wood subfloors shall not have a moisture reading > 12%

RAISED ACCESS PANEL SUBFLOORS

- Raised access panels must be stable, level, flat, free and clean of existing adhesives
- 24” x 24” panels are recommended.
- Lippage (variation of height) between of panels must not exceed 0.295” (0.75 mm)
- Gaps between panels must not exceed 0.039” (1 mm)
- There should be no deflection of the individual panels – Concave less than 0.0295” (0.75 mm)
- Flatness 1/8” in 10’
- Stagger the flooring tiles/planks to overlap the access panels
- Telegraphing of access panel seams may be visible and is not considered a product defect nor warranted by the flooring manufacturer.

SEPARATE UNDERLAYMENT CUSHIONS

- If the WPC does not have a pre-attached underlayment, a stand-alone underlayment pad must be used. It is recommended to use a stand-alone underlayment pad to improve the acoustical performance and absorb irregularities in the substrate. The best results can be achieved by using an underlayment not more than 1/8” or 3 mm in thickness. Using the additional underlayment pad with a WPC with pre-attached pad will have severe deflection in the floor and damage the locking profile.

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- A second underlayment is allowed under any currently sold resilient product with attached underlayment in a residential application. If installed over a second underlayment, this underlayment cannot be greater than 2 mm thick. IIC (ASTM E492-09) and STC (ASTM E90-09) lab testing on certain resilient products tested with and without a second layer of underlayment, to date, does not indicate that a second underlayment will provide additional acoustic benefit.
- Crumb rubber underlayments are not an acceptable option for use with resilient floor coverings due to performance issues resulting from chemical incompatibilities.

EMBEDDED RADIANT HEAT FLOORS

- Embedded in-floor radiant heating floor systems are the only type allowed with WPC floors.
- Due to the speed of sudden temperature changes, which has the potential to negatively affect WPC flooring construction, it is not recommended to install over any electrical radiant heating system.
- Installation of WPC over electrical radiant heating systems will not be covered by the manufacturer's warranty.
- Maximum operating temperature should never exceed 81° F / 27° C. Use of an in-floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating.
- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated subfloors.
- Operate the system at maximum capacity for 48 hours to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system at least 4 days before installation.
- The maximum moisture content of the screed is 1.5 % (CM method).
- Make sure that the temperature in the room is maintained consistent between 65-85 °F / 18-30 °C and the relative humidity should be maintained between 30-65% before and during the installation.
- Once the installation is completed, the heating system should be turned on, at the ambient temperature and increased gradually 9° F / 5° C degree increments every 12 hours until reaching normal operating conditions.
- Refer to the radiant heat system's manufacturer recommendations for additional guidance.
- TIP: The best idea to maximize the results of your heating system is to have "ON" times with a comfort temperature and "OFF" times with setback temperatures which is normally 8° F / 4° C lower than your comfort temperature. The setback temperatures are particularly important as these won't let the temperature of your room drop too much, meaning it is much quicker to heat your room back to comfort levels when it's needed.

III. INSTALLATION

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES REQUIRED

Foam Underlay (if not pre-attached)	Safety Glasses	Air Hose	Rubber Mallet	Ruler
	Jamb Saw	18 Gauge Nail Gun	Hammer	Pencil
10-foot Straight Edge	Miter Saw	Caulk Gun	Tapping Block	Note Pad
Chalk line	Table Saw	Silicone Caulk	Pull Bar	Tape Measure
Trammel Points	Jig Saw	GFCI plug	Molding Lifter	Construction Adhesive
Knee Pads	Air Compressor	12 Gauge Drop Cord	Pry Bar	Adhesive Tape

Class 1 Vapor Barrier or min 6 mil or 0.15 mm (or thicker) polyurethane vapor barrier

INSTALLATION METHODS

Floating (on, above or below grade) / Glue Down (on, above or below grade)

- Required perimeter expansion spacing for Floating or Glue Down installation is as follows:
  - For areas less than 2500 sq. ft. use 1/4" gap
  - For areas larger than 2500 sq. ft. use 1/2" gap.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

WPC products are approved for glue down installation over approved wood and concrete substrates. Follow adhesive label application instructions. Install flooring into wet adhesive to achieve a permanent bond. Maintain 1/4" (6.35 mm) perimeter expansion space. Refer to adhesive label for moisture limits of the adhesive. Roll flooring immediately after installation with a 100 lbs. 3-section roller.

- GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION LOW MOISTURE APPLICATION:

  < 5 lbs. MVER / 80% RH PSA Transitional Firm-Set or Hard-Set

  1. Testing
     a. ASTM F1869/ ASTM F2170
     b. ASTM F710
     c. 48-Hour Bond Test
  2. Application of Adhesive
     a. 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square Notch Trowel for mechanical bonding
     b. Wet-set or Semi Wet-Set state of flash depending on adhesive manufacture.
- GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION HIGH MOISTURE APPLICATION:

  ≥ 5 lbs. MVER/ 80% RH Resilient Based Modified Silane Adhesives with moisture protection.

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LAYOUT

- Without using transitions, Uniclic WPC is not designed to be turned in multiple directions. The first step in the layout is determining the length direction of the installation.
- In the room using a tape measure to find the center point on the start and finish walls of the installation. Mark these center points SW for start wall and FW for finish wall.
- Using a chalk line, pop a chalk line between points SW and FW. Mark this line, Line #1.
- Find the center of Line #1 and label that point C
- Label the adjacent walls from Line #1 BW for beginning wall and EW for ending wall.

BALANCING THE ROOM

- Using your tape measure, pencil, and note pad, measure the width of a single plank and record that measurement as Measurement P.
- Using your tape measure, pencil, and note pad, measure the distance from Line #1 to beginning wall and from Line #1 to ending wall and confirm this is the same exact measurement. Record that measurement as Measurement 1BW
- Divide 1BW/P and record the number. If the number after the decimal point is > .5, you can start on the center line and balance the room. If the number after the decimal point is < .5, you must measure half the distance of the plank width off the center line and points SW and FW closest wall BW and pop and new line. This will ensure that the beginning and finish plank measurement is greater than half a plank.

DOOR CASINGS, BASE BOARDS, AND EXPANSION

DOOR CASINGS

- All door casings should be undercut using a jamb saw all the way to the studs to maintain the most expansion space possible. Allow 1/16” upward expansion between the face of the plank and the bottom of the door casing. Maintain ½ inch expansion under the door casing. Metal fire rated, and structural door casing should not be cut, but rather cut around using the scribe method, and caulked with colored silicone caulk. Leave and uniform 1/4” expansion space all the way around the door jamb.

BASE BOARDS

- If the base boards are raised off the floor enough to slide the product completely under it all the way around the room, ¼” expansion space can be maintained. If the product cannot slide under the base board ½” expansion space must be maintained. In both scenarios quarter round trim must be used to finish the installation.
- If the desired look is to not use quarter round or shoe mold trim. The base boards must be removed, and the dry wall cut back to maintain 1/2” expansion under the base boards.

STARTING THE INSTALLATION

- Inspect each plank. Floor should be installed blending planks from several cartons at the same time to ensure good color and shade mixture throughout the installation.
- For the first row along straight walls, remove the tongue on all long side joints and on the short side of the first plank only.
- For uneven walls, trace contour on tongue-side of plank and cut.
- Assemble the first row, with the tongue-side toward the wall. Insert the end tongue into the end groove and rotate downward to assemble. Keep the planks aligned and the joints closed.
- Place 13 mm (1/2”) thick spacers between the sides and the ends of the planks and the walls. This sets the required expansion gap on all sides and should be maintained around the entire perimeter of the installation.
- The first piece of each row must be at least 12” long. Start all new rows with pieces longer than 12” (30 cm) trimmed from previous rows. Ensure at least a 12” (30 cm) end joint offset.
- At a slight angle, insert tongue of plank 2 into the groove of plank 1 until the WPC edges meet, and then rotate down until the joints lock.
- Join the short end of the plank first. There will be a gap on the long side joints when the plank is rotated down.
- Raise the outside edge of the plank upward approximately 1”. Maintain this angle as you push the plank in until the edges meet. Rotate downward on the plank until the joint locks. Repeat these steps to complete the installation.
- Installation Tip: Place a carton of planks across the end of the row being installed to keep installed planks in place during installation.
- Alternate Tap Method: Align the tongues into the grooves of the long and short sides of the planks. Install the long side first by placing a tapping block no closer than 8” from both ends and tap lightly along the long side until the joint is closed tightly Then tap the end using the tapping block into a locked position.
- Note: Uneven tapping or use of excessive force may damage the joint.
- Ensure there will be a 13 mm (1/2”) gap (after the joint is closed) to the wall for expansion.
- For the last row, align the plank to be used on top of the 2nd to last row. Using a full width plank as a spacer, trace wall contour and cut plank.
- For the last row, install the long side tongue into the groove with the end joint aligned. Using a pull bar and hammer, work evenly along the length of the plank and lightly tap the joint closed.
- After tapping the long side joint closed, tap the short side closed, using a tapping block or a pull bar.

