

Surfaces

Sanded surface: totally soft and smooth surface achieved by uniform sanding of the wood. Can be finished with oxidative oil, UV oil or lacquered.

Brushed surface: planks with brushed surface highlight the original characteristics of wood. The soft parts of wood are brushed out of the floorboards. These can be oxidative oiled and UV oiled. Combining with selected finishing the annual tree rings can be specially emphasized.

Distressed surface: a special technique of the artificial aging of floorboards, giving an old, aged floorboards look. An optional surface for almost all product range finished with oxidative oil and UV oil.

Raw surface: a treated surface available in sanded or brushed versions.

Finishing's

White oxidative oil: this finishing applied on natural floorboards will create a beautiful shade and rooms will appear brighter. In combination with thermo-treated surfaces - the colours vary from light brown to bluish.

Natural UV oil: the UV oil consists of approximately 60% sustainable ingredients. The look after application resembles oxidative oil matt surfaces, but due to its durability has the maintenance and care features of lacquered surfaces.

Brut effect UV oil: this finishing gives durability, high surface protection features and matt appearance to unfinished, raw look floorboards.

White UV oil: this finishing is perfect for contemporary areas due to its light, smooth feeling of oxidative oils, and the maintenance features of lacquered surfaces.

Natural lacquer: this finishing entirely seals the surface of the floorboards. It has a matt surface and all features of traditional, easy maintainable flooring. However, this is at the expense of a totally natural surface.

White lacquer: easy maintenance and light, soft aesthetic looks, this is the perfect option for projects due to its finishing.

White annual tree rings: this special feature is achieved by applying an additional coating of white pigment, to create a contrasting look on the surface. To ensure the easy maintenance of the product, additional layers of selected finishing are applied afterwards.

Natural oxidative oil: this natural-oiled surface is a completely natural and ecological solution. Oxidative oil is a product based on natural materials, excluding artificial colour pigments, perfumes or preservatives. It allows the floor to breathe due to a special open pores feature.

Brut effect oxidative oil: special finishing oil with additives of white pigments which allows the creation of an effect of raw, unfinished looks on natural floorboards. In combination with thermo- treated surfaces, the final colour looks more calm and cosy.

Installation

Advanced features of production and engineered floor features allow multiple installation methods such as: a floating system, nailing to the sub-floor, nailing to beams or gluing down to the sub-floor.

W Parket flooring is produced using the latest milling technology, allowing all floors to have perfect tongue and groove joint connection. Wood is a living material - it can contract or expand in response to changing atmospheric conditions. Although harmless, this natural process should be taken into consideration when laying a floor. Always entrust the installation of your flooring to a professional installer and follow installation instructions.

PRE-INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

APPLICATION

W Parket flooring can be installed as a floating floor or glued down to the sub floor. The advanced profile (made using HOMAG machinery) makes the installation simple, safe and durable. W Parket flooring is suitable for installation on water-circulating under floor heating.

JOB SITE INSPECTION

The building should be closed in with all outside doors and windows in place. All concrete, masonry, framing members, drywall, paint and other "wet" work should be thoroughly dry.

The wall coverings should be in place and the painting completed.

Exterior grading should be complete with surface drainage directing water away from the building.

Basements and open spaces must be dry and well ventilated.

AMBIENT CONDITIONS: all rooms shall be normally heated during installation (minimum 18°C/65°F), the relative humidity must be between 35 % and 60 %. Maintenance of the correct relative humidity during and after installation reduces the possibility of deformation and the appearance of small openings in the floor. High temperatures from open fireplaces, tiled stoves or intensive sunlight (f.e. conservatories) may cause damage. Coverage of heated floors with thick rugs or other floor covering is not recommended and may lead to unacceptable heat concentration.

STORAGE AND HANDLING

Handle and unload with care.

Parquet flooring should be stored in the environment in which it is expected to perform.

During winter months the flooring must remain in unopened packaging for up to 48 hours in order to reach the room temperature. The original packaging shall be opened immediately prior to installation.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

The sub floor must be free of any carpets, clean, permanently dry, level, and firm and structurally sound.

