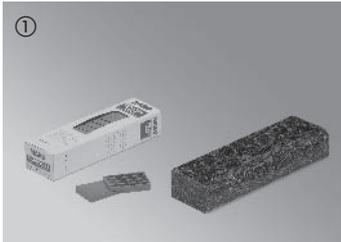


Laying instructions for parkettmanufaktur parquet with Top Connect

Please read carefully from beginning to end before installing the floor!!

Please always comply with the laying instructions that are enclosed with the cartons. These instructions are binding!



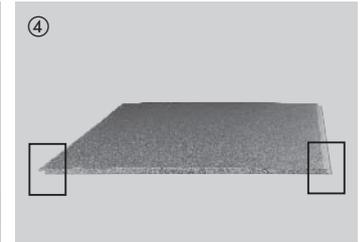
Laying tools: tapping block, wedges, pencil, saw, and maybe the unlocking help system.



Always use 0.2 mm thick PE film as an underlay when laying your floor over floor screed. The overlap seams must overlap by 30 cm. Extend underlay up all walls. After having installed the skirtings cut underlay at the upper edge of the skirtings.



For sound insulation and to smooth out slight irregularities of the subfloor, unroll 2 mm thick Silent Luxury insulation underlay. Do not overlap. Our range of accessories also offers suitable insulation underlays. Asphalt-bitumen felt is not suitable for sound insulation. **Parquet with integrated insulation layer is not suitable for glue-down installation.**



Cross section of long side
Tongue side / Groove side



Starting in the right-hand corner of the room, align the boards of the first row with the tongue side parallel to the wall, and fix them in place with wall spacers or plastic spacers as you proceed (always keep an expansion gap of 10 - 15 mm (3/8" - 1/2") around perimeter).



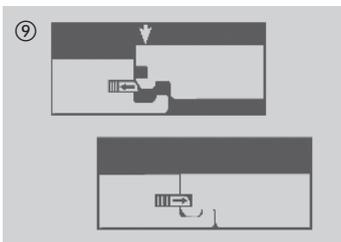
Proceed board by board to complete the first row: Angle the short side of next board into the board on its left. Briefly push down the left-hand side of the board to interlock the two boards. It is important to ensure that the first row is straight and exactly parallel to the wall. Cut the last board of the first row to size, leaving an expansion gap of 10-15 mm (3/8" - 1/2") between the board and wall. Fit in the board.



Start the second row with the leftover piece of the first row (offset the end joints of adjoining rows by at least 50 cm). This considerably reduces waste. Proceed board by board to install the remaining boards. First, the element is angled into the previous row along the long side by applying a small amount of force. Use a hammer and tapping block as required.



Then rotate the board down. Ensure that the short side of the board is flush with the board on its left. Briefly push down the left-hand end of the board to interlock the two boards.



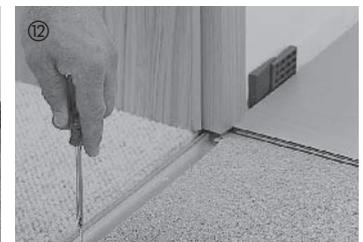
Cross section of short side
Locking system



Cut to size and fit in the boards of the last row. Leave a gap of 10 to 15 mm between the boards and wall.



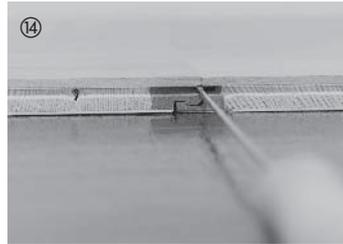
If radiator pipes protrude from the floor, drill and saw a cutout into the board (the size of the cutout depends on the radiator pipe and the required expansion space).



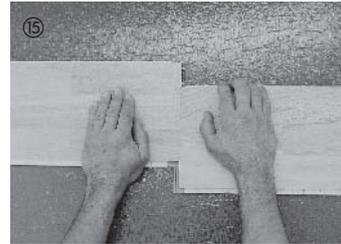
In doorways, mount a suitable moulding system to ensure the necessary expansion space. This also applies if the same floor is to be laid in the adjoining room. In this case, a transition moulding should be used for covering the required expansion gap. Leave an expansion space of approx. 5 mm between the board and the base of the moulding. As a rule, a fine saw must be used to cut a gap the thickness of a board in wooden door frames to allow the parquet to expand.



