

Vintage Strip and Plank Installation Information

This installation guide is for all Vintage Product lines

PIONEERED®

For all Pioneered® solid floors
- Product Specifications: 3/4" (19 mm) Solid
- Installation: Nail - On or above ground level
- Radiant Heat: No, use Crafted®, Solid Sawn®, Northern Solid Sawn® or U-LOC®

CRAFTED®

For all Crafted® engineered floors
- Product Specifications: 1/2" (13 mm) Engineered
- Installation: Nail or glue - On, above or below ground level
- Radiant Heat: Yes* Check species list below

U-LOC®

For all 7/16" U-LOC® locking floors
- Product Specifications: 7/16" (11 mm) Drop Lock
- Installation: Glue or Float - On, above or below ground level
- Radiant Heat: Yes * Check species list below

NORTHERN SOLID SAWN®

For all Northern Solid Sawn® structured floors
- Product Specifications: 3/4" (19 mm) structured
- Installation: Nail, glue or float - On, above or below ground level. Chevron and Herringbone are glue down
- Radiant Heat: Yes * Check species list below

SOLID SAWN®

For all Solid Sawn® structured floors
- Product Specifications: 3/4" (19 mm) structured
- Installation: Nail, glue or float - On, above or below ground level
- Radiant Heat: Yes * Check species list below

2G Installation system
Patent protected
www.valinge.se/pat

*For more details or technical specifications, please contact a Vintage Dealer or vintageflooring.com

INSTALLER AND OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

Prior to installation, the installer and owner must ensure that the work environment and subfloors meet or exceed minimal specifications listed in this installation guide. Also, the installer and owner have final inspection responsibility as to grade, color, manufacturing, and factory finish quality of boards and conformity to the purchased product. Once installed, any board is considered as having been accepted by installer and owner, even if owner is absent at time of installation. Boards that you may not like the look of or contain a mark that may affect the look of the floor should be used as cut pieces for start/end pieces. These pieces could also be used in less conspicuous areas such as in closets or under couches and sofa's etc.

A. GETTING STARTED - PREPARATION

- Window, door, drywalling, painting and HVAC activation (on for >7 days) must be completed and dry before installation begins. This is to avoid humidity extremes and damages, that void the warranty.
- Ensure the subfloor is perfectly level (1/8" per 8'). Level high spots and fill low spots as required. Ensure the subfloor is firmly anchored ensuring no movement, flex, or squeaking.
- Prepare installation along the longest straightest wall first using long pieces for the starting row and across (perpendicular to) floor joist. In some applications, installing parallel to floor joist may be required for aesthetic reasons. Laying a Vintage floor parallel to the floor joists does not void the Vintage warranty. The flooring is more susceptible to sagging, cupping, tenting, and creaking, especially at joints in the subfloor. These conditions are not covered under Vintage's warranty. Consult your Dealer, Installer and Developer for their recommendations and building code requirements.
- Open and select products from a minimum of 5 boxes to ensure an appropriate mix of lengths, wood character and color.
- Ambient environmental conditions during installation should be as close to the target levels of temperature: 70 F (21 C) and relative humidity: 45%.

SUBFLOOR PREPARATION FOR PLYWOOD & CONCRETE

- Vintage Hardwood Flooring recommends that all Vintage hardwood flooring be installed with a minimum of 5/8" (15.8750 mm) A.P.A. approved, C.S.P/D.F.P. stamped plywood, or 3/4" O.S.B. Underlay grade PS2-92 rated, or concrete slab. The use of particleboard as a subfloor will automatically void the warranty. Consult your Authorized Vintage Dealer for recommendations on your specific subfloor application. Any failure of Vintage hardwood flooring relating to improper subfloors, or subfloor preparation is not the responsibility of Vintage Hardwood Flooring and will not be covered under warranty.
- Sweep and vacuum the subfloor. Ensure that old carpets, oils, foreign particles, protruding nails, carpet glues, etc., are removed prior to installation. For wood subfloors, make sure they are level, clean, dry, and securely fastened. Repair and/or replace any section that is rotted or damaged. Always follow local building codes.
- Do not install Vintage's Pioneered® Solid hardwood flooring over concrete unless an acceptable plywood subfloor and vapor barrier is firmly anchored over sleepers and a dehumidifier is in place to continuously remove excess humidity from the room.
- Plywood: The maximum moisture content (MC) for plywood should never exceed 12%
- Concrete: The maximum moisture content for concrete should never exceed 12%
- The difference between the flooring and the subfloor should never exceed 4%

