BARISTA

PLANK

PLANK INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

These Instructions can be downloaded from our website - www.wrg.ie

Additional Instructions available at www.hardwood-installation.eu

Beautiful floors are a product of nature and therefore, not perfect. Hardwood floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. The defects may be of a manufacturing or natural type. Prior to the installation of any hardwood flooring product, the installer must determine that the job-site environment and the sub surfaces involved, meet or exceed all requirements as stipulated in these installation instructions. We do not accept any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with sub surface or job-site environment deficiencies. The installer/owner has final inspection responsibility as to grade, manufacture and factory finish. He must use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with glaring defects, whatever the cause. When hardwood flooring is ordered, 5% must be added to the actual square metres needed as allowance for cutting waste and/or mis-manufacture. Should an individual piece be doubtful as to grade, manufacture or factory finish, the installer should not use the piece.

DO NOT INSTALL ANY QUESTIONABLE OR DEFECTIVE PRODUCT.

NOTE: IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU EMPLOY A PROFESSIONAL FLOORING CONTRACTOR WHO OWNS A MOISTURE METER TO LAY YOUR FLOORING. IT IS THE INSTALLER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THE MOISTURE OF THE CONCRETE AND OTHER CONDITIONS IN THE HOUSE BEFORE LAYING THE FLOOR

STAGE 1: Before You Start – Job Site Inspection

Acclimatisation and Storage

The floor should be stored horizontally in the room that is being fitted for at least 7 days before installation – the longer the better. The period required to acclimatise the flooring should be determined by taking moisture readings of the flooring and also from within the room. The fitter should aim for the two to be in equilibrium. Failure to acclimatize may cause excessive expansion and contraction. Do not open the packs prior to installation.

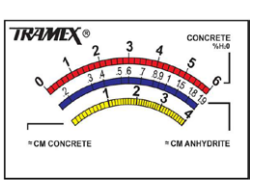
The temperature must be at least 18°c and the relative humidity between 40 – 60% for a minimum of 14 days prior to the installation of the flooring as well as during and after the fitting. The fitter should carry out these tests. Never bring flooring into a house which is not to the above conditions. It is vital that the packs are stacked correctly and horizontally. Place at least 3 laths between the ground and first row. The best way to stack the packs is to place laths between each row.

Sub-floor Evenness and Cleanliness

It is imperative to ensure that your cement or wood sub-floor is level (to within 3mm over a 2 metre straight edge) and that it is clean, dry and secure. Failure to do this may result in edge damage to the boards or noise related issues e.g. squeaking. It is the fitter's responsibility to ensure that the floor is level and clean. Any remaining residues or dirt should be removed.

IMPORTANT - Sub-floor Moisture

Cement Screeds (See Scale):



The moisture of the concrete floor must not be over 3% (2.0% CM) based on Tramex Concrete Encounter Red Scale in diagram) - this should be tested with an appropriate moisture meter e.g. Tramex Concrete Encounter. If the cement subfloor moisture level is too high, either wait until it is dry or use a
PU Primer / Liquid DPM such as Seal Tight 100 which will seal moisture in cement floors up to 6% moisture.

Pump / Anhydrite Screeds:

For pump / anhydrite based screeds (usually 45-50mm thickness with underfloor heating), the moisture content level of the screed must be below 0.3% CM Moisture (Tramex Concrete Encounter Blue Scale highlighting CM % Moisture in diagram). Please note PU Primers or Liquid DPM's are not suitable for use over Pump / Anhydrite Screeds. Please also see Underfloor Heating Guidelines (Section 4)

Timber Subfloor:

Suitable timber subfloors include flooring grade plywood or OSB Grade 3 (Kiln Dried approx. 12%). Construction Plywood is not a suitable subfloor due to its high moisture content. If the timber subfloor has a moisture content higher than 12%, we recommend the use of Bitumen Paper which helps prevent moisture penetration from the timber subfloor. Bitumen paper is used at installer's/owner's risk.

Moisture Barrier

Always use builder's polythene or a suitable moisture barrier over cement floors for additional moisture protection. Overlap seams by 30cm and tape with duck tape (or similar waterproof tape), extend the polythene up the wall behind the skirting.

