

Installation Guide

Herringbone Laminate

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Acclimatization

Laminate is a wood-based product, meaning it naturally reacts to changes in temperature and humidity. To ensure proper performance and long-lasting results, it is essential to acclimatise the laminate before installation.

Before fitting, store all unopened boxes flat on the floor for a minimum of 48 hours in the room where the laminate will be installed. This allows the material to adjust to the room conditions. Do not store the boxes upright, as this may cause bending or deformation.

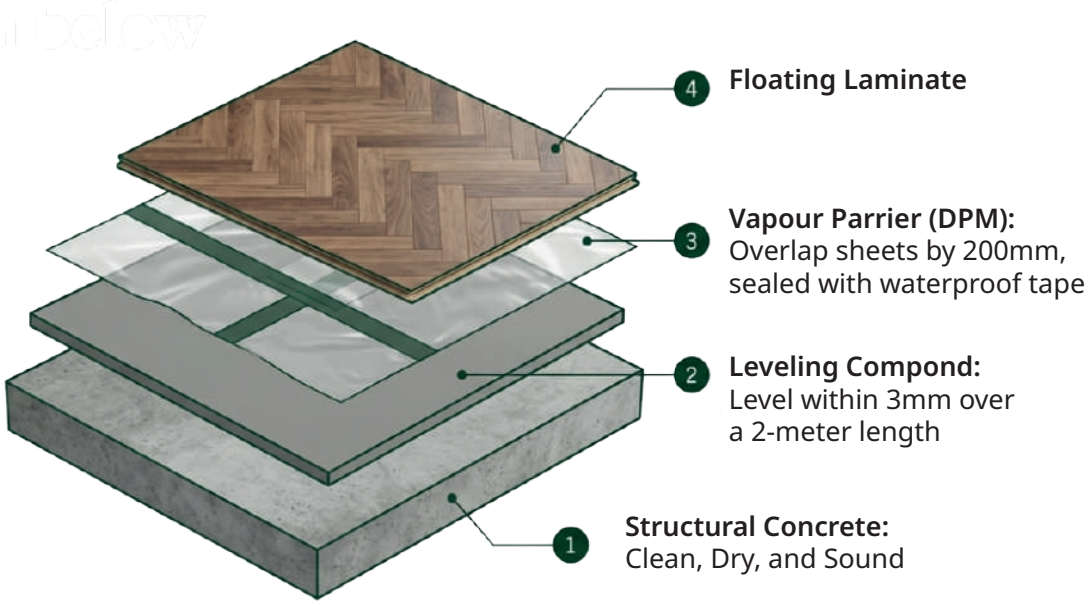
During this acclimatisation period, the room temperature should be maintained between 18°C and 22°C, and the relative humidity should stay within 45% to 65%.

Following these conditions helps prevent the laminate from warping, shrinking, or expanding after installation, ensuring a stable and professional finish.



Subfloor Preparation

The foundation of your floor must be structurally sound, clean, and dry. The subfloor must be level within 3mm over a 2-meter length. If the surface is uneven, use a leveling compound before proceeding. For concrete or mineral subfloors, you must install a vapor barrier (DPM) to prevent moisture from reaching the laminate. If using polythene film, ensure the sheets overlap by at least 200mm and are secured with waterproof tape.



Essential Tools and Visual Inspection



Before you start, gather a tape measure, pencil, carpenter's square, spacers (10–12mm), a rubber mallet, a tapping block, and a saw (miter saw or jigsaw).

As you open the boxes, inspect every plank for visual defects in good light. Mixing planks from different boxes is highly recommended to avoid pattern repetition and ensure a natural distribution of color and grain throughout the room.

Premium Underlay

Upgrade your flooring with our high-performance underlays, designed for laminate and engineered wood. Each pack covers 15 square metres, perfect for home or commercial use.



3mm Comfort Silver Underlay
Balanced Support: 3mm profile offering great cushioning and durability.

Sound Dampening: Effectively reduces footfall noise.

Reliable Choice:
High-performance protection for everyday use.



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Maximum Comfort: 5mm thickness for superior cushioning and floor stability.

Acoustic Insulation: Excellent noise reduction for a quieter living space.

