

## SOLID ALL-NATURAL FLOORING

# PRESIDENTIAL SIGNATURE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

### PLEASE READ ALL INSTALLATION GUIDELINES BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH INSTALLATION

#### A. INSTALLER/OWNER RESPONSIBILITY - IMPORTANT

Inspect all flooring material carefully for correct product and visible defects BEFORE INSTALLATION. Warranties do not cover visible defects once they are installed. (Based on industry standards a defect/irregular tolerance of up to 5% is allowed).

As all wood is unique, with no two pieces alike, review and compare the new flooring with the "sample board" from which the floor was selected to ensure it meets the homeowners expectations prior to the installation. If flooring is not acceptable, contact your distributor immediately and arrange for replacement.

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to ensure subfloor and jobsite conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for wood floor installation. Problems or failures related to deficiencies in subfloor or job site damage after installation are not covered by our warranty.

- Receive the floor and make sure it meets owner's expectations.
- Grade out and separate any pieces with visible defects/irregularities.
- Test the subfloor and jobsite itself, including ambient temperature/relative humidity and all other variables that may adversely affect a wood floor.
- Record the flooring moisture content upon delivery and at time of installation - RETAIN THESE RECORDS
- Acclimate flooring to appropriate site conditions. Follow *NWFA Installation Guidelines for Acclimation on Jobsite (Section I, Chapter 2)*
- Record and retain a permanent job record.

**IMPORTANT:** Urbanfloor Solid Wood is designed to perform within a typical residential environment. Wood installed in areas where relative humidity is below 30% may cup and shrink. (A humidifier may be necessary to keep the relative humidity within recommended levels of 30% to 50% year round.) Flooring installed on wet subfloors may crown and buckle.

CORRECT ANY OVERLY DRY OR WET CONDITIONS BEFORE  
INSTALLATION

#### B. PRE INSTALLATION/JOB SITE REQUIREMENTS

##### HANDLING AND STORAGE

Hardwood flooring should be one of the last items installed on any new construction or remodel project. All work involving water or moisture should be completed before installation of flooring.

HVAC should be in operation before, and during installation (refer to *NWFA Installation Guidelines Section I, Chapter 1, Part 1* for further information).

Room temperature and humidity of installation areas should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least ONE WEEK before installation of wood flooring. Room temperatures of 60-80°F and a humidity range of 30%-50% is recommended year-round.

**KEEP FLOORING DRY:** Protect flooring from moisture during storage and transportation. Store material flat in a dry area and with a minimum of 4" clearance off the ground to allow air circulation.

Record the flooring moisture content on delivery, and at the time of installation. Keep a permanent record of these figures.

Open cartons and allow floors to acclimate to the appropriate jobsite conditions. Proper acclimation is particularly important in extremely dry climates (e.g. Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Colorado). See *NWFA Installation Guidelines, Section I, Chapter 2* for more acclimation details.

The moisture content (MC) of hardwood should generally be between 6% to 9%. For wide width flooring (3 1/4" or wider), there should be no more than 2% difference in moisture content between properly acclimated wood flooring and wood subfloor.

#### C. SUBFLOOR TYPES AND CONDITIONS

Types: (Refer to *NWFA Installation Guidelines, Section II for Subfloor Information*)

- CD: Exposure 1 plywood, minimum 3/4" thick.
- Solid board: 1" x 6" wide, square edge, kiln dried.
- OSB: Exposure 1 (minimum 3/4" thick).

##### **DO NOT install over radiant heated floor.**

The subfloor must be clean, dry, and flat to within 3/16" per 10' radius. If necessary, sand or plane high spots, and fill low areas using a cement based patching/leveling compound. Secure any loose boards or panels to prevent squeaking.

**WOOD SUBFLOOR:** The moisture content (MC) of a wood subfloor should not exceed 12%. In general the moisture content of hardwood flooring is between 6% and 9% and the MC difference between the subfloor and flooring should not exceed 2% on a 3 1/4" or wider flooring.

Damage due to moisture issues is not a product failure and is not covered by our warranty.

**BASEMENT AND CRAWL SPACES:** Keep dry and ventilated. In crawl spaces, exposed earth should be fully covered by a minimum 6 mil black polyethylene vapor barrier.

#### D. GENERAL INSTALLATION

REFER TO *NWFA INSTALLATION GUIDELINES, SECTION III, CHAPTER 9*

Urbanfloor's solid wood flooring may be installed above or on-grade. NOT BELOW GRADE.

Allow minimum 3/4" expansion space between flooring, walls and other vertical objects. Use spacers to maintain the expansion space during installation.

Cover wood subfloor wall to wall with a 15 lb. asphalt saturated felt, overlapped 4" at seams.

Working from several boxes simultaneously, "dry lay" the floor before permanently installing. This allows you the opportunity to select out and blend pieces to create a more eye appealing blend of color, grain and end joints.

Flooring should always be laid at right angles to the floor joints and if possible, in the direction of the longest wall in the room for best appearance.

Snap a working line along the longest continuous wall and allow 3/4" expansion space. Lay one row of plank along entire length of the line with groove facing the wall. Face nail the first row by hand, if necessary. From then on a power

nailer/stapler can be used. Stagger end joints a minimum of 6" from row to row for best visual appearance. Use 1 1/2" cleat or staple, spaced every 6" to 8" and also 2" to 3" at end joints.

Refer to NFWA *Installation Guidelines Section IV, Appendix F*, for further info on Fastening Schedule.

**ADHESIVE/FASTENER INSTALLATION:** For added stability, combining direct gluing with fastening schedule of 6" to 8" is an option. Carefully read and follow the instructions provided by the adhesive manufacturer for the use and application of their product. Underlayment felt is not used when direct gluing. (Refer to NFWA *Installation Guidelines Section III, Chapter 9* for Optional Installation Methods).

