



**Installation Instructions For
Tuscan Chevron Plank
Engineered Wood Floors**

Installation Instructions for your new Tuscan Chevron Plank Engineered Wood Floor

The key to long term performance of any floor is the quality of the installation and the immediate and ongoing care and maintenance procedures used on the floor. Chevron pattern flooring requires a high degree of installer competence and experience to install correctly and therefore the installation should not be subject to tight time constraints or be rushed as errors can be made and issues occur if so.

To help ensure correct installation, care and maintenance for this floor please ensure this guide is fully read and adhered to by your floor installer prior to commencing installation.

NOTE !

Chevron plank flooring requires a high degree of technical ability to install correctly without issues and therefore this product should only be installed by an appropriately trained and experienced installer (Ideally nationally recognised wood flooring installation NVQ Level 3 qualification or above).

Please check and ensure that your installer is appropriately trained and suitably competent to install this product.

Section 1 – Product Characteristics & Installer Responsibilities

Important points for the correct installation of your Chevron Plank Engineered Wood Floor

- Pre Installation Procedures
- Storage and acclimatisation of Boxes.
- Sub Floor Requirements
- Tools & Accessories Needed For Installation.
- Owner / Installer Checklist

Section 2 – Installation Method

- General installation tips
- Method – Full Glue Down Installation

Section 3 – Installation Over in screed/concrete water piped Underfloor Heating Systems (Note! This product is not suitable for installation over electric underfloor heating systems.)

- Prior to installation
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- Cleaning the floor.
- Important “Do`s & Don`t`s”
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Section 5 – Warranty.

- Domestic / residential use warranty.

PRODUCT SUITABILITY & INTENDED USE

The key to long term performance of any floor is the suitability and quality of the installation and the immediate and on going care and maintenance procedures used on the floor.

This product is suitable and **intended for use in normal domestic / residential property rooms only (excluding wet rooms, bathrooms, laundry/Utility rooms, Saunas, external areas, and areas of high humidity).**

The product is intended for domestic home use only and the associated product guarantee is therefore applicable for domestic home use only. Should your intended use relate to any form of commercial environment then a product warranty is by specific application and confirmation only via your Tuscan flooring supplier.

To help ensure correct usage, installation, care and maintenance for this floor please ensure these instructions are fully read and adhered to by your floor installer prior to commencing installation.

SECTION 1 – Product Checking, Characteristics & Installer Responsibilities

Real wood engineered flooring is manufactured from natural material which is a product of nature and therefore not perfect. This engineered wood flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit defects not to exceed 5%. This percentage should be well within the normal extra qty of flooring included for cutting / wastage.

These defects may be of a manufacturing or natural type with effects such as knots of varying sizes, shade / colour variance, sapwood & mineral streaks, slight bow and grain variance and minor gaps at joints etc all being normal for this product.

The product is also subject to normal wood flooring industry tolerances for dimensions natural movement and therefore slight variances and gapping at some joints may be present or occur. Filler is used as part of the manufacturing process to repair natural defects such as broken knots so is a normal element of the product.

Product checking and acceptance –

Note ! – Tuscan Chevron flooring may be either a 45 degree angle item or 30 degree angle item depending on your choice of product. These instructions cover both variants but are specific at the “layout diagram point” to your particular angle of product.

Carefully open two further boxes and check the boards to ensure they are as ordered and are acceptable in all respects. If there are any concerns at this point **DO NOT** open any further boxes and report your concerns to your supplier. If they are acceptable close and reseal the packaging for storage and acclimatisation. Only commence the installation once any concerns have been clarified and you are happy to proceed.

THE INSTALLER has full responsibility for checking the product and the suitability, quality, moisture condition, soundness and flatness of the sub floor that they are installing the flooring onto and that the job site environmental conditions are suitable for storing, acclimatising, and installing a natural wood flooring into.

The manufacturer will reject any claims of product failure that are a result of unsuitable sub floor conditions, environmental moisture conditions, incorrect installation, installation of inappropriate boards with visual natural / manufacturing flaws, incorrect maintenance methods, or non compliance with the instructions and recommendations provided.

To reiterate - Chevron Pattern flooring requires a high degree of technical ability to install correctly without issues and therefore this product should be installed by an

appropriately trained and experienced installer (Ideally nationally recognised wood flooring installation NVQ level 3 qualification or above). The installation should not be time critical and should be conducted in a careful steady manner to ensure accuracy of fitment. Ideally the install should be a two part operation with the initial setting out & marking procedures and first three rows installed on day one and then the full installation following once the first rows laid are held firm in the adhesive and adhesive cured. See further install procedure details below

The manufacturer will reject any claims of product failure that are the result of installation errors or incorrect industry norm installation techniques used. The associated product warranty will be void where these installation instructions are not followed or professional industry norm techniques not conformed to.

The flooring should not be laid in unheated, excessively humid, or damp rooms such as bathrooms, saunas, laundries, etc, where on going wet trades are in operation or to be conducted after installation of the flooring, or outdoors.

As any small sample pieces or display boards viewed prior to purchase cannot convey the full look of a fully fitted floor the owner and installer must satisfy themselves of the suitability of the flooring product following the initial inspection of it immediately prior to installation.

If there are any concerns at this point do not start or continue the installation and clarify your concerns with your supplier before proceeding.

