

Cortona 12^{II}

THE BEVEL COLLECTION

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLER / OWNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Mission Collection LVF features the patented Uniclic® interlocking planks for easy installation and is installed as a glueless floating floor. The interlocking planks lock together to provide a tight water resistant seam, can be installed over most floor surfaces, and is suitable for both residential and light commercial interior applications.

PLEASE READ BEFORE INSTALLATION!

FOR BEST VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF YOUR FLOOR

This flooring replicates the look of a natural product which has natural variations in color and texture. For best visual effect, shuffle planks from several cartons and do not install similar boards next to one another.

FLOORING MATERIAL SHOULD BE INSPECTED PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

Responsibility for the suitability of Manufacturer flooring and accompanying products for each individual installation cannot be assumed by Manufacturer, since Manufacturer has no control over the installer's proper application. Should an individual plank or tile be doubtful as to appearance or dimension the installer should not use this piece.

KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL LOCKING INSTALLATION

Carefully examine the flooring prior to installation for color, finish and quality. Ensure adequate lighting for proper inspection. If flooring is not acceptable, contact your supplier immediately and arrange for replacement. Manufacturer cannot accept responsibility for flooring installed with visible defects. Prior to installation of any flooring, the installer must ensure that the jobsite and subfloor meet the requirements of these instructions. Manufacturer is not responsible for flooring failure resulting from unsatisfactory jobsite and/or subfloor conditions.

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

Crawl spaces 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. Local regulations prevail where necessary.

Room temperature and humidity of installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least one week before installation of flooring. Maintaining an optimum room temperature of 70° F and a humidity range of 30-50% is recommended.

Most installations will need approximately a 10% cutting allowance added to the square footage of the room.

Proper conditioning of the job site is necessary. Flooring planks should not be exposed to sudden changes in temperature. Store, transport and handle the flooring planks in a manner to prevent any distortions. Distortions will not disappear over time. Store cartons flat, never on edge. Insure that the flooring planks are lying flat at time of installation.

Installations of carpet, tiles, metal strips and other transition moldings should not push fully into the flooring and should allow for some slight movement wherever practical.

Protect the floor from heavy-rolling loads, other trades, and movement of appliances by using sheets of plywood or similar.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Flooring should be transported and stored in a neatly stacked fashion on a smooth flat surface.
2. Acclimate the flooring and the rooms to be installed for 48 hours at a constant temperature between 65° and 85°F (18.33° and 29.44°C) before, during, and maintained after installation.
3. Engineered Vinyl Planks should only be installed after other trades have finished and the jobsite has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage a finished plank installation.
4. Inspect flooring for damage, defects, or shading issues before installation; claims for visual defects will not be accepted after cutting and/or installed.
5. Mix and install planks from several different cartons during installation to ensure a random appearance.
6. Leave 1/4 inch (6.35mm) for expansion around the entire perimeter of the flooring.
7. Flooring should be protected from direct exposure to sunlight.

Subfloors:

Planks can be installed over a variety of subfloor surfaces including concrete on all grade levels, wood and many other existing hard surface floors. The subfloors must be clean, smooth, flat, solid (no movement), and dry. **DO NOT INSTALL PLANKS OVER FLOORS THAT ARE SLOPED FOR DRAINAGE.** Any uneven areas greater than 3/16 inch (4.76mm) in a 10 foot (3.05m) radius should be leveled with a Portland cement based patching compound. Mission Collection LVF is resistant to water damage but they do not prevent the transmission of moisture. Care should be taken to keep moisture from collecting on either side of the flooring to prevent the growth of unhealthy mold and mildew.

READ BEFORE INSTALLING

While flooring is waterproof, it's not a moisture barrier. It's still a good idea to make sure concrete is cured and tested for moisture and that a moisture barrier is installed in the crawl space and even under a floor over a concrete subfloor. Please refer below for further guidance.

