



Installation Instructions

Thank you for choosing San Marino Series. We appreciate your business. Protect your investment; thoroughly review and adhere to the following installation instructions.

Please note that these are instructions for well experienced hardwood flooring installers. For more detailed information on basics of installing hardwood flooring, please contact the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) at 800 422 4556 or visit them online at www.nwfa.org.com

Homeowners/Installers Responsibility

It is the Homeowners and Installers responsibility to determine if the job site subfloor and job site conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for wood floor installation. It is also the Homeowners and Installers responsibility to carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for any defects exceeding 5%. Up to 5% defects may be acceptable to industrial standards. Do not install hardwood flooring that exceeds 5% defect and immediately contact the Retailer and/or Distributor. San Marino Series declines any responsibility for wood floor failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies after hardwood flooring has been installed.

Recommended Urethane Adhesives/Warranted Products

The products listed below are 3-IN-1 (Adhesive, Sound Reduction & Moisture Barrier) Systems that offer a Warranty from their Manufacturers for sub-floor moisture intrusion. San Marino Series highly recommends these products when gluing down San Marino Series' Engineered Wood Flooring to concrete slabs.

Contact Adhesive Manufacturer for more details.

Urethane Adhesive

- Titebond 821-Step Adhesive, Moisture & Sound Control
- GreenForce™ Advanced Tri-Linking™ Adhesive and Moisture Control Membrane
- Other brands maybe suitable for San Marino Series' Flooring. *Check with your Local Dealer for more info.*

Recommended Trowel

- Trowel: Both Titebond and Greenforce require different trowels for different purposes. To have Moisture Barrier & Sound Reduction ¼" X ¼" V-Notch trowel will be needed to spread the adhesive and the coverage will be 30 square feet per gallon and if used as just an adhesive the coverage will be a lot more.
Contact Adhesive Manufacturer for more details.
- Urethane Adhesive Cleaner: Titebond & Greenforce both have their own cleaner, if not Odorless Mineral Spirits to a terry cloth will help.

Checking The Subfloor

Recommended Moisture sealer must be used if the concrete and/or soft concrete moisture emissions are greater than 3lbs per 1000 sq/ft on the calcium chloride testing (ASTM F1869). Wood type subfloors should also be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. Wood or plywood subfloors should not exceed 12% moisture content. The moisture content difference between hardwood flooring and subfloor should not exceed 4%. *Check with your local Dealer for your graphical variances.*



Installation Instructions

Handling & Storage:

Upon delivery, check the flooring's moisture content with a moisture meter as it should be ranging from 8-10% and record it as a baseline for required acclimation and keep these for records. Do not store material in a garage, outside or anywhere that the temperatures are below or above 35%-55% relative humidity and 60-80° Fahrenheit.

Acclimation:

It is critical to allow the floors to acclimate in the house and/or building that will be installed for at least (72) hours prior to the installation and this is a must for extremely dry climate states such as Utah, Arizona, Idaho, Colorado etc. Keep all boxes across from each other (tic-tac-toe pattern) and tear the short ends of the boxes for the air to flow. Failure to do so the flooring may lose moisture or gain moisture therefore, it may shrink or expand and it will affect the installation process making it harder for the installer to put the boards together.

Radiant Heat Installation:

All San Marino Series products are approved for radiant heat system installations assuming that the radiant heat system is specifically designed for Engineered wood flooring and assuming the steps below are strictly followed. Failure to follow these steps can void your warranty and may produce unsatisfactory results.

- Prior to the installation over radiant heat system it is important to read and fully understand "*NWFA Radiant Heat Installation Instructions Appendix H*".
- The subfloor can be concrete, wood or both.
- All subfloors must be prepared and tested as detailed on *page 1 under "Checking The Subfloor"*.
- Install the radiant heat system per Manufacturer's guidelines.
- The radiant heating system should be fully operating and turn on at a normal temperature for at least twenty one (21) days prior to installing the floor.
- Twenty four (24) hours prior to installing the floor the radiant heating system must be turned off to prevent any "hot spots" as this may shrink, crack and damage the wood flooring.
- The radiant heat can be turned back to a low temperature twenty four (24) hours after installation and within fourteen (14) days period can slowly be raised again.
- Whether the radiant heating system is pre-existing or new, never allow the system's temperature to go up or down more than two (2) degrees Fahrenheit per day.
- Floor temperature must not exceed 85°F as this may cause the boards to dry-crack, check, split, warp and delaminate and will not be under San Marino Series' warranty.
- Radiant heating systems normally create dry heat that can lower interior humidity levels. It may be necessary to add humidity with humidifiers to maintain the recommended levels (35-55%) and prevent damage to the wood floor.



Installation Instructions

Glue Down Installation Guidelines:

- Snap a chalk line 36" from the wall on the door side of the room. The small area will be your working space and the last to be installed. Temporarily nail straight board on chalk line. (later remove the temporary board).
- The wood floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix.
- End joints should never be closer to 10" from each other.
- The tongue and groove should be engaged by hand.
- Lift a plank occasionally to make sure adhesive transfers to wood.
- Avoid any "H" shape pattern
- If needed use 3M ScotchBlue™ Painter's Tape Delicate Surface 2080 Blue tape to maintain a tight floor.
- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter of the flooring and the thickness should be minimum of 1/2".

Staple or Nail Down Installation Guidelines:

- Due to the extra wide width and extra long length of the product, San Marino Series recommends Titebond Tongue and Groove glue to be spread on the grooves of each plank.
- Cover the floor with 15lb asphalt felt paper. (This is used to hold moisture and to prevent squeaks).
- Snap a chalk line 36" from the wall on the door side of the room. The small area will be your working space and the last to be installed. Temporarily nail straight board on chalk line. (later remove the temporary board).
- The wood floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix.
- End joints should never be closer to 10" from each other.
- The tongue and groove should be engaged by hand.
- For all 9/16" and 5/8" thick Engineered Flooring use 1-1/2" Staples and/or Cleats and for 3/4" thick use 2" Staples and/or Cleats .
- Staple and/or nail every 4"-5" from each other.
- Avoid any "H" shape pattern.
- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter of the flooring and the thickness should be minimum of 1/2".
- Always be cautious when using a power nail that requires a rubber hammer as too much force may chip and damage the edges of the planks and psi of the compressor maybe necessary to be adjusted.
- Also be sure to adjust the bottom rubber bumpers so it is suitable for the thickness of the floor you are installing.

Floating Installation Guidelines:

- San Marino Series recommends Titebond Tongue and Groove glue to be spread on the grooves of each plank.
- Cover the floor with at least 2mm or thicker underlayment that has sound and moisture barrier.
- Spread glue evenly throughout the groove and insert the tongue side afterward. Make sure you do not overspread the glue.
- You can install on grade, below grade or above grade.
- The wood floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix.
- End joints should never be closer to 10" from each other.
- Avoid any "H" shape pattern.
- Expansion space should be left around the perimeter of the flooring and the thickness should be minimum of 1/2".
- Trim the underlayment before installing quarter rounds or base moldings.