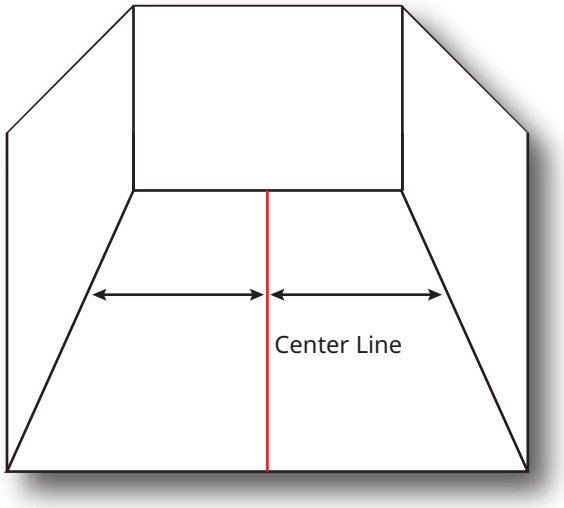
Premium Quality: The ultimate foundation for high-end flooring.

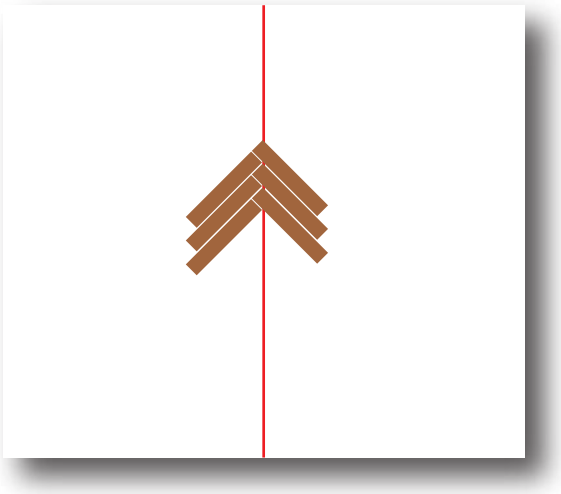
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Sorting Type A and Type B Planks

Herringbone laminate systems utilize two distinct types of planks: Type A and Type B. These are mirror images of each other regarding their locking systems. Before you begin, sort your materials into two separate piles. A successful herringbone pattern is created only by alternating between these two types. Attempting to force two of the same type together will damage the locking mechanism.

Layout Planning



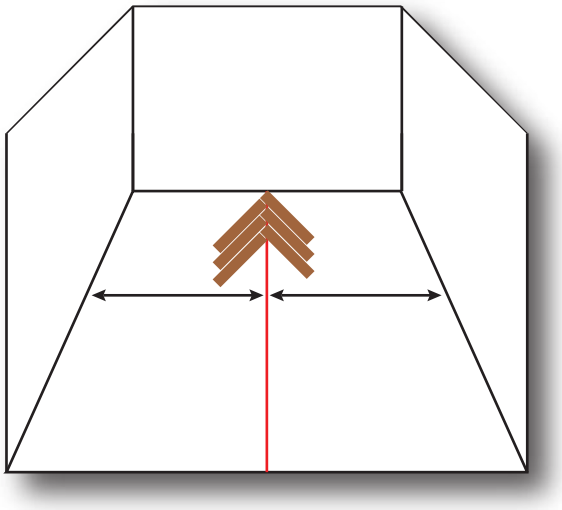


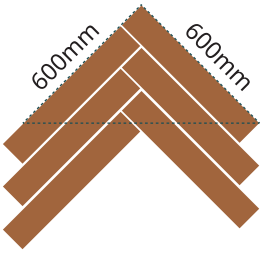
Herringbone patterns require absolute precision. Any slight misalignment at the beginning will become a major issue as you reach the other side of the room. Identify the center of the space and mark a straight Center Line.

The first row, known as the "Crown," is the most critical stage of the installation. Connect three A-planks and three B-planks to form a starting "zig-zag" template. Align the top and bottom points of this template precisely with your Guide Line. Use 10–12mm spacers to secure this template against the starting wall. This creates the mandatory expansion gap that allows the floating floor to expand and contract naturally.

