



Installation of Barlinek wood flooring.

Questions and answers to help you ensure
correct and safe installation of your dream floor!

**CONGRATULATIONS
AND THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING
BARLINEK WOOD FLOORING!**

You are probably excited that you will soon be able to walk on an extremely comfortable and natural floor that will bring a unique atmosphere to your interior. We have prepared this guide for you to help you smoothly go through your entire flooring project.



Questions to ask a Barlinek wood floor installer

Do you have a contractor's license and insurance for the work you do?

All professional floor installers will have a contractor's license and public liability insurance. Ask the installer to show you a copy of an insurance policy.

Are you a member of a national wood flooring association or other trade association?

Find out what certifications your floor installer has. The number and credibility of certificates can be an indication of an installer's expertise.

What sort of warranty for the product and your service do you offer and what is covered?

Since installation of wood flooring is a serious project, you need to carefully read the product warranty terms and conditions and the contract with the installer (especially the small print). What is the warranty period? What is covered? Is there anything that voids the warranty on the work done?

Cutting the boards will create wood dust. How do you protect your interior from dust?

Installing a floor means cutting of wood which generates a considerable amount of dust. Make sure your installer will use a professional vacuum cleaner while cutting and how the room will be cleaned of the residual dust.



Do you have the work done by subcontractors?

When a flooring contractor uses subcontractors, it can be difficult or even impossible to verify their competence.

Do you also provide services such as periodic maintenance or refinishing?

Some contractors simply install the floors. However, others also help you with the care of it by offering additional services i.e. refinishing, periodic maintenance. This will allow you to enjoy your Barlinek flooring longer.

How will you monitor and check relative humidity, substrate moisture and temperature during installation?

It is important that the floor installer monitors the temperature and humidity during installation.

What does the installation price include?

Make sure what exactly you will pay the installer for and what is included in the price. Does the price include the installation alone, or is it inclusive of the labour and purchase of additional materials?



Questions:

1. How long will it take to install Barlinek flooring and when can I start walking on my new floor?
2. How to prepare before the floor installation?
3. How does relative air humidity affect wood flooring? How to control relative air humidity at the installation site of Barlinek flooring?
4. Delivery and storage of wood flooring before installation – what other conditions should I meet?
5. How long does it take for a wooden floor to acclimatise and adapt to the temperature and humidity at the installation site?
6. How does the increased moisture of a board affect wood flooring – is it not the same as 3?
7. What if there is a humidity imbalance between the floor and the surroundings?
8. What should be the relative humidity in my home?

How to properly care for a hardwood floor for lasting beauty and long life?



How long will it take to install Barlinek flooring and when can I start walking on my new floor?

THE TIME TAKEN TO INSTALL A BARLINEK WOOD FLOORING DEPENDS ON:

- the size of the rooms where the floor will be installed
- installation type:
 - the fastest way to install the boards is floating installation and by stapling them to a wood-based panel;
 - a more time-consuming method is gluing the boards to the substrate;
- specialist and time-consuming installation work, such as bonding the boards to ceramic or stone tiles or fitting boards on stairs;
- the substrate on which the boards will be installed. Often, during renovation work, the flooring installers have to repair the subfloor by making a new screed, sanding out irregularities or reinforcing the screed;
- type of floor being installed Installation of standard floor patterns is faster and it will take more to install a classic herringbone.

Before installation, the boards should be acclimatised in the room for 48 hours. Barlinek laminate wooden floors are factory finished with lacquer or natural oil. Oiled floors should be additionally treated with care oil, which is quick and easy. After installing the skirting boards, you can use your new floor right away!



How to prepare a room for wood flooring installation?

ALL WET WORKS SUCH AS PLASTERING, WALL AND CEILING FILLING MUST ALREADY BE FINISHED AT THE ROOM OF THE FLOORING INSTALLATION.

To install a floor, all furniture, appliances and items on the floor have to be removed from the room. We recommend that you make an appointment with a flooring contractor to view the installation site and agree on what has to be done before the installation. The installer will also be able to accurately determine the quality of the substrate, the scope and cost of the work to be done. You should also agree with the installer where to and at what price the old floor and all waste from the installation of the new will be removed.



How does relative air humidity affect wood flooring? How to control relative air humidity at the installation site of Barlinek flooring?

WOODEN FLOORING IS HYGROSCOPIC. MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE FLOOR INCREASES WITH THE RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF THE AIR IN THE ROOM.

This is given away when the air humidity drops. Humidity fluctuations cause minimal dimensional changes in the laminate flooring boards. During the heating season, gaps may appear between the boards and they will disappear after the heating is off.

REMEMBER!

