

# Parquet Wooden Floors

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## Installation manual

These boards are fitted as a so-called floating floor without being attached to the sub-floor. The floor structure or base should be permanent-dry, even and solid such as screed or chipboards. The planks are not suitable as a self-supporting floor. This flooring should not be used for installation in any damp or wet areas, rooms etc.

Before fitting make sure the sub-floor is sufficiently dry. We strongly recommend making a professional MARH (max. allowed residual humidity) measurement. A 0.2 mm thick moisture barrier (i.e. PE-foil) has to be installed on all mineral sub-floors such as screed or others.

The PE-foil should have a 20 cm overlap and the seams be held by plastic tape. In order to keep the sub-floor even, and to increase foot-step sound isolation, a suitable corrugated plank material with flush fitting seams should be placed between the parquet and sub-floor.

Check the sub-floor level with a straight ruler or with a straight floor plank.

The recesses or raised sections in the sub-floor should not exceed 3 mm in 1.000 mm. Cement-based or anhydride screed floors should be levelled with leveling compound filler. Chipboards should be checked for firmness and secured if necessary.

Open the packages when necessary as work progresses. Check that the parquet planks are sound before fitting them.

Should a plank be found faulty, do not fit it but keep it for possible later use e. g. last row.

For further information contact your dealer or supplier. The relative humidity of the room during and after laying should be between 50 to 60% and temperature at least 18°C (64°F).

Any gaps, small cracks or other deformations of the parquet caused by too dry or wet climatic room conditions are no reason for a claim.

A wooden floor is sensitive to humidity. For this reason an average sized living room should have a 10 mm gap between the edge of the floor and the wall or other surface it meets and which is to be covered by a skirting board or covering strip.

In bigger rooms the gap should be 1.5 mm for every meter of floor width, measured across the planks, (an 8 m wide floor; 8 x 1.5 mm = 12 mm). A similar gap should also be left -around other fixtures such as piping, between different rooms, bigger areas (more than 8 x 12m). In special cases please contact a professional installer.

## Instructions

Use a sufficient number of wedges to maintain the gap. The planks should preferably be laid in the direction of incoming light. In small, narrow areas (e. g. hallways) we recommend that installation follows the length of the room.

Begin from a sound wall with the first plank long side placing it in the right corner of the room (**picture 1**). Check with a line of string that the row is straight (**picture 2**). If the wall is not straight, mark the first row of planks to the shape of the wall and saw the planks accordingly. Fix the first plank by using wedges as shown in picture 2.

The second plank of the first row is carefully aligned without gap to the short side of the first board and slightly knocked down to engage the short side lock system by using a rubber hammer. A tight fit is an indication that the boards are locked properly.

Please ensure always that no open joints are visible and take care not to damage the edges (**see picture 3**). Please continue in this way with all planks of the first row. The length of the last plank of the first row to the wall (please remind expansion gap) is marked on the plank with the help of a shifting square and the plank (**A, picture 4**) then saw along this mark.

Begin the next row with the piece left from the previous row (B, min. length 40 cm, **picture 4**). Put this piece (begin on the right side) close to the first row - tongue facing groove of first row - lift it in an approx. 30° angle into the groove of the long-side, push it down until it fills (**picture 1**). Should there be any small gaps you might use a tapping lock to knock them gently together to close the joints.

Subsequent planks are first positioned at an angle along the first row, and the short sides are pressed tightly together before engaging the lock system (like in row 1). A sideways and downward pressure will then lock the boards together (by slight use of a rubber hammer, **picture 3**). Please make sure that no open joints are visible and take care not to damage the edges.

Please continue to install the following rows in this way. Take particular note that the end joints of adjoining planks should be displaced by at least 40 cm.

When the flooring is installed as a floating floor on subfloor heating (please observe the special regulations for parquet on such system) or in areas with higher traffic it is recommended to use an additional application of glue. The short sides (**as shown in picture 5**) should be glued with a very thin continuous line of adhesive.

Please see picture 5 for the correct position of the glue. Use a bottle of PVAC wood adhesive with a pointed tubular applicator. Remove excess glue directly after installation of the board with a damp, clean cloth and afterwards clean with a dry cloth. The max. surface temperature should not exceed 26° C.

Saw the door frames so that the parquet can be laid underneath (**picture 6**). For through piping, holes with a diameter 20 mm greater than the pipe should be drilled through the planks. When the plank is fitted, glue the piece in place. Cover the hole with a suitable gasket.

At the end: Measure the exact width of the last panel row (**picture 7**). To do this lay a plank (B) on the previous plank row (A). Then lay a second plank (C) to be measured with the tongue to the wall and use a straight-edge and saw the plank along the marking. Please not forget the wall spacing.

Fit the last plank (as before) carefully using the pull-iron if necessary. Use a sufficient number of wedges to maintain the gap (**picture 8**).

Finally take off all wedges and cover the gap between wall and floor with a skirting board. A covering strip is used to join parquet floors and other materials or e. g. thresholds.

And to finish off, fill possible gaps with a filler that matches the shade of the parquet (**picture 9**).

Should it be necessary to remove a plank, please proceed as show in **picture 11**. We also recommend a gluing of any short side click connection which has been installed and opened again also the short side of the last row.

In rare cases, it may happen that the elements have a slight convex deformation. Elements with a curvature of up to 20 mm can be laid without affecting the finished floor. However, keep in mind that the end faces must be offset according to the installation instructions.

### Maintenance manual for oiled flooring

If you installed oiled parquet, please follow the guidelines below, for preserving the beauty of its natural surface.

Please use a doormat at the entrance in order to keep away sand and water from the finished flooring. Furniture legs should be provided with felt or as a protection against scratches and impacts. Please avoid walking on the finished flooring with stiletto heels.

The daily basic cleaning can be done with a broom or a vacuum cleaner. Please exclusively use WOCA Wooden Floor Soap for your oiled wooden flooring for the regular damp cleaning. The special soap protects and cleans your flooring with care. Please pay attention to the correct dose (125 ml wooden floor soap on 5 l luke warm water).

Use a second bucket with clear water to clean and wring out your mop in between times. Do not finish off wiping with clear water (protecting coconut and soya oils would be removed). With each soap treatment your flooring will become more insensitive.

In case of a strong use you can brighten up the flooring with „WOCA Cleaner“ and „WOCA Maintenance Oil“ any time.

The relative humidity should always be between 50 - 60 %. In case it sinks below 50 % in a heated room in winter always use an air improver.

### Maintenance manual for lacquered flooring

If you installed a lacquered floor, it should be treated with customary, appropriate wooden flooring maintenance products from time to time. Use only a well wrung out cloth. Always wipe dry immediately until no more moisture is visible on the floor. Please follow the instructions on the packaging labels of each product. Do not use strong detergents which are not specifically made for lacquered wood flooring.

The relative humidity should always be between 50 - 60 %. In case it sinks below 50 % in a heated room in winter always use an air improver.