Be sure to remove all distance spacers once all boards are laid. Fasten skirtings (with or without clip system) to the walls – that's it.



Tips for the unlocking of Top Connect: Remove the boards with the unlocking help system. Starting from the long grooved side, insert the dismantle tool into the groove of the short side.



If the unlocking help system is not available, the boards can be pushed apart in a parallel direction.

General information

Please read carefully from beginning to end before installing the floor!!

Measures to take before installation

Do not open the cartons prior to installation. Store and acclimatise the unopened cartons inside. New constructions to be closed in with air conditioning or heating units during the winter months. Recommended room conditions for installation are 18 °C (65 °F).

Important: Prior to installation, inspect the boards in daylight for any visible faults or damage and also check colour and texture. To achieve a regular distribution of the grade in the installed floor, we recommend installing from different packs at the same time. No claims are accepted once flooring boards have been installed. Elastic and textile floor coverings must be removed completely before installation.

Installation direction

The direction of laying normally depends on the main source of light fall in the room, e.g. French windows. The boards should run parallel with the entering light for best appearance. However, the proportions of the room can also be emphasised by skilled selection of the direction in which your parquet is laid. Light-coloured wood makes small rooms appear larger. With floating installation in large areas over 10 m (33 ft.) in length or width, an expansion joint must be allowed for. Apply an expansion moulding or cover strip over said expansion joint.

- Ensure that the boards are always laid lengthways in narrow hallways.
- When installing T, L or U-shaped areas, separate the flooring areas according to the room layout by using a suitable profile system.

In commercial/ public areas, we recommend glue-down installation.

Parquet with integrated luxury insulation layer is not suitable for glue-down installation.

Moisture check

The subfloor must be checked for moisture by using e.g. a CM measuring instrument.

Moisture content limit

Cement screed max. 2.0 % CM, with underfloor heating 1.8 % CM; anhydride screed max. 0.5 % CM, with underfloor heating 0.3 % CM. When laying parquet flooring over newly installed concrete screed or cast plaster subfloors – after a curing time of at least 6 to 8 weeks – or over underfloor heating, always use 0.2 mm (8 mils) PE film as an underlayment for additional moisture protection. Overlap seams with 30 cm (12 ") and tape. When laying your floor in rooms on or below grade, it is necessary that a state-of-the-art or DIN-compliant moisture barrier be installed.

Installation over underfloor heating

When installing your floor over underfloor heating, the screed must be laid in accordance with the German DIN 1853 standard. Before you start laying your parquet floor, please verify that the underfloor heating system has been installed in compliance with DIN EN 1264 and DIN 4725 and that the proper preparatory heat-up phase has been completed. Detailed instructions on installation over underfloor heating can be obtained from your dealer.

Care:

For detailed instructions on initial treatment and general maintenance, please refer to the Floor Care Guide for parquet with oleovera natural oil finish, which you can obtain from your dealer. In the case of commercial and public application areas, please ask your dealer for the special care instructions.

Initial treatment:

oleovera is a natural finish in which the oil is allowed to dry in air—the drying process is not accelerated artificially by UV light. This natural form of surface finish with oil **always requires initial treatment of the surface immediately after installation.**

There are two ways to do this, depending on whether you want to preserve the original look of the floor or give it a patina look (see "Damp cleaning/care" section).

Initial treatment with natural floor oil (with patina effect):

Natural floor oil penetrates deeply into the wood and gives the floor a rustic appearance. The pores of the wood surface remain open, while the surface is resistant to the usual wear and tear. When applying natural floor oil, please follow the instructions given on the label. The drying time is approx. 12 hours. We recommend that you subject the floor only to light duty during the first days after

installation. The floor should not be soaped during the first two weeks after initial treatment.

