Please read the following information and instructions in their entirety before proceeding with installation.

- To ensure the full benefit of warranties, these instructions and maintenance procedures must be followed.
- Subfloors must be dry, level and clean.
- Both room and flooring must be properly acclimated to temperature and humidity conditions.
- Do not open flooring packages until you are ready to begin installation.
- This flooring is a natural wood product on a solid polymer core, which has natural variations in color, texture, and sheen/gloss. Work out of several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix. We cannot warrant against color variations within a floor nor variations between samples and the installed floor.
- When properly installed in accordance with manufacturer published installation instructions, this product will not cup, crack or swell due to exposure to water from topical spills or moisture from the sub-floor when exposed to such conditions. This product is not designed to withstand submersion from standing water or flooding.

**Installor/Owner Responsibility**

- When flooring is ordered, 5% must be added to the actual square footage needed for cutting and grading allowance.
- The installer assumes all responsibility for final inspection of product quality. This inspection of all flooring should be done before installation. Carefully examine flooring for color, manufacturing, factory finish and quality before installing it. The installer must use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with defects, whatever the cause. If material is not acceptable, do not install it and contact the seller immediately.
- Prior to installation of any hardwood-flooring product, the installer must determine that the job-site environment and the subfloors involved meet or exceed all applicable standards and recommendations of the construction and materials industries. These instructions recommend that the construction and subfloor be dry, stiff, and flat. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with sub-surface or job-site environmental deficiencies.

**NOTE**: Waterproof wood flooring may be installed with a direct glue-down method on approved wooden/concrete substrates on or above ground only. For below grade installations, use the floating installation method. **DO NOT** install waterproof wood flooring as a floating floor where it will be exposed to temperatures greater than 140°F. In areas where the floor may be exposed to direct, intense sunlight resulting in excessive heat to the floor, use the full spread glue down method. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods, doing so may result in discoloration. During peak sunlight hours, the use of drapes or blinds is recommended.

**CAUTION: WOOD DUST**

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

**Precautionary Measures**: If power tools are used, they should be equipped with a dust collector. If high dust levels are encountered, use an appropriate NIOSH-designated dust mask. Avoid dust contact with eye and skin. **First Aid Measures in case of Irritation**: In case of irritation, flush eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes.
WATERPROOF WOOD FLOORING

It is the installer/owner's responsibility to ensure that the jobsite conditions and jobsite subfloor are environmentally and structurally acceptable prior to the installation of any hardwood flooring. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for failures or deficiencies of hardwood flooring resulting from, or related to, sub-floor, sub-surface, or job-site environmental conditions. All substrates must be clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound.

- Flooring should be one of the last items installed in any new construction or remodel project.
- Install flooring after cabinets have been installed to prevent damage to the flooring.
- Room temperature and humidity of installation areas should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least one week before installation of flooring. Maintaining an optimum yearly room temperature of 70°F and a humidity range of 35-55% is recommended.

WOOD SUBFLOORS
- Do not install material over wood subfloors that lay directly on concrete or over dimensional lumber or plywood used over concrete. Refer to ASTM F1482 for panel underlayment recommendations.
- Do not apply sheet plastic over wood subfloors.
- Basements and crawl spaces must be dry. Use of a 6 mil black polyethylene is required to cover 100% of the crawl space earth. Crawl space clearance form ground to underside of joist is to be no less than 18” and perimeter vent spacing should be equal to 1.5” of the total square footage of the crawl space area to provide cross ventilation. Where necessary, local regulations prevail.
- All other subfloors – Plywood, OSB, particleboard, chipboard, wafer board, etc. must be structurally sound and must be installed following their manufacturer’s recommendations. Local building codes may only establish minimum requirements of the flooring system and may not provide adequate rigidity and support for proper installation and performance. If needed add an additional layer of APA rated underlayment, fasten and secure according to the underlayment manufacturer's recommendations.
- Resilient flooring is not recommended directly over fire-retardant treated plywood or preservative treated plywood. An additional layer of APA rated ¼” thick underlayment should be installed.

CONCRETE SUBFLOORS
- Floors shall be smooth, permanently dry, clean, and free from all foreign material such as dust, wax, solvents, paint, grease, oils, and old adhesive residue. The surface must be hard and dense, and free from powder or flaking.
- New concrete slabs must be dry. Maximum moisture level per CACI test method is 5 lbs. per 1000 in 24 hr. Maximum level for ASTM 270 In-situ Relative humidity test method – 85%.
- Do not install over concrete with a history of high moisture or hydrostatic conditions.
- PH level of concrete should be between 7 and 10.
- The final responsibility for determining if the concrete is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the floor covering installer.

