

CorkBoards

Installation Instructions



Preparation

1) Subfloor requirements

Please inspect the planks in daylight for any visible faults or damage which may have occurred in shipping. Please notify the freight carrier immediately if you note any damage before installation.

CorkBoards can be installed on top of most hard surfaces such as resilient floor coverings and ceramic tiles which are significantly fixed, completely leveled, and have no loose areas. Soft subfloors such as carpets and similar must be removed. Old resilient floor coverings, such as PVC, linoleum, and cork, must be glued down with no loose areas.

In case of installation on a wooden subfloor, please remove any existing floor covering first. No signs of mould and/or insect infestations should be visible. Make sure that the plywood and OSB subfloor are mechanically fixed (screw), make sure that they are stable and show no movement and at the same time the joints between the panels are even and firmly closed. Existing laminate flooring, wood planks or engineered wood planks must be free of tensions. If there are any visible open seams and/ or height differences between panels than needs to be entirely removed.

For installation on a ceramic tile floor, the maximum joint should not be wider than 0.08" (2mm), and 0.04" (1mm) depth. If this is not the case, or if there is any kind of embossing, skim coat the grout lines with a floor leveler. All types of concrete, ceramic subfloors must be even, dry, variations should not exceed 0.20" in 6.6 feet (5mm in 2m) and flat.

2) Prior to installation

Transport and store the cartons horizontally. Packed tiles should be acclimatized at the job site in a dry, well-ventilated area for a minimum of 24 hours so that flooring may acclimate. Remove tiles from packages just before starting the installation.

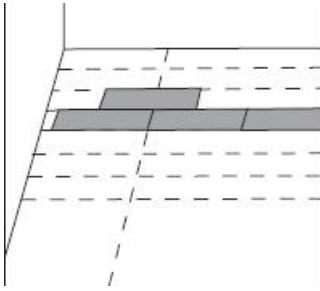
During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to a level consistent with the conditions which will prevail when the building is occupied. In most cases, this means maintaining a temperature range from 65°F to 82°F (18°C to 28°C) and relative humidity range from 35% to 65%. In order to reach this climate, use heating or air conditioning in the appropriate duration of time before starting the installation.

CorkBoards shade and pattern variation is an inherent and attractive characteristic. To achieve the most pleasant blend of shades, shuffle the planks before installation.

CorkBoards are installed as a "floating floor", so the planks should not be fixed to the subfloor. Because of that, you will need to provide 0.2" (5mm) expansion gaps to the walls and other fixed objects in order to allow it to properly expand and contract. Along the walls, a baseboard with a minimum of a 1/2" toe should cover the expansion gaps between the wall and the flooring.

During installation, Corkboards should be protected from excessive heat from the sun and direct sunlight by the use of curtains and or blinds.

Installation



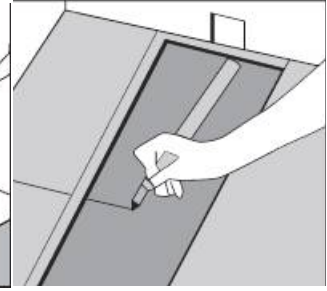
1) Measure the room accurately, at right angle to the direction of the planks. The planks in the final row should be at least 5cm (2") wide. If necessary, the planks in the first row can be cut to a smaller size.



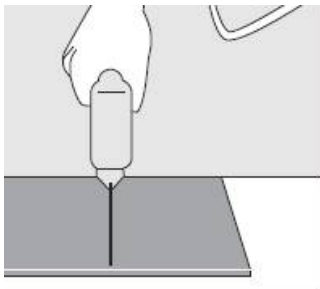
2) Turn the tongue side of the plank facing the wall. Maintain a gap of 5mm (0.2") on the short side.



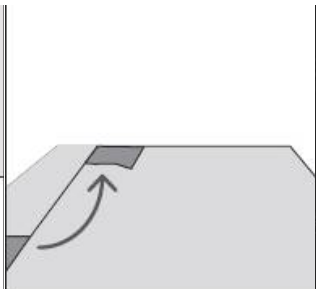
3) Hold the next plank against the first at an angle to the first one and lay it flat on the floor. Complete the first row in the same way.



4) Cut the final plank of the first row to the correct length. Place the final plank face down and the short side without the locking strip towards the wall. The distance to the wall should be 0.2" (5mm).



