

WIMMER

HAND
CRAFTED
FLOORS

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLATION GUIDE

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION

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INSTALLATION GUIDE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION FOR WIMMER-WOODEN FLOORS

Please note the following points before installation:

Store the floorboards approximately 2-3 days unopened in the rooms in which it is going to be installed.

Prior to the installation, examine the floorboards according to their size and quality. In addition, sort the floorboards according to their colour and structure.

Important

Wood, as a natural product, expands and contracts during its lifetime. Every floorboard is one of a kind and has its own distinctive features. Branches, shades, differences in structure and colour are characteristics of its originality and no reason for complaint. If there are, nevertheless, any claims, we can only accept them before the installation. No claims will be accepted on goods once they have been installed.

Before the installation you must check the room and substrate temperature (at least 18°C) as well as the humidity (<65%). The temperature of the floorboards must be adjusted to the ambient temperature.

Installation directions

Useful tips for the installation directions: along the main light source or across the room. With a clever selection of the installation directions you can optically extend, shorten or widen your rooms. Your room appears wider and shorter with cross laid floorboards whereas the installation in longitudinal, will stretch and narrow the room optically.

Installation types

Floating installation is possible on solid floor coverings (e.g. linoleum, PVC covering, chipboards, short-piled carpeted floor and old floorboards).

Wimmer-Wooden floorboards can be glued on properly produced subfloors (e.g. cement screed, anhydrite screed, mastic asphalt, chipboards, plywood, artificial stone as well as heated subfloors).

Expansion joints or edge distance

Wood is a natural product which is capable of absorbing moisture from the air. During a dry indoor climate wood can release it again. This hygroscopic property provides a balanced and healthy indoor climate. Due to the absorption of moisture from the air, wood swells (it expands). During a dry indoor climate it releases it again into the air (the volume decreases). These movements must be considered during the installation.

The maximal installed length or width must not exceed 12m. After 12m expansion joints must be installed (e.g. with a suitable cork strip).

Keep a sufficient joint distance (ca. 15mm) to all fixed components (e.g. walls, heating pipes, transition to stone floor or floor tiles etc.) Please use wedges to fix the distance. After the installation the wedges must be removed again.

Moreover, you must install elastic closed joints over the expansion joints of the subsurface.

Check the subfloor

The subfloor must be carefully checked before laying according to the German VOB Contract Procedures for Building Works, Part C DIN 18356 Parquetry Work. The floor must be perfectly even, clean, crack-free, robust and dry. Bumps, holes and differences in height must be filled with a filler or leveling compound. You can check its stability with the scratch test. In case of adhesion please note the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer and use only the same materials of the manufacturer. Depending on condition and field of application you must prime the subfloor.

Humidity of the floor finish

The humidity of the floor finish must be checked with a CM-moisture analyzer. Permissible values prior to the installation are:

cement screed		anhydrite screed	
without underfloor heating	with underfloor heating	without underfloor heating	with underfloor heating
< 2,0 %	< 1,8%	< 0,5%	< 0,3%

Information on floating floor installation

1. Install the first row floorboards with the groove side facing the wall. Use all 50cm wedges to guarantee the expansion joint (ca. 15mm). Make sure the distance is also compatible with the front side to the wall, the door seal, stairs, pillars, radiator connections etc.
2. Place the second floorboard next to the first one and glue both of them together. Apply an even coating (no point bonding!) on the top groove side of the floorboards. The glue causes sealed joints. Excess glue should be removed immediately with a wet cloth.
3. If the wall is uneven, the wall contour must be transferred on the first row with a pencil. The floorboards must be cut for better bonding to the irregularities of the wall.
4. You can measure the length of the last floorboard by turning it around (spring next to spring) and mark the required length with an angle. Ensure the wall distance. Use the crow bar and fix the expansion joint with a wedge.
5. Use the floorboard-cutoff of the previous row for the second row as far as it is longer than 40cm. Knock the floorboards gently together with a hammer (firstly front, then lengthwise) in order to treat the edges and the surface with care.
6. The first two rows should rest for at least one hour after the installation, so that the adhesive can stick together.
7. The next rows must be installed according to the second row.
8. The floorboards of the last row must be cut to the required size. A crow bar will help you with the installation.

