

# Renick Millworks, LLC

## Installation Instructions

**\*\*Note\*\* All cracks, open knot holes and large nail holes are normal with reclaimed wood and will require filling. It is a tedious job but is necessary to enhance the character of the flooring.**

### Product Use

Your plank flooring can be installed Above-Grade, On-Grade or Below-Grade. They all may be glued down over a plywood or concrete sub-floor. They also may be simply nailed or stapled down over a plywood floor, using specially designed hardwood floor nailers. Knot holes or other defects can be filled with a clear two part epoxy, wood filler, or clear adhesive. Note: This may take time, You are working with reclaimed wood and not new wood.

### Pre-Installation Warranty

#### IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ!

It is the duty of the installer, whether professional or DIY (do it yourself), to inspect all flooring before installation. Installed flooring is deemed to be visibly acceptable. Since wood is a product of nature, not plastic, standard industry practice for reclaimed allows for up to 10% of flooring shipped to have milling, handling, finish and/or grade defects.

### Jobsite Requirements

All work involving water or moisture should be completed before installing hardwood flooring. For any new construction or remodeling project, hardwood flooring should be one of the last items installed. The jobsite should be monitored for consistent, normal room temperature of 60-70 F (16 - 22 C) and relative humidity of 35-55% for at least one week before installation. Storing or installing the flooring in abnormal conditions. i.e RH too high or too low will make the flooring very difficult to install, as tolerances between the tongue and groove are so exact. Although this plank flooring can be glued directly to concrete, do not use a concrete sealer nor install over one. The concrete must be high compressive strength. All concrete sub-floors should be tested for moisture content. Visual checks are not reliable. Acceptable test methods for sub-floor moisture content include:

- Calcium Chloride test. The maximum moisture transfer must not exceed 3lbs. /1000 Square feet with this test.
- Tramex concrete moisture encounter meter. Moisture reading should not exceed 4.5 on the upper scale.

**A "DRY" SLAB, AS DEFINED BY THESE TESTS CAN BE WET AT OTHER TIMES OF THE YEAR. THESE TESTS DO NOT GUARANTEE A DRY SLAB.**

## Installation Instructions:

**All sub-floors must be level and clean.**

The maximum tolerance is 3/16" per 10'. If necessary, level down any irregularities using #20 grit paper and fill any uneven spots with leveling compound. Remove all paint, wax, oil, plaster, "sheetrock mud", and previous or existing glues and adhesives. Grind concrete with #3 1/2 grit sandpaper if needed then sweep or vacuum thoroughly.

### Wood sub-floor must be:

- Dry and well secured with a moisture content under 12%.
- Nailed down or screwed down every 6 inches along the joist to avoid squeaking.
- Leave 1/8" gap around perimeter.
- Leveled by sanding down high spots and filling in low spots with an underlayment patch as necessary.

### Concrete subfloor must be:

- Fully cured for at least 60 days.
- Installed properly with minimum 6-mil Polyfilm between concrete and ground.
- Dry all year round. Do not install over concrete if you are not sure it will remain dry.
- Tested for moisture by using moisture meter.

### **Preparing for installation:**

Undercut or notch-out door casings to fit flooring underneath by placing a piece of flooring on the sub-floor as a height guide for sawing. Remove door thresholds and base moldings and replace after flooring installation. Always leave at least ½" expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects. Use a hammer and tapping block and tap against the tongue to pull planks together. Never tap against the groove of the plank. When near a wall, use a crow or pull bar to close end joints. Be careful not to damage flooring edge. All Renick Millworks, llc. Solid plank flooring is milled to very exacting standards, so pieces that do not go together easily usually have debris in a groove, the tongue and/or groove has been damaged, or the board is a little bowed and you just need to flatten it out, rather than forcing pieces together.

### **Starting installation:**

For aesthetical purposes, wood flooring is often laid to the longest wall. However, the owner upon the advice of the professional installer should make the final decision which direction the planks will run. Most professional installers will begin installation next to an outside wall, which is usually the straightest wall and used as a reference point in establishing a straight working line. A good way to establish a working line is to measure an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snap a chalk line. Measure distance from the wall at the width of the plank plus another ½" for expansion space for establishing your working line. It is advisable to dry lay a few rows before actually using glue to confirm your directional layout decision and working line. Adjustment of the working line may be necessary if the outside wall or other working line reference is out of square. This can be done by scribe cutting the first row of planks to match the wall and creating a straight working line.