Variations in level of the sub floor of more than 2 mm in 2 m have to be filled or planed. Sub floors with direct contact to the soil, sections which are over unheated rooms or crawl spaces or with increased humidity loads like boiler or laundry rooms require additional protection against moisture.

NORMAL INSTALLATION

HUMIDITY

The allowable maximum moisture content on a dry weight basis is for concrete sub floor 2,0 %, for anhydrous screed sub floor 0,5 % and must be verified before installation.

FOR FLOATING INSTALLATION

A moisture barrier shall be laid directly on the sub floor. The barrier shall go up the walls a few centimetres. The noise protection of maximum 3mm thickness is installed without overlap on top of the moisture barrier. The flooring is glued with a continuous glue line into all grooves.

GLUE APPLICATION

Gluing in the grooves is done with PVAc glue conforming to the requirements of din en 204 (d3). For floating installation the glue is applied in the grooves along the edge and the end. If installed glue-down on under floor heating (radiant heated floors) the glue is applied at the ends only. The glue is applied as a continuous bead into the upper part of the groove.

With under floor heating

The maximum allowable heat output is 55 W/m² and must be evenly distributed over the entire surface of the floor. Surface temperatures must not exceed 27°C in all places. At the start of each heating season the temperature shall be gradually increased evenly over 7 days until normal heating levels are achieved. With under floor heating some species have a greater tendency to create small splits and openings between the boards than others, f.e. Beech and Canadian Maple.

SPACING

Wood as a natural material reacts to changes of humidity. Between the flooring and walls, and all other hard points, such as doorframes or heating pipes there must be a gap of min. 10 - 15mm. Wooden spacers along the walls help to keep this distance during installation.

Expansion joints must be installed in all doors, or if floor segments are longer than 15m in the lengthwise direction of the flooring elements, or wider than 9m perpendicular to it. Wherever possible the flooring is laid under the door frames.

TOOLS

Apart from measuring tape, pencil, angle ruler and a saw the following tools are necessary and helpful for a quick and perfect installation: Hammer, hardwood tapping block, parquet tool, wooden distance spacers.

I.FLOATING INSTALLATION

1. Lay the first board 8-10 mm (in a normal room) from the wall with the groove side of the board towards the wall. Insert wooden spacers between the board and the wall. If the wall is particularly crooked, draw the wall contours on the first board. Saw the board to the drawn contours so that they follow the unevenness of the wall.
2. When you finish a row turn the board so that tongue lies against tongue and measure and then saw the board. Then turn the sawn side of the board towards the wall, glue the end joint.
3. Carefully press the joint together using a hardwood tapping block or similar tool. Insert wooden distance spacers between the end of the board and the wall.
4. Start the next row with the sawn board. The end joints should not be closer to each other than 50 cm. Insert wooden spacers at the end of the board. Row after row is done in the same way. Glue the tongues upper surface, press and hammer together. If there is under-floor heating, glue both upper and lower surfaces of the tongue double gluing. Never hammer the tongue or groove directly, use hardwood tapping block. Completely glue end and longitudinal joints. Use glue only recommended by professional installer. N.B. the first two boards must lie perfectly straight. Check this with a chalk line.
5. The last board usually has to be sawn down its length. Lay the last board directly over the next to last board. Take a short piece of another board, turn the tongue towards the wall and draw the contour of the wall onto the last board. Thereafter, saw the board following the drawn line. Press in last board with the help of a hardwood tapping block. Protect the wall with a piece of wood. Please note that if you have to saw off a large part of the last row against the wall, it would be more attractive to cut the boards of the first and last rows the same amount. Always check the width of the room before you start laying the boards.
6. Door architraves: lay a loose piece of board against the architrave and saw. The floor is then slid under the architrave.
7. Heating pipes: drill a hole 2mm larger than the diameter of the pipe.
8. Along the edge of the board, saw out the back piece with a jig-saw. Angle the saw approx.45 degrees. Also saw with a 45 degree and glue to the holes. Check the fit of the back piece.
9. Once the board is in place, glue the sawn out back piece. Squeeze this into place with a wedge and cover the holes around the pipe with plastic collars. On the end of a board: The same procedure but cut the board here straight over the holes with the saw at an angle of 45 degrees. Columns or similar: Cut out the necessary shape by sawing across the board and by chiselling out the waste, lengthwise.
10. Skirting boards: press the skirting board down with a piece of board whilst you attach the skirting board to the wall. The skirting board should not be pressed against the floor so hard that locking occurs. Door openings: In door openings the floor should be fitted with an expansion joint, taking into account the different movements in the floors. The expansion joint can be covered with a strip of wood or metal.

