

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS

- The warranty does not cover damage arising from negligence, accident, abuse or misuse, indentation, scratches, damage caused by the use of adhesive tape, erosion, pebbles, sand, other abrasives, spiked-heeled shoes, insects and pets, water damage caused by wet subfloor, flooding, leaky plumbing, spills, wet mopping, standing water, poor workmanship by installer, the illusions of bumps and/or dimples created by nailing machine/cleats or staples, structural changes in subfloor, settlement and uneven subfloor.
- Failure to follow manufacturer's specific written installation instructions, improper care and maintenance, insufficient prevention and/or protection in kitchen workstations and underneath furniture, misuse or improper alterations of original manufactured products, unsuitable environment, extreme environmental condition such as exposure to extreme heat, dryness, moisture, water saturation, structural changes in subfloor, settlement and or uneven subfloor will void the warranty.
- **ETM SURFACE DESIGN SIGNATURE BRUSHED HERRINGBONE** Prefinished Engineered Hardwood Floors should be installed in normal environment where its interior relative humidity level (in the air) has to be **maintained between 40% to 60% with a temperature of 65-73°F (18-23°C) all year round**, to ensure the best performance of the **ETM SURFACE DESIGN SIGNATURE BRUSHED HERRINGBONE** engineered hardwood flooring and prevent possible damage not covered by warranty. Installation of a humidifier or de-humidifier may be necessary to maintain the floor to perform within this normal relative humidity level. Exposure to higher or lower levels of heat and/or humidity may result in expansion and/or contraction of the floor boards resulting in separation between joints, cupping, splitting of boards, warping (wood will warp if excessive moisture gets into the boards), bridging (which is caused by insufficient expansion spacing) and wood deformation or other problems. Problems resulting from exposure to levels of heat and/or humidity other than those specified herein are not covered by this warranty.
- Natural wood characteristics such as mineral streaks, small knots, grain variations, etc. are normal characteristics and are NOT considered as defects. Nature's Trademarks leave no two pieces of wood the same and colour or other variations can occur. We cannot warrant against natural variations or the normal minor differences between colour samples and the colour of installed floors. Wood is a product of nature. Colour variations are a normal occurrence due to species, aging and may change in color due to exposure to UV light or sunlight; these are not covered by warranty. Area rugs should be moved periodically to minimize the effects of ultraviolet light on hardwood floors. Any product deformity that is not measurable or that is visible only in certain light or from a certain angle is not considered a defect and is therefore not covered by warranty. Gloss level reduction is not considered surface wear and therefore is also not covered by warranty.
- Splinters, splits and surface checks not visible during installation but appear later are not covered by this warranty. Some checks are allowed for certain grades of flooring at the time of manufacturing. Refer to the Qualiflor Grading Rules.
- It is the responsibility of the customer or installer to inspect all pieces of flooring for visible defects prior to installation. No warranty will be offered for appearance related claims on the products that are installed.
- The manufacturer cannot warrant a colour match of **ETM SURFACE DESIGN SIGNATURE BRUSHED HERRINGBONE** products to other wood products, such as stairs, stair railings, cabinets, trim, moulding, etc.
- Only approved prefinished hardwood flooring cleaners and maintenance products are appropriate for use on our products. Use of non-approved cleaners and maintenance products or any oil soap or ammonia-based cleaners will void all warranties.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTION

IMPORTANT!

Flooring should be placed in the room in which it is to be installed at least 48 hours prior to installation. **Do not open packages until you are ready to begin installation.** Hardwood flooring is a natural product, it is not flawless. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect each board for acceptable color and visual defects prior to installation. The accepted industry standard permits a defect limit of up to 5%. The manufacturer will replace any defective products above the 5% standard. Incidental or consequential costs, such as labor charges resulting from the installation of defective material will not be covered. For Herringbone pattern, the box contains equal amount of LEFT and RIGHT PLANKS. To determine left planks, the long side tongue is on the right with the top end joint has the groove. For the right plank, the long side tongue is on the right with the top end joint has the tongue. (Both are a mirror image of each other.)

SUBFLOOR MOISTURE CHECK

- **ETM SURFACE DESIGN SIGNATURE BRUSHED HERRINGBONE** can be installed over dry and sound level surface.
- Wood subfloor: Wood subfloor must be dry with moisture reading not exceeding 12% and within 4% moisture content of the wood flooring. Please contact your local dealers for the availability of wood moisture meters.
- Concrete subfloor: Concrete subfloor should be cured and dry and tested for moisture content. Prior to installation, concrete subfloor should preferably be 45 to 90 days old, 30 days being the absolute minimum. Concrete moisture meter must be used to check subfloor moisture level. Using a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter meter, moisture content readings should not exceed 4.5%; in case of positive reading, calcium chloride test must be performed. The concrete subfloor moisture rate must not exceed 3 lbs / 1,000sf / 24 hours. If the reading exceeds 3 lbs, use a complete moisture-proofing system recommended by approved adhesive manufacturer. Please consult your local dealers for professional recommendations in such area.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

- For stapled/nailed down installation, minimum thickness for subfloor requires 5/8" (16mm) or thicker plywood (or 3/4" (23/32") approved OSB chipboard subfloor), when installed over 16-inch (40cm) on center joists.
- Wood subfloor must be securely screwed down to joists to prevent any movement or squeaks. Thoroughly inspect and replace existing floor or subfloor that shows evidence of water damage or structural weakness.
- Subfloor surface must be flat and maximum tolerance is 3/16" per 10'. If necessary, grind down any irregularities, using #20 grit papers, and fill any uneven spot with a compatible leveling compound.
- Allow 1/2" expansion space around the perimeter of the room. All door casing should be notched out or undercut.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

Subfloor must be clean and free of paint, wax, oil, drywall mud and foreign materials. **Concrete floor must be dry under 4.5% moisture content.** Uneven subfloor must be eliminated by grinding or the use of a compatible leveling compound. Subfloor must be flat to 3/16" per 10' radius. Maintain room temperature at 65-73°F (18-23°C) and relative humidity 40% to 60%. Do not open packages until ready to begin the installation. Expansion space of 1/2" must be provided along perimeter of the room. All door casing should be notched out or under cut. A moisture cured urethane full spread wood floor adhesive must be used for best performance. Latex based adhesive is not recommended. Must use proper trowels recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.

