

LifeScapes ¾" and 5/8" Solid Installation Instructions

ATTENTION INSTALLER

Please read carefully before installing the product.

Make sure to follow our installation instructions and acclimatization recommendations before proceeding with installation. If you or your installer discover a recurring problem, or determine the waste to be excessive (over 5% of total square feet of material received), STOP MEDIATELY and call your distributor or retailer to review the problem before proceeding. Indusparquet will, at their discretion, either send replacement flooring, credit you for that portion of flooring which fails to make grade, or refund the cost of the flooring returned in full.

DO NOT INSTALL DEFECTIVE FLOORING.

You are the final judge of acceptable quality. Flooring that has been installed is deemed to be acceptable. Indusparquet shall not be responsible for costs associated with installing, finishing, and/or replacing of flooring installed with obvious defects. Indusparquet shall only be liable to replace or refund the purchase price on any portion over 5% of flooring deemed to contain effects.

Nail-Down Installation Instructions

Prefinished ¾" and 5/8" solid

Thank you for choosing ¾" or 5/8" Exotic Hardwood Flooring. Protect your investment; review and adhere to the flooring installation instructions.

Please note that these are instructions for the experienced hardwood flooring installer. For more detailed information on the basics of installing hardwood flooring, please contact the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) at 1-800-422-4556 or visit www.nwfa.org.

Installer/Owner Responsibility

Hardwood flooring is a natural product; therefore defects in the flooring can occur in the manufacturing process or naturally as a characteristic of the wood. Exotic ¾" and 5/8" hardwood floors are manufactured within accepted industry standards, allowing for up to 5% defective product based on the original hardwood flooring purchase order. Order 5% additional flooring product above actual square footage requirements to allow for cutting and grading of material.

Prior to installation, the installer assumes all responsibility for final inspection and quality of the product. Flooring should be carefully examined for finish and quality. Do not install hardwood flooring that is unacceptable; contact seller immediately.

The installer must determine that the jobsite environment and sub-floor surfaces meet applicable construction and material industry standards. IndusParquet declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from deficiencies associated with sub-floor or job-site environment.

The installer must hold out or cut off defective flooring material during installation. Filler or putty stick may be used to correct minor flooring defects during installation and is considered a normal procedure.

Step 1: Pre-Installation

Site Inspection

Prior to installing hardwood floors, the building must be structurally and enclosed, including installation of exterior doors and windows. Concrete, masonry, drywall, and paint must also be complete, allowing adequate drying time as to not raise moisture content within the building.

HVAC systems must be fully operational at least 14 days prior to flooring installation, maintaining a consistent room temperature between 60-75 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity between 35-55%. This not only stabilizes the building's interior environment, but also is essential when acclimating hardwood flooring to the job-site.

Exterior grading, directing drainage away from the structure, as well as gutters and downspouts should also be completed. Floors can only be installed on or above grade level and are not recommended in full bathrooms.

It is essential that basement and crawl spaces are dry. Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 24" from the ground to underside of joists. A vapor barrier must be established in crawl spaces using 6 mil polyethylene (poly) film with joints overlapped and taped.

During the final pre-installation inspection, subfloors must be checked for moisture content using the appropriate metering device for wood.

Step 2: Equalizing Hardwood Flooring

Wood is a porous material with a natural cellular structure that expands and contracts depending on the amount of relative humidity present in the surrounding atmosphere.

Equalizing moisture content to the job-site equilibrium point before installation is paramount to stabilizing movement after installation.

Handle and unload hardwood flooring with care and store within the environmentally controlled site in which it is expected to perform.

Flooring stored upon "on-grade" concrete floors should be elevated at least four inches to allow air circulation under cartons. Hardwood flooring must acclimate for as long as necessary to

meet minimum installation requirements for moisture content. Using the equilibrium moisture content chart below, determine the proper moisture content for the installation.

- Always use a moisture meter to determine where the flooring and present job-site conditions are in relation to the projected final equilibrium point taking into account seasonal changes.
- Monitor the flooring and job-site conditions as they acclimate. If the wood is neither gaining nor losing moisture, an equilibrium condition has been reached.

QUADRO

NOTE: Equilibrium points vary dramatically throughout the country, from the dry desert areas of the Southwest to moist areas along the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, a wide range of relative humidity can be experienced between individual job-sites within the same basic locale.

Different heating/air conditioning systems can also dramatically alter on-site relative humidity.

As a result, no one fixed moisture content is right for all situations, and it is up to the individual installer to establish the proper moisture content for each installation.