Moisture won't damage flooring, but it can get in the walls and structure of the home. A couple of extra dollars and a few minutes is a small investment for the added protection and peace of mind. Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, Manufacturer recommends leaving a 1/4" expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor. Do not install floors where it will be exposed to temperatures greater than 140° F. Use good common sense installation practices, and you'll have a successful installation that results in a beautiful floor.

NOTE: EXCESSIVE MOISTURE MAY CAUSE THE GROWTH OF UNHEALTHY MOLD OR MILDEW AND/OR CAUSE STAINING OF THE FLOORING WHICH IS NOT COVERED BY OUR WARRANTY.

SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

All substrates listed below must be properly prepared and meet certain requirements. There may be other exceptions and special conditions (as noted below) for these substrates to be suitable for the locking installation system.

- Concrete – dry and smooth on all grade levels
- Suspended wood subfloors with approved wood underlayments – must have minimum of 18" well-ventilated crawl space underneath
- Suspended hardwood flooring that is fully adhered, smooth and square edge without texture
- Single-layer, fully-adhered, existing resilient floors – must not be foam-backed or cushion-backed
- Ceramic tile, Terrazzo, Marble
- Resilient tile & sheet vinyl
- Polymeric Poured (seamless) Floors
- OSB-(at least 3/4" thick)
- CDX Underlayment Grade Plywood (at least 1/2" thick)
- Particleboard 40lb. density or wafer board

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DO NOT INSTALL OVER

- Existing resilient tile floors that are below grade
- Existing cushion-backed vinyl flooring
- Carpet
- Hardwood flooring that has been installed directly over concrete
- In rooms with sloping floors or floor drains

PRE-INSTALLATION SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

All Subfloors must be:

- Dry
- Structurally sound
- Clean: Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- Level: Flat to 4.7mm (3/16") per 3.3 meters (10-foot) radius

Radiant Heat Subfloors:

Flooring can be installed over radiant heat using the floating or glue down method. When gluing floor, use only Manufacturer recommended adhesive over manufacturer's recommended substrate.

Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated subfloors. Floor temperature must not exceed 85°F (30°C).

Failure to strictly follow adhesive manufacturer's guidelines may result in failure and void the warranty.

Warning: Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use underneath floors. Using electric heating mats that are not embedded and applied directly underneath floors could void the warranty for your floor in case of failure. It is best to install flooring over embedded radiant floor heating systems and adhere to the guidelines listed above.

Concrete Subfloors:

Planks can be installed over concrete on all grade levels if a proper moisture barrier is used. A minimum 6 mil. Polyethylene moisture barrier must be used with concrete subfloors. Moisture vapor emissions should not exceed 5 lbs./24 hour per 1,000 sq. when tested with the Anhydrous Calcium Chloride Test in accordance with ASTM F 1869 or 80% RH in accordance with ASTM F 2170 "Standard Test Method for Determining Relative Humidity in Concrete Slabs using in situ Probes. Any uneven areas greater than 3/16 inch (4.76mm) in a 10 foot (3.05m) radius should be leveled with a Portland cement based patching compound. Holes and cracks in the cement should be patched, and expansion joints should be filled with a latex patching compound. Newly poured concrete floors must cure for a minimum of 90 days. Please note it is the person installing the floor and/or the homeowner's responsibility to ensure any moisture or alkalinity issues are resolved prior to installing the floor.

Wood Subfloors:

Planks can be installed over a smooth, flat, level wood subfloor, underlayment grade plywood, lauan plywood and other underlayments recommended by the manufacturer for use with a floating plank floor. Subfloor should be flat within 3/16 inch (4.76mm) in a 10 foot (3.05m) radius. Wood subfloors must be suspended at least 18" above the ground. Adequate cross-ventilation must be provided, and the ground surface of the crawl space should be covered with a suitable vapor barrier. If installing over a crawl space, a minimum 6 mil. Polyethylene moisture barrier must be used.

