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# Installation Instructions

## Meister Catega® Flex

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**MEISTER**

**MULTICLIC**®

Version 1.0  
June 2016

### QUALITY STARTS WITH THE INSTALLATION

Meister quality is not just about the durability of your floor. It can also be seen during the installation of your floor. We rely on a middle layer of extremely stable HDF or special wood materials for all our flooring types. And we use click systems, which are tailored to the properties of the flooring and dimensions of the planks, together with the patented Masterclic Plus system, which was developed within our own company, and the tried-and-tested Uniclic connection system. This ensures optimal precision of fitting that you can feel while installing your new flooring. Meister flooring is especially easy to install. That's why many craftsmen swear by products from Meister. You will find a lot of information about how to work with your Meister product in these installation and care instructions.

### PREPARATORY MEASURES, SUBSTRATES & GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The packages must be acclimatised before you open them. Store them unopened for approx. 48 hours (in winter 3–4 days) in the centre of the room you want to work in. Do not store the packages in front of damp or freshly-wallpapered walls. Before you install the flooring, outer doors and windows must be installed and all painting and decorating work must be finished. The room temperature must be approx. 20°C (at least 15°C), and the relative humidity must be approx. 50–60 percent.

The flooring requires a permanent living climate of approx. 50–60 percent relative humidity at a room temperature of approx. 20°C. If you measure or anticipate a significantly lower humidity, you must install a humidifier (vaporiser) to prevent the flooring from drying out excessively.

Variations in each board are an indication of its natural and genuine quality. In contrast to standard parquet floors our longlife parquet in a planked look has deliberately been produced at the factory with open joints and slits that underlines the special character property. Mix planks from several packs so that, before laying, you achieve the floor pattern you want. Before installation, check all planks in daylight for recognisable faults in colour and structure. You cannot make a claim for any products you have already installed.

**Please be aware that our Silence »S« flooring collections already have the sound absorbing underlay integrated into them.**

### SUBSTRATES

The substrates must be considered as ready-to-lay in accordance with the generally accepted rules of the trade, taking into account VOB (German Construction Contract Procedures), Part C, DIN 18 356 Parquetry or DIN 18 365 Floor covering work respectively. In other words, they must be dry, even, firm and clean. The residual humidity, measured using the CM method, of mineral

substrates must be no more than 2 percent (1.8 percent for underfloor heating) and that of anhydrite screeds must be a maximum of 0.5 percent (0.3 percent for underfloor heating). Any substrate unevenness of three or more millimetres for each initial metre and two or more millimetres for each subsequent continuous metre must be evened out according to DIN 18 202, Table 3, line 4. 0.2 millimetre thick PE film (SD value  $\geq 75\text{m}$ ) must be laid out to form a kind of »tub« on all mineral substrates (except poured asphalt screed) as a vapour barrier.

The strip edges must overlap by at least 20 centimetres and the overlapping edges must be glued to the side walls.

In rooms that are not above a cellar and foundations, the currently valid building conditions require that the owner of the building provide a barrier against damage to the base plate due to moisture from the ground, in accordance with the DIN 18 195 directive.

Meister flooring can be laid on existing surfaces, such as PVC, linoleum or stone, so long as the old flooring is firmly bonded and there are no loose areas. In addition, a separating layer of foil should be applied to the substrate. On existing wooden planks, wood based boards, OSB-boards, drywall elements etc., no PE film must be laid out as a vapour barrier. Textile flooring such as, e.g. carpet or needle fleece must be removed not only for technical reasons, but for hygiene reasons too.

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

**Meister flooring is not suitable for installation in humid rooms/wet areas (bathrooms, saunas etc.).**

The floor is installed as a floating floor, without glue. The Masterclic Plus connection system makes it possible to install the flooring quickly and easily. The end interlocking occurs when the next row is laid. In addition, it is a valuable installation aid, as the planks can be aligned against each other in this way. To do this, you should lift the plank slightly and square it quite easily with the tongue in the groove of the plank which has already been laid.