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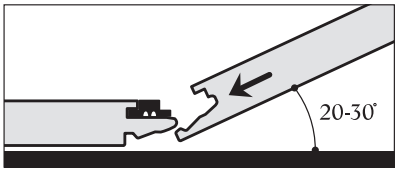
INSTALLATION IN WET AREAS (BATHROOM, LAUNDRY ROOM, KITCHEN)

- DO NOT INSTALL: Do not install this product in showers, wet walls, or back splashes.
- DO NOT INSTALL: Do not install this product in wet areas with sloped floors, or wet areas with any type of floor drain.
- DO NOT INSTALL: Do not install this product in rooms with in-floor French Drains.
- It is important to seal any cut planks to ensure superior and warranted performance. When a flooring plank is cut to fit (either end cuts or side cuts), a sealant is always required around the perimeter of the installation.
- Fill the expansion spaces with a 1/2" / 13 mm compressible PE foam backer rod and cover with a flexible 100% silicone sealant to the entire perimeter of the installation. Do not use an acrylic sealant.
- Prior to installing moldings, apply silicone sealant to the portion of the molding or transition that will contact directly with the flooring surface.
- Install moldings and immediately wipe away any excess silicone sealant.
- Apply silicone sealant at connections to door frames or any other fixed objects.
- Branded and generic silicone tubes are available in any local home center or hardware location.
- If a watertight installation is required, apply a hard-setting waterproof wood adhesive bead across the bottom of the tongue on both long and short side prior to installing the floorboard. Avoid using adhesive excessively and be sure to immediately wipe away any excess that comes out to the floor's surface.

IV. MAINTENANCE

- Clean the floor regularly with a vacuum cleaner or dry mop. If necessary, the floor may be cleaned with a damp mop and an LVT cleaner. Avoid using too much water. To protect the floor from sand we recommend using doormats at entries (but do not use mats with a rubber backing). Place felt floor protectors under the legs of movable furniture. Chair casters should be rubber, not plastic or metal.
- DO NOT use an excessively wet mop that will puddle or leave moisture standing on the floor.
- DO NOT use rotating beater bars, floor scrubbers, buffers, or similar products.
- Wipe up spills immediately to avoid leaving puddles or pools of liquid on the flooring.



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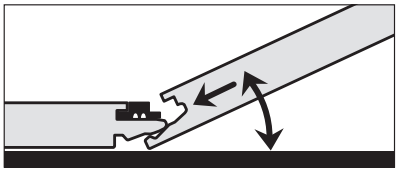

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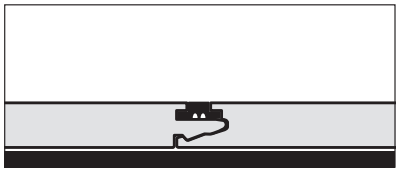

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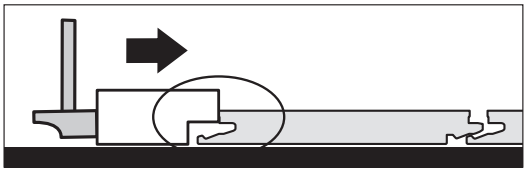

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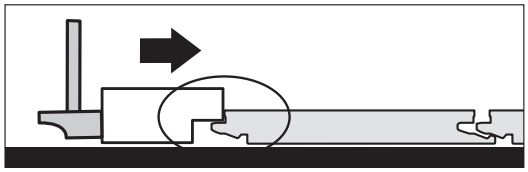

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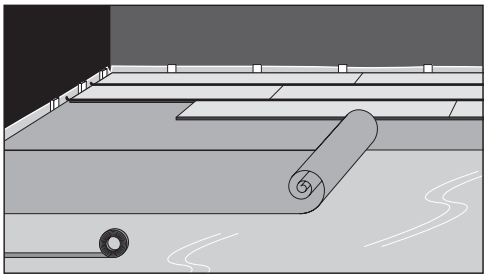