NOTE: All subfloors must be flat to within 3/16” in 10’ or 1/8” in 6’. Larger Rooms require additional expansion space. Add 1/16” to the width of the expansion space for every 3’ the room exceeds beyond 25’.

RADIANT HEAT
- Waterproof wood flooring can be installed over radiant heat using either the floating or glue down method. When gluing the floor, use only approved adhesive over manufacturer's recommended substrate. Radiant heat systems must have a minimum of ½” separation form the product. Use of an in floor temperature sensor is recommended to avoid overheating.
- Turn the heat off for 24 hours before, during and 24 hours after installation when installing over radiant heated subfloors.
- Failure to turn the heat off may result in significantly shortened working time of the adhesive.
- Floor temperature must not exceed 85°F (30°C).
- Once the installation has been completed, the heating system should be turned on and increased gradually (5 degree increments) until returning to normal operating conditions.
- Failure to strictly follow adhesive manufacturer's guidelines may result in failure and void the warranty.

WARNING: Electric heating mats that are not embedded into the subfloor are not recommended for use under waterproof wood flooring.

EXISTING FLOOR COVERINGS
- Waterproof wood flooring can be installed over most existing hard-surface floor coverings (including ceramic tile) provided that the existing floor surface is clean, flat, dry, and structurally sound.
- Existing sheet vinyl floors should not be heavily cushioned and not exceed more than one layer in thickness.
- Installation is NOT allowed over any type of carpet.
- DO NOT install over wood subfloor or wood floors adhered to concrete or ceramic tile.
- Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor may affect the new floor covering.

STARTING YOUR INSTALLATION
- Because houses and buildings, as well as adjacent hardwood or laminate floors, expand and contract, the manufacturer recommends leaving a ¼” expansion gap between the perimeter walls and any adjacent hardwood floor.
- For floating installations an underlayment is generally not required. However, if you prefer an even quieter installation you can include an underlayment approved for resilient products.

WARNING! DO NOT SAND, DRY SWEEP, DRY SCRAPE, DRILL, SAW, BEADBLAST OR MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC “CUTBACK” ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.

These products may contain either asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm. Unless positively certain that the product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be test to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor covering Institute (RFCI) publication Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor coverings for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures. For current information go to www.rfci.com.

These installation guidelines apply to the waterproof wood flooring product. All instructions and recommendations should be followed for a successful installation.

- Waterproof wood flooring is an interior product and must be stored/installed in a temperature-controlled interior environment, maintained between 55° and 85°F or 13° and 29°C.
- Excessive moisture in the subfloor could promote mold, mildew, and other moisture related issues that will contribute to an unhealthy indoor environment. The manufacturer is not responsible for damages related to these moisture issues. The manufacturer recommends a 6 mil polyfilm when installing over concrete subfloors.
- Flexible silicone caulking should be used around the perimeter of the installation in areas being exposed to excessive topical moisture.
- Flooring should be installed after all other trades have completed work that could damage the flooring.
- Use cementitious patching and leveling compounds that meet or exceed maximum moisture level and pH requirements. Use of gypsum-based patching and/or leveling compounds, which contain Portland or high alumina cement and meet or exceed the compressive strength of 3,000 psi are acceptable.
- Inspect all planks for damage prior to installation. Claim/Returns will not be accepted for any flooring that has been cut to size and/or installed.
**Tools Required**

- Circular saw or jigsaw
- Safety glasses
- Utility knife
- T-square
- Tape measure
- Flat pull bar
- Tapping block or rubber mallet
- 1/4” spacer wedges