Inspect Flooring

Prior to installation, the fitter should inspect each board in daylight for any visible faults or damage and also check the colour, structure and finish. The installer/owner has final inspection responsibility as to grade, manufacture and factory finish. They must use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with glaring defects, whatever the cause, Once a board is fitted, it is deemed to be acceptable. It is the responsibility of the fitter and the end user to ensure that the grading of the floor is correct. Always select boards from different bundles to ensure an even appearance. No Claims Are Accepted Once The Flooring Boards Have Been Installed.

Longitudinal Bowing

In the case of engineered flooring, it is possible for some boards to be bowed on the length. This is more prone in higher humidity environments. These boards can be installed without any problem as longitudinal bowing is self correcting. Some boards may need to cut and used as a starter and end piece.

STAGE 2: Installation - ENGINEERED FLOORING

METHODS OF INSTALLATION

1: Floating Installation
2: Glue Down Installation
3: Installation over Under-floor Heating

Laying Direction

The laying direction normally depends on the main sources of light fall in the room e.g. French windows. The boards should run parallel with the entering light for best appearance. Ensure that the boards are always laid lengthways in narrow hallways. In the case of L, T or U shaped hallways they may require placing an expansion gap and changing the laying direction of the flooring.

1: FLOATING INSTALLATION

Suitable subfloors for a floating installation include cement screed, flooring grade Plywood or OSB Grade 3 (Kiln dried 12%). Construction Plywood is not a suitable subfloor due to its high moisture content. Please consult above section "Sub-floor Moisture" of these instructions for further information regarding correct job site moisture levels.

Important: Over Cement Screeds, always use polythene. A good quality underlay should be used underneath the flooring. The installer will require a heavy tapping block, PVA glue, clamp straps and woodworking tools to complete the installation.

Expansion: Wood is a living material. Always remember to leave an expansion gap of 10 -15mm at walls, pillars, stairs, doorways etc and around any fixed object. Fixed objects also include door stops and heavy items such as island or kitchen units. For any pipes: drill a hole with a diameter about 15mm larger than that of the pipe. It is recommended to place an expansion profile at all doorways. Do not fix any objects to a floating floor installation e.g. kitchen island unit fixed to subfloor through the flooring as this prevents the floor from expanding / contracting throughout the seasons. If there are very heavy objects on top of the flooring, then a glue-down installation is recommended.

The maximum area in which an engineered floor should be floated is 8 metres on the width and 20 meters on the length. The flooring must be seperated at all doorways with suitable expansion profile. In larger areas, a suitable profile should be used or alternatively a glue-down/nail down installation should be considered.

Note: It is extremely important to blend planks from several cartons to ensure a good balance of colour and graining.

Limitations of Engineered Flooring

A floating engineered floor, despite its laminated construction, can expand and contract significantly, depending on how much the indoor climate changes during the year. In all doorways and large areas over 8m in width and 20 meters in length, an expansion joint must be used. When installing in T, L or U-shaped areas, separate the flooring area according to the room layout by using a proper profile system. You may need to change the direction the floor is running when doing this.

2: GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

Suitable subfloors for glue down installation include cement screeds, ceramic tile, flooring grade plywood or OSB Grade 3 (Kiln Dried approx. 12%). Construction Plywood is not a suitable subfloor due to its high moisture content. All cement screeds must be properly cured, clean, dry and free of contaminates such like sealers and old adhesive residue. All subfloors must be structurally flat within industry standards of 3mm variance across 2mt. All sub-surfaces must have a sound but still 'rough' or porous surface in order to ensure a good bond with the adhesive. Old adhesive residues should be removed. A slick or sealed surface should be pre-sanded.

Glue down installation requires that a quality low water solvent free based adhesive be used, using a trowel and spread rate as specified by the adhesive manufacturer. The recommended adhesive for most installations is Griptight 50 PRO PLUS Adhesive or equivalent. See adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions for specific rules and guidelines regarding installation procedures and acceptable subfloors. Any questions regarding the acceptability of a concrete slab or any other type of subfloor or subfloor coating for application of an adhesive, is the sole responsibility of the adhesive manufacturer and the flooring contractor. Remove wet adhesive immediately as it can be very difficult to remove once cured. The recommended trowel is a 5.5mm serrated V Notch trowel (TKB B9) to ensure maximum coverage and a good bond between the subfloor and wood flooring. Larger notch trowels will result in less m2 coverage per kg.