5) Mark where the plank is to be cut and place it on the work surface and cut to size using any kind of saw.



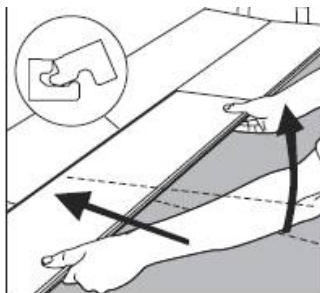
6) Make sure that the long sides of the planks make a straight line. Use the cut piece of the plank from the previous row to start the next one. However it must be at least 12" (30cm) long. If the piece is too short, start with a new board and cut it in half.



7) Place the first plank of the new row with the tongue side at an angle against the groove side of the plank in the previous row. Press forward and lay it flat at the same time.



8) Place the short end of the plank at an angle against the previous installed plank and fold down. Ensure that the plank is positioned on the integral locking strip of the plank in the previous row.

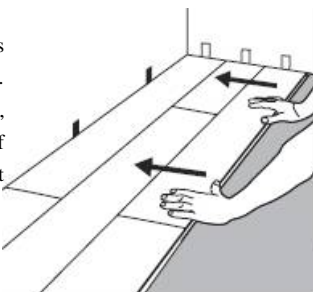


9) Lift the plank (together with the previous one laid in the same row) slightly up (about 1.2"), push it against the row in front and then put it down.

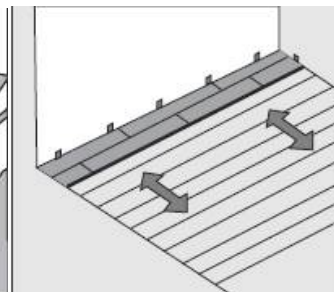
Tip: This movement requires some gentle adjustments on the pressing angle.

TIP:

Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 12" (30cm). Tiles with 23-7/8" x 17-1/2", (605 x 445) "brick" or "half brick" installation method must be used.

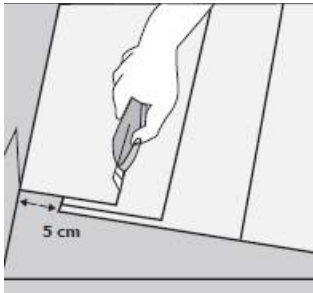


10) Adjust the distance to the wall to 0.2" (5mm) when three rows are complete.

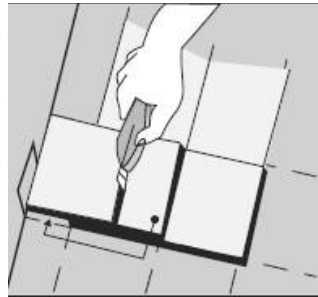


11) Proceed the installation as described above until reaching the opposite wall.

Last Row

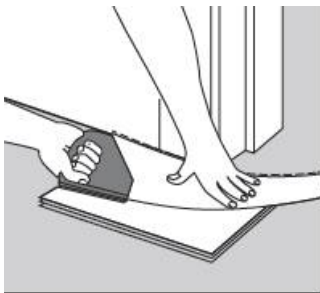


12) Measure and cut the planks in the last row to the correct size. Allow for a 0.2" (5mm) distance to the wall. No plank should be less than 2" (5cm) wide.



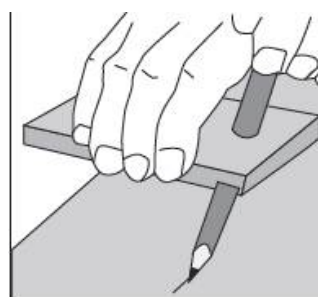
13) The last and first plank can be cut in the correct width. Place the last plank on top the second to last plank. Mark the plank with the help of a piece of plank without locking the strip. Allow for 0.2" (5mm) distance to the wall for the expansion gap.

Door Frames



If a door frame needs to be cut, use a piece of plank to obtain the correct height. Saw the door frame and architrave to the required height allowing for .08" (2mm) of space to the planks. The planks can be laid from all directions. This makes easier to plan the installation e.g. around doors.

Uneven Walls



Sometimes the first row must be cut to match an uneven wall. Transfer the shape of the wall to the planks. The width of the first row of planks should be equal or bigger than 0.2".

If you encounter any problems, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at Fitness Flooring at 800-428-5306 or info@fitnessfloors.com.