RECOMMENDED TOOLS, MATERIAL AND ACCESSORIES

- **GENERAL**: Vacuum cleaner or broom, Wood and/or Concrete moisture meter, Table saw, Miter saw, Handsaw, Safety glasses, Chalk line (various colors recommended) or a line laser, Square, Claw hammer, Pry bar, Measuring tape, Repair kit, Vintage wood floor cleaner.
- **NAIL DOWN:** Nail punch, 15 lb felt or equivalent underlay, nail gun or staple gun. (See chart #3).
- **GLUE DOWN:** Scraper, Leveling bar, Level, Leveling compound (optional), #20 grit sandpaper (optional), Trowel, Starter template Backer board (optional for Herringbone or Chevron), 3M tape, Adhesive cleaner, mineral spirits or acetone if necessary, Calcium Chloride test if necessary, NOTE: It is extremely important that the proper trowel is used to ensure maximum coverage and produce a good bond between subfloor and flooring. A 100–150-pound roller may also be required.
- **FLOAT:** Vintage T & G glue, leveling bar, level, leveling compound (optional), Shims, 3M tape Adhesive cleaner, mineral spirits or acetone. If necessary, Calcium Chloride test.
- For floated installations of Vintage Solid Sawn®, Northern Solid Sawn®, Crafted, or U-LOC® Vintage recommends AcoustiTech underlayment products. Refer to the website for more information and installation instructions. https://www.acousti-tech.com/en

MATERIAL ACCLIMITIZATION

Do not acclimatize Northern Solid Sawn®, Solid Sawn®, Crafted® & U-LOC®. These flooring structures must be installed immediately upon opening the boxes.

Acclimatize Pioneered® Solid under certain conditions. Open boxes fully (never just the ends) and allow the wood to acclimate to the ambient temperature of the room. The wood must be given 48-72 hours at approx. 23° C (72°F) and a relative humidity from 35-55% before installation. In some instances, you may not be able to acclimatize solid flooring. When the relative humidity is too high or too low (above 55 % and below 35 % RH), acclimating may not be suitable. Always consult a hardwood flooring dealer or installer to ensure the homes specific conditions are accounted for before acclimatization. Expansions and contraction caused by acclimating is not covered under this warranty.

ADDITIONAL FLOORING ALLOWANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

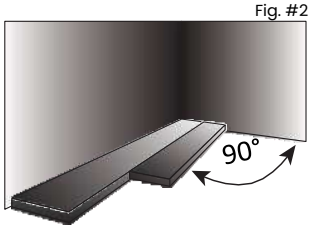
This will cover cutting waste and defects It is also recommended to have additional materials kept in case of future repairs.

Defect allowance: 2 1/4" - 4 3/8" widths	5% additional
5" - 10" widths	8% additional
Herringbone	10 - 15% additional
Chevron	15 – 20% additional See online calculator

B. INSTALLATION

NAILED DOWN APPLICATION

Fig. #2



See Chart #3 for nail gun and cleat recommendations.

Step #1– Mark your starting line using a chalk line, draw a guideline out from the starting wall by measuring out the width of one board plus and expansion gap. (See Chart #1). This line is where your first strip of flooring is installed and allows for the expansion gaps. It is very important for the starting line to be straight and square. (See Fig. #2).

Step #2 - Install the strips

Face nail or glue using a moisture cured adhesive (best practice) on the first row of strips with the grooved side facing the wall; put the nails as close to the wall as possible. This way, the quarter round will cover the nail heads. Face nailing for the first few rows before there is enough room to use the nail/staple gun. It must be nailed/stapled down or glued by hand rather than with the hardwood floor-nailing machine because of the vertical wall obstruction. When clearance allows, start using the hardwood floor nail/staple gun. Nails/staples should be spaced a minimum 2"-3" (57-76mm) from both ends of the boards, and for all other nails/staples, see Chart #2. Measure and cut the strip to the required length to finish the first row. The remaining section should be used to start the second row, to minimize cut waste. The strip selection for completing the first row must be long enough to yield a remaining section of adequate length. Leave the required expansion gap (Chart #1) between the wall and the end of each strip in each row. The subsequent rows must be installed in the same manner. Do not be afraid to waste a few strips to adjust and test the nailing machine. See Hardwood Floor Nailing Tips. When the last few rows are reached, completion of these rows with the nail/staple gun may not be attainable, due to vertical obstructions. Toenail, face nail, or glue the last remaining rows.

