

This installation guide is purposed for the installation and maintenance of EvoCore Origins flooring. Please ensure you read and follow instructions carefully as improper installation will void warranty.

1. PREPARATION

Prior to installation, there is some preparation required to ensure fitting your flooring runs as smooth as possible.

Important: Carefully inspect all boards for any defects. Planks installed with visible defects are not covered under warranty, and is the owner/installer's responsibility for the suitability of the EvoCore flooring and accompanying products. Please do not install any plank or tile that is considered questionable in appearance or dimensions.

2. BEST VISUAL RESULTS

The flooring replicates the look of a natural product which has natural variations in colour, texture and sheen/gloss. For best visual effect, work from 3-4 boxes and shuffle planks or tiles. Avoid installing similar planks next to one another.

3. SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Installation of EvoCore Origin must be on a flat and level, dry and structurally sound subfloor, with a maximum gradual variation of 3mm over 3 meters. Any further variation of the subfloor will void any potential warranty claims. Subfloor preparation is a vital component to ensuring a quality finish. The better the site conditions and subfloor, the better the finished product will be.

Further variation in the subfloor is not acceptable, can compromise the locking system and will void any potential warranty claims. If the subfloor is concrete, it is recommended to grind the high spots and fill the low spots with appropriate filler to ensure a level substrate.

For all concrete substrates it is important to use a moisture membrane to prevent moisture coming up through the slab. Appropriate paint on moisture barriers or builder plastic (minimum 200 microns) is acceptable. If the substrate is yellow tongue or chipboard, all joints must be sanded or planed flat.

If the substrate is existing timber flooring, it is recommended to lay the new flooring at 90 degrees to the existing floor for superior stability. Existing floor boards may need to be sanded prior to installation to ensure they are flat and level. If the substrate is existing tiles, the grout line must be within appropriate flatness requirements. Do not install over an existing floating floor.

4. ACCLIMATISATION

EvoCore Origins is waterproof and does not require acclimatisation, though it is still recommended to store and install the material in an environment that has been acclimated to acceptable living conditions.

5. PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

Tools:

- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- Crosscut power saw
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape
- 1/4" Spacers

Acceptable subfloor types:

- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least 1/2" thick)
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- OSB (at least 3/4" thick)
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood or laminate floor
- Ceramic tile
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl

6. SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Subfloors must be clean, flat, dry and structurally sound. Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for colour, finish, sheen, and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project.

If you have a crawl space, it must be a minimum of 18" (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6-20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints lapped 6" (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.

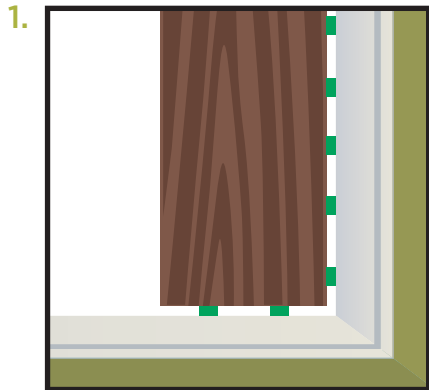
Room temperature and humidity of the installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least one week before installation of flooring. After installation, a room temperature range between 15°C and 41°C and a humidity range of 30-50% is recommended.

7. STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

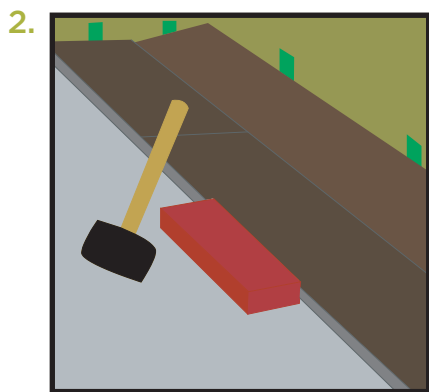
EvoCore Origin has been designed to be installed specifically as a floating floor. Expansion joints are required at all perimeters and fixtures (minimum 8-10mm) for general installations. Depending on the layout, size and floor plan, additional expansion gaps and joints may be required. Do not install kitchens, cabinetry, island benches, other fixed items or heavy furniture on the floor as this jeopardizes the floating floor principals. Rooms that are bigger than 10 meters in length and 10 metres in width are required to have additional room transition trims / expansion joins to allow movement in the building structure itself.

