

November 11, 2015

TO ALL U.S. AND CANADIAN DISTRIBUTORS OF THE
ARMSTRONG HARDWOOD FLOORING PRODUCT LINES

Subject: Successful Glue-Down Hardwood Installations

Glue-down hardwood flooring systems are a proven and effective method of installing hardwood products on a variety of subfloor materials, including concrete. When installed in accordance with the adhesive and hardwood manufacturer's recommendations, a glued hardwood installation can be expected to provide many years of beauty and lasting performance.

In cases where adhesive application, subfloor prep, or other installation recommendations are not followed, failures in the form of end lift, cupping, buckling, or other issues can occur. These failures are not caused by defects or deficiencies in the hardwood flooring product.

The guidelines below must be followed for a successful installation; also check with your adhesive manufacturer for more specific recommendations. Failure to adhere to these recommendations can result in failure of the installation, which is not covered by the Armstrong or Bruce warranty.

To ensure a high quality finished installation:

- Room and subfloor temperature must be a minimum of 65° F (18° C) for 48 hours prior, during and after installation is complete unless otherwise recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. Relative humidity must be maintained between 35% and 55%. The building must be enclosed with all outside doors and windows in place with permanent or temporary HVAC system in operation.
- All concrete slabs should be completely cured and dry. Concrete should be at least 60 days old.
- Slab moisture must not exceed 75% RH per the latest version of ASTM F 2170, or 3 lbs./1,000 ft²/24 hours per the latest version of ASTM F 1869, or higher if expressly allowed by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Subfloors must be flat to within 1/8" in 6 feet or 3/16" in 10 feet.
- Subfloors must be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, residual adhesive, adhesive removers; curing, sealing, hardening, or parting compounds; alkaline salts, excessive carbonation or laitance, mold, mildew, and other foreign materials that might prevent adhesive bond.
- Spread adhesive using manufacturer recommended trowel or applicator. Replace the trowel as it becomes worn. Do not re-notch the trowel.
- Adhere to the open and working times recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Achieve the subfloor coverage recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. Voids or gaps in the adhesive bed will allow excess subfloor moisture to reach the hardwood.
- Roll or press the wood into the adhesive, as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Periodically check the back of a board for adequate adhesive transfer.
- Avoid foot traffic for 24 hours after installation.

Sincerely,



Brian A. Jones
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Armstrong Floor Products