

# FLOORS @ WORK

We Make It Happen



**12mm** 

DROP LOCK SYSTEM

## PLEASE READ COMPLETELY BEFORE INSTALLATION

Congratulations on the purchase of your new NAF laminates floor. Please read and follow this set of instructions to ensure that your floor is installed correctly. Please contact your flooring dealer prior to installation if you have any questions or concerns. Failure to do so will void your warranty. NAF suggests that your floor be installed by an experienced flooring professional who is familiar with industry accepted standards and technical guidelines as published by the NWFA (National Wood Flooring Association). If not installed by a credible flooring professional; the owner assumes any risk of issues arising due to improper installation, and/ or any issues arising from improper pre/ post installation inspections. For further information, please see www.nwfa.org/cpabout.aspx. The beauty of NAF Laminate flooring is the realistic wood pattern with high variation which includes light and dark shades or multiple color mixes in the same box, providing visual interest in your floor. It is very important to open all the boxes before installing and lay out the planks to see how the colors will line up. You want to avoid having two similar-looking planks installed next to each other.

## Installation Instructions for Waterproof Laminate Plus 5G 12mm Flooring

## Pre-Installation Preparation

#### 1. Overview and General Notes: Contact your flooring dealer if you have questions before starting. Improper installation will void the warranty.

• It is recommended to use a professional installer familiar with NWFA standards. If installed by a non-professional, the owner assumes responsibility for any issues.

### Important Notice:

- · All wood-based products, even those designed for moisture resistance, are hygroscopic and will react to environmental moisture by expanding or contracting. Ensure all underfloor moisture sources are rectified before
- Construction dampness must be completely dry. While this product is suitable for bathroom installations, excessive wetting must be avoided, and water spillages should be dried immediately.
- Check each plank for manufacturing defects before installation. Faulty planks must be reported to the place of purchase for a refund or replacement before installation.

## 2. Transportation and Storage:

- · Avoid transporting flooring in wet or humid conditions. Handle carefully.
- Store flooring in a dry, ventilated indoor area for at least 48-72 hours before installation. Ensure room temperature
- is 65-78°F (18-25°C) with humidity between 35-55%. • Do not store flooring in garages, patios, or other non-climate-controlled spaces. Allow air circulation around stacked boxes by removing plastic wrapping.

#### 3. Job Site and Subfloor Requirements:

- Subfloors must be clean, dry (max 2.5% moisture content, CM method), level (3/16" over 10' or 1/8" over 6'), and structurally sound.
- Remove carpet, debris, and adhesives. For wood subfloors, secure any loose boards. Do not install over carpets.
- Test concrete subfloors for moisture and use HUSSSH!™ underlay where needed.
- Ensure crawl spaces have adequate ventilation, with at least 1-4% open venting per 1,000 square feet.
- For radiant heating systems, ensure the surface temperature does not exceed 81°F (27°C) and turn off the system 48 hours before installation.
- Any wet or damp subfloor conditions must be rectified before installation to prevent swelling or warping of the planks.

## 4. Tools and Accessories Required:

- Tapping block, spacers, measuring tape, square, utility knife, and saw (circular, hand, or miter). HUSSSH!™ underlay, adhesive tape, safety glasses, and a dust mask.
- Chalk line, moisture meter, and laminate flooring surface cleaner. • For repairs: two-sided carpet tape, a sharp utility knife, and construction adhesive.
- 5. Moisture and Expansion Considerations:

## Leave an expansion gap of 3/8" to 5/8" (10-16mm) around walls, pipes, doorways, and fixed objects. Use spacers

- to maintain gaps. Seal cut edges in bathrooms or wet areas with a silicone-based sealant to prevent moisture damage.
- Avoid installation in bathrooms, saunas, or other excessively humid areas.
- 6. Inspecting and Preparing Planks:

- Inspect all planks for defects such as cracks, warping, or uneven surfaces. Do not install defective planks. · Lay out planks from multiple boxes to balance color variation and avoid placing similar patterns next to each other. · Remove the tongue on the first-row planks facing the wall to create space for expansion and ensure proper fit
- under wall trim. Pre-plan layout to avoid narrow widths or short lengths near walls or doorways. Adjust the first-row width if
- necessary.

