SOLSTONE
A DIVISION OF PELICAN INT'L

Woodland Collection
Installation Instructions

COLOR VARIATION:

This flooring is not a natural product and color variations are to be expected. For best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons and do not install boards varying greatly in color next to each other.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION:

Subfloor should be level, dry, and free of imperfections. An uneven subfloor can make the floor feel unstable and cause premature damage.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS THOROUGHLY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION. IN ADDITION TO THESE INSTRUCTIONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE INSTALLER FOLLOW ALL INSTALLATION GUIDELINES AS SET FORTH BY THE NATIONAL WOOD FLOORING ASSOCIATION (NWFA).
If the following instructions leave any unanswered questions or if additional information is required, please contact manufacturer through your dealers.

FLOORING MATERIAL SHOULD BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO INSTALLATION
Responsibility for the suitability of Manufacturer and accompanying products for each individual installation cannot be assumed by Manufacturer, since Manufacturer has no control over the installer's proper application. **Should an individual plank be doubtful as to appearance or dimension, the installer should not use this piece.**

PRE-INSTALLATION JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS

Manufacturer cannot be held responsible for site conditions. Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for grade, color, finish and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. **If flooring is not acceptable, contact your dealer immediately and arrange for replacement.** Manufacturer cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the jobsite and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. Manufacturer is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory jobsite and/or subfloor conditions.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project. All work involving water or moisture should be completed before flooring installation.

Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 18" (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6-20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawlspace should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.

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PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

All Subfloor must be:

- Dry and will remain dry: Subfloor must remain dry year-round. Moisture content of wood sub floors must not exceed 11%. Concrete must be tested for moisture content using the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride test method, a non-invasive moisture meter, or a pin/probe moisture meter.
- Structurally sound.
- Clean: Thoroughly swept and free of all debris.
- Level: Flat to 3/16" per 10' radius.

Wood subfloors must be dry and well secured. Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland Based leveling patch.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, and should have minimum 6-mil polyfilm between concrete and ground. Subfloor should be flat and level within 3/16" per 10' radius. If necessary, grind high spots down and level low spots with a Portland leveling compound.

All concrete should be tested for moisture prior to installation using the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride test method, a non-invasive moisture meter, or a pin/probe meter. When using a Calcium Chloride Test, the result must not exceed 3 lbs per 1000 sqft in a 24 hour-period.

A moisture test must be performed to ensure that the concrete slab is dry. Remember, a concrete slab on/below grade that measures dry today may become moist in the future due to rising ground water. Installing a moisture barrier now may be viewed as an insurance policy against concrete becoming wet in the future. Manufacturer is not responsible for site related moisture issues.

A minimum of a 6-mil polyfilm moisture barrier system is required between concrete and Rigid Core Vinyl Flooring.

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INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods:

- Tape Measure
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Pencil
- Pry bar or pull bar
- Chalk line
- Wood or plastic spacers
- Crosscut power saw
- 3M Blue Tape
- Acceptable subfloor types:
- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least 1/2" thick)
- Underlayment grade particle board
- OSB (at least 3/4" thick)
- Concrete Slab

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

Make sure your subfloor is tested for moisture first and is properly prepared.

Work from several open boxes of flooring and “dry lay” the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colors and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. It also allows you the opportunity to select very dark/light pieces for use in hidden areas in order to create a more uniform floor. Remember, it is the installers’ responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to pull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank plus about 1/4" for expansion space. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is not straight.

You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to conflict your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 6". When cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can rise the cut-off end to begin the next row. If cut-off end is 6" in length or less, discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length and use it to start the next row. Always begin each row from the same side of the rooms. When near a wall, you can use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints.

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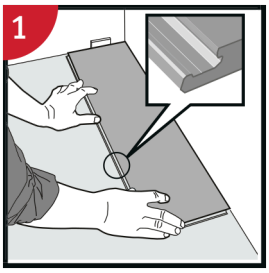
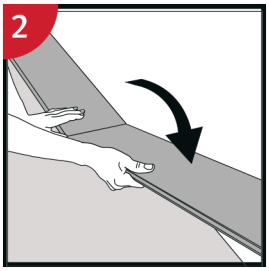
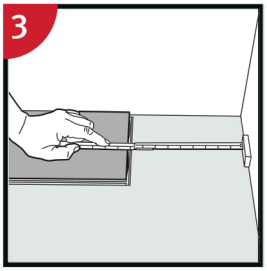
STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION



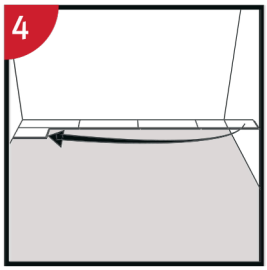
First Plank, First Row
Place a spacer with predicted thickness to the left and position the panel against the wall. Later, after 3 rows, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with predicted spacers.



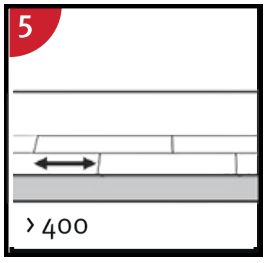
Second Plank, First Row
Press the short end of the next plank at an angle to the first one, and then fold down. Complete the first row the same way.



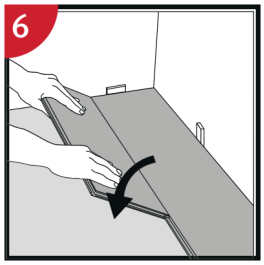
At the end of the first row, put a spacer to the wall and measure the length of the last panel to fit.