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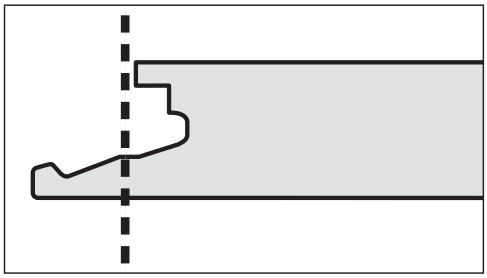

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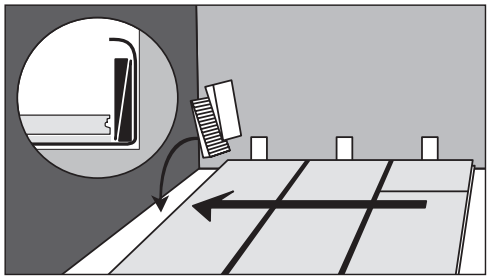

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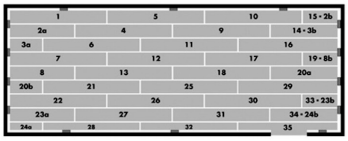

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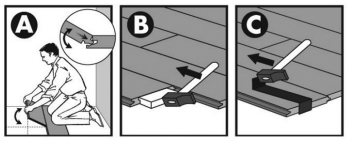

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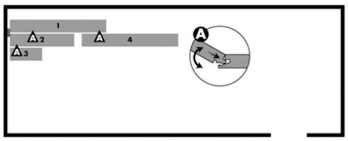

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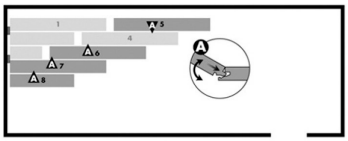

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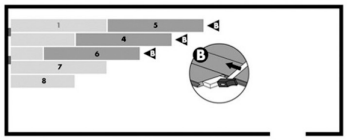

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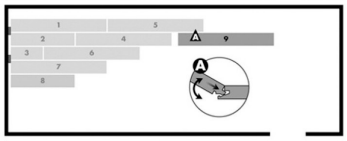

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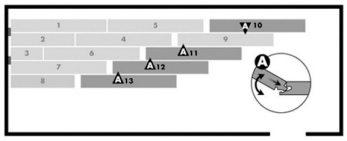

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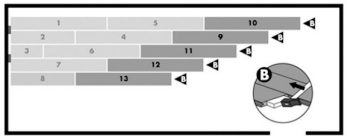

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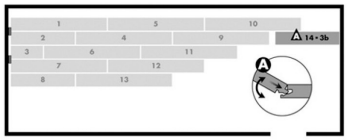

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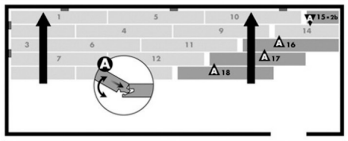

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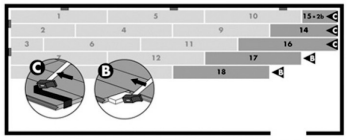

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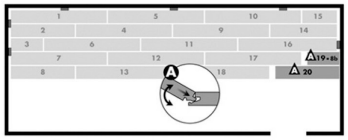

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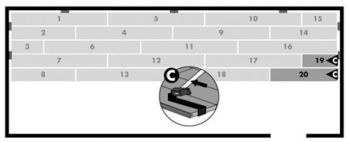

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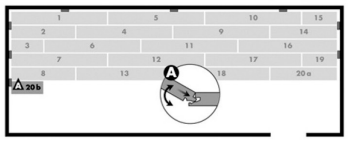

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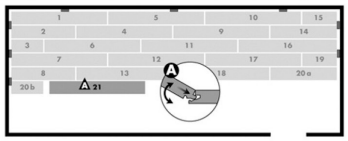

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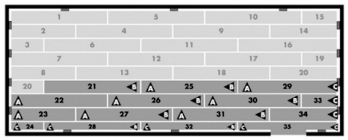