STEP 3: Recommended Sub-Flooring

Preferred - $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19 mm) CDX Grade Plywood or $\frac{3}{4}$ " (23/32) OSB PS2 Rated Underlayment with a minimum 40 lbs. density

Minimum - $\frac{5}{8}$ " CDX Grade Plywood with a minimum 40 lbs. density

DO NOT NAIL OVER PARTICLE BOARD OR SIMILAR PRODUCTS, INCLUDING GYPCRETE.

DO NOT INSTALL THIS FLOORING OVER RADIANT HEAT FLOORING.

STEP 4: Sub-Floor Preparation

Sub-floors Must Be:

- Dry and free of wax, paint, oil, and debris. Replace any water-damaged or delaminated sub-flooring or underlayments. Scrape smooth and sweep prior to installation.
- Level/flat within $\frac{3}{16}$ " over 10" and /or $\frac{1}{8}$ " over 6". High areas or joints can be sanded flat. Low spots can be lifted to flat using shims or layers of builders felt between wood and sub-flooring during installation.
- If plywood or equivalent, sub-floor must be structurally sound prior to installation. Sub-floor must be properly secured with nails or screws every 6 inches along joists to reduce the possibility of squeaking after final installation.
- Appropriate moisture tests must be performed as outlined in the "Step 5: Testing for Moisture Content" section listed below.

Minimum thickness sub-floor material recommendations are satisfactory for 16" on center joist spacing. Thicker sub-floor recommendations will allow up to 19.2" joist spacing. When joist spacing is greater than 19.2" on center, flooring will exhibit minimum performance.

Minimum performance may result in movement, gaps, and/or noises. A second layer of sub-flooring material bringing the overall thickness to 1 - 1 1/8", will provide optimum results when joist spacing exceeds 19.2" on center. Sub-floor panels should be spaced 1/8" apart to allow for expansion.

Hardwood flooring should, whenever possible, be installed perpendicular to flooring joists. Do not install 3/4" or 5/8" solid floors over existing gluedown wood floors or over wood floors that exceed 3 1/4" face size. In these applications, or when installing 3/4" solid floors parallel to existing wood floors, install an additional 1/4" layer of plywood to assist stabilization.

Step 5: Testing For Moisture Content

Using a quality moisture meter, measure the moisture content of both the sub-floor and the hardwood flooring. Sub-floors must not exceed 12% moisture content and the difference between sub-floor and hardwood flooring cannot exceed 4%. If sub-floors exceed this amount, an effort should be made to locate and eliminate the source of moisture before further installation. A moisture barrier is recommended; 6 mil polyethylene film minimum may be required in addition to the 15 lbs. asphalt felt. Asphalt felt is not considered a moisture barrier.

Step 6: Installing The Floor

Helpful Tips

- Remove flooring from several different cartons to maximize color and shade mixture.
- Stagger the ends of boards at least 6" in adjacent rows.
- Installation parallel to the longest wall provides best visual effect.
- Before you begin installing the hardwood floor, cover sub-floor area with 15 lbs. asphalt felt.

Doorway and Wall Preparation

Undercut or notch-out door casings 1/16" higher than the thickness of the flooring being installed to avoid difficult scribe cuts during installation. Also remove existing base and shoe molding as well as doorway thresholds; each can be replaced after installation is complete.

Establish Starting Point

An exterior wall is usually the straightest and best reference line to start the installation. Direction of finished flooring should be at right angles to the floor joists whenever possible. Establish a starting line by leaving a minimum 1/2" expansion gap around all vertical obstructions. In large spans, more spacing may be needed depending on geographical area, interior climate control, and time of the year.

Measure this distance from the starting wall (in at least two places) close to the starting wall's opposite corners. Mark these points and snap a working chalk line parallel to the starting wall allowing the required expansion space between the starting wall and the edge of the first row of flooring.

Installing the Floor

On the first row of flooring use 6d or 8d flooring nails to top nail surface of flooring and countersink (predrilling nail holes will prevent splits). Nails should hit the joist whenever possible. To ensure proper alignment of flooring, make sure the flooring along the working chalk line is straight. Allowing for a ½" minimum expansion gap is critical. Wood expands and contracts with changes in humidity. Wood will buckle and/or cup if an adequate expansion space is not provided. Always allow for expansion when making end or side cuts around vertical objects.

CAUTION: It is extremely important to use the appropriate nailer and fasteners for installation.

We recommend Powernail manual model 45 T&G Powernailer and relevant powercleats nails.

Powernail pneumatic model 445 Powernailer or equivalent may also be used (www.powernail.com).

Make sure to properly space nails every 8' -10' along the length of the board with a minimum of 2 fasteners per piece 2' – 3' from each end. If face width of flooring is 5' or wider, properly space nails every 4' - 6' along the length of the board. Top and/or hand nail enough rows to allow adequate spacing from wall; continue installation with a floor-nailing machine.