Prior to installation it is essential to have a layout and proper plan of the details of the flooring and required thresholds. Proper planning will assist in having a superior finish. Check all heights including but not limited to doorframes clearances, tiles, windows etc. Although EvoCore Origin is waterproof, it is essential to protect the subfloor from moisture as the product will only perform as well as its subfloor. EvoCore Origin comes with a pre-installed underlay, making installation efficient and easy. Installation diagrams below:

8. STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION



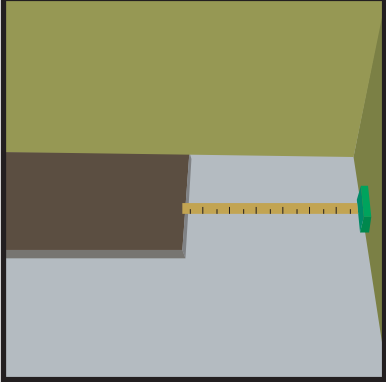
After thoroughly cleaning and ensuring the site is ready (external and internal inspection), begin laying from left to right. Ensure the tongue side is facing the wall, with spacers (minimum 8mm) from the starting wall.

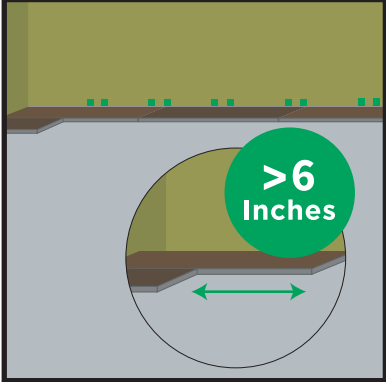


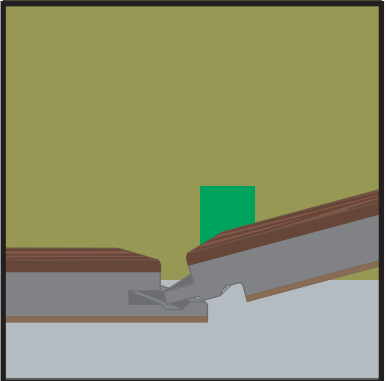
The second plank, in the first row. Drop the plank and press with a rubber mallet / dead blow hammer to ensure drop lock ends lock properly. Rub your hands over the surface of this join and ensure the boards are flush and level. If the boards are not flush, have lipping or do not appear to be joined correctly, disassemble the two planks following the disassembly guide below. If planks are damaged, replace with new planks. Hitting the drop lock too hard may damage the underside of the locking system.

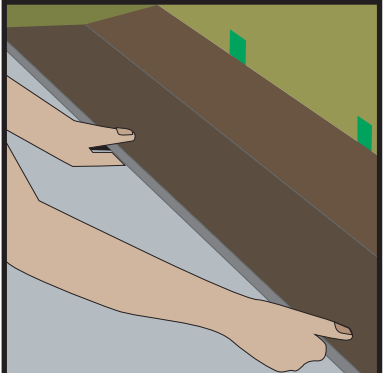
3. At the end of the first row, ensure to leave appropriate expansion gaps and measure the length of the final board in the first row (no shorter than 30cm).

9. CONTINUING THE INSTALLATION

1. 

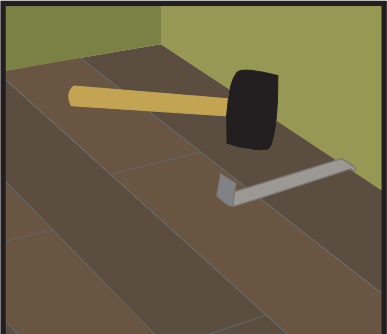
Start the second row with the balance of the last board used in the first row. This plank should be no shorter than 30cm to achieve the best appearance. The end joints for each plank should be randomly staggered and be no closer than 20cm to achieve best appearance. Install the first plank of the second row by placing the tongue into the groove of the planks in the first row. Drop the plank and ensure they are securely locked into place. This should not require much force.
2. 

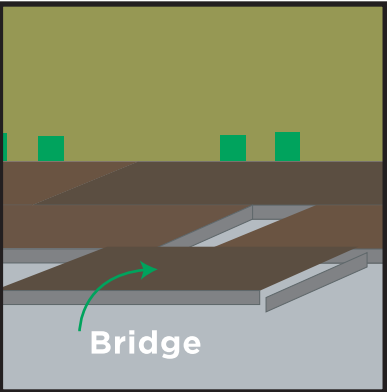
It is extremely important to constantly ensure the boards are square, straight and that each joint has locked together correctly and the surface is flush. After laying 2-3 rows ensure appropriate expansion gaps are in place as this is the foundation of your floor.
3. 