The boards must be individually checked both immediately before and during the laying of the floor to identify any visual natural or manufacturing faults. The installation of boards with clearly visible defects of any kind will invalidate manufacturing fault claims. If there are any doubts as to the quality of the boards, clarify your concerns with your flooring supplier **before** commencing or continuing the installation.

Note ! – this Chevron product has 50% left handed & 50% right handed boards in each pack therefore ensure that when preparing for, and during, installation the left hand & right hand boards are appropriately separated to avoid mixing left and right handed boards during installation.

The boards are marked on there reverse with “L” & “R” to denote which hand they are.

Pre Installation Procedures

Installation site inspection

Prior to installation of any hardwood flooring product, the installer must determine that the job site environment and the sub surfaces involved meet or exceed all applicable industry and British Standards. Recommendations regarding the construction of the materials used as well as local Building codes must be followed. These instructions recommend that the construction and sub floor be suitably dry, sound, of suitable load bearing strength and flat. Normal industry British Standards apply such as **BS8201:2011 being installation of wooden and wood based flooring, BS8204-1:2003 + A1:2009 Screeds, bases & in situ floorings** and any other applicable standards.

The manufacturer and distributor declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with sub-surface, sub flooring or job-site environmental deficiencies, moisture or humidity issues, or lack of or incorrect sub floor preparations.

The building / room should be closed in with all outside doors and windows in place. **All concrete, masonry, framing timber, drywall components, plasters, paint and any other “wet” trades must be completed and thoroughly dry.** All sub floors must be appropriately assessed for moisture condition in relation to laying a wooden floorcovering as per relevant British Standard assessment procedures and as outlined within these instructions. (BS8201 Annex A). The wall coverings should be in place and any painting completed and dry.

Basements and sub floor crawl/void spaces must be appropriately dry and well ventilated minimum requirements as per current Building Regulations/codes. Check all sub floor void vents or air bricks are clear of debris and not obstructed.

Exterior ground works should be complete with surface drainage offering a minimum drop of 75mm over 3.0 lin mt to direct the flow of water away from the structure. All gutters and downspouts should be in place. Ground level must be a minimum 150mm below any damp proof course (DPM).

Storage & acclimatisation of Boxes

Your flooring packs should have been stored horizontally and cross stacked on at least three level height bearers in the room they are going to be laid in **for a minimum of 72 hours without opening the packaging.** Cross stack the packs in such a way that **allows air spaces between them** to aid air flow around them.

The box / packaging should only be opened on the day of installation. If the boxes are opened prior to installation and the humidity conditions are unsuitable then bowing of the boards may occur and expansion of the tongues may also occur making it difficult to locate the tongues into the grooves during installation.

THE STORAGE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS - should be dry, heated, and a stable atmospheric environment the same in which the installed flooring is expected to perform. Permanent air conditioning and or heating systems should be in place and operational. **The installation room should have a consistent room temperature of between 16 - 24 degrees celsius and a relative humidity environment of 45-60% R/H for 14 days prior to, to ensure correct acclimatisation takes place and a suitably stable environment is present during and following installation.**

DO NOT install the flooring in unheated, damp, or humid rooms or where building works and wet trades are on going or where building works have been conducted and any substrates or materials are not fully dry and residual moisture has not fully dispersed.

Sub Floor Requirements

MUST BE ! - CLEAN

Scrape, hoovered or brushed clean, and smooth. Free of wax, paint, oil, sealers, surface coatings, old adhesives, curing agents, contamination and other debris.

Check any sub floor surface coating that cannot be removed for adhesive compatibility prior to installing the floor. Consult the adhesive manufacturer for advice and recommendations before installing the flooring.

Note !: **Unclean or contaminated sub floors can result in adhesive bonding failure and lead to lifting, moving or creaking boards.**

MUST BE ! - FLAT as per current BS 8201: / BS 8204-1 Standards SR1.

Within Maximum deviation of 3mm under a 2 lin metres straight edge.

Sand high areas or joints. Overlay wooden suspended sub floors with sheets of flooring grade plywood minimum 6mm thick as per BS 8201:2011. Use an appropriate levelling compound, compatible with the adhesive to be used, for levelling of concrete sub floors.

Note !: **Uneven sub floor surfaces can result in reduced adhesive contact with the boards, popping, squeaking, hollow spots, joint issues and premature failure of the floor.**

MUST BE ! - STRUCTUALLY SOUND

All appropriate sub floor types must be structurally sound with no deflection of the sub floor beneath evident and concrete sub floors must be checked for surface laitance and be laitance free.

Note: **Deflecting, un firm, or loose sub floor areas can result in popping, squeaking, hollow spots, joint gaps and premature failure of the floor.**

NOTE! Gyvlon/Anhydrite (Calcium Sulphide) screeds require special attention and preparation. The laitance should have been completely removed within 7-14 days

following the installation of the screed. Before installation of the wood flooring the subfloor surface should be completely re prepared to ensure that there is no contamination or remaining laitance. The screed must be completely dry and tested using hygrometer boxes only in accordance with BS8201:2011 Annex A and be 75% or below. Advice should be sort from the adhesive manufacturer on the use of primer coats. DPMs can only be used as part of a designed system for use with this type of screed, check with the DPM and adhesive manufacturers for further information and compatability.

APPROPRIATE SUB FLOOR MOISTURE CONDITION CHECKS.

Prior to installing your flooring the moisture content of the sub floor must be checked with an appropriate sub floor Hygrometer / moisture meter, and readings of a **maximum of 75% relative humidity** for a new and existing concrete sub floors.