Initial treatment with natural floor wax (without patina effect):

Natural floor wax gives the floor a natural open-pore surface which is dirt-repelling and withstands a high degree of wear and tear. When applying the wax, please follow the instructions given on the label. The floor will take light foot traffic and mechanical loads after 12 hours. Allow approx. 12 days before full use, depending on indoor climate conditions. The floor should not be soaped during the first two weeks after initial treatment.

Regular cleaning:

Dry cleaning:

It is usually sufficient to clean your parquet floor dry using a dust mop, soft broom or vacuum cleaner. Damp cleaning can always be carried out as required.

Damp cleaning/Care:

Natural floor soap is used for optimum cleaning and maintenance of your parquet floor. The applicable soap concentration depends on whether initial treatment was carried out with natural floor oil or natural floor wax. Always avoid letting water stand on the surface. Steam cleaning machines are not suitable for cleaning parquet.

Traditional "soaping" with natural floor soap (mixing ratio 1:15) for oiled surfaces (with patina effect):

Natural floor soap is used for regular maintenance of the floor (mixing ratio 1:15). The concentrated soap solution forms a protective coat on the floor which changes the colouration (patina). Note: Little or no patina will occur with wood species that were heat-treated or have a low tannin content. Mix natural floor soap with warm water, at the concentration indicated above, and stir well. Apply the soap suds to the floor surface with a damp mop. Wring the mop out well. It is recommended to rinse the mop in a second pail with clear water before dipping it into the soap suds again. The floor should not be soaped during the first two weeks after initial treatment. Subsequently, soap once a week for one month and then as required.

Damp mopping with natural floor soap (mixing ratio 1:50) for waxed surfaces (without patina effect):

Natural floor soap is used for regular maintenance of the floor (mixing ratio 1:50). This diluted soap solution does not form a coat on the floor surface. It achieves excellent cleaning results with a regreasing effect that preserves the natural beauty of the floor. The floor should not be soaped during the first two weeks after initial treatment. Damp mopping can then be done regularly, as required. It is perfectly suited for all wood species available from parkettmanufaktur. Mix natural floor soap with warm water, at the concentration indicated above, and stir well. Wipe the floor with a well-wrung cloth or mop.

Intensive care:

If your parquet shows visible signs of wear and tear, it should be treated with Natural Floor Intensive Cleaner. Then reapply Natural Floor Oil or Natural Floor Wax (as described above under "Initial treatment"). Partial treatment is also possible without problem.

Room climate

In order to maintain the quality and beauty of your parquet floor, but also for your own personal well being, an indoor climate of approx. 50% – 60% relative air humidity is ideal with a room temperature of approx. 20°C. In order to keep the air humidity constant, especially during the heating periods, we recommend you use a humidifier. This will prevent any extreme drying out of the floor. Air humidifiers should be used right from the beginning of the heating season. If air humidity falls below normal values, small gaps may appear, which generally close again after the heating period.

How you can additionally protect your parquet floor:

To preserve the quality and beauty of your parquet we recommend using protective pads under chairs and furniture legs. The castors of armchairs and office chairs must comply with German Standard DIN 68131. Use only lined rollers of type W (soft). It is also a good idea to use polycarbonate mats as underlay for armchairs and office chairs.

Laying instructions for full spread glue-down installation

Suitable subfloors:

- Cement–(CT) or poured cement floors (CFT)
- Anhydrite–(CA) or anhydrite cast floors (CFA)
- Mastic asphalt floors (AS)
- V 100 (E1)–particle board

Adhesive type according to TRGS 610: HARO Flexible Glue

Note:

The TRGS 610 Technical Rules for Hazardous Substances stipulate the use of solvent-free adhesives whenever the product and the installation conditions on site permit their use.

Subfloor testing and preparation:

The subfloor must be tested before laying according to the German standards VOB, Part C, DIN 18365 "Flooring Works" and DIN 18356 "Parquet Works." The subfloor must be dry, absorbent, clean and even, compression- and tension-proof, and free of cracks. Make sure the subfloor has been cleaned thoroughly from oil, grease, wax, paint, plaster, dust and other deleterious substances that may prevent or reduce adhesion.