If the floor area is longer or wider than 10m (for parquet flooring PS 400, longer or wider than 6m), then you must provide an expansion joint. This is covered with a jointing profile. It is also important to provide these joints between two adjacent rooms, in doorways, passageways and rooms with a lot of angles. Always use a jointing profile for clean transitions to adjacent, lower areas or floor coverings and an end profile next to higher adjacent thresholds, tiles or the like. Give stairs a clean finish with the stair edge profile.

During installation, take care to leave a gap of at least 10 or 15 millimetres per metre next to all walls. This distance must also be left around all columns, heating pipes, steel door frames, etc. It

## Meister Catega® Flex

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may be possible to shorten wooden door frames. To do this, lay a loose plank with the decorative side down against the door frame and saw the frame off along the plank.

To protect the wood from dirt, a sufficiently large entrance covering must always be laid (e.g. a doormat, carpet). In addition, you should also fit chair and furniture feet with felt sliders; office chairs, mobile containers, etc., on castors must be equipped with soft, standard running surfaces. We recommend protecting the floor in these heavy-wear areas with appropriate floor protection mats (e.g. polycarbonate mats).

We recommend that you install the planks lengthways to the way the light falls. In narrow or long rooms, choose the laying direction to suit the room's proportions. Lay the planks crossways to make narrow rooms look more spacious; planks laid lengthways narrow hallways.

Bleaching may occur with all flooring with direct sunlight or intense, artificial lighting.

Please first check whether a subfloor is required as explained in "Substrates". Furthermore, if you are using products without a sound-absorbing Silence cushion, use the system-bound Meister insulating underlay. (If you use Meister-Silence 25 DB, Meister Silence 15 DB, or Meister Duo-Guard, you do not need an additional layer of 0.2-millimetre PE film).

**Other insulating underlay needs to have a corresponding compressive strength (CS value  $\geq 15\text{kPa}$ ,  $\geq 60\text{kPa}$  in commercial areas with heavy wear) and a thickness of 1 - 3mm.**

When sawing the elements, make sure you work from the correct side: if you use a bench saw, keep the wear layer side facing up if you use a keyhole or portable circular saw, keep the wear layer side down.

# Installation Instructions

## Meister Catega® Flex

MEISTER

You need the following tools and aids to install Meister Catega® Flex with Multiclic technology. Hammer, keyhole or electric saw, possibly power drill, folding metre rule, pencil, wedges (spacer wedges), tension iron, angle or adjustable bevel, Meister 5mm tapping block, possibly PE film (0.2 millimetres). If the product does not already feature a sound-absorbing cushioning, use MeisterSilence 15 DB, Meister-Silence 20 or MeisterSilence 25 DB as a cushioning layer. (When using Meister-Silence 25 DB or MeisterSilence 15 DB additional 0.2 millimetre PE film is not required.)

**Note:** If the expansion joint is not covered with a skirting board but with the flooring profile «Star» (see page 25), leave a gap of 6mm.

### STEP 1:

Start by laying the first complete plank in the left-hand corner of the room with the tongue sides facing the wall. Saw the tongues off the first plank, both on the short and the long side. Remove only the tongues on the long sides of all the other planks you want to lay in the first row. Using wedges, you can easily keep a gap of at least 10mm or 1.5mm per metre with the wall.

### STEP 2:

Join the next complete plank to the end of plank 1 using the 5mm tapping block and a hammer. Lay the other planks in this row in the same way across the entire width of the room. Wherever space is too tight to work with a hammer and tapping block, you can use a tension iron to help click the end joint in place.

### STEP 3:

Make sure the planks in the first row are straight (fig A). Cut the first plank of the second row down to approx. 80cm. To install the second row, insert the long tongue into the groove of the first row of planks (fig. B, 1).

### STEP 4:

By moving the plank slightly up and down, angle it completely into the already laid row of planks (fig. B, 2).

### STEP 5:

Again, angle the next complete plank of the second row first on its long edge against the previously laid plank. Always make sure the long joint is tight. Once you have angled in the planks (fig. C 1 and 2) so they lie flat on the subfloor, start by installing the first plank in the third row. As soon as you have angled in and laid this plank (fig. D 1 and 2), click the second plank in the previous row together at the ends using the 5mm tapping block and light taps with the hammer (fig. D 3).