## **Installation Process** Step 1: Underlayment Installation

#### • Install HUSSSH!™ underlay in the same direction as the flooring panels, without overlapping seams. Tape seams securely.

- Place HUSSSH!™ underlay directly onto the subfloor as needed. • Use HUSSSH!™ underlay for optimal acoustic and performance results.
- Step 2: Planning and Layout • Install planks parallel to the longest wall or main light source for aesthetic consistency.

## · Use a chalk line to align the first row. Cut the first-row planks if necessary to ensure the last row is at least

- 2 inches (5cm) wide.
- · Start with the longest, straightest wall or the most architecturally prominent area in the room. • For larger installations (over 800 sq. ft. or 30m in length), use transition strips to allow for expansion.
- Step 3: Installing the First Row

## 1. Place the first plank with the decor side up and tongue side facing the wall. Insert the tongue of the next plank into the groove at a 20° angle, press down, and tap gently with a tapping block.

- 3. Continue until the row is complete. Cut the last plank to fit, leaving the required expansion gap. 4. Use spacers to maintain the gap between the planks and the wall.
- If the wall is uneven, scribe the first-row planks to fit and cut accordingly. 6. Ensure the decorative surface faces up when cutting with a handsaw to avoid chipping.
- Step 4: Installing the Second Row 1. Start the second row with an off-cut piece at least 8 inches (20cm) long. Stagger joints by at least 12 inches (30cm).
- 2. Insert the long side of the plank into the groove of the previous row and tap gently to secure. 3. Ensure the staggered distance between short ends in adjacent rows is at least 1/4 of the plank length.
- 5. Begin folding planks down from the short side closest to the wall, pressing firmly to lock the joint. Step 5: Completing the Floor • Repeat the process for subsequent rows, checking alignment and maintaining expansion gaps.

Use a tapping block to ensure a tight fit between boards, and check for alignment after 2-3 rows.

- For the final row, measure and cut planks to fit while maintaining the expansion space. Secure spacers as needed.
- Step 6: Special Situations

## If installing under door jambs, undercut the jamb to allow planks to slide underneath.

- Around pipes, drill holes 12mm (1/2") larger than the pipe diameter and seal gaps with caulk. · For bathroom or laundry installations, seal all perimeter and cut edges with silicone-based sealant.
- Step 7: Repairs

## · For central planks, cut out the damaged portion and use two-sided tape to secure the replacement plank.

Carefully remove tongues or grooves as needed to fit. • For severe damage, disassemble rows back to the damaged area, replace the plank, and reassemble.

• To replace damaged planks near the perimeter, lift the affected row, remove the plank, and insert a new one.















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AC5

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# Installation Instructions for Waterproof Laminate Plus 5G 12mm Flooring (continued)

### Post-Installation

#### 1. Moldings and Transitions:

- Install quarter round and wall base moldings without nailing into the floor. Maintain slight clearance above the flooring to allow movement.
- Use T-moldings, reducers, and stair nosings for transitions. Secure them to the subfloor using adhesive or finishing nails.

#### 2. Final Checks:

- Vacuum and clean the floor using laminate-friendly products.
- Limit foot traffic for 24 hours to allow adhesive and sealant to set.

#### **Additional Notes**

- Seasonal changes in temperature and humidity may cause minor expansion or contraction. Maintain consistent indoor conditions.
- For radiant heat systems, consult the manufacturer's guidelines and apply heat gradually after installation.
- Lay planks in the direction of the main light source or lengthwise in hallways for best visual appeal.

By following these comprehensive instructions, you can ensure a durable, stable, and visually appealing flooring installation!

**Note:** Always refer to our website for the most recent set of installation instructions.