After laying the floor, the wooden spacers can be removed and the skirting boards can be fitted.

NOTE.

If further work is to be carried out in the room, the flooring should be covered with hardboard, paper or similar, in order to avoid damage. It must be a material that "breathes".

DO NOT STICK ANY ADHESIVE, GLUEY MATERIALS, SUCH AS SCOTCH TAPE, DUCK TAPE, ETC., DIRECTLY ON INSTALLED FLOORING. THIS CAN CAUSE DAMAGES, ESPECIALLY ON THERMO TREATED FLOORING, FOR WHICH SELLER DOES NOT HOLD RESPONSIBILITY.

II.GLUING INSTALLATION

Gluing the hardwood flooring to the sub floor is a more demanding installation method and it is recommended that it should be done by a professional.

1. Start laying the hardwood floor in a normal fashion in the direction of the long wall, the walking direction or towards the incoming light. With this installation method, an expansion gap of 5 mm will suffice for fixed structures and penetrations. Expansion joints (about 5 mm) are recommended for areas between separate rooms or on uniform surfaces of over 12 m crosswise. Cover the expansion joint with an appropriate skirting. To make the start of the installation easier, secure the start row with wedges or when necessary, shape it according to the wall line. The overlap of adjacent board ends must be a minimum of 50 cm.
2. Start by applying the glue on the sub floor alongside the boards in an area of one or two rows of boards at a time, using a tongued trowel of 4 - 5 mm that is slightly narrower than the hardwood board.

3. Install the first two pre-shaped rows by gluing them to each other from the tongue, lift up the plate according to figure and start applying the glue. Place the plate on the layer of glue and check the straightness of the line. Let the glue dry for approximately 30 min and continue the installation in the normal fashion.
4. First, place the boards as close to each other as possible, the end tongue first. Place the boards in the tongue with a shaped striking block. After this, place them onto the layer of glue. Be careful not to stain the surface of the hardwood flooring with the glue.
5. It is advisable to let the first rows of boards settle for approximately 30 min before continuing the gluing. Make sure no excess glue is applied in the tongue, because it prevents tight installation. Remove any glue stains while fresh with, for example, white spirit.
6. Continue installation by fitting the boards in advance. Consider the limitations of time required for the glue to set, particularly when working with penetrations and the last row of boards.
7. If board is longitudinally curved or arched, you can cut the ground veneer from a couple of points at an angle of approximately 45°. In this way, the board settles better on the glue surface lengthwise. If some point is loose from the gluing, especially at the start or against the end walls or, for example, because of deviations on the ground, you can use a weight until the glue is dry.
8. Protect the floor with clean, porous cardboard during the other finishing tasks. A pre-finished hardwood floor does not need any surface treatment, as the boards are finished at the factory. Thou it is compulsory to re-oil flooring using Maintenance Oil (Only for Oxidative Oil finishing).
9. Recommended installation glues are solvent-free polyurethane glues. The total consumption of glue is approximately 1 litre/2 m², but it is recommended to follow instruction of glue producer. For concrete floors in particular, make sure that the glue is suitable for the hardwood flooring. Products intended for gluing the tongues in a hardwood board are not suitable.

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Maintenance

MAINTENANCE AND PREPARATION of Oiled Floors

This leaflet is intended to provide general comments and recommendations because of the wide variety of possible installation and/or wearing problems occurred. For any hesitations, a detailed report about the installation and it's required maintaining, repairing or renovating should be sent to our technical advisory service which will recommend the procedures to follow.