### STEP 6:

Install the whole area row by row in this way. Install the planks row by row until you have covered the whole room - always first fitting the long tongue into the groove and then joining the plank ends together. Before you click the plank together at the ends using the hammer and tapping block, a plank should already be angled into the next row (guide plank fig. D). Remember that the end joints must be offset by at least 40 centimetres to ensure the overall area is more stable (fig. E).

### STEP 7:

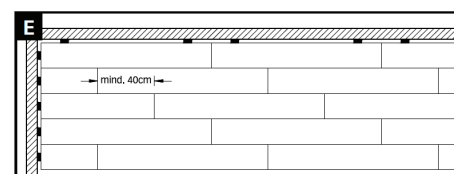
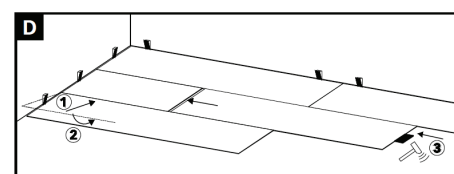
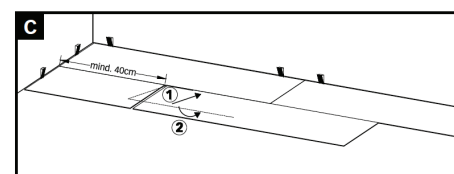
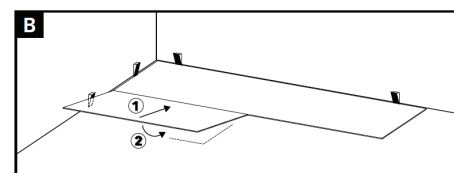
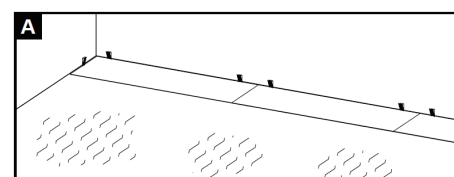
Cut the last plank in each row so that you leave a gap of at least 10mm or 1.5mm per metre to the wall. To cut the last row to size, use a spare piece of plank and draw the remaining plank width on it (leaving at least a gap of 10mm or 1.5mm per metre to the wall). After you have laid the last planks, you can walk on the floor straight away and start attaching the skirting boards.

### STEP 8:

Finally, remove the wooden wedges from around the walls. To cover the all-round expansion joints, use Meister skirting boards or clip-on skirting boards with colour-matching decorative surfaces (see page 26). Please ensure that no silicon products whatsoever come into contact with the mouldings.

### PLANK REMOVAL

To take a plank row back out again, lift the entire row, levering it at the side out of the last row. Then you can separate the planks' ends by angling them. This way, the locking system remains intact and the planks can be refitted.