10% Maximum moisture content for plywood, chipboard or wood based panel sub floors and 0.5% for an anhydrite sub floor obtained.

B.S. Guidelines, relating to sub floor checking and suitability, are contained within B.S. 8201:2011 & B.S 8204-1:2003+A1:2009 and must be followed.

RECCOMENDED SUB FLOOR SURFACES:

NOTE !! Full bond Glue Down Installation method only: using the Recommended wood flooring adhesives: (Refer to the Tuscan Flooring Website, www.tuscanflooring.co.uk, for the recommended products).

- **Concrete / Screed** that is sound, laitance free, flat, and has been correctly moisture and humidity checked as per the recommendations above.

Note ! If any doubts exists in relation to the appropriate moisture content of a concrete sub floor, (without any UFH), or its on going dryness install an appropriate liquid DPM (Damp Proof Membrane) product compatible with the adhesive to eradicate the risk of post installation sub floor humidity or moisture affecting the wooden flooring or employ a professional to assess the sub floor moisture condition correctly.

NOTE! Gyvlon/Anhydrite (Calcium Sulphide) screeds require special attention and preparation. The laitance should have been completely removed within 7-14 days following the installation of the screed. Before installation of the wood flooring the subfloor surface should be completely re prepared to ensure that there is no contamination or remaining laitance. The screed must be completely dry and tested using hygrometer boxes only in accordance with BS8201:2011 Annex A and be 75% or below. Advice should be sort from the adhesive manufacturer on the use of primer coats. DPMs can only be used as part of a designed system for use with this type of screed, check with the DPM and adhesive manufacturers for further information and compatability.

Sub floors with an embedded UFH should be fully pre commissioned and appropriately dry when tested to current British Standards stated.

- **FLOORING GRADE Plywood - minimum 6mm thickness** that is securely fixed down over a solid sub floor **as per BS 8201:2011** and is, sound, flat, and under 10% moisture content.
Note ! - A bitumen paper moisture barrier conforming to BS 1521 must be installed over a wooden suspended sub floor / T&G timber sub floor, joists or battens prior to overlaying with a suitable thickness plywood. Joints should be lapped and taped. Subfloor void ventilations must be to Building Regulations requirements and all sub floor vents be clear to ensure appropriate air flow within the sub floor void.
- **Chipboard and plywood subfloors minimum 18mm thickness** that is fixed down, sound, flat, level, uncoated, dust & contaminate free and under 10% moisture content.

- **Ceramic, terrazzo & marble** that is fixed down, sound, flat, (overlay with an appropriate levelling compound), and appropriately dry and protected from rising moisture from below. De gloss / abrade if necessary any shiny surface to be adhered onto to aid adhesion of levelling compounds and adhesives.
- **In screed/concrete water piped radiant Heat sub floors** (following BS8201 and the manufacturers recommendations for using underfloor heating with wood flooring and ensuring the flooring surface temperature **does not exceed 27 deg Celsius / 75Kw M2**) Floor sensors connected to the heating system should be installed and set to prevent the the flooring surface temperature exceeding 27°C. The concrete /screed surface must be as advised above and the UFH system **be fully commissioned, operational and the subfloor checked for moisture condition pre flooring installation.**
- **DO NOT install Tuscan Chevron flooring over any form of electric UFH system.**

As flooring manufacturers / distributors we are unable to evaluate each sub floor system and therefore the responsibility for the appropriateness of the sub floor lies with the contractor /installer of the flooring.

Tools & Accessories for Installation

Tools:

Note: It is extremely important to use the correct tools for installation as this will result in an easier installation and quality of the finished floor.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| • Safety glasses | Tape measure |
| • Chalk line | Recommended Wood floor & adhesive cleaner |
| • Hand saw / power saw | Moisture meter (wood, concrete or both) |
| • Undercut or jamb saw | Square |
| • Plywood template | Spacers / Wedges |
| • Tapping Block | Broom |
- Appropriate notch sized adhesive trowel to suit adhesive.
 - Recommended Wood floor adhesive. (See Tuscan website for recommended adhesives)
 - Recommended adhesive cleaner or wipes.
 - Recommended primer and levelling compound if required.
 - Recommended Damp Proof Membrane if required.

(Refer to the Tuscan Flooring Website, www.tuscanflooring.co.uk, for the recommended products).

Bitumen barrier moisture paper to B.S. 1521

For laying over an existing full wooden sub floor prior to installing a plywood overlay for bonding to. Ensure the sub floor ventilation meets the minimum requirements of the current Building Regulations.

Vapor tape – For taping / sealing the joints of bitumen barrier paper.

3 in 1 profile

Colour blended 3 in 1 multi purpose edge profile that allows for expansion gaps and a smooth transition between different floor coverings within your home.

Veneer wrap scotia

Edge trim used to conceal the expansion gap between the edge of the floor and the skirting board.

Appropriate wood flooring adhesive.

Adhesive specifically designed for use when installing wood flooring in a full bond stick down manner.

Damp Proof Membranes.

Liquid damp proof membrane products for sealing and protecting your floor from unsuitable excessively moisture laden sub floors. Always follow the directions given with the use of these products.

levelling / smoothing compound.

Compounds specifically designed for use to appropriately level a concrete floor surface prior to applying adhesive. Use a suitable primer for use with the sub floor type and construction.