Expansion: Always remember to leave an expansion gap of 10 - 15mm at walls, pillars, doorways or fixed objects etc and around the entire perimeter. For pipes: Drill a hole with a diameter about 15mm larger than that of the pipe. In the case of solid flooring or large areas of engineered flooring, it may be necessary to leave additional expansion through the floor as well as around the perimeter. It is the fitter's responsibility to calculate what additional expansion may be required.

1: Begin installation along the longest wall, or an outside wall, which is most likely to be straight and square with the room. At a minimum of 3-4 points, measure out from the wall 1 board width (including the tongue) and also include the expansion gap of 10 - 15mm (For narrow boards, it may be necessary to measure 2 board widths from the wall). Snap a chalk-line connecting these points, parallel to wall and perpendicular to adjacent walls. Since most walls are not square, you may have to trim the edge of some planks along the walls. Prior to installing flooring, we highly recommend that a straight edge be firmly secured along the chalk line as a guide and to prevent the planks from shifting during installation. Alternatively, the first row can be face nailed with finishing nails into a wood subfloor or spring nailed into a concrete sub-floor (Be careful there are no water pipes running underneath).

2: Spread adhesive from the chalk line/straight edge out to approx the width of two planks using a trowel size according to the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations. Using the longest and straightest board possible, install your first plank with the tongue facing away from the wall along the chalk line/straight edge and secure into position. NOTE: Proper alignment is critical. Misaligned starter rows can cause side and end gaps.

3: When you have the starter row completed, you can start the next row. When the first two rows are straight and secure, spread 700mm to 900mm of adhesive across the length of the room. Never spread more adhesive than can be covered in 30 to 45 minutes (This time may vary depending on quality of adhesive being used). Check for a close fit at all end and side joints. Continue to install planks. Any badly bowed or twisted boards should be cut and used as a starter and end piece. Weights may be required to be placed on the floor in certain areas to ensure full contact until the adhesive is set.

4: Remember to leave an expansion gap of 10 - 15mm between the flooring and walls.

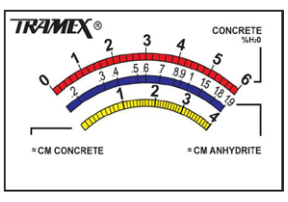
5: When you get to the far wall, you will likely be required to cut the final row in width to fit against the wall. Do this by laying a plank in position and scribing a line on the plank (Don't forget to leave your expansion space of 10 - 15mm from the wall). Cut planks for the last row and install. Go back to the beginning of the installation and remove the straight edge. Spread adhesive on to exposed subfloor and position the final 1-2 rows into place. Remove all expansion spacers at wall and any temporary face nails before applying trim mouldings / skirtings.

6: Allow adhesive to cure for at least 24 hours before permitting foot traffic or moving furniture onto floor. If the floor is being sanded afterwards, the adhesive must be allowed to cure for a minimum of 48 hours prior to sanding

Note: It is extremely important to blend planks from several cartons to ensure a good balance of colour and graining.
Note: It may be necessary to leave weights on flooring boards which are pushing up to ensure full contact with the subfloor while the glue cures. This is normal practice and these weights can be removed once the glue has fully set.

3: UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Our engineered floors are suitable for use over underfloor heating. Please follow below guidelines and information. It is very important that the moisture content of the subfloor which your floor will be laid onto is at the correct moisture level. To avoid cracks in new subfloors, you need a natural drying time of approx. one week per cm thickness of the screed. You can turn on the heat after the above has been achieved. Raise the temperature by 5 degrees per day till you reach maximum capacity and leave the heating on for 14 days. This is important as a relatively small moisture percentage can cause movement issues with your floor.



After these 14 days, switch the heating off for at least 1 week. If necessary, the floor can be levelled and primed at this stage. A floor should be levelled with a high quality latex levelling compound if outside tolerances of 3mm over 2 metre. A moisture check must also be done on the screed prior to any installation. The temperature below the floor must never exceed 26 degrees and the maximum difference of temperature per 24h is 5 degrees Celsius. There are 2 types of installation:

Floating Installation Recommendations
(Please follow below guidelines and floating installation instructions):
- 500 Gauge Polythene – over cement floors
- 2mm Cork Underlay or 2mm Heat Master – lowest heat transfer resistance.

