



Parquet Installation Guide

Parquet flooring can be engineered or solid wood, and come in a variety of patterns. These require almost identical installation methods, but make sure you are following instructions for the material and pattern you are installing throughout this guide. The patterns are:

- Herringbone – Parallel columns of short planks that are sloped downwards and staggered alternately to give a zig-zag effect rather than a centre line in each strip. Can be installed with single, double or triple planks per strip.
- Chevron – Parallel columns of short planks that are sloped downwards and meet neatly in the middle to create a clear centre line and arrow like effect in each strip.
- Versailles – Various blocks installed in a square shape that create a pattern within it, which is different depending on the product.

Before Installation

- We recommend the use of a concrete or wood sub-floor for the best results.
- Ensure the sub-floor is flat and level before you begin. If it isn't, you may use a self-leveling compound.
- Flattening the sub-floor includes hammering in any nails sticking out, sanding any uneven wood if needed, making sure adhesive from any previous floors is removed and any holes are filled with a shrink-proof water resistant leveling compound.
- Ensure the sub-floor is also clean of debris and completely dry.
- Refer to manufacturer instructions to see the best the installation conditions for your floor, as solid and engineered floors differ.
- Lay an underlay with a damp proof membrane across the entire floor. This will help stop moisture reaching the wood and causing damage. Ensure it is flat and reaches the edge of each wall, but leaves a 10mm gap around pipes.
- Acclimatise the planks by leaving them in the room you will be laying them for 7 days between 18 and 30 degrees (room temperature). This will help reduce expansion once installed.

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- We recommend you do not float parquet flooring as planks could be lifted - adhesive will give best results.

Installing Parquet Flooring

- Find the centre line of the length of the room by measuring the longest wall and dividing by two, then use a guide string or chalk to mark it out. You will be aligning the first strip of planks to this line. On chevron and herringbone floors, one strip of planks refers to an A and B plank connected, and the required number of planks connected below these. A versailles strip refers to a column of constructed squares.
- Align the planks so that the top highest point of the entire strip is on the centre line for both herringbone and chevron. A herringbone pattern will look as though it is slightly to the right of the centre line due to the nature of the pattern, but this is intentional and looks much more professional once more strips are added. For versailles, make sure the centre of the square is in the centre of the line.
- Start by dry laying the planks in either versailles, chevron, or single, double or triple herringbone as desired or per instructions of the product. Lay the planks by inserting the tongue on one plank into the groove of the next plank. You can use a square piece of plywood for example to help guide you down the centre line and ensure you are laying them straight.
- We recommend dry laying a row of planks horizontally too, to ensure the walls are a good enough guide point – not all are straight and can cause the floor pattern to look tilted. Then adjust as necessary, ensuring the vertical line is still central.
- Once you are happy with the placement, apply adhesive with a trowel, adhering to the open time as necessary, and lay a strip at a time, working vertically down the room and starting with the centre strip, or in the case of versailles, start in the centre square and work around it. You may also glue the tongues and grooves together with PVA glue for extra security.
- Ensure there is an expansion gap of 10-15mm at each perimeter.
- Do not allow furniture or traffic onto the new floor for at least 24 hours to allow the floor to settle and adhere to adhesive.
- You may sand and finish the floor as necessary once this time has passed.

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