

Oregon Canadian Forest Products, Inc.
Installation Instructions for Hardwood Flooring

Please refer to the National Wood Flooring Association's (NWFA) Hardwood Flooring Installation Guide for general installation instructions. Some additional information is included here. If you are unable to locate details addressing a specific issue, please contact our office.

Product Quality

Final responsibility for product quality falls to the installer. Flooring should be carefully inspected for moisture content, color, finish and quality before installation. Any questions or concerns should be addressed before installation proceeds.

Job Site Inspection

Installer must determine prior to beginning installation that the job site is fully and correctly prepared.

Sub-Surface Composition and Condition

Please refer to the NWFA Installation Guide for specific sub-floor requirements.

Material Inspection

Installer/owner has final inspection responsibility as to grade, manufacture and factory finish (if applicable). Reasonable criteria must be applied when holding out or cutting off pieces with defects.

Material Storage

Flooring must be stored in the environment in which it is expected to perform. Deliver materials to an environmentally controlled site. Store in a dry place, allowing airflow between the material and the sub-floor to reduce the possibility of condensation.

Installation

Avoid directly striking the edge of the product with mallets or hammers. Severe damage can be done to the tongue and/or groove either ruining the board or creating extra labor to cut out the damage. Use a block to hammer against if necessary. Face plates on fastening machines should be covered to likewise prevent damage to the flooring. Care should be taken to ensure that the proper adapter plate has been chosen for the thickness of product you are installing.

Mallet selection: Unfinished and Prefinished flooring must be treated differently with respect to the mallet selection. It is critical to use a mallet for Prefinished flooring that will not damage the finish. It is possible to create damage to the wood just below the surface of the finish by using too hard of a mallet; this will create bumps in the floor where the mallet has pushed up the compressed wood and finish.

Inappropriate air pressure settings on pneumatic fastening machines can also cause damage during installation. If necessary, choose one or two "sacrificial" boards to use while adjusting your equipment.

Nailing Pattern: For both our solid prefinished and unfinished flooring, and in both ½" and ¾" thicknesses, we recommend that all pieces are nailed approximately 2" to 3" from each end and at minimum intervals of 8" to 9".