NOTE: The last row may need to be ripped to fit and leave an expansion gap.

Installation - Expansion Gap allowances Chart #1

Pioneered® 3/4":	Leave 3/4" around entire room
Solid Sawn® 3/4":	Leave 3/4" around entire room
Northern Solid Sawn® 3/4":	Leave 3/4" around entire room
Crafted® 1/2":	Leave 1/4" around entire room
U-LOC® 7/16":	For rooms up to 26' x 52' - Leave 1/2" (13 mm)
	For rooms up to 33' x 66' - Leave 5/8" (16 mm)
	For rooms up to 39' x 79' - Leave 3/4" (19 mm)

Note: For rooms larger than 39' x 79" - install a transition such as a t-mold at 39' and 79' to allow for expansion. For floating floors, a 3/4" expansion gap must be left up against all vertical obstructions.

Nailing Pattern/Schedule Chart #2

	Ends of boards	Along the board
Pioneered®	2" – 3"	6" – 8"
Northern Solid Sawn® (3 1/4"-4 3/8")	2" – 3"	6" – 8"
Northern Solid Sawn® (5"-7 ¾")	2" – 3"	4" – 6"
Solid Sawn® (5-10")	2" – 3"	4" – 6"
Crafted®	2" – 3"	4" – 6"

Must have a fastener (nail or staple) between 2 - 3" on the ends of each board.

Note: Glue assist is not required if the nail schedule is followed.

Hardwood flooring Nail gun & fastener Chart #3

Pioneered® Solid	Cleats: 15.5 to 18 ga Minimum 1 3/4"
	Staples: 15.5 to 17 ga Minimum 1 3/4"
Solid Sawn®	Cleats: 18 ga Minimum 1 1/2"
Northern Solid Sawn®	Cleats & Staples: 16 to 18 ga Minimum 1 1/2"
Crafted®	Cleats: 18 to 20 ga Minimum 1 1/4"
	Staples: 18 to 19 ga Minimum 1 1/4"

Recommendation based on the approved subfloors.
Anything outside of this guideline, contact a Vintage dealer.

HARDWOOD FLOOR NAILING TIPS

Great attention to detail during fabrication on the part of Vintage Hardwood Flooring team ensures exceptional QUALITY in the finished product. Longevity of hardwood floors is directly related to proper installation and lifetime commitment to appropriate care and maintenance.

- Prevent any scratches and indentations on the surface of the board by keeping the nailer plate (base) clean, free from nicks and scratches always. Also, by putting down the nailer/stapler on the plywood or on a piece of cardboard, not directly on the prefinished floor.

- Make sure the nailer/stapler base is squared and sits well on the edge of the strip to ensure the nails/staples are secured into the nailing channel at the proper angle to prevent dimpling and damaging the edges of the strips.

- Regularly verify the hardwood floor nailer/stapler is in working condition to prevent damages to the strips.

- Dimpling may occur in hardwoods, dense smooth woods in particular due to displacement of the wood by the fastener. Vintage flooring products will not dimple when correct nail pressure, appropriate fasteners, and proper nailer conditions exist. If dimpling is observed immediately, adjust the nailer or cleats as required. Therefore, dimpling is not covered under Vintage's warranty. It is the responsibility of the installer to monitor and take immediate action if dimpling occurs. (i.e., adjusting air pressure, using smaller cleats, adjust/repair nail driver pin, adjust the nailer shoe angle etc.).

- Start the second row and subsequent rows with a strip of at least 6" (150 mm) longer or shorter than the strip used in the previous row. This will eliminate unsightly step effects. The remainder of the floor should follow this rule to ensure an aesthetically pleasing floor.

- For Pneumatic nailers: Air pressure should be adjusted for each species of hardwood floor being installed and checked regularly (always test before using) so that the cleats are seated properly in the nailing channel to avoid dimpling.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR STRIPS AND PLANK FLOORING

SPECIAL NOTE: Open time and installation on adhesives vary from manufacturer to manufacturer, ensure to read instructions carefully before starting. Open times can also be affected depending on the temperature and humidity.

