

# INSTRUCTION GUIDELINES FOR MAXIPLY 18MM STRUCTURAL ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING

## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR 18MM STRUCTURAL ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING

### PRE INSTALLATION

Your MaxiPLY Floor 18mm Structural Engineered Flooring does not require a period of acclimatisation however warranty conditions dictate that the engineered wood flooring is to remain in the sealed packaging prior to the date of installation.

### SITE CONDITIONS

The site in which the floor is to be installed must be weather tight, heating system in operation and all wet trades work must be fully dry. Any damp problems must be remedied in advance of installation taking place. At the time of installation, and thereafter, conditions should be within the range expected when the building is in use. The Relative Humidity (R.H.) of the air should be between 45 and 65% R.H. The temperature should be between 18C and 21C. These figures also apply once the floor is installed. This climate is coincidentally also the most comfortable for people to live or work in. The installer / owner assume all responsibility for the final inspection of both the site suitability and product quality prior to installation in order that the requirements of these instructions are fully complied with. Claims of any nature will not be accepted if a fault was visibly noticeable prior to installation.

Your MaxiPLY Floor 18mm Structural Engineered Flooring is recommended for use with under floor heating systems subject to the accepted compliance by the manufacturers of the heating system in its suitability for use with timber flooring. Always check this compatibility with a qualified heating installer.

### SUB-FLOORS

This flooring can be laid on most types of substrate flooring which is clean, dry and level, e.g. sand and cement screeds, timber floor boards, chipboard, ply, ash-felt, bitumen etc. It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor to check that the site condition is in a satisfactory state for the installation to take place including all moisture related readings.

### CONCRETE AND SCREED SUB-FLOORS

It is vital that the installer check the moisture content of the concrete / screed and to satisfy himself that it is dry enough for the flooring to be laid. If measured directly with an appropriate moisture meter, the moisture content should not exceed 4% or the relative humidity of the air over the screed and should be between 45 and 65% R.H. @ a temperature of 18C–21C. The screed must be levelled to a tolerance of no more than a 3mm gap showing under a 3M straight edge.

### TIMBER SUB-FLOORS

Floor boards, O.S.B., plywood or battens are suitable for installing 18mm engineered flooring on top of. Ensure if the floor is over joists that adequate ventilation is provided as per UK building regulations. The same level tolerance of 3mm applies.

**Note:** if installing on existing tongue and grooved flooring, make sure all old floorboards are secure and free of infestation' it is then recommended that you lay the new flooring at 90° to existing floor in order to stabilise any subsequent movement within either of the timbers.

### INSTALLATION OF 18MM ENGINEERED FLOORING

WE RECOMMEND THAT A PROFESSIONAL FLOORING INSTALLER BE CONTRACTED AND THAT THE INSTALLATION IS BY FLOATING, NAILING OR FULL STICK DOWN METHOD WITH A SUITABLE SPECIALIST WOOD FLOORING ADHESIVE.

On completion of the preceding tasks the following steps should be followed for installation.

1. Under cut the bottom of door frames, wardrobes, etc. to allow for the floor board to fit under it, plus always leave a full 15mm expansion gap around the full perimeter of the floor.

2. Open 4 or 5 packs and “shuffle” the boards to ensure an even distribution of colour and character.
3. The industry standard of 5% waste shall apply for defects and cutting.
4. If you discover a defective piece DO NOT LAY IT. You are the final judge of acceptable quality. MaxiPLY Floor or its dealers will not be responsible for costs associated with installing, finishing and/or replacing of flooring installed with obvious defects.
5. Ideally boards should be laid “end on” to the incoming day light. The first board should be laid groove to the wall allowing for expansion of minimum 15mm between the wall and first board and continue all round with minimum 15mm expansion gap. Do not butt up against any fixed construction such as wall, door frame, pipes, partition, etc.

### NAIL DOWN INSTALLATIONS

1. It is recommended to use a professional flooring nailer for this product.
2. Our 18mm engineered flooring boards can be fixed directly onto joists or battens. The joists or battens should be sound rigid and level with moisture content no greater than 12-14% at the time of fixing the MaxiPLY Floor. Where the 18mm engineered flooring is to be fixed to ground floor joists, adequate under-floor ventilation and appropriate protection against damp must be provided.
3. In the case of battens fixed to a concrete/screed base, the conditions described above should be met; i.e. the base must be dry. The battens should be not less than 36mm wide for a fixed floor and of sufficient depth to accommodate the length of the flooring fixings. End to end joists between battens should be staggered throughout the floor area to avoid creating a line of weakness. Battens are usually laid at 300 – 400mm centres and fixed with either nails, clips or appropriate adhesive to the sub-floor.

### GLUE DOWN INSTALLATIONS

1. You must use a professionally formulated specialist wood flooring adhesive that is either alcohol or polyurethane based, always ensuring the manufacturers guidelines are strictly followed on application. Both trowel and glue batten systems are acceptable.
2. It is not necessary to further adhere the tongue and groove system with the above options
3. Always keep glue off the surface area of the boards and do not let any surplus glue dry on the finished flooring as this is very difficult to remove.