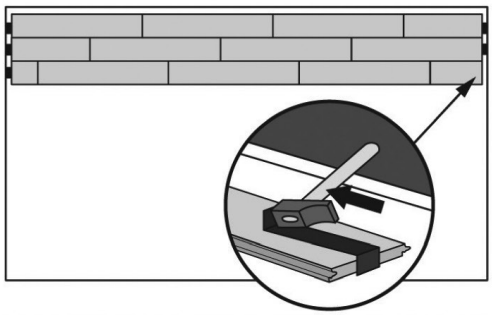

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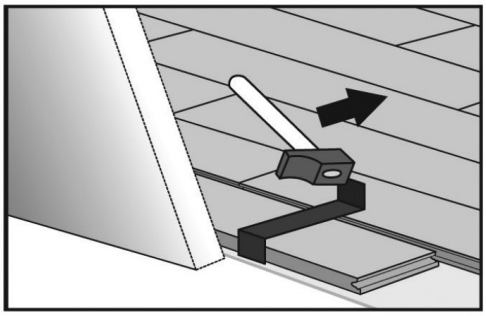

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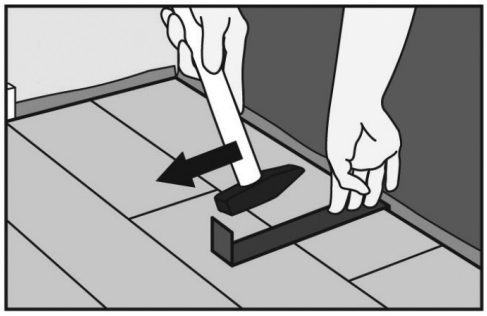

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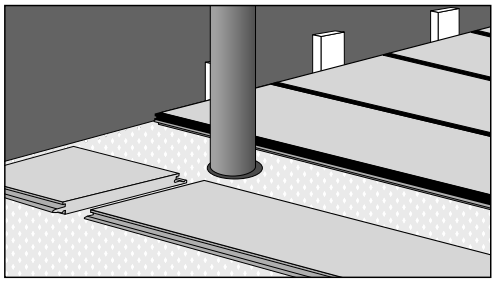

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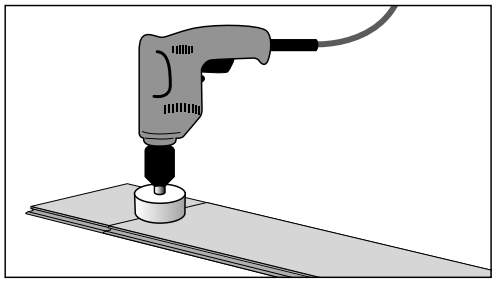

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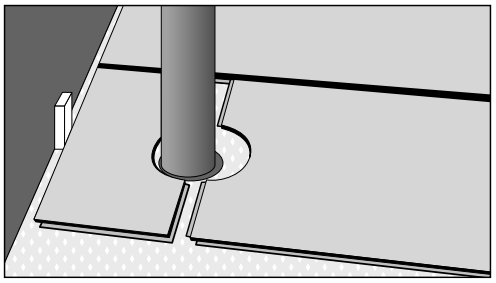

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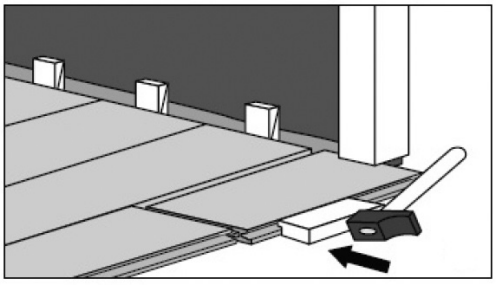

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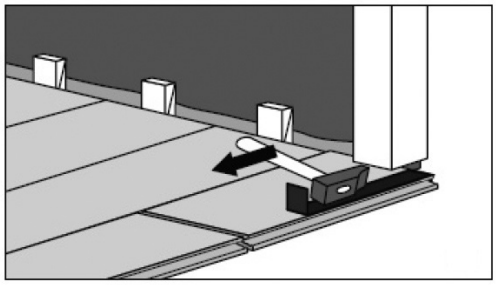

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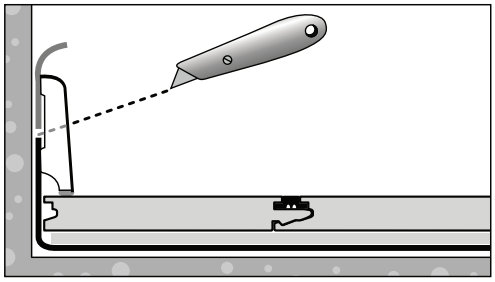

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