“ Bona ” Wood floor cleaner. (For U.V. Lacquered or U.V. Oiled floors)

Floor cleaner specifically designed for use on U.V. Lacquered or U.V. oiled finish floors.

Bona floor refresher products. Available for occasional refreshing of the floor finish. All of these recommended items should be available through your flooring supplier.

Owner / Installer Checklist

Important points for correct installation.



Tick

- Check the product carefully. Ensure it is the correct product, acceptable colour shades, character, acceptable sizes, length spec, etc.
- Read the instructions in full before commencing installation.

If you have any concerns at this stage contact your supplier of the goods and clarify any concerns before opening any further boxes and installation of the boards. Claims for the product being unacceptable in any way that is apparent before or during installation will not be accepted.

- Make sure the sub floor is checked for appropriate flatness, soundness, and moisture content using the correct moisture testing equipment. Where installing over a concrete or mineral based sub floors, moisture content compliance to current British Standard BS.8201 & B.S 8204 should be ensured.. Recommendations for wood based sub floors can be found within the fitting instructions supplied. For Subfloors with underfloor heating, record surface temperature and ensure correct heat build-up and cool down instructions have been carried out. Take and record and monitor throughout the installation, the ambient humidity and temperature.
- When installing a plywood layer overlay over existing wooden floorboards install a bitumen moisture barrier paper conforming to BS 1521: over the existing wooden sub floor first with joints overlapped & taped and edges turned up to above finished floor level to give the boards protection from beneath against seasonal moisture or sub floor void humidity variances.
(Its important that the subfloor void ventilation is fully compliant to the building regulations.)
- Use the correct tools – Having the appropriate tools makes the job easier and results in a better finish !
- Make sure the correct minimum 15mm perimeter expansion gap facility is built into the floor edges and any obstructions within the floor area as per the recommendations made within the fitting instructions.
- Maintain the floor correctly ! – Correct post installation and ongoing maintenance will greatly enhance the performance of you new floor. Leave the enclosed maintenance details with the owner of the floor.

Section 2 – Installation Method

General Installation points:

- **Chevron boards are supplied as left handed and right handed types with 50% of each hand in each pack.**
- **The boards should be taken from the packs and separated into left hand and right hand piles ready for installation.**
- **The left and right hand variants of boards should be mixed from several open boxes as this will ensure good colour / shade blending. Ensure only boards of the same handing are mixed – DO NOT mix left hand and right hand boards together !.**
- Use an appropriate tapping block where required to avoid damage to the board edges if tapping together joints.
- **Only open the boxes on the day of installation but store the unopened boxes within the end use room for a minimum 72 hours prior to installation **in normal heating conditions with the environment conditions being 16 – 24 deg C temperature & 45 – 60% relative humidity.****
- Ensure the recommended **minimum 15mm expansion gap** is left at all perimeter edges of, and obstacles within, the laid flooring.
- Always **separate adjoining flooring at all door threshold points using a T moulding floor break profile.** This will allow/accommodate any natural movement of each floor area in separate / adjoining rooms and avoid any flooring stress issues between rooms.
- After the floor adhesive has fully cured, clean the floor with the recommended cleaner.

When assembling the floorboards, it is recommended that the maximum laid single room /floor area without additional in-floor expansion facility is 10 linear metres in any direction of the floor.

Always separate floors between rooms at door threshold points by inserting an appropriate T moulding profile that accommodates the required 15mm expansion gap beneath it. If the boards are to be laid over an existing solid wooden suspended floors and floorboards **over ply the existing boards with a minimum 6mm Flooring Grade plywood** to ensure an appropriate sub surface is adhered to. (see appropriate sub floor types above).

The plywood should be fixed to the sub floor as per B.S 8201: guidelines and have a moisture barrier paper installed beneath it.

The following atmospheric conditions should exist within the end use room prior to and during the storage / acclimatisation period, the installation period, and following installation:

- Air temperature – 16 -24 Degrees Celsius.
- Relative air humidity - 45-60%

Damage to the flooring, or visual imperfections/objections, caused by incorrect assembly or excess moisture / damp does not constitute grounds for complaint. Noises due to natural seasonal movement or heating cycles when using the floor are a natural feature of wooden flooring and should be regarded as such and therefore they also do not constitute grounds for complaint. Colour variation and change of hue (darkening) - which is the result of exposure to light & sun rays is also a natural feature of wood and as such is also not grounds for complaint.

INSTALLATION METHOD:

Full Surface Bond Glue Down Installation Using Sika adhesives.

Sub Floor Checking and Preparation:

The sub floor must be checked for suitability in all respects as per the information previously stated above - including flatness, soundness and suitable moisture content - with the appropriate equipment and as per guidelines given in B.S. 8201:2011 / B.S 8204-1:2003 + A1:2009

The moisture content of a concrete / screed sub floor should be checked carefully with an appropriate moisture meter or humidity box/sleeve as per the B.S references above and MUST have a relative humidity value of less than 75%.

If the appropriateness of the moisture content of the sub floor cannot be determined or guaranteed, install an appropriate liquid damp proof membrane that is compatible with the adhesive to be used - (non UFH subfloors).

NOTE! For anhydrite screeds seek advice from the DPM/adhesive manufacturer.

Take appropriate measures to resolve any sub floor issues prior to installing the flooring.

Note! A subfloor that is NOT sound and flat could result in non contact of the adhesive to the underside of the boards during installation and boards, or areas of the flooring deflecting when walked upon and if so squeaking or creaking of the joints may occur.

