



floor  
distributors



## Federation Plank – Wood Flooring installation Instructions.

Please read these instructions carefully prior

### PLEASE READ BEFORE INSTALLING!

#### COLOR VARIATION

This flooring is a natural product and colour variations are to be expected. For best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons and do not install boards varying greatly in colour next to one another.

#### ACCLIMATISATION

As relative humidity varies in different parts of the country, acclimatisation of the flooring prior to installation is the most important precaution to take in order to insure a successful installation. Proper acclimatisation is necessary to adapt the moisture content of the flooring to the conditions of your environment.

#### SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Subfloor must be level, dry and free of imperfections. An uneven subfloor will make the floor feel unstable and cause premature damage or a crackling noise between flooring panels, **do not install if subfloor does not meet flatness, 2 mm over 1m radius.**

## General:

It is essential that safe work practices are employed when preparing or installing floor coverings. Protective eyewear and safe footwear should be worn throughout the installation. Dust extraction and respiratory protection should be used when cutting flooring or trims.

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project. All work involving water or moisture should be completed before flooring installation. Installation of flooring over a wet subfloor will cause cupping, lipping of end joins and telegraphing. Subfloors must remain dry all year round, it is a requirement that the subfloor be tested for moisture before installation of **Federation Plank Flooring**. Floor Distributors is not responsible for failures related to site related moisture issues.

Federation Plank Flooring must be acclimatised onsite and in its original packaging for at least 2 days prior to installation. In winter this should be extended by a further 2 days prior to installation. Flooring should be installed when conditions are between 15 – 22°C with a relative humidity of 45 – 65%. Installation in environments below 30% Relative Humidity will likely cause gapping, cupping and checking of flooring material.

It is the homeowner responsibility to provide a moderate indoor environment for your flooring to prevent cracking and distortion of the flooring, even when unoccupied.

The two most common causes of failure are uneven subfloors, and inadequate expansion to the perimeter of the floor.

If you intend to install this flooring over underfloor heating or cooling, please contact your retailer for more specific information.

## Tools Needed:

To install Federation Plank in 5G Click you will need the following accessories. Pulling Iron, Spacers, Tapping Block, Underlay, Saw, Pencil, Safety Goggles and Gloves.

Along with these tools you will also need a quality inderlay (with adequate moisture protction) as well as profiles to complete the installation.

## Preparation:

Firstly, you need is to ensure that the subfloor or surface you are installing your Federation Plank flooring over is level. Using a 1 metre straight edge, the subfloor level should not exceed +/- 2mm over 1 lineal metre in any direction. Remember, uneven floors may lead to movement and noise, so it is necessary to assess the levelness and get it right. Timber floors can be sanded level and concrete floors, or existing floor coverings can usually be levelled using a self-levelling compound. Federation Plank Flooring cannot be installed over carpet or carpet underlay, but can be installed over well bonded vinyl, cork, ceramic tiles if sufficiently level.

Federation Plank Flooring must always be installed over a dry subfloor. Check the moisture concrete subfloor to ensure the moisture content is below 75% R/H, as per AS1884. Timber subfloors must be well ventilated and dry, as a guide the timber subfloor should be below 12% moisture content when tested with an electrical resistance moisture meter.

Always use continuous damp proof membrane under your Federation Plank Timber Flooring. This continuous damp proof membrane can be provided by 200uM builders plastic, overlapped 300mm at the joins and taped with a vapour tight tape or Performance Plus Underlay. Performance Plus underlays are manufactured with a plastic damp proof membrane on one side and are conveniently fitted with a 100mm overlap with a peel and stick tape. Performance Plus Underlay is rolled out along the starting wall with the plastic down, peel & stick side to the wall. Additional rows are rolled out with tape down over the extended clear overlap. The wax tape can then be peeled away forming the continuous damp proof. Cut ends must be taped with a waterproof tape.

In the instance of knowingly or logically wet subfloor, or heated subfloor, always use 200uM builders plastic sheeting, overlapping joins by 300mm, taping joins with waterproof tape and turning up at walls or vertical fixtures.

In the case of gluing Federation Plank Flooring directly to your existing subfloor, a suitable parquet adhesive must be used. Direct gluing of your Federation Plank Flooring is a complicated process. Please contact your retailer for more information before carrying out this procedure.

Please check floor panels prior to installation, panels with faults or defects should never be installed.

Make sure you mix floor panels prior to installation; this will help insure a random variation of colour and woodgrain throughout your Federation Plank installation.

Federation Plank is not suitable for known wet areas, this includes installations in bathrooms.

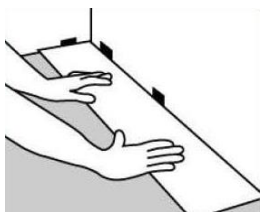
Claims regarding visible defective material must be made prior to installation. Each plank should be inspected to ensure that the quality is acceptable. No claims relating to surface defects can be accepted after installation.

Make sure you mix floor panels prior to installation; this will help insure a random variation of colour and woodgrain throughout your Federation Plank installation.