Adhesive requirements

For all glue down installations, users are responsible for ensuring that the adhesive selected is designed for engineered hardwood flooring applications. Vintage cannot be held responsible and makes no guarantee whatsoever with regards to:

1. Consistency of the adhesive's properties
2. Adhesives chemical composition (VOCs, formaldehyde, or other products)
3. Issues with adhesive application or cleaning
4. Adhesive manufacturers claim management process.

the adhesive manufacturer must assume sole responsibility for meeting all criteria. Flooring deficiencies stemming from the application method or the adhesive itself, are excluded from Vintage warranties as adhesives can damage the finish under certain conditions.

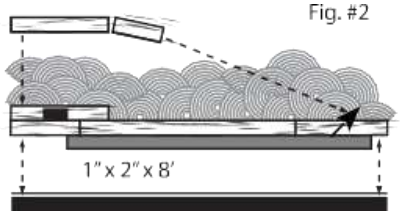


Fig. #2

Step #1 – Mark the starting line: Vintage Flooring recommends that the hardwood flooring be installed parallel to the longest, straightest wall in the room. Start by measuring out from the wall 10 boards wide. Example: for 3.25" Northern Solid Sawn® flooring, 10 x 3.25" = 32.50", plus the expansion gap of ¾" which totals 33.25" from the wall. (See Chart #1 for expansion gap widths for all products). Using a chalk line draw a guideline parallel to the wall based on the above measurements. This will eliminate any ripping of material at the end of the job for the last row. Using the straightest pieces of 1"x 2"x 8' length of wood and 2-inch concrete nails or screws, fasten the strips to the concrete. The first row of starter boards will butt against this, so ensure the strips are in line with the chalk line because this will determine how straight the floor will be. Leave the expansion gap (See Chart #1) between the wall and the end of each strip in each row. See Fig #2.

Step #2 – Spread the adhesive
Apply the recommended adhesive with a trowel according to the manufacturer's installation instructions (found on adhesive pail) for the specific adhesive that is being used.

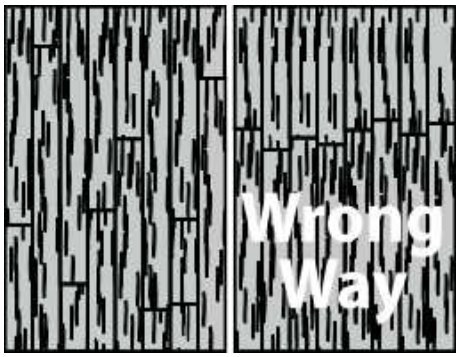
Step #3 – Install the strips
Inspect each piece of Vintage Hardwood Flooring before installation. Start with the first piece with the tongue facing the area that will be completed last. Line up the tongue of the boards against the holding strip, and then press the board into the adhesive. Working from left to right, lay the next board, and continue working towards the right, until the wall is reached and requires a cut piece. Choose one of the pieces set aside for cutting and cut the desired length. Note: if cutting a piece that has not been set aside for cutting, ensure it is long enough to be used as a row starting piece. Leave the expansion gap between the wall and the end of each strip in each row. Start the second row with a strip of at least 6" (150mm) longer or shorter than the strip used in the first row. This will eliminate step effects. The remainder of the floor should follow this rule to ensure an aesthetically pleasing floor. Minimize adhesive from getting into the tongue or groove; otherwise, the strips of the flooring may not fit tightly. If adhesive gets on the finished side the strips, clean immediately with appropriate cleaning products, recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.

Flooring may require slight tapping to ensure a tight fit. 3M's blue tape may be used (if required), to hold pieces together until glue bond has developed. If a roller is required to obtain maximum adhesion, wrap a foam sheet around it to minimize any damage to the surface of the floor. When the end of the wall is reached, a pry bar may be required to get the pieces tight. Use shims where required until the glue has dried.

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION FOR HERRINGBONE AND CHEVRON
For a successful Herringbone/Chevron floor installation, it is highly recommended that professionals be called upon due to the detailed attention required for installation of this type of floor. Precise measurements are critical. Floorboards are manufactured using the metric system and installation will be much more precise if measurements are taken accordingly. Refer to full installation instructions on Vintage website for these products.