- before floor installation, all wet work such as plastering, wall and ceiling filling and painting should be completed and the surfaces should be dry;
- acclimatisation for 48 hours at the installation site, in factory sealed packaging, is required;
- when the relative humidity is too high or low, use a dehumidifier or humidifier or air conditioning systems as appropriate.



Delivery and storage of wooden flooring before installation

THE FLOORING HAS TO BE DELIVERED IN FACTORY SEALED PACKAGES.

The temperature should be between +18°C and +24°C (+64.4°F and +75.2°F) and the relative humidity between 45 and 65%. The flooring at the installation site has to be acclimatised for 48 hours. During acclimatisation, the board packages should be stored on a level surface. .



How long does it take for a wooden floor to acclimatise and adapt to the temperature and humidity at the installation site?

FLOOR ACCLIMATISATION IS ESSENTIAL AND MUST BE CONSIDERED AS A NECESSARY STEP DURING THE INSTALLATION.

The acclimatisation place should have the same conditions as will prevail during the use of the floor. The temperature should be between +18°C and +24°C (+64.4°F and +75.2°F) and the relative humidity between 45 and 65%. Adaptation of wood to the conditions in a particular place is important so that, after installation, the floor is not distorted due to changes in the dimensions of individual elements caused by temperature and humidity variations. The acclimatisation period for Barlinek laminate flooring should be 48 hours at the installation site, in factory sealed packaging. The acclimatisation time for laminate flooring is shorter compared to solid floors for which it takes up to 7 days to acclimatise.



How does increased moisture in a board affect the wooden flooring

WOOD IS A HYGROSCOPIC MATERIAL, I.E. THE ONE THAT ABSORBS AND RELEASES MOISTURE.

This has obvious advantages since a wooden floor can influence the microclimate indoors. However, you should remember that changing the moisture content of wood involves swelling or shrinking. Low air humidity also causes a decrease in the wood moisture content and leads to shrinking and formation of cracks. The lighter the floor, the more visible this effect is.

Increased air humidity leads in turn to swelling of the wood – the floor then changes its size, individual boards grow bigger. In the 45-60% humidity range, these variations are insignificant. It is different at humidity levels above 70%. The floor used in such conditions may actually change its appearance. The swollen boards, pushing one against another, can cause a slight lifting of the edges which will abrade faster. Also, if you leave the expansion gaps too small, the floor can buckle against the walls and rise up.

Remember to control humidity in your home – use humidifiers in the winter when the air is dry. During humid summer months, try not to add extra moisture to the air – do not open windows immediately after or during rain, close bathroom doors after taking a shower, do not hang clothes to dry in places with wooden floors.



What if there is a humidity imbalance between the floor and the surroundings?

IF THIS IS THE CASE, WOOD WILL TEND TO EQUALISE ITS MOISTURE CONTENT, AND THUS INCREASE OR GIVE IT AWAY.

This will result in the shrinkage or swelling. In case of shrinkage gaps may appear on the floor and, when swelling, the edges of the boards may rise. To prevent this, you need to follow a few rules:

- install the floor on a dry subfloor;
- control microclimatic conditions;
- do not store the flooring in damp places before installation;
- if you have underfloor heating, do not increase the temperature on the floor surface above 29°C.

The major cause of most issues in wooden floors is dampness, so do not install a wooden floor in such areas, e.g. bathrooms. Use appropriate mops that do not leave wet spots.

Flooding can do the most damage, make sure your plumbing is tight and properly done before installation.



What should be the relative humidity in my home? Same thing again?

THE OPTIMUM CONDITIONS FOR THE USE OF WOODEN FLOORS ARE:

RH 45-60% and temp. 18°C to +24°C (+64.4°F to +75.2°F). Remember that keeping the humidity at a right level is important first of all for us humans - the best microclimatic conditions for humans are also best for wooden flooring. Barlinek boards are laminate flooring products, so are more stable than solid floors, and thus much less responsive to changes in humidity and air temperature. It is the safest solution when it comes to wooden floors.



How do you properly care for your hardwood floor to ensure lasting beauty and durability?

BARLINEK BOARDS ARE EASY TO MAINTAIN, BUT KEEP A FEW THINGS IN MIND:

- remove sand from the floor regularly by sweeping or vacuuming;
- do not leave wet spots when cleaning the floor;
- use protective pads under furniture and chairs;
- if you have a big dog, remember to trim its claws when they start tapping on the floor.

It is normal for wood to change colour when exposed to sunlight – if you want to reduce this effect, close your curtains or blinds when the sun is at its highest. Remember that a covered floor will be different from the uncovered surface after some time, so consider whether you need a carpet, for example.

Remember that the way your floor will look over the years depends on how you take care of it.



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