Failure to protect the boards from unsuitable levels of moisture can result in the flooring cupping, expanding, distorting and creaking.

The adhering of the boards directly to the sub floor does not eradicate the occurrence of natural movement of the wood flooring. Therefore **the recommended 15mm expansion gaps must be retained at all perimeter edges of the flooring** and seasonal gapping between boards may occur.

Installation part one – Marking out & installing first rows:

Firstly - NOTE !! - THE ACCURACY OF THE SETTING OUT AND MARKING PROCEDURES AND INSTALLATION OF THE FIRST THREE ROWS IS VITAL TO ENSURE THE FOLLOWING ROWS INSTALLED IN PART TWO OF THE INSTALLATION DO NOT RUN OUT AND GAPPING ISSUES ARE AVOIDED AS THE SECOND PART OF THE INSTALLATION PROGRESSES.

TAKE APPROPRIATE TIME DURING THIS FIRST PART OF THE INSTALLATION TO ENSURE THE FIRST ROWS ARE INSTALLED CORRECTLY AS THEY WILL AFFECT THE ACCURACY AND QUALITY OF THE REST OF THE FLOOR WHEN INSTALLED.

Regularly check and double check measurements and board / floor alignment prior to starting installation and during installation.

Consider the required direction of the Chevron pattern in relation to major features in the room and the size of the room.

Once a direction is decided **snap a chalk line (A) along the entire centre line of the room** and measure the width appropriately from the line to determine the final board cuts and ensure the final boards that will be installed are of suitable length either side of the room. If necessary relocate the initial centre line to suit.

Snap a second (B) & third (C) chalk line either side of the first line at a distance equal to the right and left hand end points of the boards when located together – as diagram below.

Use a **plywood template/backer board, (D), cut to suit your particular angle of Chevron product** and 50mm larger in size than the length of flooring boards being installed so that it can be used as a template and support for the first boards / rows installed. The template should be located with its upper point aligned with the first centre line and its left and right corner points **aligned accurately at 90 degrees to the top centre point (E) as diagram below.** **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ENSURE ACCURACY OF THE FIRST BOARDS LAID AND AVOID RUN OUT OF ROWS AND JOINTS AS THE INSTALL PROGRESSES.** Mechanically fix the plywood template to the sub floor if necessary to avoid movement when the initial boards are placed in position. Caution should be exercised for subfloors with underfloor heating.

NOTE !! - IT IS VITAL THAT THE TEMPLATE IS POSITIONED ACCURATELY TO AVOID RUN OUT OF BOARDS WHEN THE INSTALLATION COMMENCES, SO DOUBLE CHECK ITS ACCURACY BEFORE COMMENCING INSTALLATION.

With the lines and template in place CAREFULLY spread a relatively small area of adhesive, SUFFICIENT TO COVER ONLY THE FIRST THREE ROWS, (F), in front of the template **as per the adhesive manufacturer's instructions**, using the manufacturers stated notch size and type of trowel. Leave the thin centre & edge lines uncovered by adhesive for these first rows to aid accurate placement of the initial boards.

Carefully lay the first **left hand board 1** and **right hand board 2** into the adhesive so that the appropriate top and side end points match in alignment with the previous laid out centre and parallel lines and are tight to the sides of the plywood template. (See diagram Boards 1 & 2)

Install two further rows only above the starter rows in the same manner so a base pattern for installation is formed. Remove any surplus adhesive from the sub floor following installation of these initial rows.