### FLOATING INSTALLATION

1. MaxiPLY Floor 18mm Structural Engineered when floated must be installed over minimum 3mm foam or poly type underlay. On ground floors a surface moisture barrier such as a combination underlay or 1000g polythene must be used with joints over lapped and taped.
2. A specialist wood flooring PVA adhesive (D3 rated) should be applied in the T&G system at the head of the board, then along the edge of the board in 200mm beads with 100mm intervals. Installation clamp & strap systems are recommended to hold rows in place whilst the glue sets.
3. Starter boards from the off cuts of the flooring should be used at the beginning of each row to ensure that a stagger is created between the header joints of a minimum 500mm. This gives valuable added strength.

### FINISHING OFF

1. The last board of the first row should be fitted using a puller bar ensuring a 15mm expansion gap at the head of the board.
2. Tapping blocks should be used to tap boards together, direct contact of hammer or mallet on the board edge is not recommended.
3. All perimeter gaps should be covered with skirting or Scotia beading using profile cover strips at all thresholds between rooms.



## INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR 18MM STRUCTURAL ENGINEERED WOOD FLOORING

### FLOOR CARE PRINCIPLES

1. Correct humidity and temperature conditions must be maintained within the environment that the flooring is installed.
2. Mats on both sides of entrance ways, not for decoration, **TO BE USED!**
3. Prevent water being walked or leaked onto the floor at all times especially at entrance ways.
4. Do not install this type of flooring in bathrooms, kitchens or conservatories where leaks or excessive humidity may occur. Consult your supplier who will advise.
5. When cleaning use water sparingly and mop dry after cleaning removing all excess water.
6. Immediately remove stains and spillages.
7. Protect your floor by using good quality felt pads under all furniture.
8. Always follow a professional maintenance program.

### WARRANTY UK

1. MaxiPLY Floor is responsible for manufacturing defects.
2. The warranty lasts for 20 years starting from the date of purchase. The original invoice is proof of date of purchase.
3. MaxiPLY Floor must be installed correctly according to the above mentioned instructions. The warranty covers normal use. The warranty does not cover the use in damp and wet spaces, such as bathrooms.
4. Floor boards showing visible defects should not be installed. It is the responsibility of the owner/fitter to deselect these boards at time of installation. These boards can be exchanged at your local MaxiPLY Floor dealer at no cost. Boards with visible defects that are installed in spite of these instructions are excluded from this warranty.
5. Finished flooring, i.e. lacquered, stained, oiled, brushed, or other finished flooring is subject to normal wear and is not covered by this warranty, i.e. if you don't maintain the floor correctly, the warranty is null and void.
6. Excluded under this warranty are: scratches, heavy impacts, humidity, and damage caused by incorrect use or lack of correct maintenance.
7. If you have a defect which falls under the conditions mentioned in this warranty, you should report this to your dealer in writing within 14 days after detecting the defect. In your letter you should include a copy of the invoice.
8. The warranty provided only relates to the floor boards supplied, consequently it does not include labour costs, the costs of additional material and any other consequential loss.
9. In case of a dispute arising from the MaxiPLY Floor warranty, either party may call upon an independent expert to render binding advice. In the event that this clause is applicable, the cost of same shall be agreed on in writing by all parties involved in advance.
10. The 20 year warranty period will continue from original date of purchase and will not be affected by subsequent resolution of any complaint.
11. Where the MaxiPLY Floor warranty applies, MaxiPLY Floor or its distributors will replace the faulty floor boards. In case the product in question is no longer available, MaxiPLY Floor will ensure replacement by an alternative product of the same quality.
12. This warranty shall apply only to the original owner/purchaser of this wood floor.

### WARRANTY WILL NOT BE APPLICABLE IN CASE OF:

1. The floor has not been installed in accordance with these instructions or by a properly qualified professional.
2. The faults were noticeable prior to the floor being installed.
3. Defects and/or faults that have arisen due to dampness and/or water damage or by any other instance as a result of force majeure.
4. Defects and/or faults having been caused by improper use or negligence and failure to use the product for its intended purpose, as well as having been caused by having disregarded the instructions with respect to installation, use and maintenance.
5. Visual faults having arisen as a result of changed climate conditions, any variations in colour due to the influence of sunlight and the effects of regular aging and/or wear and tear of the finishing coat.

### MANUFACTURING TOLERANCE

ENGINEERED HARDWOOD FLOORS ARE A NATURAL PRODUCT AND AS SUCH ARE SUBJECT TO MANY VARIANCES IN COLOUR AND CHARACTER IN EACH INDIVIDUAL PIECE OF FLOORING, WE ALWAYS THEREFORE RECOMMEND YOU WORK FROM 4-5 PACKS OF FLOORING AT A TIME IN ORDER TO GET THE BEST NATURAL COLOUR MIX. AS SUCH A TOLERANCE OF 5% SHOULD BE ALLOWED FOR THE DESELECTION OF ANY MATERIAL DEEMED UNSUITABLE FOR INSTALLATION. THIS PRODUCT IS PRODUCED WITH A MANUFACTURING TOLERANCE OF + OR - 1.5% ON THE DIMENSION OF THE BOARD AND IN LINE WITH SPECIFIED TIMBER MANUFACTURING GUIDELINES, AS SUCH ANY ITEMS OUT OF TOLERANCE SHOULD BE DISMISSED AS PART OF THE 5% MANUFACTURING TOLERANCE.