STEP 1

Start by establishing your pattern direction considering the homeowner's preference. Keep in mind that the directional pattern may look best with the points facing the direction of the longest dimension of the room or a major focal point.

STEP 2

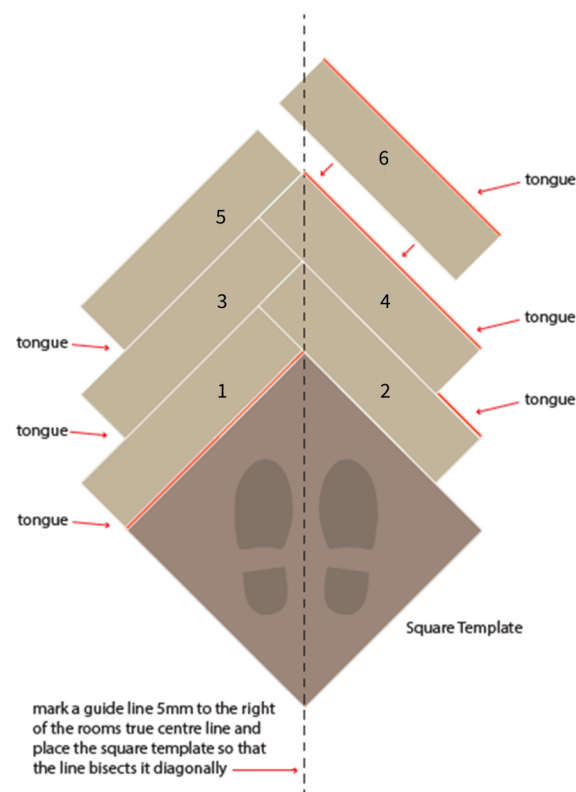
It is important to be precise with a herringbone installation so ensuring the first row is correctly positioned and square is the key.

Establish your working lines for the herringbone pattern:

1. Find the center of the room and use a plumb line to mark out a center line. The apex of the first row of planks will run along this line. **Note:** If the center line is used to align the square template, then the row apex will be offset by the depth of the tongue which is approximately 5 mm. If total accuracy is required, then first find the room's center line and then mark an offset guide line 5 mm to its right and use this line to place the square template.
2. Starting close to the wall place the square template so that the offset guide line bisects square diagonally from opposite angles. Once positioned, screw the template to the subfloor.
3. Working from this template will ensure the first row's apex follows the center line.
4. Standing on or behind the square template, apply the approved adhesive with the recommended trowel to the area in front of the square. **Note:** It is good practice to loose lay the first row to make sure you are happy with the orientation guide line and placement of the square template. **Tip:** It is also important to mix the planks to ensure an even distribution of grade, grain and colour variation across the finished floor.



- As per the diagram on the right, place plank 1, with tongue against the left-hand side of the square template so that the leading header is in line with the right-hand edge of the square template.
- Place plank 2 with tongue facing away so that the grooved edge is pressed against both the header joint of plank 1 and the righthand side of the square template.
- Repeat points 5 & 6 placing planks onto the bed of adhesive ensuring that they connect, the leading corner of the herringbone pattern should be positioned over the center line which is 5 mm left of the guide line. **Tip:** Use a hammer and tapping block to push the planks together, occasionally lift a plank and check the adhesive has full coverage.
- Once the first row has reached the opposite end of the room or the finish point, use a tapping block and hammer to make any adjustments while the adhesive is still wet and remove any adhesive which has not been covered. **Important Tip:** Remove any adhesive spills from the face of the planks while it is wet with a damp cloth and recommended cleaner before the adhesive sets. Allow the adhesive to fully cure and this row will form affixed point template for subsequent rows.



STEP 3

Complete the Installation (refer to the diagram on the right)

- Working off the first row, loose lay the second row by placing and checking that the apex of the second row is parallel to the center line.
- Once you are ready to install, apply adhesive to the area adjacent to the first row.
- Starting at the 'End Wall', install the first half of the second row in two halves. The first plank (19) should be placed so that the long-grooved edge is pressed against the header joint from the last plank in the first row (18) and the header joint groove connects with the next section of exposed tongue the next plank (16) in the first row. Repeat this process with the first half the second row until the square template is reached.
- Once the first half of the second row is in place there is no need to wait for the adhesive to set. The second half of the second row can be installed. Beginning at the 'Start Wall' place the next plank (28) so that the long-grooved edge is pressed against the header joint of the last plank (27) and the grooved header joint connect with the exposed tongue of the next plank (26).
- Repeat this process to fill both sides of the first row cutting planks to fit the perimeter of the room so that adequate expansion gap is maintained which can then be covered by skirting or moulding.
- A border may be installed using a plunge saw to cut away the planks to make the required space. A groove can then be machined into the cut edge so that blocks can be joined.

