# TimberTop Engineered timber flooring Nail-down or Glue-down Installation instructions – Special insert.

TimberTop Engineered timber flooring is designed to be installed as a floating floor. However, it can also be installed using glue-down method.

The floor has to acclimate between 3 to 7 days in the room of installation to ensure no dimensional changes due to temperature variations.

## Subfloor

1) The subfloor has to be clean of debris and dust. Any oversized particles may cause unevenness in the installation and weaken adhesive bonding.
2) Flatness must be measured within 3/16" over any 10' and 1/8" over any 6' radius.
3) Rooms and subfloor have to be checked for suitable dryness as set out by our main laying instructions.
4) Subfloors have to be structurally sound and well fastened to eliminate movement and potential squeaking from loose subfloor (if wood subfloors are used).

## GLUED_DOWN INSTALLATION METHOD:

## TimberTop Engineered timber flooring can be glued-down to:

1) Fully cured concrete of at least 60.
2) Properly dried plywood. If plywood is installed joists, plywood thickness has to be at least 5/8" if joist spacing is up to 16", and 3/4" thick if joists are more than 16" apart up to 19" maximum. If the plywood is installed directly onto concrete, it must be installed according to the guidelines set by the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA)
3) Oriented Strand Board (OSB), similar to plywood must be at least 3/4" thick, with PS2-92 rated or PS 1-95 rated.
4) Underlayment grade particleboard with a minimum of 40lbs density
5) Or existing wood floors properly fastened with no loose boards.

Each of these have to follow the strict levels of flatness set out in the main installation instruction outlined and included in every pack of engineered flooring.

## Moisture barrier:

When the subfloor is Plywood, OSB or particle board, there must be a 6mm Polyfilm between this and the base floor below it.

## Adhesive:

The adhesive used has to be a urethane based adhesive, non water-based adhesive, such as Bostik Best urethane wood flooring adhesive or its equivalent. The adhesive has to be spread using suitable adhesive trowels recommended by the adhesive manufacturer and using recommended adhesive remover as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.

## Method

1. Choose the starting wall for the installation. This may depend on the owners personal preference or along the longest wall furthest away from the entry/ exit door of the room. This will allow easy exit out of the room without stepping onto the newly installed timber floor.
2. Measure the required number of planks required across the floor. This can be done by measuring the width of the floor across the floor and dividing by the width of one board to be installed. Most often than not, the number of boards does not come up to a round number. If the final plank is smaller than 4", you can adjust the starting and ending board with the incorporate this. This can be done dividing the width of the incomplete board by 2 and trimming this off the boards of the starting line and finishing line with the divided figure

3. Now you have the width of the starting line, measure out from the starting wall this width of the starting line flooring plank plus the appropriate expansion space for that thickness of flooring. Mark the two points towards the end of each measurement.
4. Snap a chalk line along the full length of the wall through the marks to delineate starting installation line.
5. Install backer boards (cut up small pieces of unused flooring) as guides. Align the guide blocks along the starting wall side of the chalk line. Temporary affix by nailing down the guide boards onto the subfloor as they will be removed later
6. Proceed to measure and mark with chalk line the width of 3 flooring panels (if the timber flooring width is below 8") or 2 panels (if the timber flooring width is above 8") . Do this throughout the floor. This will act as a guide to the sectionalise glue trowelling and ease installation.
7. Begin installation by opening the packs carefully without damaging the prefinished face when cutting open the packs. Work out of at least 2 or 3 packs to ensure even colour matching and design of the boards.
8. Spread the glue according to the manyfacturers' instructions using an appropriate glue trowel. Ensure the glue is between the chalk lines marked. Work in sections to allow for easy reach and controlled installation.
9. For the first line, align the tongue side and push the floor boards towards the guide blocks. Ensure they are flush against the guide blocks. Place the first board down, keeping the appropriate expansion gap between the short end of the board against the wall. Place second board by sliding the groove into the tongue the short ends and flush against the guice blocks. Repeat until you reach the end. For the final piece in the line, measure the length taking into account the required expansion gap and trim it. Install the board.
10. Using the remaining cut up board from the last line, us it as a starter piece. Ensure that the short end of the start piece is at least 18" away from short end of the previous row. Avoid "H" paterns of the end joins. This will provide better stability in the flooring and will provide a beatiful staggered look to the flooring. You may decide to make it standard at 18" to a patterned staggered look or your may decide of having the distance 18" or more the have a more random stagger. This is the choice of the owner.
11. Continue the installation by sliding the next tongue into the groove of the long side of the previous line and the previous board. Ensure the boards are flush against one another with no gaps in the joins. Use a tapping block or a pull bar to close them up. Continue as previously done in the first line and using the off cut on the last piece as the starting piece of the next line. Always remember to measure the starting piece to have at least 18" distance from the end joint of the previous piece.
12. Most adhesives require that the installer clean the adhesive off the flooring boards during the installation. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for this procedure. Use the appropriate cleaner as mentioned by the manufacturer.
13. Towards the end of the installation, leave the last 3 boards unstalled to allow for a walkway out of the room. Most adhesive requires 24 hours to cure adequately before being able to be walked on. Leave it for the day and continue the next day.
14. The next day, finish up the installation, trimming the width of the last line not forgetting the expansion gap. Once the last line is installed, remove the guide boards at the starter row.
15. Dry lay the first row of flooring to replace the backer board including cutting the appropriate length for the starter piece keeping in mind the 18" distance to the next end join and the last piece of the line.
16. Trowel spread the adhesive on the back of the flooring boards (not on the subfloor) and install the flooring, sliding the groove onto the tongue of the already installed starter row. Doorways and other openings may require installation of the flooring the same way (glue on the back of board). Slide the flooring boards under the previously cut door trims and casings.
17. Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base moldings thick enough to cover the expansion gaps.
18. Do not allow foot traffic on the floor for 24 hours after installation is complete.
19. Ensure the floor is thoroughly cleaned of any glue markings immediately during installation to avoid damaging the prefinished coating.