GENERAL NOTE

- Place doormats inside and outside the front door to stop dirt and grit being walked in, which can cause considerable wear.
- Put protective pads on furniture (not metal feet, which mark wood floors) to avoid unnecessary pressure marks and scratches on the floor.
- In case of heavy local wear and tear, e.g. by wheelchairs, it is recommended to lay a protective mat made of transparent plastic (e.g. PVC).
- In rooms where you know water is frequently spilled, and where it may also be left on the floor, we recommend that the floor to be treated with W Parket Maintenance Oil after lying. This seals the joints between the boards and gives better protection against water.
- Wood floors expand and contract depending on the ambient climate. To counteract excessive movement, and consequential damage to the floor, maintain a normal room temperature and a relative humidity of 40-60% and a temperature between 18° and 24°.

MAINTENING OILED FLOORS

Cleaning

- For daily cleaning, use dry methods such as vacuuming. When necessary, damp-clean the floor with a well wrung-out mop/floor cloth. The floor must only become slightly damp. The film of water formed in this way must dry within one minute.

- For the best cleaning results, use W Parquet Soap. If you use another cleaner, ensure that it is pH neutral (maximum pH 8). Do not allow spilt water to be left on the floor.
- The frequency of damp-cleaning depends on how much the floor is used and how soiled it gets. Regularly cleaning the floor prevents dirt from adhering to the oiled surface.
- Unnecessary cleaning using damp methods, does more harm than good. This applies particularly to the first few weeks after maintenance with W Parquet Maintenance Oil.

Removing marks

- Remove marks as soon as possible using the W Parquet Soap or Intensive Cleaner or another neutral cleaner.
- If this does not work, remove the mark using a green nylon pad. After removing the mark, you may need to apply W Parquet Maintenance Oil.

PREPARING OILED FLOORS

Partial repairing

- Treat small surface scratches and scrape marks (f.e. under chairs, etc) with W Parquet Maintenance oil which conceals the micro scratches.
- On deeper scratches, use W Parquet Maintenance Paste first. Then apply a layer of W Parquet Maintenance Oil to the damaged surface.
- For any deep dents, scratches and cracks fill them first with wood filler, then oil with W Parquet Maintenance Paste to finalize with a layer of W Parquet Maintenance Oil. Boards with major damage should be renovated however.

RENOVATING OILED FLOORS

Partial renovation

- If a small area has been damaged or worn through, or needs repair for any other reason, this is best achieved by replacing the damaged boards. Refer to the W Parquet document about partial repairs. Total renovation of wood floors
- If the floor is worn and cannot be repaired, or needs renovation for some other reason, it can be machine-sanded to bare wood and treated again to give a new surface.
- The surface can be treated with lacquer or natural oil.

MAINTENANCE OF LACQUERED SURFACE

W Parquet lacquered flooring is surface treated at the factory with an ultraviolet-solidified acrylic lacquer. The lacquer does not release health-threatening substances or formaldehyde into the air.

Caring for your W Parquet floor is easy. Follow these simple instructions, and your floor will always retain its splendour:

- Use doormats.
- Vacuum clean or swipe all sand or dust off the floor.
- Regularly wipe the floor with a damp mop. Add a small amount of neutral cleaning detergent to the water. Do not use alkaline cleaning agents!
- Always wipe off excessive water or other liquids from the floor.
- Use felt pads under furniture legs, and avoid using stiletto heels when walking on the floor.

To minimize moisture-induced expansion / shrinkage of the wood, room air relative humidity should remain between 40% and 60%, and the room temperature should be 18-24 °C. If conditions deviate substantially from the above, the manufacturer, seller or installer cannot accept liability for any swelling or embitterment of the parquet's wood. Structural changes can be reduced by using an air humidifier during dry periods and with sufficient ventilation during wet periods.

- Remove all stains as quickly as possible.

Stain removal instructions:

- Synthetic cleaning detergents are the most efficient substances for removing stains created by fruits, berries, dairy products, juices, beverages, wine, coffee and urine.
- Mineral turpentine is used for removing stains such as grease, oil, shoe prints, shoe polish, tar, pitch and chocolate.
- Denaturated alcohol is used to remove stains caused by ballpoint pens, ink, lipstick and office chemicals.
- Cold water can be used to clean blood stains.

Re-sanding and re-lacquering of W Parket plank parquets

If the lacquered surface has dimmed or worn out after years of use, W Parket flooring can be sanded and surface treated again. It is recommended that this work is completed by a professional, so that the floor surface remains in good condition and as flawless as possible.