Glue Down Installation Recommendations
(Please follow below guidelines and glue down installation instructions) :
- Sealtight 100 PU Primer (If Cement Moisture is above 2.0% CM but less than 4.0% CM (< 6% on red scale below)
- Griptight 50 PRO PLUS Flexible Adhesive Glue

Note: For a glue-down installation, please turn heat off / to minimum 2 days before installation. You can turn on the heating system again two days after installation - again with maximum increments of 5°c per day.

We recommend that a high quality flexible glue (suitable for U/F Heating) such as Griptight 50 PRO PLUS Adhesive is used for glue down installations.

IMPORTANT:
RETAIN SEVERAL LEFTOVER PLANKS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE REPAIRS

STAGE 3: Care of your floor

Room Conditions
Timber likes pleasant room conditions similar to humans; a room temperature of 20°c and humidity of about 50%. A humidity controller may be required. All rooms, which have timber flooring, should ideally be maintained at the above.

Protecting your floor
If you must move heavy pieces of furniture (e.g. refrigerator, piano etc.), never slide them directly over the flooring. Instead, place a piece of carpet face down between the legs and the flooring and pull on the carpet to move the furniture.

In the event of a proven manufacturing defect, the companies or sellers total liability shall under no circumstances exceed the value of the defective product. The company or seller shall not in any way be responsible for any additional consequential costs or losses.

If you are unclear regarding any of the above instructions, contact your local supplier.

CARING FOR YOUR PREFINISHED FLOOR

Prefinished floors are among the easiest floors to care for. The finish consists of resistant, UV-hardened acrylic varnish. It is formaldehyde-free and environmentally friendly. We recommend cleaning and maintenance as follows:

REGULAR CARE
Dry cleaning:
It is usually sufficient to dry-clean prefinished surfaces with a mop, brush or vacuum. Heel streaks or grease stains can be easily removed with clean & green® active.

Damp cleaning:
For protection of the prefinished surface a treatment is necessary. Your floor should be cleaned regularly depending on the wear and tear of the surface with clean & green® natural diluted in water. Add ½ dosage cap of clean & green® natural to 5 litres (1.3 gal.) of water. Then wipe the surface with a well-wrung, slightly damp cloth. Don't clean the floor surface too damp, always avoid letting water stand on the surface. By polishing the floor with a cloth afterwards, you can optimize the shine of your floor's surface. Steam cleaning machines are not suitable for cleaning prefinished flooring.

INTENSIVE CARE
Damp cleaning:
As the floor will be subject to high traffic, the floor surface will need to be deep-cleaned periodically, depending on dirt build-up. Please use clean & green® active for deep cleaning. Add ½ dosage cap of clean & green® active to 5 litres (1.3 gal.) of water. Then wipe the surface with a well-wrung, slightly damp cloth. Do not clean the floor too damp, always avoid letting water stand on the surface. If required, repeat the process.