### **GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION:**

For glue down installation we recommend:

- Bostik's Best or BST adhesives
- Franklin 811
- Capitol Woody 600
- Stauf Ultra-Mastic PUM-950

Use the trowel recommended by the adhesive manufacturer, since tooth size is important for best adherence to the sub-floor. Usually this is 1/4" x 1/8". Always allow for adequate cross ventilation when working with flooring adhesive. Follow adhesive instruction regarding proper set time before affixing wood floor planks. With a towel at a 45-degree angle, spread as much adhesive as can be covered by flooring in one hour or as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Start at the outside wall. Once adhesive has set per instructions, lay the first row of flooring with the groove facing the wall. Continue laying flooring until adhesive is covered with flooring. Remember to always check the alignment with the working line, being careful not to move the installed floor on the wet adhesive. Use a tapping block to fit the planks together. When the first section is completed, continue by repeating process section by section until installation is complete. Immediately remove any adhesive that gets on the flooring surface by using a damp cloth or manufacturer's adhesive remover. Don't forget to stagger joints. When required use weights to hold the flooring planks on the perimeter until adhesive cures enough.

### **Finishing the Job:**

Remove expansion spacers. Reinstall base and/or quarter round moldings to cover the expansion space. Install transitions pieces such as reducer strips and T-moldings as needed. Do not allow any foot traffic or heavy furniture for at least 24 hours.

Clean and remove all dirt and debris on floor by dust mopping or vacuuming. **All knots, cracks Etc. can be filled with an epoxy filler or the wood filler of your choice.**

### **STAPLE OR NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION:**

Acceptable sub-floors are the following:

1. 5/8" minimum thickness, preferred 3/4" or thicker multi-layer plywood installed with long edges at right angle to floor joists and staggered so that end joints in adjacent panels break over different joists.
2. 1" x 4" to 6" wide, square edged, kiln dried coniferous lumber, laid diagonally over 16" on center wooden joists. The ends of all boards are to be cut parallel to the center of the joists for solid bearing.

New wood type sub-floors should be checked for moisture using a moisture meter. In general wood or plywood sub-floors should not exceed 12% moisture content, or 4% moisture content difference between hardwood flooring and sub-floor. Adequate and proper nailing as well as soundness of the sub-floor should be ascertained. Foreign material shall be removed from the sub-floor surface and swept clean. The clean sub-floor should be covered, wall-to-wall, with 15-lb asphalt saturated felt. Lap edges of this felt 4" when positioning it. Double the felt around heat ducts in the floor. Basement and crawl spaces must be dry and well ventilated. Crawl spaces must have a vapor barrier below sub-floor on ground (6 or 8 mil. Poly)

### General Installation Instructions (see NWFA for more details):

1. Flooring should be laid at right angles to the floor joists and, if possible, in the direction of the longest dimension of the room.
2. Starting to lay flooring: Begin laying plank flooring in a room corner with the long groove of the plank facing the wall. Provide expansion space of 1/2 inch between the floor planks and the adjacent wall.
2. End joints of plank: These should be staggered to achieve the best appearance in the finished floor. (minimum 6")
4. 5. Nailing schedule for flooring: The first run should be face-nailed then counter sunk. All other runs to be nailed at an angle of 50° on 8" centers at the tongue, also nail within 2" of each end joint.

### Important Notes:

- Baseboards should be installed so that their lower edge is slightly above the level of the finished floor, but not nailed into the floor.
- Installing over radiant is considered acceptable.
- Do not install any product with visible defects
- To avoid movement in hardwood floor, relative humidity should be maintained year round at 35% - 55% Relative Humidity.
- The use of color coordinated wood floor putty to cover small cracks and gaps is considered normal in hardwood flooring installations.
- Molding Tip : Before installation, match the closest board in color and grain to the adjoining molding profile color and grain. Save the board(s) and use next to the molding piece.

All of our flooring is guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects under normal conditions for 15 years. This warranty is not transferable and is void if flooring is taken up or if there is abnormal circumstances involved.