Information on full-area adherence

Please use only high-quality glues which are suitable for country house floorboards. The glue must be permanently elastic to follow the movements of the country house floorboards.

1. Apply the parquet adhesive with a notched trowel on the subfloor. Please apply only as much glue as you can install within the open time. The glue is only suitable for installation as long as the wood is moistened with glue.
2. Insert the country house floorboards into the new adhesive bed.
3. Fit the floorboards together by using a hammering block.
4. For full-area adhesion, tongue and groove mustn't be glued.
5. Weight down the floorboards with appropriate weights.
6. Glue residues on the floorboards should be removed immediately with a cloth or remover.

Information on the installation on underfloor heating

Wimmer-Wooden floorboards are perfectly suitable for the installation on low-temperature underfloor heating. Please note the following essential points:

Take the thermal resistance of the floorboards into consideration when you calculate the heat requirement or the flow temperature. The Wimmer- oak floorboards with a standard thickness of 19mm have a thermal resistance of 0,13 m² K/W.

Before the installation

- **Floor screed:** The screed must be installed according to the standard size (DIN 18353). Please note in particular that the screed must be completely dried. It requires at least six weeks air drying before the installation.
- **Screed curing:** Heat the underfloor heating ready for layering according to DIN EN 1264 and DIN 4725. Create a heating protocol. Increase the flow temperature of your heater daily (5°C) and create a heating protocol. The heater has to run at its maximum for 2-3 days before the temperature for the installation should be lowered to 15-20°C again.

During the installation

- It is recommended to glue the Wimmer-Wooden floorboards on screed with underfloor heating. During floating installation the thermal resistance would increase because of the insulating underlays or the air inclusions.
- Tongue and groove won't be glued together during full-area adhesion.

After the installation

- **Heating phase:** Increase the flow temperature of your heater step-by-step (max. 5°C daily). Under no circumstances the heater should be operated at full capacity immediately.
- **Surface temperature:** The maximum surface temperature of underfloor heatings must not exceed 25°C.

Warning heat accumulation

Wood flooring on heated screeds must not be covered extensively with furniture, for example, futon-beds or built-in furniture. Extensive and thick carpets are not suitable. Otherwise heat will accumulate and this can cause irreparable damage to the wooden floor because apart of the increase in the surface temperature the humidity to the floor covering is reduced.

Indoor climate

For your health and well-being as well as for the value retention of your Wimmer-Wood floor, a relative air humidity of 50-60 % must be maintained. To prevent low air humidity especially during the heating period, we recommend the usage of a room humidifier. Constantly low air humidity can lead to curling and crack formation, in an extreme case even to irreparable damages of the floor elements. This should be noted in particular regarding the use of underfloor heating.

CLEANING- AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR OILED OR WAXED FLOORS AND STAIRWAYS

General information

Your floor was only treated with high-quality NATURHAUS- products. The surface which consists out of natural oils, resins and waxes, is resistant and long-lasting. You will have a lot of satisfaction with your floor when you note the following points:

- Clean the floor only dry during the first 14 days after completion. The surface needs some time to achieve its final hardness and resistance.
- Protect the foyer floor with dirt- and moisture traps.
- Avoid standing moisture e.g. through unsealed flowerpots or vases.
- Remove loose dirt regularly by vacuum cleaning or sweeping.
- Equip movable furniture and chairs with suitable sliders (e.g. felt)
- Don't use floor coverings with rubberized or latex bottom side. These coatings can contain substances which leave stains after a while. Don't use any sharp, strong alkaline or solvent-based cleanser. These cleansers damage the wax surface or even dissolve it.
- Do not use under any circumstances microfiber cloths to clean the floor. Microfiber cloths act like fine sandpaper and damage the wax surface strongly.
- The well-being of people and conservation of value of the wooden floor postulate a healthy indoor climate. The ideal indoor climate is from 18°C to 20°C and with relative air humidity between 50-60%. The wood can fade due to lower air humidity - joints. Higher air humidity leads to swelling - in the worst case building damages can appear.