**NOTE:** Check groove on each plank to make sure it is free of debris.

1. Before you start with the installation, it is important to determine the layout of the flooring. Proper planning and layout will prevent having narrow plank widths at wall junctures or very short pieces at the end of rows.
2. As with all plank products, install planks parallel to the longest exterior wall.
3. Determine if the starter row will need to be cut. If the first row of planks does not need to be trimmed in width, it will be necessary to cut off the unsupported tongue so that a clean, solid edge shows towards the wall.
4. Installation of the product must start from the left side of the room, working to the right when working in front of the planks or facing the starting wall. Use spacers along the walls to maintain proper expansion space (5/16”) and align the first plank.
5. Install the second plank in the row by aligning and dropping the end tongue over the end groove of the first plank. Apply light pressure to join the two planks together.
6. If needed use a rubber mallet to fully engage the short side of the plank by lightly tapping the plank to engage and sit flush with adjacent plank. Maintain an expansion gap of approximately 5/16” from the wall. Repeat this process to complete the first row.
7. Start the second row by cutting a plank to the desired length. The plank must not be shorter than 6” (15cm) to achieve the best appearance.
8. Install the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tongue into the groove of the plank in the first row. This is best done with a low angle of the plank. Maintain light pressure into the side seam as you rotate the plank to the subfloor. Repeat the process with additional planks to complete each row. Very little force is required to seat the tongue into the groove. You should feel the tongue lock into the groove.
9. It is critical to keep the first two rows straight and square, as they are the “foundation” for the rest of the installation. Check for squareness and straightness often.
10. Continue installing planks and make sure to achieve a random appearance with end pieces of minimum 6” – 15cm. Check that all planks are fully engaged; if a slight gapping is found, the gap can be tapped together by using a tapping block and a scrap of flooring to cover the tapping block in order to avoid damages on the planks.
11. To fully engage the short end, apply light pressure and press down to engage the end joint. If the end is raised use a non-marking rubber mallet to lightly tap the end (tongue side) about 1” from the seam. DO NOT tap directly on the seam.
12. A flat pull bar may be used to assist in locking planks under door casings.
13. When flitting around obstacles or in irregular spaces, planks can be easily and cleanly be cut using a utility knife with a sharp blade. It is often beneficial to make a cardboard template of the area and transfer the pattern to the plank.
14. Protect all exposed edges of the flooring by installing wall molding and/or transition strips. Make sure that no plank will be secured in any way to the sub floor.
15. For wet areas, such as bathrooms, caulk the perimeter of the floor with a silicone caulk.
16. Protect the finished flooring from exposure to direct sunlight to reduce fading and thermal expansion.

**Completing the Job**

- Sweep or vacuum floor.
- Clean the floor with proper hardwood floor cleaner.
- Install transition pieces, i.e.-thresholds, t-moldings, base boards and quarter round. Nail moldings to the wall, not the floor.
- Inspect final floor for nicks and/or minor gaps – fill with appropriate color wood putty.
- Unused material should be left with owner and stored in a dry place in case future repairs are needed.
- Use plywood or hardboard when moving heavy appliances or furniture across floor.

**FLOOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

Remember, like any floor covering, our factory finished wood floors will shows signs of wear over time, depending on the size and lifestyle of your family. By observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine and maintenance program, you can expect your floors to be beautiful in the years to come.

The following are examples of the reasonable and necessary maintenance you are expected to perform. They are not intended to be an exclusive list.

- Sweep or vacuum regularly since built-up grit can damage the surface of the wood. The vacuum head must be a brush or felt type. Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish. Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar head.
- Remove spills promptly using a soft cloth and cleaning products recommended by the manufacturer.
- Mist a neutral pH hardwood floor cleaner to damp-mop your floor. Do not use hardwood floor cleaning machines or steam cleaners as this can severely damage the flooring and will void the warranties.
- Always sweep or vacuum the floors prior to using wood floor cleaners. Do not allow excess cleaner to remain on the floors as this may permanently damage the wood fiber.
- Important: Do not use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax products or other household cleaners than contain citrus oils, lemon oil, Tung oil, silicon, or ammonia since these warranties do not cover damage caused by non-recommended products. Use of these and other such products will harm the long-term performance of your floor and may also affect its recoat ability.
- Do not use 2 n 1 cleaners with polish that may contain acrylics or urethane polish to restore gloss – the use of the products will void the finish warranty and may product unsatisfactory results when not applied properly.
- Keep pets’ nails trimmed, and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
- Place protective felt pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents. Replace pads as needed.
- Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects, furniture, or appliances.
- Make certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1” wide vinyl surface where it comes in contact with wood recommended). Clean wheels periodically to remove dirt and debris.
- Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on floor.
- Exposure to the sun and UV rays accelerate the oxidation and aging of the wood. This can cause the stain and/or wood to fade and/or change color. We recommend that you rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. Exotic species such as Brazilian Cherry are more susceptible to color change during the aging process. These warranties do not cover damage from the sun and UV rays.
- Use area rugs in high traffic areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, etc.), especially if you have a large family or indoor pets.
- Maintain the proper relative humidity in your home between 35% and 55%. The use of a humidifier during heating season may help reduce shrinkage of the wood due to low humidity.
This Limited Residential Flooring Warranty is provided to the original residential consumer purchaser of Seal Wood Floor and begins when the floor is paid for in full as supported by an original invoice from an authorized Seal Wood dealer. This warranty is limited in accordance with the Seal Wood installation guidelines and maintained in accordance with the Seal Wood Care and Maintenance Guidelines found in the carton or contact a Seal Wood dealer.