**NAIL-DOWN INSTALLATION METHOD:**
**TimberTop Engineered timber flooring can be nailed-down to:**

1) Properly dried plywood. If plywood is installed joists, plywood thickness has to be at least 5/8" if joist spacing is up to 16", and 3/4" thick if joists are more than 16" apart up to 19" maximum. If the plywood is installed directly onto concrete, it must be installed according to the guidelines set by the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA)
2) Oriented Strand Board (OSB), similar to plywood must be at least 3/4" thick, with PS2-92 rated or PS 1-95 rated.
3) Underlayment grade particleboard with a minimum of 40lbs density
4) Or existing wood floors properly fastened with no loose boards.

**Moisture barrier:**
When the subfloor is Plywood, OSB or particle board, there must be a 6mm Polyfilm between this and the base floor below it. Above these a second moisture barrier is used. 15lb. roofing felt is best for added sound proofing. You may also use #15 hardwood floor underlayment felt or Aqua bar underlayment paper.

**Special Tools Needed:**
- Nail Set
- Tack stapler for roofing felt
- Edge or Blind Stapler/Nailer (Manual or Pneumatic) using 1 ½" - 2" Fasteners for flooring 5/8" – ¾" thick, or 1-1/4" to 1-1/2" fasteners for flooring 5/16" – 9/16" thick (always do a test plank to verify that fasteners are seating properly)

**Method**
1. Choose the starting wall for the installation. This may depend on the owners personal preference or along the longest wall furthest away from the entry/ exit door of the room. This will allow easy exit out of the room without stepping onto the newly installed timber floor.
2. Measure the required number of planks required across the floor. This can be done by measuring the width of the floor across the floor and dividing by the width of one board to be installed. Most often than not, the number of boards does not come up to a round number. If the final plank is smaller than 3", you can adjust the starting and ending board with the incorporate this. This can be done dividing the width of the incomplete board by 2 and trimming this off the boards of the starting line and finishing line with the divided figure
3. Now you have the width of the starting line, measure out from the starting wall this width of the starting line flooring plank plus the appropriate expansion space for that thickness of flooring. Mark the two points towards the end of each measurement.
4. Snap a chalk line along the full length of the wall through the marks to delineate starting installation line.
5. Begin installation by opening the packs carefully without damaging the prefinished face when cutting open the packs. Work out of at least 2 or 3 packs to ensure even colour matching and design of the boards.
6. For the first line, align the board with the groove side towards the starting wall and tongue side is aligned along the chalk line. Face nail the first line and ensure you set the nail well hidden. The nails should be approximately 3/4" from the wall side (Groove side) of the board. Please one nail every 4 " to 6". Proceed to blind nail the first row every 4" to 6" along the long ends tongue and every 2" to 3" along the short end tongue. Repeat until you reach the end. For the final piece in the line, measure the length taking into account the required expansion gap and trim it. Install the board.

7. Using the remaining cut up board from the last line, us it as a starter piece. Ensure that the short end of the start piece is at least 18" away from short end of the previous row. Avoid "H" paterns of the end joins. This will provide better stability in the flooring and will provide a beatiful staggered look to the flooring. You may decide to make it standard at 18" to a patterned staggered look or your may decide of having the distance 18" or more the have a more random stagger. This is the choice of the owner.
8. Continue the installation across the room by blind/edge nailing 4" to 6" on the long end Tongues with 2" to 3" on the end joint Tongues. Ensure the boards are flush against one another with no gaps in the joins. Use a tapping block or a pull bar to close them up. Use the off cut on the last piece as the starting piece of the next line. Always remember to measure the starting piece to have at least 18" distance from the end joint of the previous piece.
9. For the last row, trim the boards not forgetting to add the expansion joints into the measurement.
10. At the finishing end wall, it may necessary to face nail the last 2 or 3 rows as the stpaer or nailer may not be able to reach the ideal position.
11. Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base moldings thick enough to cover the expansion gaps.
12. Ensure the floor is thoroughly cleaned of any debris or dust immediately during installation to avoid damaging the prefinished coating.