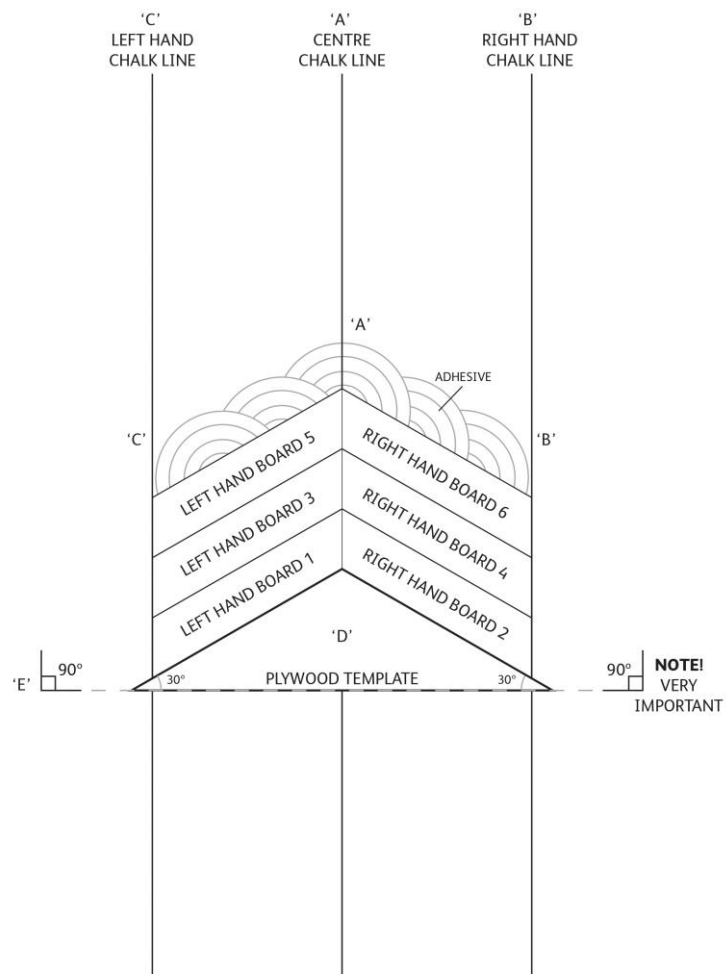
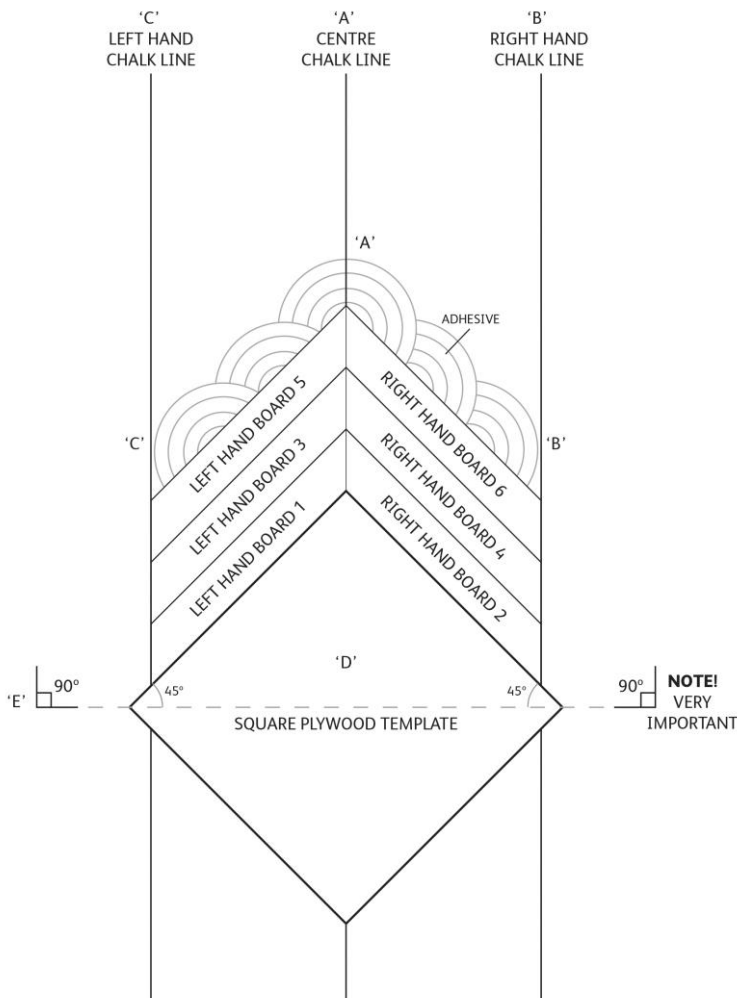
Measure and mark further left and right hand sets of chalk lines parallel to the first set to use as board edge marker points and continue to use the plywood template for each set of boards placed as the installation progresses outwards.

Setting out diagram / 1st boards install.

NOTE ! CHECK THE ANGLE OF YOUR PARTICULAR PRODUCT AND FOLLOW THE CORRESPONDING DIAGRAM BELOW FOR IT.

45 Degree Chevron

30 Degree Chevron



ACCURATE ALIGNEMENT OF THE FIRST ROWS IS VITAL TO ENSURE ALL SUBSEQUENT ROWS ARE INSTALLED SQUARE AND RUN OUT OF ROWS & GAPPING DOES NOT OCCUR.

MAKE NUMEROUS ALIGNEMENT / MEASUREMENT CHECKS DURING INSTALLATION TO ENSURE THE BOARDS ARE / ROWS ARE ALWAYS CORRECTLY ALIGNED AND ARE NOT RUNNING OUT.

NOTE ! VERY IMPORTANT ! - AFTER INSTALLTION OF THE FIRST THREE ROWS – ALLOW TIME FOR THE ADHESIVE TO APPROPRIATELY CURE ,IDEALLY OVERNIGHT, before commencing installation of the subsequent rows above and below the initial rows as this ENSURES THE FIRST ROWS ACT AS A FIRM BACKSTOP for installation of the rest of the rows and will avoid any undue movement out of alignment of the first rows when installing the rest of the floor and which could affect the alignment of the following rows.

Installation part two – Installation of following rows:

Continue the installation of the rest of the flooring above and below the initial starter rows starting from the centre of the floor and workings outwards.

Lay appropriate amounts of adhesive to install several rows at a time and lay the boards into the adhesive with care ensuring the joints are located tightly and accurately.

Be careful to avoid transferring adhesive onto the face of the boards and where this occurs wipe off the adhesive using appropriate cleaning/adhesive removal wipes. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO REMOVE ANY ADHESIVE FROM THE FACE OF THE BOARDS WHILE THE ADHESIVE IS UNCURED AS IT WILL PROVE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE THE ADHESIVE WHEN IT IS CURED.

Continue installation of the above and below rows of boards in the same manner as the first rows until the installation is complete.

At the wall edge points of the installation always leave a minimum 15mm edge expansion gap. The same 15mm gap must be left at any point where the flooring meets, or is cut around, any fixed object in the floor – ie, heating pipes, stair bases, door frames, etc. The expansion gap can be covered, but should never be filled.

Install floor break "T" SECTION MOULDINGS at door threshold points even where the same Chevron flooring is laid to adjoining rooms.