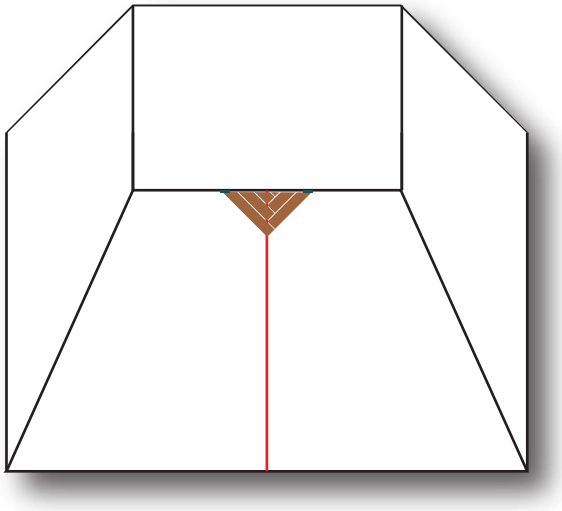
Place the Crown Template along the Guide Line, making sure the line passes through the top and bottom points. Check the layout and wall cuts.

Make sure the smallest cut is at least 100 mm. If needed, adjust the Guide Line.





Mark and cut the crown template as shown in the picture.

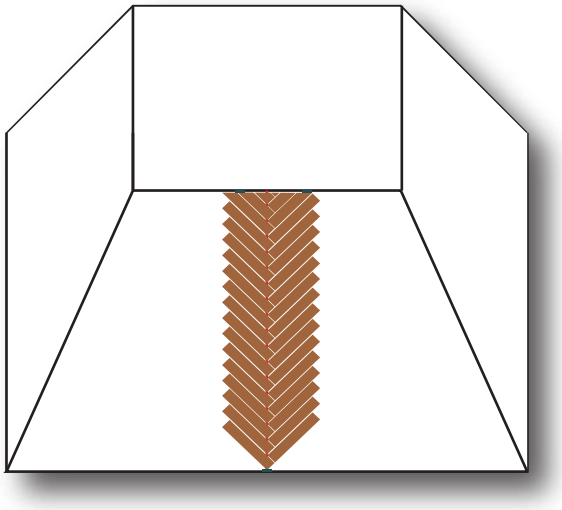


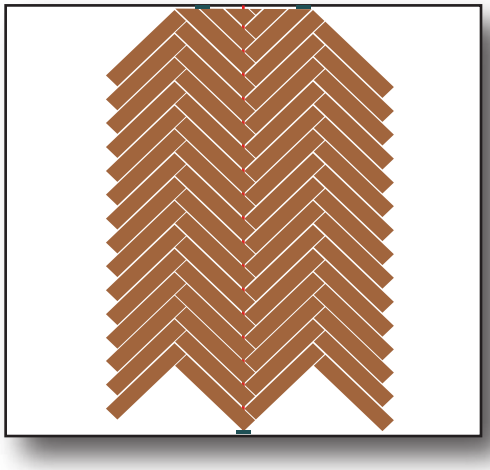
Using 10–12 mm spacers, position the cut template along the Guide Line against the starting wall.



To install subsequent planks, insert the tongue into the groove at a 30° angle, slide the plank until it is flush with the previous one, and press down until it clicks into place. If there is a slight gap, use a tapping block and rubber mallet to gently close it.

Periodically check your alignment against the Guide Line to ensure the pattern hasn't shifted. Remember to maintain a waste allowance of 10–15% for the 45-degree cuts at the walls.





Install the next rows using full planks. Start with the first new row on the right side of the Crown, then install the first row on the left. Always use a pull bar and/or tapping block.

Final Cuts and Finishing Touches



Once the main rows are complete, fill the triangular voids along the perimeter using your off-cuts. To measure and cut these planks, use a tape measure to determine the distance from the wall to the plank. Transfer this measurement onto an off-cut plank, then use a tri square to mark the corresponding 45° cut. Repeat this process along the entire wall on both sides of the room.

For radiator pipes, drill holes 12mm wider than the pipe diameter. When fitting around door frames, it is best to undercut the jamb so the laminate slides underneath.



Finally, remove all spacers and install skirting boards or scotia. Ensure these are fixed only to the wall, never to the floor, to allow the laminate to remain a "floating" system.



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If you have any questions during the laminate installation, please feel free to call us at this number - 0121 387 8717

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