Continue across the room until finished; remember to provide adequate spacing for expansion gap. Once completed, install molding and trim. Thoroughly clean, sweep, and vacuum installed floor before further use. If floor is to be covered, use a breathable material such as cardboard or rosin paper. Do not cover with plastic.

Step 7: Common Sense Care

It is important to keep your hardwood floors free from dirt, water, food, grease, and other spills which can damage the floor or finish.

Periodically clean floors using a leading brand of cleaner made for prefinished hardwood floors (follow directions on bottle). Do not use ammonia or oil-based wax, polish, abrasive cleaners, or furniture cleaners. Make sure to install floor protectors under furniture, chairs or other items that may sit directly on your hardwood floor to help prevent scratches, scarring, and dents. Regularly, sweep, dust mop and/or vacuum to keep dirt and grit from dulling the shine and scratching the finish. Wipe up all spills promptly with a soft, dry, cloth. Avoid walking on floors with sharp, stiletto high heel shoes or shoes with soles in need of repair.

Limited Residential Warranty
Limited Light Commercial Warranty
Effective 10-2010

3/4" and 5/8" Solid Prefinished Hardwood Flooring - Residential and Light Commercial Warranty

The factory applied UV cured Induro™ aluminum oxide surface on 3/4" and 5/8" solid prefinished floors is warranted by IndusParquet not to wear through or separate from flooring for 25-years from the date of purchase in residential applications and 5-years in light commercial applications. Flooring must be used under normal residential or light commercial traffic conditions, and care and maintenance instructions, provided by the IndusParquet, must be followed for warranty to be valid.

In addition, IndusParquet warrants 3/4" solid prefinished hardwood flooring against manufacturing defects caused by improper milling, grading, and coating. Damages caused by improper transportation, storage, and installation are not covered. IndusParquet is liable only for the defective flooring that exceeds 5% of the original hardwood flooring purchase order, and will only repair or replace such defective material, excluding the cost of transportation, storage, installation and any other costs.

Warranty Provisions Extend Only to the Original Purchaser.

Warranty Exclusions

This warranty agreement does not cover the following:

- Natural changes in color due to exposure to light
- Failure due to improper environmental conditions, including but not limited to surface checking resulting from failure to maintain proper humidity levels between 35-55%.
- Scratches, indentations or any damage caused by negligence, water, and sand, everyday wear or abuse.
- Failure to follow manufacture's installation instructions, failure to use proper adhesives and moisture barriers, mildew from excessive humidity, discoloration, and cupping resulting from sub-floor moisture.
- Improper and poor installation work
- Improper care and maintenance

Milling Defects

Occasional defects in flooring from mis-milling or mis-handling damage may occur. Standard trade practice allows for up to 5% of the total square footage to contain wood bellow grade and/or with milling defects. All orders should be placed with an extra 5 to 7% of material than needed,

allowing for waste from crosscutting and fitting pieces on-site, as well as crosscutting out possible defects.

During installation, knots and defects will be found including machining snipes, splits, waness and areas on the floor that will not clean up. Crosscut out such defects and use the remaining sections to start or finish a row.

If a recurring problem is found by the installer, or finds the waste to be excessive, stop immediately and call the service department at IndusParquet Floors to review the problems before continuing installation. IndusParquet will at its option, either send new flooring for replacement, credit you for the floor failing to make grade, or refund the cost of the flooring in full. **DO NOT INSTALL DEFECTIVE FLOORING.** Flooring that has been installed is deemed to be acceptable.

IndusParquet **WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED** with installing, finishing and/or replacing of flooring installed with obvious defects.

IndusParquet is liable only for the defective flooring that exceeds 5% of the original hardwood flooring purchase and will only repair or replace such defective material, excluding the cost of transportation, storage, installation and any other costs.

Color and Grain Variation

Wood is a natural material. No two or three pieces are the same and no two trees are the same. The same species may vary based on the areas where they are harvested. IndusParquet is not responsible for claims arising from floors that possess a greater range of grain/color variation than found in samples supplied by dealers.

Color Fastness

All wood floors are light and/or oxygen sensitive and over the time, will change color, developing an unique patina. Many wood species, such as cherry hardwoods, darken over time. Walnut, on the other hand lightens. These color variations are a natural characteristic of wood floors.

Terms and Conditions

The terms of this warranty become valid upon final payment and successful installation of the product. The usage of improper care products other than the ones recommended by IndusParquet may damage the floor and void this warranty. Inquires regarding this warranty should be directed and placed to the dealer where the original purchase was done. If the dealer does not satisfy your request, contact in writing the Customer Service Department at IndusParquet.

INDUSPARQUET DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES/ WARRANTY PROVISIONS NOT EXPRESSLY SET FORTH ABOVE.

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