Upon completion of the flooring installation allow the adhesive to fully cure as per the adhesive manufacturers instructions.

Install any required edge and transition profiles or skirtings to cover the required edge expansion gaps.

Edge profiles at skirting bases should always be fixed to the skirting boards, or skirting boards fixed to the walls, and not the floor surface.

Threshold T mouldings should be fixed to the sub floor and not the floor surface and have the minimum 15mm expansion space beneath their top faces either side of the trim centre upstand.

INSTALLATION OF TUSCAN CHEVRON ENGINEERED FLOORING OVER WATER PIPED IN SCREED/CONCRETE UNDERFLOOR HEATING SYSTEMS

CAUTION

There are many types and manufacturers of water piped underfloor heating systems, so please ensure that the suitability and recommendations of the particular manufacturer of your system are sought and adhered to BEFORE commencing installation of your engineered flooring.

This engineered flooring is **ONLY** suitable for use over **water piped in screed or concrete heating systems** that are equipped with electronic temperature controls and with a sensor/s mounted at the surface of the finished sub floor to control and limit the **maximum allowable floor surface temperature to 27°C, (75Kw/M2).**

THE UFH SYSTEM MUST HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATELY COMMISSIONED AND RUN TO ENSURE THAT NO LEAKS ARE PRESENT IN THE SYSTEM AND THE SUB FLOOR IS APPROPRIATELY DRY, AND CORRECTLY CHECKED TO CONFIRM SO, PRIOR TO INSTALLATION OF THE FLOORING.

DO NOT install Tuscan Chevron flooring over any form of electrical matt UFH system.

Applicable & Relevant British Standards should be adhered to which includes the B.S. recommendation that **the surface of the engineered wood flooring used over radiant heat sub floors must not exceed 27 degrees Celsius.**

This recommendation must be adhered to as if the flooring is heated in excess of this temperature then distortion and delamination of the boards may occur.

The heating pipes must be encased in concrete / screed and **be a minimum of 30mm below** the screed surface and **must not be in direct contact with the underside of the boards.**

Prior to the flooring being installed, the system must be correctly commissioned to provide an even heat/temperature output over the subfloor being installed with the timber floor.

You should **always** consult the manufacturer or supplier of your heating system to confirm its suitability in terms of laying a wooden floor over it, and to confirm that the heat output design is adequate for the over installation with wood flooring and if any specific commissioning processes in relation to your specific system should be employed - both when turning on the system for the first time, and for its use after the flooring has been installed.

Wood species of high contraction coefficient react more to temperature and air humidity changes, which, when combined with a light colour species of wood, may create or emphasise gaps more than other species. Some minor natural movement of the boards / floor may occur post installation as the flooring adjusts to the heating regime and **is not any form of manufacturing defect should it occur.**

Accelerated colour change of some light species, such as, but not limited to, Oak, beech maple & birch, which are more sensitive to heat may occur, so please clarify any queries in this respect prior to installing your chosen engineered flooring.

Check to ensure that the heating pipe work is evenly distributed under the entire surface of the sub floor over which the flooring is to be laid. This will help prevent any irregular heating of the flooring, and therefore avoid any issues relating to board movement between heated and unheated areas of flooring and cold or hot patches within the laid floor.

Do not lay the timber flooring in rooms that have more than one separately controlled underfloor heating zones or in rooms that are not completely served by underfloor heating system.

Do not use mats or rugs or flat bottomed furniture over your wood flooring over floor heating systems as hot spots can be created under such floor coverings due to the insulating nature of them and may affect the stability and colour change of the flooring beneath them.

Any product failure claims relating to the effects of excessive hot spots under such floor coverings cannot be accepted.

Floor temperature limiting sensors must be set so that the top surface of the floor does not exceed 27°C.

Prior to Installation of the Flooring: System Commissioning

These instructions must be followed in conjunction with the heating system manufacturer's commissioning instructions.

An UFH system within concrete or a screed does not eliminate the need for correct moisture condition assessment therefore always conduct the standard moisture condition checks stated above. This is particularly important with newly installed systems and sub floors.

15 days prior to installation, switch on the normal heating cycle / programme for the underfloor heating system, and gradually increase the temperature setting to achieve 18°C on the surface of the sub floor for the remainder of the specified period. **Then switch the heating off for 48 hours** prior to commencing installation of the flooring.

The flooring and its adhesive should be located in the end use environment for 48 hours subject to it being as per the temperature and humidity conditions for acclimatisation stated above.

Installation of the flooring can then commence.

Following Installation:

Re-introduce the heating system beneath the flooring in a **slow, controlled manner.**

Switch the heating system on in normal operating mode and at a low operating temperature, (less than 18°C at the floor surface), and **Gradually** increase the temperature to 18°C at the installed floor surface and leave at this temperature for a minimum 48 hours. Then, if required, **gradually** increase the floor temperature by 1 or 2°C a day until your normal / optimum temperature has been reached.

NOTE ! – Ambient room temperature is in the region of 5 degrees lower than the flooring surface temperature !

DO NOT raise the temperature of the flooring surface above 27°C as this may induce excessive movement and distortion of the boards.

Note ! The ambient room temperature is in the region of 5 deg C lower than the floor surface temperature and therefore this should be understood when setting room temperatures.

Regardless of the heating system within the property / room, the atmospheric relative humidity in the room should be kept between 45– 60% at all times. Small, inexpensive room hygrometers are widely available to monitor this as are portable humidifiers / dehumidifiers to help manage your room environment if necessary.

