

# 5.5" (5-1/2") WIDTH CORK PLANK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Please read these instructions thoroughly in conjunction with relevant country standards before installation.

### TRANSPORT, STORAGE, ACCLIMATION:

- Transport and store cartons in laying/flat position.
- Store planks at room temperature for at least 48 hours in their packaging, prior installation.
- Remove plastic wrapping from packaging only when ready to install.
- Room temperature must be at least 18°C (65°F) before & during installation.

## SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS:

### GENERAL:

Floating floors can be laid on top of most hard surfaces (e.g. concrete, ceramics, wood).

- Soft subfloors (e.g. carpets) must be removed.
- The subfloor must be even, flat, dry and variations should not exceed 3/16" in 8 feet radius.
- All type of hard subfloors must be dry (concrete screeds < 2.0 %; anhydrite screeds < 0.5 % - CM instrument).

### MOISTURE PROTECTION:

*Required on concrete/below grade only.*

- Use PE film/moisture barrier with minimum thickness of 0.2 mm (.008)

### RADIANT-HEATED SUBFLOORS:

- Subfloor surface temperature must not exceed 28°C (82°F).
- For detailed information, follow instructions of the subfloor heating system manufacturer/contractor or contact your supplier.

## PREVENTIVE CARE:

- If works will take place in the room where the floor is installed, protect with craft paper, plywood or hardboard.
- Do not drag furniture across the floor.
- Use felt pads on chair and furniture legs.
- Office roller chairs must comply with EN12529 (Type W). Use protective office mats under the rolling chairs.
- Place quality walk-off mats at all entrances to retain tracked in dirt, grit and moisture.
- Never use latex or rubber backed mats as they can permanently stain the floor.
- Avoid moisture on the floor. Clean up spills immediately.
- Ideal and healthy room conditions are 35-55% R.H. at 20°C (68°F).
- If necessary use a room humidifier.
- These floors are intended for indoor use only.
- Flooring products are based on natural materials, and will expand and contract through heating and non-heating seasons, thus experiencing some separation between the planks/tiles at different times during the year. Such separations are not considered a product defect.

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please read the General information section before installation.

### INSPECTION:

- Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage.
- Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions.
- If you are not satisfied do not install, and contact your supplier.

### TOOLS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- Electric saw • Spacers • Pencil • Set square
- PE film/Moisture Barrier • Adhesive tape

### MOISTURE PROTECTION:

*Required on concrete/below grade only.*

- Lay the PE film, allowing for at least 20 cm (8") overlapping and tape.
- Turn the film upward 5 cm (2") along the walls.
- Trim after the Trims / Moldings are fixed.

### BEFORE LAYING:

- Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks.
- Planks in the final row should be at least 5 cm wide.
- For this purpose, planks in the first row can be cut to smaller size.
- Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades.
- Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light.
- When installing on wood subfloors, flooring planks should run perpendicular to the direction of the subfloor joists.
- Planks must not be nailed or screwed to the subfloor.
- Trims / Moldings must not be fixed in a way which restricts the movement of the floor.

### EXPANSION GAPS:

- Provide 10 mm (3/8") expansion gaps to the walls and other fixed objects.
- Areas greater than 100 m<sup>2</sup> (900 sq. ft) or 10 m (30 feet) in either direction, transitions between rooms and asymmetrical areas require extra expansion gaps.

### START LAYING:

1. Start in the corner, turn the tongue side of the plank to the wall while maintaining a gap of 10 mm (2/5") on the short side.
2. Hold the next plank tight to the short end of the first one matching the corner, then fold it down with a single action movement. Make sure that the long sides of the planks make a straight line. Complete first row in the same way. Cut final plank of the first row to correct length and start next row with the piece leftover (must be at least 300 mm (12") long). Ensure that end joints are staggered at least 300 mm (12").
3. Place first plank of the new row with the tongue side at an angle against the groove side of the plank in the previous row. Press forward and lay it flat at the same time.
4. Place the second plank like the previous one and fold it down ensuring that no joint is noticed between short sides. Ensure that the plank is positioned on the integral locking strip of the plank in the previous row.
5. Adjust the distance to the wall to 10mm (2/5") when three rows are completed. Proceed installation as described above until reaching the opposite wall.

### CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE:

Use only recommended products. Contact us at 1-800-258-5758 for details.