Continue installing planks the length of the room leaving expansion gaps and also making sure no end of row boards are shorter than 30cm and the joints are staggered more than 20cm.
4. 

Ensure all exposed edges are protected with appropriate trim or transition strips.

5. If the flooring is being installed in wet areas, it is essential to caulk all gaps with a water and mould resistant silicone sealer. These wet areas must be installed independently from the remainder of the flooring.

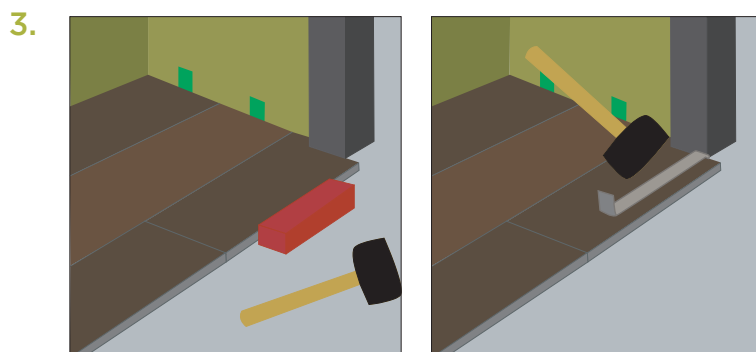
6.  Do not fasten wall mouldings, skirtings, trims, Scotia or transition strips to the planks. Ensure that no planks are secure to the walls, subfloors, fixtures or any accessories under any circumstances. All door frames, architraves need to be undercut to allow movement of the floor. Skirting boards or Scotia will adequately cover these expansion gaps. Remove all spacers upon installation completion.

7.  If the walls are not square or straight it is essential that the boards are cut to adapt the walls contours. Expansion gaps are required at all times.

7. Do not caulk a floating floor. Caulking a floating floor prevents the floor from moving.

11. INSTALLING UNDER A DOOR

1. Installation under moldings (such as door jambs) may require that the top lip of the groove on the end be reduced in size.
2. Using a small knife, carefully shave off the ledge of the groove.



After the groove ledge has been trimmed, place the board in place and tighten with a pull bar. The installer must be sure that the required expansion gap has been maintained and the flooring is not pinched.

4. If fit is not correct, re-trim as necessary.
5. Place a bead of wood glue on the bottom lip of the groove.
6. Insert the tongue into the groove and engage with a pull bar. Hold the board in place with painter's tape until the glue is dry. Do not use masking tape or duct tape as they may damage the floors finish.

12. UNDERFLOOR HEATING

EvoCore Origin can be installed using the floating. A floating method should be used as EvoCore Origin features and in-built underlay.

- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over underfloor heating.
- Floor temperature must not exceed (30°C).

Warning: Failure to follow adhesive manufacturer's guidelines and temperature limitations will result in failure and void warranty. Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath ACE floors.

13. AFTER INSTALLATION

If you are completing a renovation project and other tasks are yet to be completed, in order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work, use rosin paper and only use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the rosin paper to the floor (other blue tapes may damage the finish). Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the rosin paper to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. **DO NOT USE** plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity buildups.

- Dust mop or vacuum your floor to remove any dirt or debris.
- It is suggested that you clean the floor using a recommended ph neutral cleaner.
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, etc.).

14. PROTECTION OF YOUR FLOORING

- Furniture should be moved onto the newly installed floor using an appliance hand truck over hardboard runways.
- Avoid exposure to long periods of direct sunlight. Close blinds or drapes during peak sunlight hours. Floor covering subjected to excessive heat and light is subject to thermal degradation. Use appropriate precautions to minimize potential effects.
- Oil or petroleum-based products can result in surface staining. Do not track asphalt-driveway sealer or automobile-oil drips onto the vinyl floor covering.
- Use non-staining mats. Rubber may discolor the floor.
- Use floor protectors under furniture.

15. IMPORTANT

We can not be held accountable for faulty installations due to site conditions.

Planks installed with visible defects are not covered under warranty.