- An appropriate band sander should be used to remove the old lacquer. The coarseness of the sanding paper (or net) should be 50.
- The sanding is performed perpendicular to the floorboards. Corners and edges are sanded with a corner sander (sanding paper coarseness 50).
- During the sanding, it is also possible to perform repair puttying on any gaps and cracks. The putty can consist either of wood putty or of a mixture of lacquer primer and the wood dust created during sanding.
- A finishing sanding is performed after puttying. At this stage, the sandpaper coarseness must be 80-100.
- After the finishing sanding is done, the parquet surface should be cleaned thoroughly and all loose wood dust removed.
- Any common parquet lacquers can be used for re-lacquering.
- Use a steel trowel to spread out three layers of lacquer primer. On average, use 100-150g lacquer/m².
- If an intermediate sanding is required, a sandpaper/net coarseness of 120-160 should be used.
- All dust should be very carefully removed using a damp cloth. After this, two layers of surface lacquer should be spread out on the surface using steel or mohair trowel or a lacquer roller and a brush. On average, 250-300g/m² of lacquer is used.
- After surface lacquering, the floor should be left to dry thoroughly

Under Floor Heating

W Parket engineered flooring, is ideal for installation on top of a well-functioning under-floor heating system. This results in an ideal thermal distribution throughout the area to be heated and provides maximum living comfort. Optimal, unequalled stability and durability, is assured even for large widths. As flooring over under-floor heating must be laid in a very professional manner, the installer is always responsible to ensure that the basic instructions of installation are observed very carefully. If you have any hesitations, a detailed report about the floor heating system should be sent to our technical advisory service which will approve installation or otherwise.

BASIC INSTRUCTIONS TO OBSERVE VERY CAREFULLY

- The heating pipes should be covered by at least 30 mm of cement sub floor.
- Careful professional installation of the sub floor (it must be solid, especially with good surface stability, etc.) is important for good quality in all types of floors.
- Maximum sub floor moisture measured with the CM instrument:
Cement 1.5% - 2.3% without floor heating
Flow anhydrite 0.3% - 0.5% without floor heating
- After the sub floor has essentially reached its final consistency, the heating should be run for at least 14 days. It is sufficient to run the system at approx. 2/3 of the maximum flow temperature. In the middle of the pre-heating period, the heating power should be turned up to the maximum temperature for at least two days. One or two days prior to installation of the parquet, the heating should be turned off, or depending on the outdoor temperature, reduced until the surface temperature of the sub floor falls below approx. 20°C. In the case of pre-finished parquet (90% or the range of W Parket), it is best to restart the heating in steps (ca. 3°C/day) ca. 1 - 2 days after lying. In the case of conventional unfinished parquet ca. 1- 2 days after sealing.
- Shrinkage gaps cut in the sub floor in the case of large areas must be filled with polyester, epoxy resin or the like before lying. Expansion joints from construction or dilatation gaps considered absolutely necessary by the heating engineer must be replicated in the flooring.
- As a general rule, the thermal resistance of a floor covering (which can never be stored in a room with high humidity prior to installation) should not exceed ca. 0.17 m²K/W. All W Parket parquets (except the solid range) lie in the ideal range, between 0.035 and 0.14 m²K/W depending on which under layer is used.
- Good quality adhesives with good temperature stability must be used for laying.

- The surface temperature of the parquet should not exceed 27°C (also for physiological reasons)
- With wood types liable to increased shrinkage and swelling (e.g. beech), one must expect somewhat larger gaps and dishing during the heating period. By maintenance of a healthy room climate (20-22°C and ca. 40-50% rel. humidity), this effects may be prevented or minimized. Furthermore, the operation of room air humidifiers is in the interest of the occupants' well-being and is hence to be recommended during the heating period.

GENERAL REMARKS

- No carpets with insulating effect must be used on top of the floor as this accumulates heat.
- Under-floor heating systems usually result in slightly more movement in the hardwood flooring and the formation of some cracks during the heating season must be accepted if moisture is not supplied to the surrounding air.
- National recommendations may vary slightly.