**⚠ CAUTION**

Adhesive that is allowed to dry on the plank surface can be difficult to remove and may leave a haze. Be sure to clean any surplus adhesive off surface of plank as you go. Use a Urethan Adhesive remover for this purpose.

**TOOLS:** Some standard tools you may need include: tape measure, wooden tapping block, rubber mallet, power saw, blue painter's tape, wood or plastic spacers, pry bar, and chalk line.

**⚠ IMPORTANT**

After installation, any protective covering used should be taped down using a low adhesion tape. Attach tape to base shoe or molding, avoid taping directly to floor surface as many tapes can damage the finish

**FOR STAPLE/NAIL DOWN:** Air-Stapler/Nailer with appropriate nail down adapter. Use a prefinished foot to protect finished edges.

**COMPLETING THE JOB:** Remove spacers and cover all expansion spaces with appropriate moldings. Always nail base molding to the adjacent wall. NOT the flooring! Clean, sweep and vacuum flooring before use.

Remove any blue installer's tape within 3 hours.

Inspect the completed floor for any scratches, nicks and minor gaps. Use touch up kit, filler or wood putty as needed.

**NOTES:** For areas larger than 20' x 20' more spacing between rows may be needed, depending on geographical area, site environment and time of the year. (Refer to NFWA *Installation Guidelines, Section III, Chapter 9*).

Due to the nature of Solid Flooring, perfectly straight pieces cannot be guaranteed and are not considered a defect.

**⚠ IMPORTANT**

After installation it is important to maintain the environmental conditions in the home within the ranges outlined in these instructions (see *PRE-INSTALLATION/ JOBSITE REQUIREMENT, Section B on page 1*). Failure to keep the humidity and temperature within the recommended ranges can result in damage to the floor.

**NEVER USE a wax or oil based cleaning product on a urethane finish.**

## E. CARE & MAINTENANCE

The Presidential Collection is a high quality, natural wood engineered flooring with a urethane surface finish.

\*Urbanfloor recommends Bona® cleaning products. Bona (also known as BonaKemi®) is widely regarded as the best cleaning solution available. Visit their website: [www.mybonahome.com](http://www.mybonahome.com) to find out more about their products.

All purpose cleaners are **not** recommended as they can dull your floor's finish or leave a hazy residue.

Today's hardwood floors are quick and easy to maintain; and with a little preventative maintenance, can look beautiful for years to come. All hardwood floors should be cleaned regularly. Simply sweep, dust mop, or vacuum to remove grit and dirt. When necessary, clean floor with Bona® hardwood floor cleaning product (carefully follow Bona cleaning instructions). Avoid using a wet mop as over time this can damage the finish. Remember: water and wood do not mix.

### DO's:

- Sweep, vacuum, or dust mop regularly.
- Immediately wipe up liquid spills with cloth or paper towels.
- Maintain with Bona® hardwood floor cleaner for un-waxed/un-oiled finishes.
- Use felt protectors or furniture coasters under heavy furniture.
- Close curtains or blinds to limit direct sun exposure.
- Maintain room temperature (60-80°F).
- Maintain relative humidity in room/building between 30-50% year-round.
- Caster wheeled chairs should have wide casters.
- A protective mat should be placed under office chairs.
- In areas with icy or snowy winters, extra protection against **salt and grit** may be needed.
- Place mats and throw rugs at doorways, exteriors and interiors to help prevent the tracking of grit, dirt, and sand.
- Remember that cleats, sports shoes and high heels can dent any floor surface.
- Place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink to catch water.

### DON'Ts:

- Use oil base soaps.
- Use paste wax based products (NEVER wax a urethane finished floor).
- Drag sharp wooden legs or metal furniture legs as it can scratch/dent hardwood floors.
- Expose to direct sunlight for extended periods of time as it may dry/fade natural wood.
- Use steam cleaners. They are not recommended for use on natural wood flooring.
- Place porous flower pots or vases on the floor.
- Use steel wool or scourers.
- Move heavy furniture without protecting wood flooring by slipping a piece of cloth or pile under the legs or bottom of items.
- Wet-mop a wood floor. Standing water can dull the finish, damage the wood, and leave a discoloring residue.

**COLOR CHANGE:** Normal exposure to sunlight, heat, air conditioners, etc. will bring about natural changes in the original color as the floor ages. If possible, use blinds or drapes to protect floor from excessive sunlight. When some areas of the floor are covered, as in large furniture pieces and area rugs, the change under these pieces can be lighter than the surrounding floor, as they are not exposed to the same conditions. This is normal and is not a defect. Rotating the position of area rugs and furniture from time to time will allow the covered areas to slowly adjust in color to the surrounding floor.

**SURFACE CHECKS:** During the winter months of low humidity, minor surface cracks (checks) may appear in wood flooring, then often close up again in the summer months when the humidity is higher. This is a normal characteristic of natural wood and not a basis of a complaint against the manufacturer, especially if there is no structural failure. To minimize checking, follow the guidelines for maintaining the environment in the home on *page 1*.

**SEASONAL GAPS:** Seasonal gapping can be expected, especially on wider planks. This is normal and not a defect. Throughout its life wood will naturally expand and contract in response to the wet and dry seasons and also from the environmental conditions in the home. To keep these dimensional changes to a minimum, maintain the home temperature and relative humidity within the range outlined in *Section B, Pre-installation/Job Site Requirements on page 1*.

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [WWW.URBANFLOOR.COM](http://WWW.URBANFLOOR.COM)  
FOR ANY RECENT UPDATES OF INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Questions or Concerns?



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*Last update: 2/16/18*