

# TORLYS Artisan Premier INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## DEAR CUSTOMER,

You have purchased a high quality TORLYS Artisan Premier Floor, well suited for all residential rooms.\* Please take a moment to review the installation instructions and plan your installation carefully.

## SET UP

To ensure you have sufficient material on hand, calculate the total area of the room and add 5% of material to allow for custom cutting. Twenty-four hours prior to installation, place the closed packages in the middle of the room, NEVER against a wall or in a corner. Do not open the packages until you are ready to begin installation. Inspect each plank before installation. If you find any defects, do not use the plank. Contact your supplier immediately.

**Please Note: The TORLYS Warranty does not cover labour for installation of planks with visible defects.**

### IMPORTANT

Hardwood is a natural material and therefore no two planks are alike...this adds to its beauty. **Some variation in grain, colour and shade, as well as knots and mineral streaks, should be expected.** Always work from several boxes at the same time and shuffle planks for the best appearance.

### ATTN: INSTALLERS – CAUTION: WOOD DUST

Sawing, sanding and machining wood products can produce wood dust. Airborne wood dust can cause respiratory, skin and eye irritation. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has classified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen in humans.

**Precautionary Measures:** Power tools should be equipped with a dust collector. If high dust levels are encountered use an approved dust mask. Avoid dust contact with skin and eyes.

## PREPARATION

Remove existing carpet, baseboards, quarter-rounds and thresholds and undercut door jambs, using a piece of flooring material as a guide. Repair all defects in the sub-floor. Additional expansion and contraction can be achieved by undercutting drywall.

## CHECK THAT:

- The doors can still open and close after installing the floor.
- Doors may have to be cut to supply sufficient clearance.
- The door jambs may need to be adapted to install the floor under them.
- For aesthetic appearance we suggest that you dry lay the material across the width of the room to ensure that the pieces of the last row are no less than 2" (5cm) wide.

## SUBFLOORS

Repair any defects in the subfloor. Installation over an uneven subfloor will cause premature damage to floor and make the floor feel unstable. All subfloors must be clean, firm, flat (within 3/16" – 4.8mm in 10ft – 3m), dry (less than 3% moisture on concrete, 10% or less on plywood) and smooth. You can lay the planks over any solid and stable subfloor material, including plywood, chipboard, old non-creaking flooring boards, hardwood flooring, concrete slabs, PVC or most ceramic tile (avoid heavily embossed tile). It is essential that the crawl space under wood subfloors is sufficiently ventilated. Remove any obstacles and provide sufficient ventilation.

A 6-mil/0.15mm poly vapour barrier must be installed on crawl space floor. A freshly poured concrete slab must dry for at least 1 week per centimetre thickness, up to 4cm (1-5/8"), and 2 weeks per centimetre thickness above 4cm, with sufficient ventilation. A 6-centimetre (2-7/16") concrete slab must therefore dry out for a minimum of 8 weeks.

## LAYOUT

The floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time, shuffling planks to insure colour and shade mix. If possible, lay the planks parallel to the source of light. The ideal environment is a temperature of 60°F - 70°F (16°C - 21°C) and relative humidity of 40 - 60%.

### IMPORTANT

Some species of wood are sensitive to light. It is natural for their colour to darken or soften over time.

The floor will be stronger and more stable if the joints are staggered at least 8" (20cm) in each row. Staggered or irregular joints result in less waste and enhance the overall appearance of the floor. Do not stair step the flooring across the room. Expansion wedges must be used on all walls to allow for proper expansion/contraction space. The wedges should be removed after the flooring installation has been completed, and the expansion/contraction space should be covered by baseboard, quarter round and/or drywall.

### NOTE

Never hit the planks directly with your hammer or rubber mallet. Always use a **TORLYS Tapping Block** to protect the edges of the planks. Make sure the Tapping Block is in good condition. Hold Tapping Block down when using it.

## TOOLS

- Hammer (1 lb.)
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- 3/8" (10mm) Wedges\*
- Tapping Block\*
- Last-Board Puller \*
- Saw



\*Note: available in a TORLYS Installation Kit

\*\*OPTIONAL for ease of installation and repairs use TORLYS Bulldog.