NOTE: Avoid subfloors with excessive vertical movement or deflection because subfloor movement may cause the locking mechanism to wear down, or even break. Indications of excessive deflection are subfloor fastener release, squeaking, compromised or sectional contours such as bowing or dipping in floors and uneven flooring material. Nail or screw subfloor panels to secure boards with excessive vertical movement or deflection prior to installation of the flooring material. Our warranties DO NOT cover any problems caused by inadequate substructures or improper installation of substructures.

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Before removing any existing resilient flooring or tiles, please consult with a flooring professional to determine if asbestos abatement is necessary to avoid exposure. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covered structures.

THE PRODUCTS IN THIS CARTON DO NOT CONTAIN ASBESTOS OR CRYSTALLINE SILICA.

Moisture Barrier and Underlayment:

While it is not necessarily difficult to install a Uniclic® floating floor, you may want to consider having it done by a professional installer. Bare concrete floors require a moisture barrier of at least 6 mil. Polyethylene film with the sheets overlapping 6" and taped to prevent moisture migrating to the flooring. Using a foam padding over the moisture barrier is recommended, but not required, ask your retailer for their recommendations. You may choose to use a 2 in 1 type underlayment (moisture & padding). You can also install over a sound deadening underlayment (3 in 1) with this method.

- Wood subfloors must be dry and well secured. Nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with a Portland Based leveling patch.
- Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days old, and should have minimum 6-mil poly-film between concrete and ground. Subfloor should be flat and level within 3/16" per 10' radius. If necessary grind high spots down and level low spots with a Portland leveling compound.
- Ceramic Tile, resilient tile and sheet vinyl must be well-bonded to sub-floor, in good condition, clean and level. Do not sand existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos.
- Resilient flooring should only be installed in temperature-controlled environments.
- It is necessary to maintain a constant temperature before, during and after the installation. Therefore, the permanent or temporary HVAC system must be in operation before the installation of resilient flooring. Portable heaters are not recommended as they may not heat the room and subfloor sufficiently. Kerosene heaters should never be used.
- All substrates must be structurally sound, dry, clean, flat, and smooth with minimal deflection. Substrates must be free from excessive moisture or alkali. Remove dirt, paint, varnish, wax, oils, solvents, other foreign matter and contaminants.
- High spots on the substrate should be leveled and low areas filled with appropriate underlayments.
- Do not use products containing petroleum, solvents or citrus oils to prepare substrates as they can cause staining and expansion of the new flooring.
- For renovation or remodel work, remove any existing adhesive residue so that 100% of the overall area of the original substrate is exposed
- Embossed existing resilient floors, ceramic tile floors, ceramic and marble grout joints, and irregularities in concrete should be filled.

The area to receive resilient flooring materials and adhesives should be maintained between 65°F (18°C) and 85°F (29°C) for 48 hours before installation, during installation, and 48 hours after completion. Maintain temperatures between 55°F (13°C) and 85°F (29°C) thereafter.

For concrete substrates, conduct moisture testing (moisture vapor emission rate {MVER}) not to exceed 5lbs and/or percent relative humidity 85% (in-situ probe). Bond tests must also be conducted for compatibility with the substrate.

Please refer to Subfloors and Underlayments:

- The subfloor panels must have a smooth, sanded face and show no swelling of edges or surface due to exposure to weather conditions or construction traffic.
- There are numerous products available for use as floor fills, patches, self-leveling underlayments, and trowelable underlayments. They include proprietary blends of compounds such as Portland cement, calcium aluminates, and gypsum based products. These are recommended for smoothing rough or uneven subfloors, enhancing acoustical

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and fire characteristics of structures or as substrates to receive floor covering for otherwise unsuitable subfloor conditions.

INSTALLATION TOOLS

For all installation methods:

- Tape measure
- Pry bar or pull bar
- 1/4" Spacers
- 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Crosscut power saw
- Chalk line
- Pencil

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION

Work from several open boxes of flooring and “dry lay” the floor before permanently laying the floor. This will allow you to select the varying grains & colors and to arrange them in a harmonious pattern. Remember, it is the installer’s responsibility to determine the expectations of what the finished floor will look like with the end user first and then to cull out pieces that do not meet those expectations.