Newly laid cement, anhydrite and mastic asphalt subfloors usually do not require additional subfloor preparation.

Difficult subfloors, such as old mastic asphalt floors, very absorbent or sandy cement floors, ceramic floors, etc., require special subfloor preparation to ensure a proper substrate for laying. In this case, prepare the subfloor with appropriate filler or compound according to manufacturer's specifications.

Anhydrite cast floors must be sanded or brushed and then vacuumed before installing the floor covering.

With mastic asphalt floors, it is essential to remove excess or loose quartz sand with a disk sander and vacuum with an industrial vacuum cleaner.

1. Moisture check:

The subfloor must be checked in a workmanlike manner by using a suitable measuring instrument (CM meter) in order to verify compliance with the required limit moisture content for laying the floor covering.

Limit moisture content without underfloor heating: Cement floors ≤ 2.0 CM (weight)%; anhydrite or anhydrite cast floors ≤ 0.5 CM (weight)%

Limit moisture content with underfloor heating: Cement floors ≤ 1.8 CM (weight)%; anhydrite or anhydrite cast floors ≤ 0.3 CM (weight)%

Please observe the preparatory measures which you find on our web site and in the "Installation over Underfloor Heating" section of these Laying Instructions. Prior to installation, a signed Record of Preparatory Subfloor Heat-Up Phase must be submitted by the client.

2. Testing for evenness: (DIN 18202):

If necessary, level the subfloor with appropriate filler or compound according to manufacturer's specifications. Levelling the subfloor requires the use of special primers. Do not remove subfloor edge insulation until levelling and priming has been completed.

3. Surface strength:

The surface strength of the subfloor is tested with the scratch test and the hammer impact test (low-strain method).

4. Daily joints in the subfloor (pseudo-joints or predetermined breaking points):

These joints must be locked in a workmanlike manner prior to installing the floor covering. DO NOT close any expansion joints in the subfloor.

Glue-down installation:

Do not glue down if floor temperature is below 17° C (63°F). Avoid air humidity levels above 70% in the room (such as in new constructions). If necessary, heat the room and ventilate it thoroughly.

Adhesive storage:

Store in a cool, dry place; shelf life 6 months when stored in unopened original container. After opening, cover the adhesive in the container with plastic film and desiccant bag.

Coverage:

- Approx. 1000 to 1200 g/m² of HARO Flexible Glue depending on the absorbing power of the subfloor.
- Hamberger Special Spreader L

Also follow the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer.

General notes on glue-down installation:

- This high-grade engineered product should not be stored in new constructions due to building-related residual moisture and increased air humidity levels.
- Do not open the cartons prior to installation; wrap any remaining boards in plastic foil when installation will be interrupted for a longer period.
- Apply the adhesive with the Hamberger Special Spreader L (at first only apply the amount of adhesive needed to install one row). The open time of the adhesive is about 60 minutes at 20° C.
- Align the boards of the first row with the tongue side parallel to the wall and fix them in place with spacers. Snap a chalk line when you need to cover long distances. This ensures that the row is exactly straight and parallel to the wall. Press the boards firmly into the wet adhesive to achieve good transfer.
- You can start the second row with the leftover piece from the first row, provided that you offset the end joints of adjoining rows by at least 50 cm.
- At transitions to other floor coverings or door frames as well as to ceramic borders around fireplaces, you can insert special transition mouldings into the adhesive bed. Leave an expansion gap of at least 5 mm in the transition moulding.
- Wait about 12 hours after installation before subjecting the installed parquet floor to traffic and load.

Recommendation:

We recommend a floating installation for renovation or remodelling and if the subfloor is unsound or consists of old PVC flooring or glued down felt carpeting. If in any doubt, do not hesitate to ask our technical service department.

The information given here is based on experience and serves to advise the person doing the laying. This information can only be of a general nature. No liability is accepted for the success of the work since we have no influence on the actual execution of work, and do not know the specific laying conditions. Make a gluing test before installing the floor or, if you are uncertain, ask a professional installer to lay your floor.

06/09

Subject to modification in the interest of technical development.