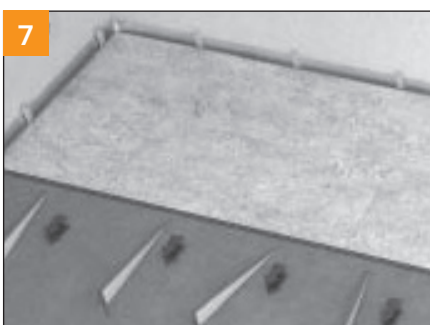
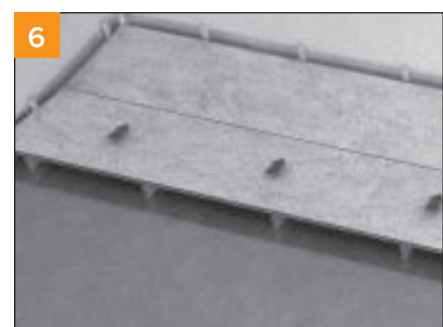
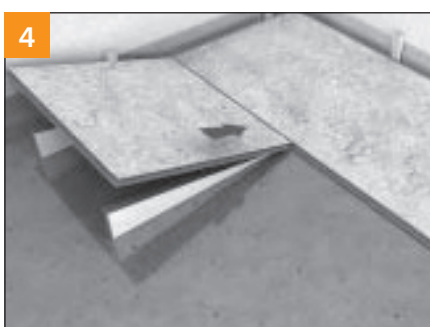
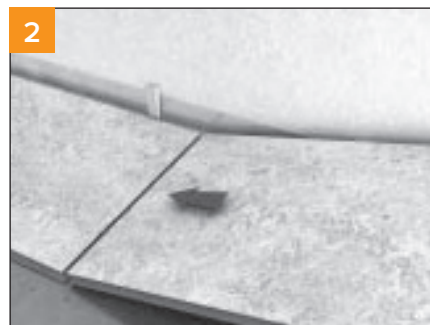
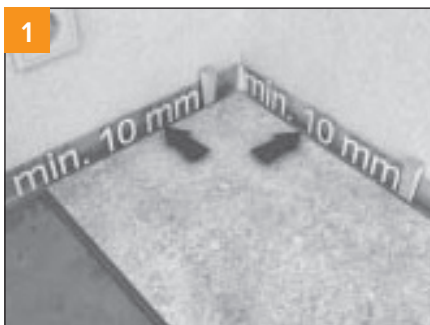
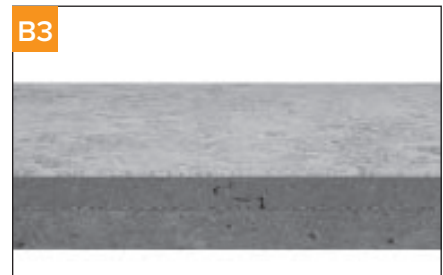
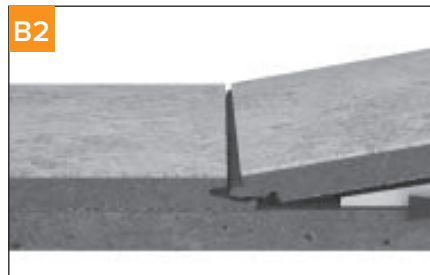
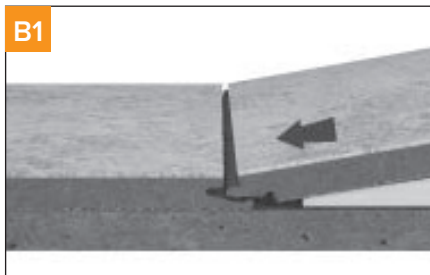
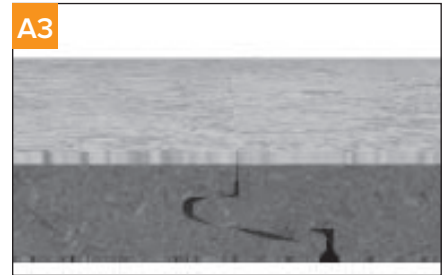
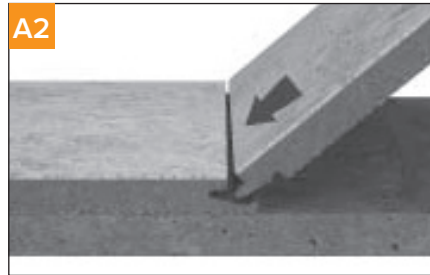
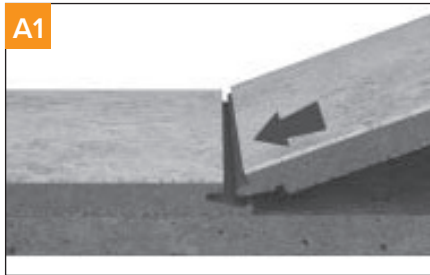


1. Join the tongue on the long side
2. Angle in
3. Join the ends

# Installation Instructions

## Meister Catega® Flex

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# Underfloor Heating

## Meister Catega® Flex

The Meister Catega® Flex is suitable for installation on hot-water underfloor heating.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:**

When installed with Meister PE film (0.2mm), Meister flooring from the DD 350 S collections have a heat transmission resistance of 0.10m<sup>2</sup> K/W. The DD 300 collection's heat transfer resistance is 0.05m<sup>2</sup> K/W when laid on Meister Silence 25 DB. Due to the natural warmth of the flooring, the heating can be switched off more often during moderately cold weather compared to heating under tiled floors. Meister flooring on underfloor heating reaches an even surface temperature all over.