FLOATING FLOOR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

NORTHERN SOLID SAWN® AND SOLID SAWN® INSTALLATION



Step #1 –Laying the wood floor: Using the longest pieces available, lay the first row against the longest and straightest wall. Carefully apply glue into top of groove along the full length of the piece, using Vintage's T & G glue (available at your Authorized Vintage Dealer) specially designed for Vintage's hardwood flooring. Lay the first piece with the grooved edge against the wall. If the wall is not square, use wedges/shims between the flooring strips and the wall to achieve the desired expansion gap.

Step #2 – Start the second row with a strip of at least 6" (150mm) longer or shorter than the strip used in the first row. This will eliminate step effects. (See Fig. #5) The remainder of the floor should avoid the step effect to ensure an aesthetically pleasing floor. Clean any glue that gets on the finished side of the flooring before the glue dries. Flooring pieces may require slight tapping to ensure a tight. 3M's blue tape may be used, if required, to hold pieces together until glue bond has fully developed.
Step #3 – To lay the last row, boards must be at least 1 1/2" wide to attach properly, do not forget the expansion gap. Moldings shall be fastened to the adjacent wall by nail or screw, not the floor, overlapping the expansion gap allowance. If the molding is attached to the floor, the floor will be pinched and will not expand and contract as it is made to perform. Use a crowbar to ensure tight fitting boards, use shims to hold in place until glue has dried. Remove the shims 24 hours after installation.
Note: Pinch points from fastened moldings, heavy weight from kitchen islands, cabinetry, piano's etc… will restrict required movement of the floating floor. This will cause tension on the joints and can lead to separation and squeaks. Consult your hardwood flooring specialist on the home's specific application.

U-LOC® INSTALLATION

Step #1 –Laying the wood flooring: Insert the tongue at the side of the board into the groove at a 45 (degrees) angle. Use both hands to apply equal pressure to the board. Line up the far-left side of the board to be positioned with the end of the previous board installed. Lightly press the board down to lock in place. Never force boards and remove debris that could get in the way of the locking system.

Step #2 –Vintage's U-LOC® flooring uses a drop lock end joint. Simply drop one end over the adjacent end and they fall into place. Proceed with the subsequent boards in similar manner to complete the row. All joints shall have a tight fit. Leave an appropriate gap between the wall and the flooring for expansion.

RADIANT HEAT INSTRUCTIONS

- Vintage will only warranty certain species of wood in the Crafted®, Northern Solid Sawn®, Solid Sawn® and U-LOC® product lines. Vintage will not warranty Pioneered® solid flooring over radiant heat. (see Fig. #2)
- Important Note: **Ensure controls are in place to prevent exceeding the following maximum temperatures**:
  - Maximum tube temperature out of boiler 129˚F (54˚C)
  - Maximum concrete temperature 81˚F (27˚C) below hardwood flooring
- ****IMPORTANT**** If using a different radiant heat system (instead of the in-slab mentioned above), consult a heating contractor and confirm that the maximum temperature of the subfloor (under the hardwood flooring) **CANNOT exceed 81˚F (27˚C).**
- The **humidity** level in the home **MUST** be maintained **ABOVE** the levels listed below:

  - Crafted® Engineered Hardwood Flooring - 25%
  - Northern Solid Sawn® Structured Flooring (nailed or glued) - 25%, (Floated installation 30%)
  - Solid Sawn® Structured Hardwood Flooring (nailed or glued) - 25%,(Floated installation 30%)
  - U-LOC® Drop Lock Hardwood Flooring - 30%

- Room temperature should be maintained at ± 72˚F (± 22˚C) for at least one week. Subfloor must be dry and basement well ventilated. Relative humidity must be maintained around 45%.
- Check concrete moisture levels using a Calcium Chloride test, or polyfilm test.

Radiant Heat Allowances Fig# 2

Species		Vintage products	
Black Walnut	Yes	Pioneered®	No
Hickory	No	Northern Solid Sawn®	Yes
Maple	Yes*	Solid Sawn®	Yes
Red Oak	Yes	U-LOC®	Yes
White Oak	Yes	Crafted®	Yes

* Indicated species that are more susceptible to movement and special attention must be taken to adhere to maximum temperatures.

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