Second Row
First panel min length > 400 mm. Put a spacer against the left wall.



Staggered joint distance i.e. minimum distance between short ends of panels in parallel rows shall not be less than the given length.



Place the plank and angle against the plank in the previous row, press forward and fold down at the same time. Leave the plank in a somewhat up angled position when the planks start to lock. To make this easier, a wedge with the suitable angle can be placed under the plank near the short side joint as support.

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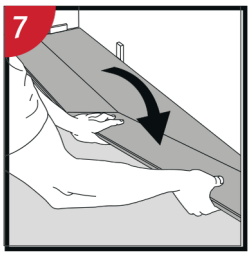
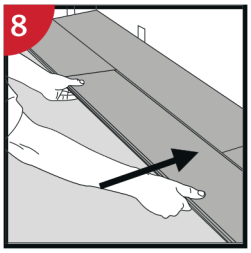
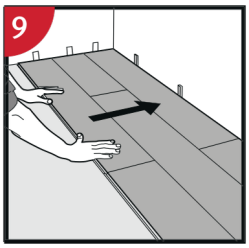


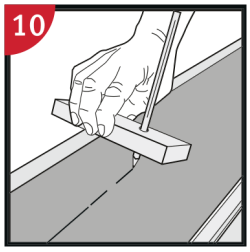
Second Plank, Second Row
Place the short end of the plank at an angle against the previous installed plank and fold down all the way.



Push to slide the plank against the row in front so it aligns with the first plank. Put it down like the first plank positioned tightly together. The first/previous plank can now be folded completely down to horizontal position and if a wedge is used it can be moved to the next short end joint.

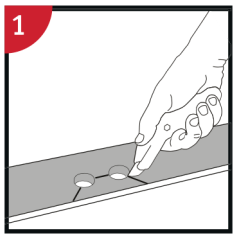


After 2-3 Rows
Adjust the distance to the front wall by placing distances. Keep the distances in position during the entire time of installation and remove once the installation is completed.



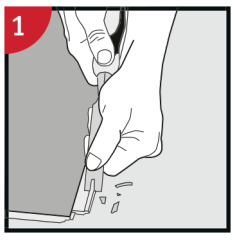
Last Row (and perhaps also first row)
Minimum width 50mm. Place the spacer to the wall before measuring. Make a simple drawing tool (piece of wood with a hole) and mark the panel along the wall. Cut the panels lengthwise including the flexible tongues.

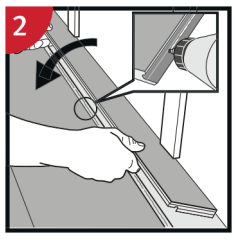
INSTALLATION AROUND RADIATOR/HEATING PIPES



Drill holes two times larger than the diameter of the pipes. Remove a piece of the panel with a utility knife. Put the panel on one side of the pipes and the removed piece on the other side.

WHEN ANGLING IS NOT POSSIBLE





Remove the vertical locking part of the strip with a chisel, put applicable glye on the strip and push the panels horizontally together. Place some spacers between last board and the wall.

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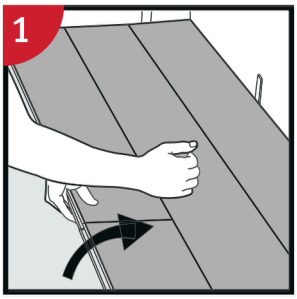
DISMANTLING PANELS



Separate the whole row by carefully lifting up and release the whole row.

Fold up the row and release the whole long side.

Disassemble the panels by angling the short sides up vertically.

AFTER INSTALLATION

- Remove expansion spacers and reinstall base and/or quarter round moldings to cover the expansion space. Do not fill the space with caulk to allow for flooring expansion.
- Dust mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, nosing, etc).

CARE & MAINTENANCE

All spills should be cleaned up immediately. Routinely vacuum, sweep and / or dust floors using standard cleaning equipment.
DO NOT use treated dust mops. For heavier duty cleaning, use a damp mop with clean water or a neutral pH-based cleanser diluted in water. Avoid any cleaners that contain bleach, washing liquid or general cleaning products, unless it has been specified on the bottle that it is suitable for rigid core vinyl flooring. Using incorrect cleaners can damage the flooring, causing discoloration and deterioration of the protective wear layer.
DO NOT use harsh cleaners or chemicals on your flooring. Oil and petroleum based products can result in surface staining.
DO NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools or vacuums with a beater bar.
DO NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms without padding. Avoid steam cleaners at all costs.
Use doormats at entrance ways to protect floor from discoloring and prevent dirt and dust. DO NOT allow pets with unclipped nails to scratch or damage the floor.
Compression forces of heavy objects on the flooring (static loads) should not exceed 200 kgs per square centimeter.
Rolling loads should not exceed 90 kilograms for flooring for commercial use and 60 kilograms for flooring for residential use.
Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Fit heavy furniture and appliances with floor protectors will help prevent them leaving a dent behind.
When moving heavy furniture or appliances, lifting them is highly recommended. Attempting to drag heavy items at the minimum, will most likely leave a scuff mark, or worse, tear the floor.
If it's too heavy to lift, please try to add a protective layer over the floor such as plywood, carpet or bed sheets and then drag it over to move it. The protective layer helps distribute the weight and reduce denting or scratching.
Be aware of sharp edges as they can scratch and gouge the floor's surface.
It's a good idea to save a few planks in case of accidental damage. Planks can be replaced or repaired by a flooring professional.