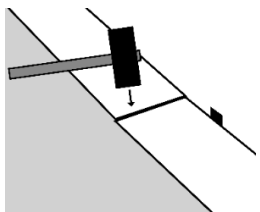
It is important to accurately measure the floor before installation. This will ensure that plank placement throughout the floor is visually acceptable, you should also maintain that the last row of flooring installed is at least 5cm wide.

Check that doors can open and close with adequate clearance, allowing for the thickness of flooring and underlay.

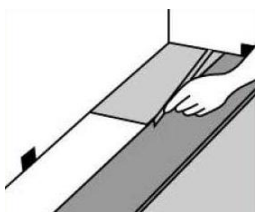
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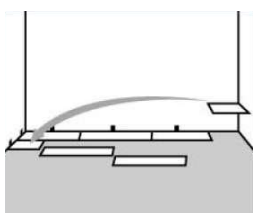
Install the first plank with spacers packed between the plank and the wall. Ensure the expansion gap is 12-15mm. **More expansion gap may be necessary in areas of high humidity. For example, Northern Queensland.**



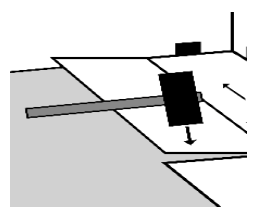
Use a soft rubber hammer to ensure the drop lock profile is properly engaged prior to installing the next plank.



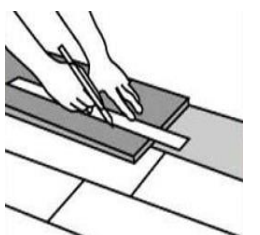
Continue this process until the wall is reached.



The offcut from the first row can be used as the first piece of flooring for the next row. Please ensure the 12 - 15mm gap is maintained throughout (**larger gaps in areas of high humidity**) the installation and ensure that the stagger between rows is at least 15cm.



Click the second and remaining rows together rotating the boards horizontally at an angle of 20–30 Degrees. Gently tap the end joints into place using your rubber mallet. Ensure joints are staggered by at least 15cm.



Make sure that the width of the last row is at least 5cm, and ensure that the gap around the perimeter of the floor remains at 12 – 15mm (**larger gaps in areas of high humidity**).

Always lay wood flooring lengthways against the longest wall of the room. In rooms where the flooring is longer than 12m, and where widths exceed 8m, the use of an expansion joint is required. Always remember to use expansion joints (e.g. at doorways) throughout the flooring installation, particularly between rooms.

N.B. A minimum of **12mm** gap is required in lower relative humidity environments like Melbourne or Hobart. A minimum of **15mm** gap is required in areas of higher relative humidity like Queensland or Darwin.

If the client objects to the recommended use of expansion trims at time of installation, we recommend the installer keeps on record that the client did not wish to use such trims.

Fill expansion gaps with the use of a suitable profile or skirting. Never glue profiles to the flooring itself, you must maintain free expansion around the perimeter of Federation Plank Flooring.

Always remember to use expansion joints (e.g. at doorways) throughout the flooring installation, particularly between rooms. Never affix fixtures (e.g. built in wardrobes or kitchens) directly onto the flooring, as this will negate the floorings ability to freely expand/contract during seasonal changes.

Once you have completed your Federation Plank installation it is immediately ready to walk on.

## General maintenance:

It is important that the floors room temperature and humidity levels are kept stable throughout its life in your house. The ideal temperature for a timber floor is between 18-20 Degrees, with a relative humidity of 45 – 60%. Use of humidifiers and maintaining a well-ventilated environment, are key in maintaining your Federation Plank Flooring.

In Winter months for example if the humidity (RH) in a heated room goes below the specified 45% this may result in plank changes. As such, you should install an Air Humidifier to prevent damage to your floor, also maintaining that the surface temperature remains between 18-20°C, but never exceeding 27°C.

Federation Plank is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded. Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, eg: around combustion heaters and other heaters, as these generate extreme low humidity. Federation Plank should not be installed until these measures are in place and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions. The same may also apply to Air-conditioned rooms.

A dry maintenance regime is generally recommended for your Federation Plank Flooring. This includes the use of vacuum cleaners and sweeping. Use of dirt trapping mats at doorways are also recommended in reducing any abrasive wear, associated with foot traffic.

**We never recommend the use of steam cleaners on Federation Plank Flooring.**

Wet maintenance is not acceptable on Federation Plank flooring. When cleaning your floor always ensure that moisture is removed immediately by using a dry cloth.

Always protect your floor by use of floor protectors under tables and chairs.

Wood flooring is affected by natural and artificial U.V. light. This will cause colour change in wood flooring.

TIMBER IS A NATURAL PRODUCT, AS SUCH VARIATIONS IN COLOUR AND GRAIN ARE TO BE ACCEPTED. PLEASE NOTE THAT SUNLIGHT WILL ALSO INFLUENCE COLOUR VARIATION IN WOOD FLOORING.

Disclaimer: Floor Distributors has used its reasonable endeavours to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained herein and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be liable for any inaccuracies, omissions or errors in this information nor for any actions taken in reliance on this information. Products must be installed in accordance with relevant installation recommendations and industry best practices.