

NAIL DOWN FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

(For important information about preparation, we recommend that you download the General Preparation Guide)

Tools and materials required

Primatech H330 Hardwood Floor Nailer
18mm Primatech Trak Edge
Electric drill and bits
Primatech Hardwood Flooring Nails 50mm or 38mm
Tenon-saw, circular saw or handsaw
Claw hammer and nail punch
Measuring tape
Chalk line
Finishing nails

Step by step installation

1 Measure out from the wall (at both ends of the room) the width of the strip, plus 18mm expansion space, plus 6mm size of the tongue. This guideline must be at exactly a 90-degree angle adjacency to the wall. Mark the sub-floor accordingly; place the chalk line into position and snap. You will align the tongue of your starter strips along this chalk line.

2 Select the planks and then lay them out on the floor in the general pattern in which they will be installed. The straightest planks should be used for the first and second rows. Always select your planks with care. Those with flaws must be recut and used as starter boards for the next row.

3 Lay the tongue edge of the plank on the guideline leaving a 18mm space between the groove edge and the starting wall. The space could vary between 12mm and 18mm depending on the humidity of the home. This expansion space will allow the wood to expand if necessary.

4 The first row should be secured to the sub floor using screw shank flooring nails.

(a) Drill holes on the surface of the planks 25mm in from the back edge (grooved side), and 25mm in from the ends. Space the holes 200mm-250mm apart. Secure nails using a claw hammer and nail punch.

(b) Drill holes in the tongue of the plank on a 45-degree angle. Once again, drill holes 25mm in from both ends, and space the holes 200mm - 250mm apart. Secure nails using a claw hammer and nail punch.

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NOTE: to finish the first row, select a plank that is at least 150mm longer than required, as you will need this piece to start your second row. Also make sure that the end joint of the remaining piece does not line up with the end joint of the adjacent plank in the first row. Cut this plank. Position the two pieces into place and secure. Position the planks in the second row, making sure that the end joints are at least 150mm apart from those of the first row. Fasten these planks into place as described in section 4(b).

5 Install the balance of the floor using a Primatch Hardwood Flooring nailer, always keeping in mind to space the planks so as to avoid unsightly clusters of end joints.

6 The last four or five rows should be installed as described in section 4(b). The very last row will be face nailed as described in section 4(a). Fill in nail holes with whatever wood filler best blends with the colour of the floor.

7 Clean your floor with specially designed wood floor cleaner. Move your furniture back into place and enjoy the beauty of your new Caledonian hardwood floor.

CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE!