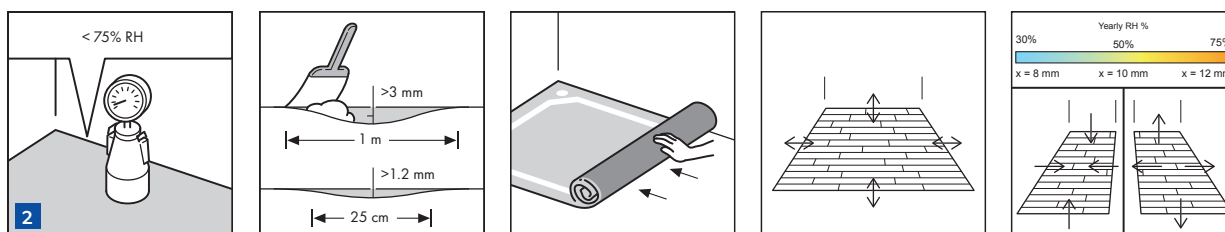


Important Information

It is important to employ safe working practices when cutting or fitting floor coverings. Protective eyewear and safe footwear (steel capped preferably) should be worn throughout the installation to help prevent against injury. Dust extraction and respiratory protection (appropriate dust masks) should be used when cutting flooring or trims using a saw of any type. Safety Data Sheets are available by contacting your local Premium Floors or Floorscape Branch. If using ancillary products like levelling compounds etc, it is recommended to adhere to the specific safety requirements as stated by the manufacturer of the product.

INTRODUCTION

Quick-Step Timber floors are made using carefully screened raw materials, engineered to provide a high quality, pre-finished timber floor that will most often last a lifetime. The patented Uniclic joining system provides for fast, easy and strong floating installations, achieved by clicking the planks into position without the need for messy adhesives. Quick-Step Timber floors can be installed atop any level, dry, clean and sound surface, including existing hard floor coverings. An expansion gap needs to be left, during the installation of the floor, to the entire floor perimeter, allowing the floor to expand or contract (as one sheet or raft) across the subfloor in line with seasonal variations in relative humidity. A successful installation will rely heavily on strict adherence to these installation instructions. It is important to note that the two most common causes of floor failure are installations over uneven subfloors and installations that do not provide sufficient perimeter expansion gap.



1 Site inspection

Timber floors should be installed in a “timber friendly environment”. This means that timber flooring is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded. Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, e.g.: around combustion heaters and other heat sources, as these generate extreme low humidity. Quick-Step timber should not be installed until these measures are in place and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions.

2 Subfloors

a. Concrete subfloors – should be dry, level and clean

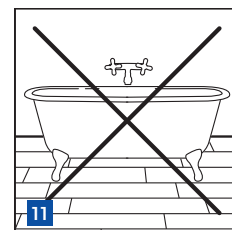
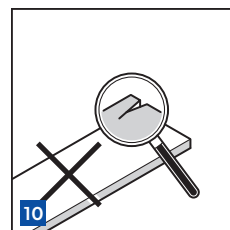
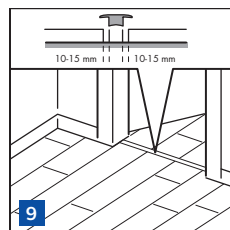
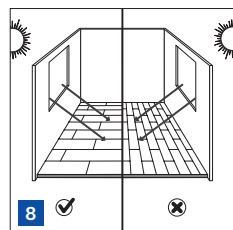
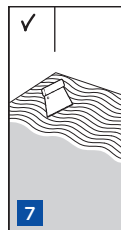
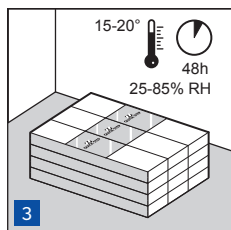
- Dry – Concrete subfloors should be dry prior to installing a Quick-Step timber floor. Check the moisture content of your concrete subfloor to ensure the moisture content is below 75% R/H in accordance with Standard AS1884. For knowingly or obviously “wet” concrete subfloors, first remedy the source of moisture ingress. Installation can then be undertaken using 200Um builder’s plastic, ensuring joins are overlapped 300 mm and taped using a vapour-tight tape. Builders plastic should be installed vertically up walls and other vertical interfaces and can be trimmed after the flooring is installed.
- Level – Concrete subfloors levels should not exceed 3 mm variation over 1 metre in any direction, using a 1 metre straightedge. Uneven subfloors should be ground flat or levelled using a cementitious self-smoothing compound like Ardex K15 (or similar).
- Clean – Concrete floors should be free of old adhesives, building rubble etc. and generally clean prior to installation.

b. Timber subfloors (including chipboard, existing floorboards, plywood etc.) – should be sound, dry, level and clean:

- Sound – Timber floors should be structurally sound, ensuring that loose boards / sheets are re-nailed or fixed to provide a sound, solid surface over which to install your new floor.
- Dry – Timber floors should be moisture tested to ensure they are dry. Generally, this means below 12% moisture content when tested using an electrical resistance moisture meter designed to test timber. It is prudent to also check that areas under timber subfloors are sufficiently ventilated.
- Level – Timber subfloors levels should not exceed 3 mm variation over 1 metre in any direction, using a 1 metre straightedge. Uneven subfloors should be sanded flat or, in some instances can be filled using a cementitious self-smoothing compound.
- Clean – Timber subfloors should be clean and free of old adhesives, building rubble etc. prior to installation.

c. Installation over existing floor coverings – existing floor coverings should be sound, dry, level and clean

- Sound – if installation is to occur over existing floor coverings, the existing flooring should be well adhered and comply with the requirements of being dry, level and clean as prescribed above.



3 Storing packs on site

Packs should be checked for damage upon delivery to site. Damage to any packs should be reported to your place of purchase immediately. Packs delivered to site should be stored flat and preferably off the ground unless the installation will take place within 12 hours of the delivery. They should be stored in a dry, well-ventilated area inside the installation area. **Do not open the timber packs until you are ready to begin installation.**

4 Check your underlay

Check that your underlay is the recommended underlay as results or performance cannot be guaranteed on underlays other than Quick-Step Combi-Lay or Quiet-Step Combi-Lay. If you have any questions at all, please consult your place of purchase.

5 Check your trims & profiles

It is recommended that you know how the trims and profiles to be installed with your flooring are installed as some profile bases are best installed prior to installing your floor. If you are in doubt, please contact your place of purchase prior to installation.

6 Installation over heated subfloors

Most Quick-Step Timber floors can be installed over heated subfloors but please note that there are specific guidelines for all installations over heated subfloors. Please contact your place of purchase for specific installation advice that will supplement these instructions when installing over heated subfloors. Note: that Spotted Gum and Blackbutt timber flooring should not be installed atop heated subfloors. Please reference our special installation guidelines for installation over heated subfloors.

7 Direct stick installations

Quick-Step Timber floors can also be direct stuck to a well-prepared subfloor, providing specific and additional installations instructions provided by your adhesive supplier are followed. All the adhesive supplier's recommendations regarding preparation, application, and use of a moisture barrier and other accessories must be followed. Please reference our special direct stick guidelines for direct stick installation.

8 Selecting the installation direction

Quick-Step Timber floors will look and perform better when installed along the length of an installation area. Another consideration is the direction of natural light, with installations looking better parallel to the source of incoming light. Also remember that timber flooring is not colourfast, and that UV light will change the colour of your timber floor as part of a natural process called oxidation.

9 Compartmentalisation

Quick-Step Timber flooring will often need to be compartmentalised. This means that a control joint should be provided at doorways. This will improve the floor performance by allowing each compartment to contract and expand independently, without affecting the movement of the adjoining area. Otherwise, most large, open spaces can normally be installed without any control joints. If you are unsure consult your Quick-Step retailer about the best location for control joints.

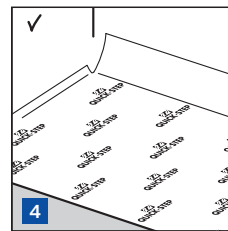
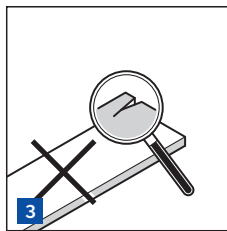
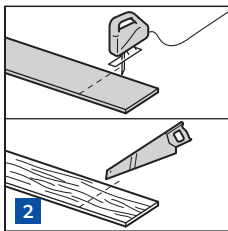
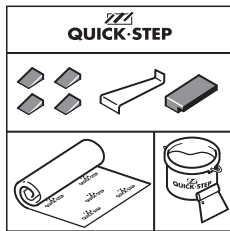
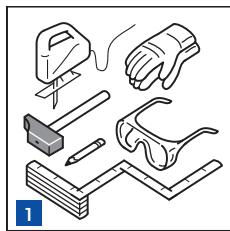
10 Check boards prior to installation

It is important that, during the installation process, you:

- Check that the floor that is delivered is the floor that was ordered
- Check each plank prior to installation. Planks with visible faults should not be installed. Install flooring in well-lit conditions/areas.

11 Finally

Quick-Step Timber flooring without waterproof surface should not be installed in wet areas like bathrooms, laundries and toilets. Any questions prior to or during the installation process should be directed to your place of purchase.



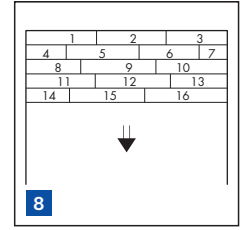
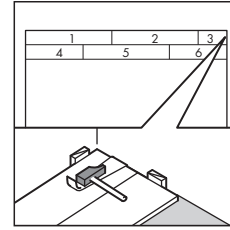
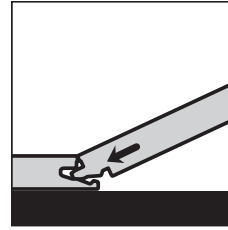
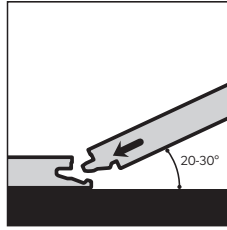
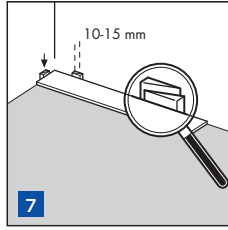
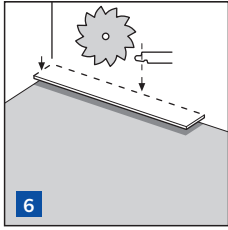
1 Quick-Step Timber floors are easy to install and require only a few tools. In addition to a few common DIY tools (tape measure, pencil, hammer, handsaw (or electric saw) or jigsaw, carpenters square and possible power drill and hand gloves) you will also need the Quick-Step installation kit containing a tapping block, pull bar and spacers. Be sure you have all tools available before starting the installation.

2 When cutting the Quick-Step Timber plank be sure you are not creating splinters or chipping when cutting. If using a handsaw or a drop saw, keep the decorative surface faced up. If using a jigsaw keep decorative surface down.

3 Every Quick-Step Timber plank is methodically checked for any imperfections before being packed. Still, packs can be damaged during transportation or when the packs are opened. **Do not install a plank with a damaged surface, edge or click joint.** Carefully inspect each plank before installing. At Quick-Step a pack can contain one plank that consists of multiple, shorter pieces. These pieces can be used to start or finish rows but should also be installed randomly throughout the floor to add to the authenticity of your floor. Be aware of the fact wood is not a homogeneous material. There will be differences from plank to plank as there are differences from tree to tree. This aspect provides you with the warm and natural feeling a timber floor has to offer.

4 If you choose to install a floating floor you must lay the first section of underlay parallel to the length of the planks to be installed. Gradually add the next sections of underlay as you lay the planks. It is vital that you use a recommended underlay to smooth away any unevenness in the floor base. The Quick-Step underlays also incorporate an excellent damp proof to protect the timber panels from subfloor moisture.

5 Often the installation is done parallel to the room's longest wall. The most common direction of installation of all types of timber floors is from left to right with the tongue side (A) facing the starting wall. Always remember the spacers to ensure your expansion gap!



6 Depending on the width of the room, you may choose to 'rip down' the starting planks, so you are not finishing on the opposing wall with thin pieces. If the starting wall is curved, the first row may need to be scribed to accommodate this. Use spacers! Always cut off the tongue on the first plank also on the short side.

7 Select a starting wall that is long and visible, the first three rows will be installed parallel to this wall. Install the first row of plastic and/or underlay as required then install the first row, tongue (male) to the wall to assess the straightness of the starting wall. If the starting wall is undulating or uneven, square this row off to the other side of the room using a tape measure and scribe the first row of planks to cater for the undulations while accommodating a uniform 10-15 mm expansion gap. If scribing is not required, remove the tongue along these starting planks. In terms of the required expansion gap, a minimum of 10 mm is required in lower relative humidity environments like Melbourne or Hobart. A 15 mm gap is required in areas of higher relative humidity like Queensland or Darwin.

Remember that Quick-Step Timber Flooring may expand up to 4 mm per LM in the width, as such the wider the floor, and the higher the humidity, the larger the perimeter gap should be. Now we will assemble the first 2 rows in a staggered formation. This will provide a foundation for additional rows, it can be assembled away from the wall, then slid into position with minimum 10 mm spacers installed along the wall and at the ends. The off cut from the first 2 rows can now be used to start the 3rd row, providing it is longer than 300 mm. If not, a new plank will need to be cut to begin the 3rd row. Now install the 1st plank of the 3rd row by rotating the long join into position and install the 10-15 mm spacer at the start of this row. Continue installing the floor left to right using the off cut from row 3 to begin row 4. (Note: Remember to ensure that you stagger end joins by greater than 300 mm).

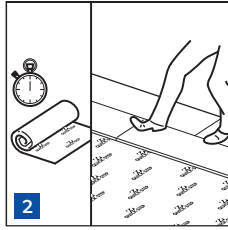
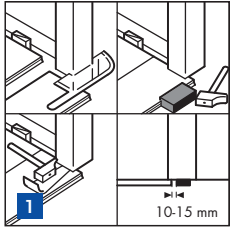
Planks can be rotated into position on the long side (20-30 degrees) then tapped up in the length using a suitable tapping block and hammer (angle and tap method).

In some instances, the end joint can be rotated into position first and then the long side "rolled" into position (angle and angle method).

8 THE BODY AND THE FINAL ROW - Continue installing the floor left to right. The final row will need to be trimmed to fit using a jigsaw and brought into place using the pulling iron. Remember to allow 10-15 mm for your expansion gap at all walls and vertical surfaces. This gap will be covered last of all.

Special notes

- 10 mm is the minimum perimeter expansion gap for all applications. Larger floors or floors that will be exposed to higher levels of relative humidity will need larger expansion gaps. Some multi-room or very large installations will need expansion joints installed throughout the floor. In most cases, multi-room installations will need to be separated at doorways using connector trims, a range of which are available from your local Quick-Step Retailer. Quick-Step Timber flooring will expand and contract more in the width than in the length. A Quick-Step Timber floor will move very little when maintained at a RH of between 40 and 60%. However, in dryer areas the floor will contract, while in more humid areas the floor will expand. To ensure enough clearance for this natural movement and to avoid open joints, squeaking, etc. always keep a minimum gap of 10 mm from the walls, thresholds, staircases and other vertical surfaces. Use the spacers of the installation kit to keep the correct perimeter expansion gap. This perimeter gap can be 10 mm in areas of low humidity like the South Island of NZ, or inland Australia, but may need to be as much as 15 mm in areas of high humidity like in Queensland or Coastal regions.
- Remember that the bigger the floor, the larger the gap that is generally required, and that the floor will move more in the width than in the length. A floating installation is never fastened with nails, glue, screws or in any other way.
- Quick-Step Timber flooring can be direct stuck to a prepared subfloor. We recommend the use of Quick-Step Parquet Adhesive used as instructed, along with their recommended ancillary products. Please ensure you contact your place of purchase for special instructions prior to direct stick installation.
- When installing Quick-Step Timber flooring on stairs, glue both tread and riser using a recommended polyurethane or construction adhesive. No underlay should be used on tread or riser. Special stair nosing trims are also available for this application.
- It is the installer's responsibility to check each plank for faults or defects, in appropriate finished lighting conditions, prior to installation. Labour costs or any other costs associated with the replacement of planks after they have been installed will not be accepted by Premium Floors Australia P/L, Floorscape Ltd. (NZ) or its agents.
- Quick-Step Timber flooring is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded. Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, e.g.: around combustion heaters and other heaters, as these generate extreme low humidity. Quick-Step Timber should not be installed until these measures are in place and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions.
- It is the homeowner's responsibility to provide a moderate indoor environment to prevent cracking and distortion of the flooring, even when unoccupied.
- All permanent cabinetry and joinery should be installed prior to the floorcovering. It is important such cabinetry does not impair the free expansion or contraction of the timber floor. Kickboards can be installed last of all, "Waterfall" style bench tops set up to allow flooring to slide underneath and other techniques used for a discrete installation.