When sawing pieces off the planks, use a fine-toothed hand saw, jigsaw, chopsaw or guillotine.

## FLOATING METHOD

Prepare the subfloor. TORLYS Artisan Premier has a built-in cork backing and therefore no additional underlayment is required. When installing TORLYS Artisan Premier first cover the sub-floor with 6mil (0.15mm) poly, overlap edges by 12" (30cm), damp-proof tape the seams and run up 4" (10cm) on each wall. The use of 6mil poly is recommended for all installations (over wood or concrete sub-floors), in case a repair is needed, the poly will make it easier to disassemble the floor.

## DO NOT USE GLUE

## PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE.

To ensure the full benefit of your TORLYS Artisan Premier floor and to extend its beauty for years to come, we recommend the following preventative maintenance suggestions:

- **Install floor protectors** on furniture legs to protect against scratches and dents. These furniture pads should have no wrinkles and be made of soft, non-staining material (e.g. felt pads).
- **DO NOT DRAG FURNITURE** or other heavy objects on the floor. Avoid high heels or shoes that need repair. Some types of high heel shoes can severely damage the surface of any floor covering. For minor scratch repairs, a touch-up kit is available at your TORLYS Dealer. For damages that require plank replacement, a tool, the TORLYS Bulldog, is also available through your dealer.
- **Sweep and vacuum floor regularly.** Use TORLYS Maintenance Kit with dust mop.
- **Avoid sand and grit build up.**

Use protective mats or rugs at doorways and areas of heavy wear. For dry maintenance, use a dust mop, vacuum cleaner or dry cloth. For damp maintenance, use the **TORLYS Cleaning Kit**, available from your Authorized Dealer, and follow the maintenance instructions on the container.

**IMPORTANT**

To keep your warranty valid, use TORLYS recommended maintenance products and follow TORLYS maintenance instructions.

**Maintain the humidity level at 40-60%.**

Certain regions within North America have extreme changes in humidity levels, which may affect all natural floors. To maintain humidity within a healthy range, a humidifier or dehumidifier may be required.

Gapping can occur in natural floors with seasonal fluctuations and when in extremely dry conditions (Low R.H.). Wood that is too dry may “crack” or “check”, and gaps between planks may occur. Wood that is too damp will “cup” or “crown”.

Never wet mop your TORLYS Artisan Premier Floor. Never wax or use oil-based products on your TORLYS Artisan Premier Floor.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

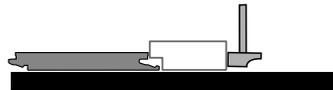
**1) GENERAL**

TORLYS Uniclic Hardwood is a revolutionary system for installing floating floors without glue. Instead, it uses an ingenious tongue and groove system to “click” the planks together.

**IMPORTANT**

Use a hammer and the special TORLYS Tapping Block. Never use any other tapping block, as it may damage the planks.

Use a TORLYS “Last-Board Puller” to pull exposed joints tight, where a tapping block and hammer will not fit. For a short edge, use several small taps until the planks click together completely.



For a long edge, and if you cannot angle-click the planks (e.g. when installing final row) tap planks together gradually. Begin tapping lightly at the corner of a plank until the joint has clicked together. Repeat the process approximately every 12” (30cm) until the entire long edge of the plank has clicked in with the next plank.

Never attempt to knock the joint into place with one hit.

For the best results, follow the installation instructions and use only:

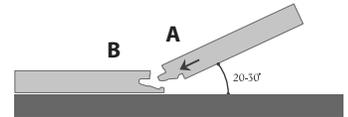
- A) TORLYS INSTALLATION KIT (Wedges, TORLYS tapping block and last-board puller)
- B) TORLYS MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS (Dust Mop, TORLYS Natural Glow (PH Neutral) Cleaner)
- C) 6 MIL POLY VAPOUR BARRIER UNDER ALL FLOORS

\*TORLYS Artisan Premier is not suitable for use in damp areas such as BATHROOMS AND SAUNAS.