The WIMMER-maintenance floor set contains all products you need for cleaning, maintenance and repairing of your floor. Incorrectly maintained, damaged or worn surfaces should be redeveloped by a specialized company working with WIMMER-products. Perhaps your specialized company offers a service contract for maintenance work.

Instructions for the professional user

Industrial surface treated floors must be updated with WIMMER-refresher after the installation. Before handing over the floor to the building contractors, they must be introduced to cleaning and maintenance! The basic cleaning of extremely strained and no longer maintainable floors or stairways should be carried out by a business user. See also cleaning- and maintenance instructions for the object sector.

Instructions for the end consumer

Cleaning with WIMMER

Oiled or waxed floors and stairways should be cleaned dry in principle. In the case of minor soiling, you should only wipe the floor with warm clear water.

- **Clean & Polish (water-soluble dirt)**
Dosage: Depending on the soiling of the surface, 10ml – 200ml on 4l lukewarm water. Damp wipe the surface with it. Polishing after drying (ca. 30min) with a soft, lint-free cloth or a blocker increases the shine. Stubborn stains (e.g. coffee, red wine, juice) should be removed with undiluted WIMMER-Clean & Polish. Rinse with clear warm water and let it dry. Subsequently, treat the cleaned spots with WIMMER-hard wax, see “seamless repairing”.
- **Refresher (not soluble stains)**
- Spray WIMMER-Refresher wafer-thin on the surface. If there are stubborn stains e.g. boot wear, felt pen or pens spray **Refresher (not soluble stains)**

Maintaining with WIMMER

- **Floor milk**
WIMMER-floor milk is a pure maintenance product. Due to the application of floor-milk, you get an additional protective film. Please apply the floor milk only on clean, dry and undamaged surfaces. Dilute the floor milk with warm water to get an even application without streaks.
Dosage:
Normally stressed floors: 200ml on 2 l warm water (1:10)
Heavily stressed floors: 500ml on 2l lukewarm water (1:4)
The dosage can be increased to 1:1

Wipe the surface with it in the wood-grain direction. The surface must be polished after drying (ca. 30min) with a linen-free cloth or a suitable device if the mixture ratio is higher than 1:4. By cleansing, the protective film as well as the shine can decrease. If necessary you can restore the original shine with WIMMER-floor milk. Your natural floor maintains its unique appearance and its long-lasting resilience if you repair superficial damage and heavily consumed areas in time.
- **WIMMER- hard wax**
If it is a waxed surface, grind off the area to be repaired after the cleaning with an abrasive pad in wood-grain direction. Remove the oxidation skin from the hard wax. Apply the wax wafer-thin with a linen-free or wadded cloth and rub it in extensively. Afterwards polish the hard wax with a clean and linen-free cloth or any other suitable device till the surface feels dry. The surface must dry thoroughly. After 8 hours the resilience is finally reached.
- **WIMMER-Oil wax**
Sand the damaged area with sand paper (Grain 240) comprehensively in the wood-grain direction. Apply WIMER- oil wax with a linen-free cloth and leave it to dry. Adjust on the existing brightness level by light polishing. Let the wax oil dry for 8 hours. Repeat the whole process depending on the layer thickness.

Take extra care of the repaired area for at least one week. Please try to avoid moisture and humidity.

Safety and disposal

Risk of spontaneous combustion!

The surface heats up during the drying process of hard wax and oil wax surfaces. Never leave any flammable materials e.g. crumpled up cloths, papers, clothes or sponges etc. on the floor (risk of spontaneous combustion!).

Store them immediately in a water-filled tank for at least three days. Cloths with completely hardened residues can be disposed of with household rubbish or burned. Please wear suitable protective gloves. Don't use them with spraying systems or before suction which contain conventional coatings. The completely emptied container can be recycled. Keep it out of the reach of children. If swallowed, seek immediately for medical advice and show the package. Follow the information in the EC safety data. Please note also the technical data sheets of the products.

This pamphlet has an advisory function and is based on detailed investigations on state-of-the-art technology. All information about suitability, processing and application of our products, technical advice and other information is provided to the best of our knowledge. However, it doesn't exempt the customer or user of own examinations. We are liable only for gross negligence.