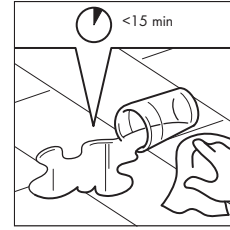
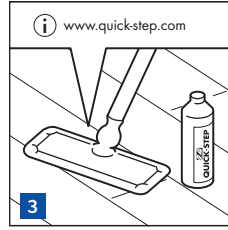
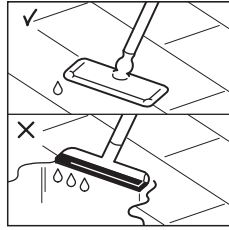
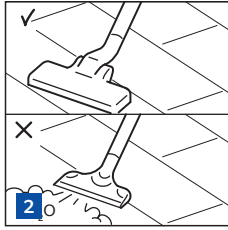
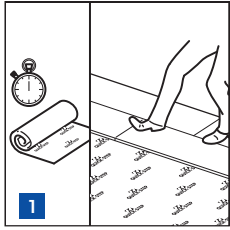


1 For a nice finish where the next flooring meets a threshold, we recommend undercutting the architrave and door jams. This is best done prior to commencement of the installation. Use a piece of flooring and underlay as a guide, and with a flexible hand saw undercut wherever possible. Then the cut end of the flooring can slide in under the jam and out of sight. The final planks will need to be ripped down the length and brought into position using the pulling bar if necessary.

2 Inspect the final surface of the installed floor, remove all spacers and install the Quick-Step scotia, or skirting boards, making sure to anchor these only to the vertical surfaces and not to the flooring itself. Finishing profiles can now also be installed. Like traditional wood flooring, your Quick-Step Timber floor can be re-coated with an approved coating when it begins to show signs of wear. Contact your Quick-Step retailer for more information when necessary.

3 Quick-Step Timber flooring that has the Waterproof Surface technology are suitable for installation in a bathroom and/or laundry with the following requirements:

- It is not suitable in such areas where a floor waste is installed.
- The bathroom or laundry should be separated at the doorway with a profile.
- The perimeter gap must be treated using the Quick-Step Hydrokit. This incorporates soft foam rod and flexible clear silicone to ensure that the perimeter is sealed from moisture and such can not make it's way under the floor. The door profile and architrave should also be sealed using the flexible clear silicone.



1 When installing a floating floor, you can walk on it during installation and immediately afterwards. During times when the air is usually extremely dry, we strongly recommend using humidifiers to normalise the environment and obtain a constant humidity level. In times of high relative humidity, the room should be well ventilated.

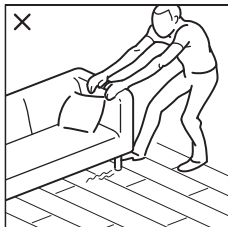
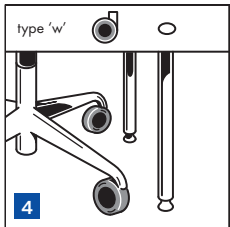
2 To remove dirt and dust from the floor use a dry mop, a brush or a vacuum cleaner. Make sure the vacuum cleaner is equipped with soft wheels and a special timber brush to avoid scratching your floor. Never use a steam cleaner to clean your wooden floor. For the first cleaning of the floor make sure to first remove **ALL** dust and dirt before using a cloth. Wet maintenance of a wooden floor is absolutely forbidden.

3 Only use the Quick-Step cleaning kit for floor maintenance. Remember that using other cleaning products may damage your floor or leave a residue that will affect the appeal of your floor. Always wipe the floor dry immediately so that no more moisture or liquid is visible on the floor. Timber floors must only be cleaned with a barely damp cloth. Quick-Step Timber floors, which are oiled, requiring special care.

For Quick-Step Timber floors with waterproof surface:

Wet or steam mops can be used on these products, however they are not recommended.

Please reference the Quick-Step Flooring Maintenance Guide available from your retailer.



4 Castor chairs must use only "soft wheels" (type W) and a plastic protector mat should be placed under the area where the chair is placed/used. All furniture legs should be protected by felt pads to avoid scratching the lacquered/oiled surface. Avoid sliding/dragging furniture over the wooden surface to avoid possible scratching. Lifting the furniture is recommended. Use protective sheeting like Masonite or MDF to protect the floor when returning appliances or heavy furniture back into position. Always place a quality door mat at any entrance door to avoid introduction of sand, dirt or water which might create scratches.

5 The manufacturer bears no responsibility for problems or damage which arises through improper preparation of the subfloor, the floor installation itself or the exposure of the floor to unsuitable climatic conditions/maintenance. The right for compensation for damaged or differently coloured panels does not extend to planks which have already been installed. In the event of further questions please contact your retailer.