**2) CORRECT INSTALLATION**

Wood is the primary component of your TORLYS Artisan Premier flooring. Since the humidity of a room can vary from one season to the next, the floor must be able to expand and contract in ALL directions. A minimum of 3/8” (10mm) expansion/contraction gap (or minimum thickness of floor) must be provided at all walls, around pipes and at thresholds.

These gaps may be covered by a moulding that is not fixed to the hardwood floor, but to the wall. Install the planks in the same direction as the longest wall, or the same direction in which the light falls, for a more appealing look. Begin installing the floor from the left corner of the room. Always remember that the easiest way to install the floor is by placing the tongue (A) into the groove (B).



**TRANSITION MOLDINGS**

Installation can not exceed 30’ (10 meters) in any direction without installing a Transition Moulding (e.g. T-Moulding). Transition Mouldings are also required in doorways. For best visual match select planks of flooring, for colour and grain, and set aside to install against mouldings.

**3) THE FIRST ROWS**

Saw off the tongue of the first plank, both on the short as well as the long edge. For all other first-row planks cut off the tongue on the long edge (Photo I). Orient the first plank in the left corner of the room. Maintain a minimum spacing of 3/8” (10mm), using wedges. Lay the planks with the tongue side (I) facing the wall in order to use the tongue/groove system. Lay the first row along the wall (note that an expansion/contraction area of minimum 3/8” (10mm) must be provided at the wall, as well as at all columns, heating pipes, doorframes, etc.)



**IMPORTANT**

This is a multi-length product. Shuffle the various lengths of boards through your installation to create a visually appealing look.



**IMPORTANT**

Turn the plank inclined with the end joint into the already laid plank. Click the two together. Ensure that the planks of the first row are straight (II).



The cut piece from the first row becomes the starting piece for another row. Install the cut edge facing the wall, with the expansion wedge in place. Now angle this piece and click it into the first plank of the first row. The cut pieces should be a minimum of 8” (20cm) in length (III). Continue the second row with a full piece, placing the tongue of the long side into the groove of first row piece (IV). Move the end joints together until they are approximately 1/4” (6mm) apart. Click the plank lengthwise into place. For the short edge, use the tapping block and a number of smaller taps until the planks click into place completely.



Do not attempt to knock the joint into place with one hit. Continue this method for each plank, covering the entire width of the room.

PLEASE NOTE that the stagger between the head joints should be 8” (20cm) minimum, and preferably 12” (30cm). Cut the last planks of each row leaving a minimum 3/8” (10mm) gap to the wall.

#### **4) THE FINAL ROW**

Measure and cut the planks of the final row so that there is a minimum 3/8" (10mm) expansion/contraction space between the final row and the wall. These planks will be tapped into the last row using the Last-board Puller and hammer. Knock short edges together using TORLYS Tapping Block.

#### **5) UNDER DOOR FRAMES**

Saw the planks so that after installation there is a minimum 3/8" (10mm) expansion/contraction gap. This expansion/contraction gap can be covered by undercutting the door jamb. If you cannot rotate this plank, use the TORLYS Tapping Block and hammer to tap the planks together.

TORLYS has designed a special tool for this type of installation: the TORLYS Bulldog.

#### **6) COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION**

After installing your floor, you can immediately walk on it and begin the final touches. This is one of the major benefits of the glueless system. Remove all spacer blocks and install baseboards and/or quarter-rounds. Never attach the baseboard to the floor itself.

You need to allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the baseboard. If a vapor barrier has been used, attach the baseboard through the plastic membrane sticking up from the floor, using finishing nails. Finish around the pipes with rosettes or silicone seal.

Where no mouldings or baseboards can be installed, or where undercutting is not an option, fill the expansion/contraction gap with silicone seal.

#### **7) RADIANT HEAT APPLICATION**

TORLYS Artisan Premier flooring can be installed over radiant-heated subfloors. Follow the instructions of the manufacturer of the heating system carefully and make sure that the temperature at the surface of the subfloor does not exceed 80°F (27°C).

Please contact TORLYS for detailed information.

**[www.torlys.com](http://www.torlys.com)**

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