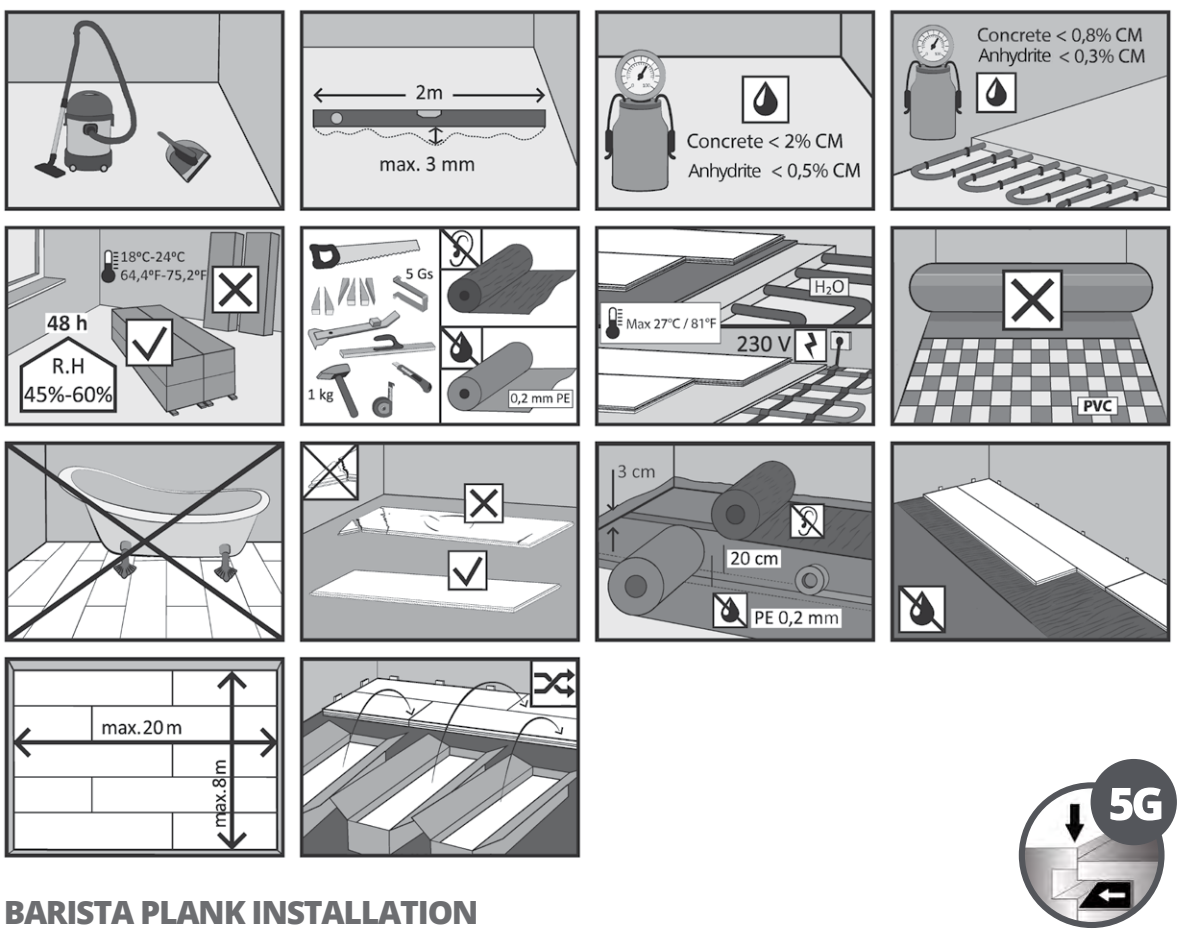
Refreshing:
To optically refresh the floor and improve durability, we recommend that you use Clean & Green AquaShield. Start by thoroughly cleaning the floor (dust-free). We recommend Clean & Green Active for this job. Clean & Green AquaShield is applied on diluted with a rectangular/square cotton cover mop. Evenly apply the AquaShield in overlapping lines. Wait about two hours before subjecting the floor to traffic and load. The application of Clean & Green AquaShield can lead to changes in the gloss level.

BASIC PROTECTION
In maintaining the appearance of your prefinished floor it is always beneficial to use protective felt pads under chairs and table legs. A further recommendation is to use the polycarbonate mats under chair wheels at areas of extreme concentration and wear.