CARE & MAINTENANCE OF YOUR TUSCAN CHEVRON ENGINEERED WOOD FLOOR.

Correct care and maintenance of your engineered wood floor will greatly enhance the performance and look of the floor.

For normal, everyday maintenance simply brush the floor as needed or vacuum using a soft head attachment. **Do not use a metal framed vacuum head or vacuum with hard brush / beater bars as this may damage the floor surface.**

Spillages of liquids should be removed immediately as liquids can damage and stain the floor.

Engineered floors are available in the following finishes:

U.V. cured Lacquer finish.

U.V. cured oil finish.

Specific or periodic cleaning of the floor can be undertaken using the following cleaning product:

UV lacquer or U.V Oiled finished products - clean the floor with "**Bona wood floor cleaner**", taking care to comply with the manufacturer's instructions on the container.

Bona wood floor refresher products are also available for occasional refreshing of the floor finish. Always follow the product manufacturers' instructions.

These maintenance products should be available through your flooring supplier.

Water, fluids, grit and sand are some of the most common items that can spoil and accelerate wear of a wooden floor. In order to protect the floor and minimise wear and damage **follow these simple "Do`s & Don`t`s"**

Things to "do" and be aware of:

Do - Make use of **door mats** at all external entrances and over high traffic areas of the floor as this will significantly help to avoid dirt and grit being walked on to the floor. Ensure mats are regularly cleaned.

Do - Use **furniture protection felt pads** under all furniture legs and feet as this will avoid damage being caused by the movement of furniture across the floor. Ensure these pads are periodically cleaned and replaced.

Do - **Use workstation mats** at desks and under desk chairs and in front of any furniture where footfall is continual in a small specific area to avoid damage and excessive wear from castors and continual footfall in these areas. Use mats in front of sinks, washing machines, tumble dryers and cookers etc in kitchen rooms to avoid excessive footfall wear occurring in the areas.

DO - **Use the recommended cleaning products** as they are designed to clean your wooden floor without any risk of issues.

Do - Try to keep the **relative humidity** within the room between 45 - 60% as this will minimise the floor's natural tendency to move during the seasons on the year. Small humidity meters can be purchased via many online companies to monitor your room environment and should be relatively inexpensive.

Do - **Protect your floor from constant direct sunlight** where possible as areas subjected to constant sunlight will age and discolour at an accelerated rate compared to shaded areas of the floor particularly areas immediately behind glass doors.

Be aware - If mats or rugs are laid on the floor occasionally **reposition them** to avoid discolouration forming beneath them and at their edges as the flooring ages. (**Do not use rugs or mats over a radiant UFH system**)

Be aware - That your floor is a natural product and as such will show signs of movement i.e minor gapping, occasional creaking etc, during the various seasons of the year as it reacts normally to its environmental conditions.

Be aware - That shade and colour variance is also a normal feature of wooden flooring and that "**blending**" of the boards is a normal part of the wood floor installation process to ensure an overall blended acceptable appearance is achieved when fitted.

Very Important "don'ts" and things to avoid:

Don't - "**Wet mop**" or "**Steam Mop**" the flooring as this may cause excessive expansion of the floor and possible damage to the lacquered and or oiled surface finishes.

Don't - Walk on the floor in **narrow hard, or stiletto type, or damaged heels** as this may damage the surface of the flooring.

Don't - **Slide heavy furniture or objects** across the floor as this may also damage the surface.

Don't - **Use ammonia based cleaners**, acrylic finishes, wax based products, detergents, bleaches, polishes, abrasive soaps or cleaners, or any acidic based cleaners. These types of cleaners can etch or pit the surface of your flooring.

Don't - use **use rugs or mats over a radiant UFH system.**

Avoid - Letting **pets with claws** run across the flooring and always keep pets claws trimmed as animal claws may scratch the surface of the floor.

Avoid – Letting sunlight shine on the floor for long periods of time as this will accelerate ageing of the floor particularly if your room has large windows or patio doors. The use of curtains & blinds is recommended to reduce the effect of U.V. light ageing the floor.

Avoid – Using rugs or mats over an UFH as heat spots under such items can result in uneven heating of the flooring and board distortion and gapping issues.

What to do if you have any problems.

Should any problems be apparent with your engineered Wood floor upon checking the boards prior to, or at the point of installation, you should immediately contact your supplier and advise them of the problem. **If you have concerns of any kind do not start installation of the floor until your concerns have been clarified satisfactorily.**

If any problems with your floor arise **after installation** then firstly contact your installer to discuss. Your installer should be able to remedy the problem if it is installation related, or alternatively report the matter to his / your supplier of the flooring for further assistance.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Your Tuscan Modelli Chevron engineered flooring has a limited 25 year domestic / residential use warranty against manufacturing defects.

To maintain the validity of your warranty, your Tuscan flooring must be installed, cleaned and maintained in accordance with the published installation instructions & care & maintenance advice.

Please Note! Any long term renovation of your floor involving sanding and re-sealing will render the original warranty invalid.

Should you encounter a problem with your Tuscan Modelli Chevron engineered flooring then firstly contact your supplier of the product and advise them of your concerns as your installer / supplier should in the first instance investigate your concerns and who can liase with their supplier of the goods in relation to your problem.

A copy of your Tuscan warranty is available via the Tuscan flooring website – www.tuscanflooring.co.uk