The floors must not be covered with any coverings, e.g. carpets, runners, mats or any other overlays as this may cause an accumulation of heat. These types of flooring react with deformations and warping.

**PREPARATORY MEASURES:**

Any room heated over a large area requires planning and coordination of the heating system, the screed and the various coverings, taking into account the type of use, in order to ensure optimum and fault-free functioning over the long term. When these special floor constructions are installed, professional standards are correspondingly important. Supplies and processing steps must correspond with the latest technology, the available information sheets from the central association of the German construction trade and the assembly and installation guidelines of the relevant system suppliers and manufacturers.

**Caution!** With hot-water underfloor heating, the profiles are fixed with contact glue.

**SCREED – CHECKING MOISTURE – READINESS FOR LAYING**

After completion and a corresponding lying time, the screed can be heated. Complete drying out (readiness for laying) is an absolute prerequisite for the preparation and installation steps for Meister Catega® Flex and is therefore essential. The reason for this is that the moisture measurements to be carried out as

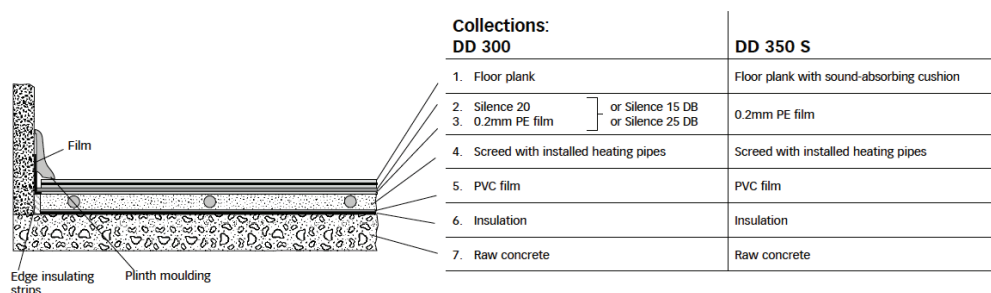
part of subfloor checking cannot be reliably performed on heated constructions due to the risk of damage. This means that heated screed must be dried out by means of heating up and cooling down with a heating break before installation of any type of covering. To be ready for the installation of Meister flooring, the moisture content (according to DIN 4725, part 4 – measured with CM devices) of cement screed should be a maximum of 1.8 CM% and of anhydrite screed it should be a maximum of 0.3 CM%.

**SPECIAL MEASURES**

(heating up and cooling down)

- The client must observe the following instructions and/or have them performed by the persons responsible:
- The screed must lie for at least 28 days after it has been poured up to the beginning of the first heating period, or according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- During heating up, the initial temperature should be increased daily up to the full (maximum) heating power.
- The pattern of the heating measure and the heating break must be carried out in accordance with the measure protocol.
- The time plan indicates the minimum period of heating up – each additional day is of further benefit and provides extra security.
- Meister Catega® Flex must be installed in accordance with DIN 18 356, 18 365 and 18 367 at a screed surface temperature of at least 15°C and a relative humidity of 50 to max. 75%.
- After installation of the flooring (completion), this climate must be maintained for one week (adhering and hardening time of adhesives and other material layers used).
- After installation of Meister Catega® Flex, the maximum surface temperature of 26°C may not be exceeded.

**Important note:** The above points must be carried out according to the relevant rules and/ or confirmed by specialists (architect, heating specialist etc.).



### THE QUALITY DOES NOT STOP WITH THE INSTALLATION.

You have bought a quality product “made in Germany”. These cleaning and care instructions will provide you with all the information important to ensuring a long period of value preservation and a beautiful appearance of your flooring. With a bit of time and effort, you can contribute to ensuring that you are able to enjoy your new Meister flooring for a long time to come.

Meister products are based on selected materials, which are processed by experienced experts with state-of-the-art technology to create a quality product “made in Germany”. The premium quality includes substantiated consultation and excellent service. For this reason, you will only find Meister products in selected specialist shops.

#### 1. THE RIGHT CARE

Your dream floor also needs the right care. Meister complements its product range with a high-quality series of care products from CC Dr. Schutz. Cleaners and care products, tailored for the floorings, ensure that your floor looks good in the long term. Even if you only need to run the vacuum round for day-to-day care (to remove loose dust), the surfaces should be cleaned and cared for regularly with CC Dr. Schutz care products to preserve the value of your floor.