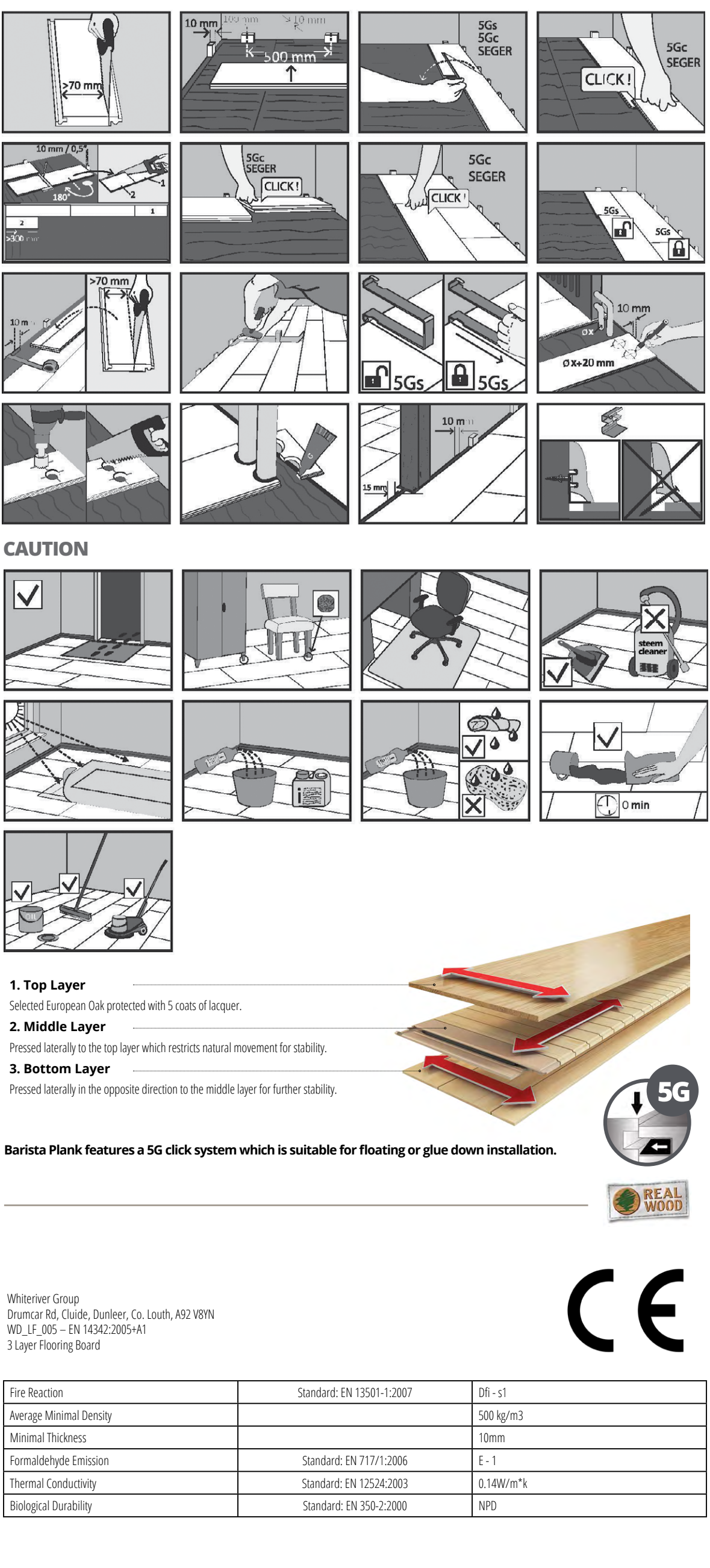
ENTRANCE BARRIER MATTING
We recommend that good quality entrance barrier mats are used at all external entrances to the hardwood flooring to collect grit and moisture from the underside of footwear. We strongly recommend that at least 2 - 3 foot falls are allowed for. Vacuum and clean the mat regularly. If you must move heavy pieces of furniture (e.g. refrigerator, sofa etc.), never slide them directly over the flooring. Instead, place a piece of carpet face down between the legs and the flooring and pull on the carpet to move the furniture.

SPILLAGES
Engineered floors have a level of water resistance; however damage can occur if spillages of liquid onto the surface are not wiped up immediately. Extra coats of site applied lacquer will increase the water resistance of the floor. However it will not be waterproof.

PREINSTALLATION



BARISTA PLANK INSTALLATION



CAUTION

1. Top Layer
Selected European Oak protected with 5 coats of lacquer.

2. Middle Layer
Pressed laterally to the top layer which restricts natural movement for stability.

3. Bottom Layer
Pressed laterally in the opposite direction to the middle layer for further stability.

Barista Plank features a 5G click system which is suitable for floating or glue down installation.

Whiteriver Group
Drumcar Rd, Cluide, Dunleer, Co. Louth, A92 V8YN
WD_LF_005 – EN 14342:2005+A1
3 Layer Flooring Board

Fire Reaction	Standard: EN 13501-1:2007	Dfi - s1
Average Minimal Density		500 kg/m3
Minimal Thickness		10mm
Formaldehyde Emission	Standard: EN 717/1:2006	E - 1
Thermal Conductivity	Standard: EN 12524:2003	0.14W/m*k
Biological Durability	Standard: EN 350-2:2000	NPD