Begin installation next to an outside wall. This is usually the straightest and best reference for establishing a straight working line. Establish this line by measuring an equal distance from the wall at both ends and snapping a chalk line. The distance you measure from the wall should be the width of a plank. You may need to scribe cut the first row of planks to match the wall in order to make a straight working line if the wall is out of straight.

You may want to position a few rows before starting installation to confirm your layout decision and working line. When laying flooring, stagger end joints from row to row by at least 8". When cutting the last plank in a row to fit, you can use the cut-off end to begin the next row. If cut-off end is 8" in length or less, discard it and instead cut a new plank at a random length and use it to start the next row. Always begin each row from the same side of the room. When near a wall, you can use a pry bar to pry close the side and end joints.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Inspection: Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage. Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied do not install, and contact your supplier.

Before laying: Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks. For best visual effect, planks in the final row should be at least 2 inches wide (half width of plank minimum). For this purpose, planks in the first row can be cut to smaller size. Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades. Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboard. Planks must not be nailed or screwed to the subfloor. Base boards and molding must not be fixed in a way which restricts the movement of the floor.

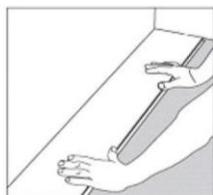


Figure 1

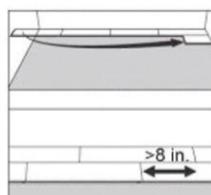


Figure 2

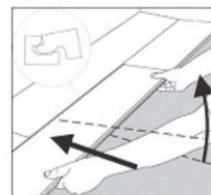


Figure 3



Figure 4

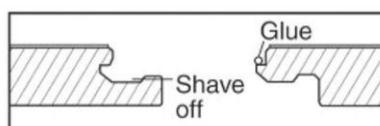


Figure 5

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INSTALLING THE FIRST ROW:

1. Starting from the RIGHT with the tongue facing the wall, carefully place the first board in place. (Figure 1)
2. Align the next piece by overlapping the end of the first board. Press down firmly to lock short end, preferably by tapping on joint with a rubber mallet. Continue in this manner until reaching the final plank in the first row.
3. Cut the final board piece to length.

CONTINUING THE INSTALLATION:

1. Begin the second row with the cut piece from the first row. (Figure 3) If the cut piece is shorter than 8" (20 cm), do not use it. Instead, begin with a new board that is at least 8" in length and allows 8" between the end joints on the adjacent planks.
2. Position the first board in place by angling it up slightly, pushing forward and interlocking the side tongue. (Figure 2) Slide the board to the left as necessary to align the edges of the end joint.
3. Carefully push the board down until the tongue and groove lock together on the side and ends.
4. Press down firmly on end joint, preferably tapping with a rubber mallet to fully engage short end.
5. Install the remaining boards and rows in the same manner. (Figures 3 & 4)
6. Cut the last board to size. If necessary, complete the tight fit by tapping the board into place with a pull bar.
7. Whenever practical, use cut pieces from previous rows as the starter board to reduce waste.
8. Maintain 8" spacing between end joints after the first four rows for best appearance.

INSTALLING FINAL ROW:

1. The last row may need to be cut lengthwise (ripped).
2. Place the last row of planks to be fit no top of the last row of installed planks. Use a piece of plank as a scribe to trace the contour of the wall.
3. Mark where the board will be cut. If the fit of the wall is simple and straight, simply measure for the correct fit and cut.
4. After boards are cut, position planks and tighten the fit using the pull bar.

***Manufacturer recommends to glue down your flooring in high traffic areas and big window rooms especially in Southern Exposure where the temperature exceeds normal conditions.**

AFTER INSTALLATION

- Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. In order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, 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 buff the floor with lamb's wool pads in order to remove any loose splinters, residues, foot prints, etc.
- Install any transition pieces that may be needed (reducers, T-moldings, nosing. Etc.

CARE & MAINTENANCE

Please visit www.themissioncollection.com Cortona II Bevel Collection for cleaning, care and maintenance instructions.