When cleaning, please be aware that the floor must only ever be slightly moistened. In the ideal case, the film of water should be a thin mist, so that it dries out after about a minute. Some types of wood, such as beech or maple, are particularly sensitive to moisture.

You should not use any abrasive cleaners, even in case of more severe stains. Even for stubborn stains and dirt, the CC Elatex Stain Remover\* will help. Scratches on the floor not only affect the overall appearance. They will also make the floor more prone to dirt and moisture. The CC Dr. Schutz care products are designed to ensure that the floor is considerably more resistant to signs of wear and tear in heavy wear areas. Your qualified specialist shops will also be able to provide you with more tips on how to care for your Meister floor in the best possible way.

#### 2. PRESERVATION OF VALUE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

A room temperature of approx. 20 °C and a relative air humidity of approx. 50–60 percent will contribute to your personal well-being and are the basis for a healthy room climate. With such a room climate, you will also help your Meister floor obtain the optimal conditions, as it reacts to its climatic surroundings like any other wooden material.

Low air humidity with a high temperature will lead to a contracting process in the wood, which dries the floor out. If you determine an air humidity which is considerably lower than 50 percent in the

long term, we recommend the use of air humidifiers (vaporizers). This will prevent your Meister floor drying out excessively. As with all wooden products, very high air humidity will cause absorption of humidity, which can lead to the length and thickness increasing.

The introduction of dirt onto the floor: Most dirt is brought into your home from the outside and transferred onto the flooring. For this reason, we recommend installing a sufficiently large entrance covering (e.g. a doormat) in the entrance. Please consider that dirt, such as sand or small stones, will act like sandpaper on all floorings and can lead to unsightly scratches. To protect the wood from scratches, you should also fit chair and furniture feet with felt sliders; office chairs, mobile containers, etc., on castors must be equipped with soft, standard running surfaces. We recommend protecting the floor in these heavy wear areas with appropriate floor protection mats (e.g. polycarbonate mats).

#### 3. CLEANING AFTER COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION WORK

Newly laid Meister floors must be cleaned after completion of construction work and before first use in order to completely remove any dirt or glue residue which has arisen during the course of the installation.

You should clean Meister Catega® Flex after completion of construction work with CC PU Cleaner\*, diluted with water in a ratio of 1:10. Clean the floor using a well wrung out mop and then neutralise with clear water. The floor is washed with a mist of water using the relevant cleaning solution and a non-lint mop.

\* Water-based care products (e.g. polymer dispersions) or CC Elatex Stain Remover can penetrate the seams of the planks in the case of improper adhesion or incomplete jointing, leading to swelling of the carrier material.

#### 4. DAY-TO-DAY CLEANING

Loose dust and dirt is removed by vacuuming or sweeping. Depending on the frequency and degree of dirt, the removal of bonded dirt should be carried out with CC PU Cleaner\*, which is diluted with water at a ratio of 1:200. The floor should be wiped with a thin mist of water using a mop, which has been dipped in this solution and wrung out well. Remove stubborn stains and heel marks with undiluted CC PU Cleaner\* and a cloth or non-scratch, white pad. Then wipe the floor with clear water. A thorough clean of the floor is required to remove particularly stubborn dirt and residues and to prepare the floor for treatment with a care product in case of visible signs of wear. For this evenly spray CC Deep Clean\* undiluted on the floor and after allowing it to take effect for a short while (max. 5 minutes) scrub with a green pad or scrubbing brush. Wipe away loosened dirt using a cloth and wipe over again using clear water until all dirt and cleaner residue has been completely removed.

# Meister Catega® Flex

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**Note:** If the flooring is not to receive a care treatment afterwards only use scrubbing brushes instead of green pads.

If there are signs of wear on the surface after long or intensive use, this can be refreshed with intensive maintenance after thoroughly cleaning the floor with (CC Deep Clean)\*. To do this, apply CC Floor Mat\* undiluted, thinly and evenly in a lengthwise direction with a lint-free mop rinsed in clear water and wrung out well. When the protective film can be walked on (after 45 minutes), apply a second coating in the crossways direction. Use: 750ml for approx. 25 – 35m<sup>2</sup> per application. If the protective film is worn away over the course of time, this can be refreshed with intensive maintenance after thoroughly cleaning the floor with CC Deep Clean\*. In commercial properties cleaning should always be possible using a cleaning machine or spray cleaning process with a disk buffing machine as well as separate value conservation measures. Please contact our technical customer services in case of application.

### 5. GENERAL INFORMATION ON CLEANING AND CARE

Never leave Meister flooring moist or wet over a long period of time. When cleaning, always try to use a dry method if possible (using a mop, hair broom, vacuum cleaner), or only wipe with a thin mist of water (with wrung out cloths) and do not leave any “puddles” on the floor. Steam cleaners are not suitable for the flooring. Do not use any cream cleaners or scouring powders as these agents can attack the surface of the floor. Please only use suitable cleaners.

*\* Water-based care products (e.g. polymer dispersions) or CC Elatex Stain Remover (universal stain remover) can penetrate the seams of the planks in the case of improper adhesion or incomplete jointing, leading to swelling of the carrier material.*



### I. WARRANTY COVER:

MeisterWerke Schulte GmbH, Johannes-Schulte-Allee 5, D-59602 Rütten-Meiste, warrants, over and beyond statutory rights under § 437 of the German Civil Code (replacement, cancellation of contract, reduction of purchase price and compensation), that the decorative/veneer coating on the purchased product will not wear away within the warranty period provided the product is properly used for the purpose for which it is intended, according to the following warranty conditions. Any spot on which the decorative coating has been removed down to the substrate material over an area of at least 1cm<sup>2</sup> is regarded as having worn away, though signs of wear on the edge area of an individual floor element are excluded from this warranty. Any improper use of the floor for a purpose for which it is not intended, as well as mechanical damage and non-compliance with the MeisterWerke care instructions for the respective floor exclude this warranty. The warranty applies exclusively to products sold as perfect and to use in private or commercial areas depending on the wear class, with the exception of damp rooms, for example bathrooms or saunas. The warranty only applies to products that have been purchased and installed within the European Union.

### II. WARRANTY PERIOD:

The warranty period is in accordance with the warranty time stated for each individual product and for the concrete type of use described.

### III. WARRANTY CONDITIONS:

The flooring must be fitted professionally and especially in a accordance with the fitting instructions accompanying every third product packaging, in the permitted areas of use stated therein. In particular the instructions relating to checking moisture in the substrate and the instructions for installation over under floor heating must be observed. The material must be checked for any material faults or damage before being fitted. Similarly, the flooring must be cared for and cleaned according to the care instructions supplied with the product. If these installation and care instructions are missing and/or incomplete, the claimant must request these instructions from a specialist retailer or directly from MeisterWerke before starting the fitting.

### IV. REPORTING A WARRANTY CLAIM:

Any complaint must be made in writing, enclosing the original invoice from the retailer, which serves as a certificate of warranty. If it is not possible to present the original retailer's invoice, any claim under the warranty is excluded. Following receipt of the claim, MeisterWerke must notify the customer within four weeks of whether a warranty claim has been acknowledged. If no notification is given within this period, the warranty claim is deemed to have been rejected. During this period, MeisterWerke or a third party employed by them must be granted access to the flooring which is the subject of the complaint on site in order to investigate whether the claim is justified.

### V. SCOPE OF THE WARRANTY:

When a warranty claim is acknowledged, MeisterWerke will repair the defective floor element or alternatively provide replacement material of the same quality – if at all possible from the same range – for the entire contiguous area in which the problem has occurred. The customer can collect the replacement material free of charge from the original sales outlet stated in the original invoice, excluding any further claims over and beyond this, including but not only claims to compensation for removal or fitting of the flooring, or to compensation for consequential damage that has occurred other than in the product supplied itself.

### VI. LIMITATION OF WARRANTY:

The warranty period is not extended by a warranty claim. Claims under the warranty expire six months from the date of MeisterWerke's receipt of the customer's written complaint (see IV.), but no earlier than the expiry of the warranty period.



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Meister is imported and distributed in the UK by:  
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