LIMITED WARRANTIES
Claims for defective product made prior to installation will be replaced with like product upon return of the uninstalled material in full cartons. If like product is not available, cost of material will be reimbursed when the uninstalled material is returned or substitute alternate product of an equal or greater value. Within one year of installation, claims for defective product will be repaired or replaced, at the sole discretion of the manufacturer, along with reasonable labor costs if the floor is professionally installed. (There is no labor cost reimbursement for owner or D-I-Y installation).

Material to repair the affected area will be credited at the original cost of the material. After one year, the percent of reasonable labor cost will be reimbursed at a declining rate of 10% per year until no labor cost will be reimbursed in the eleventh year and thereafter. These limited warranties apply to you only if: (1) are the original residential consumer purchaser; (2) have paid in full for your hardwood floor; and (3) have purchased the floor for your own personal residential use and not for resale. These warranties ARE NOT transferable or assignable and they DO NOT apply to non-residential, rental or commercial installations.

LIMITED LIFETIME STRUCTURAL WARRANTY
Seal Wood is manufactured according to ANSI/NWFA EF 2019 standards (The Standard) and therefore warrants that its first quality hardwood floors, in their manufactured condition, to be free from manufactured or grading defects as defined under the Standard, which allows for 5% off-spec material. The manufacturer additionally warrants that Seal Wood will not delaminate when properly installed and maintained in accordance with the Seal Wood installation and maintenance guidelines. In the event that the wood top layer delaminates from the core a repair or replacement will be preformed, in its sole option, the affected plank or planks.

LIMITED LIFETIME FINISH WARRANTY FOR RESIDENTIAL WEAR
Our factory applied finish makes installation fast and easy and provides years of wear in normal residential situations providing the Seal Wood Care and Maintenance Guidelines are strictly followed. Seal Wood warrants that under normal residential use its finish will not peel off the hardwood floor or wear through during the warranty period. In the event the finish peels off or wears through Seal Wood will, at its sole option, either: (1) replace the affected boards; or (2) recoat the affected area. NOTE that this warranty applies only to areas that exceed more than 10% of the surface area of the installed floor. NOTE that gloss reduction, scratches and dents are not considered defects and are not covered by this warranty.

LIMITED WATERPROOF WARRANTY
Seal Wood warrants that for the stated warranty period from the original date of purchase that its Hardwood Floors will not swell, cup, or crack due to normal cleaning practices including wet mopping with approved cleaning systems,* moisture due to everyday household spills, and 33 moisture from the subfloor when exposed to those conditions.

*Approved wet mopping systems: Swiffer Wet Jet Wood maintenance cleaning systems,* moisture due to everyday household spills, and due to; normal cleaning practices including wet mopping with approved" product determined to have defects should be returned in full cartons to the Dealer prior to installation for a full refund. All product quality questions should be addressed before installation. Obvious product defects are accepted once the product has been installed. Product problems that arise after installation should be addressed in writing to the Dealer from which the floor was purchased. Include a copy of the proof of purchase or invoice. Descriptions and photos of the problem are very helpful in achieving a timely resolution. If possible supply a photo of the carton label with bar code. All decisions regarding your warranty and warranty solutions must come from Seal Wood. No other party is authorized to render a decision. You must give Seal Wood and its agents a reasonable opportunity to fix your floor in accordance with this warranty.

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS
Wood is a natural product containing natural variations in color, tone, and graining. Seal Wood cannot warrant against natural variations in color or any other variations, such as mineral streaks, small knots and grain variations from plank to plank. Nor can we warrant against natural variations or gloss levels between samples/models and installed flooring. Any sample or model shown or used by your seller is for demonstrative purposes only, and such sample DOES NOT create a warranty of any kind that the goods you purchased shall conform to. Any such warranties based on any such sample or models are specifically disclaimed.

1. Any damage to surrounding structure such as walls, subfloors, furniture, underlayment, moldings, trim, subfloor heating elements, or anything that is not the flooring product itself.
2. Damage from mold or mildew growth.
3. Flooring that is installed outside or in environments exposed to extreme variations in temperature.
4. This Lifetime Limited Warranty excludes all casualty events involving water exposure normally covered by Homeowner’s Insurance.
5. Improper installation.
6. Improper care and maintenance.
7. Cabinets or other built-in appliances that are installed on top of a Seal Wood Hardwood Floor. Seal Wood Floors should be installed after such items and after painting and interior finishes have been completed.
8. Seasonal surface checking is inherent in all wood products over time and is not covered.
9. Recoating or Finish Alteration will void the finish warranty.
10. Natural Sunlight will cause aging and color change in all wood including your Seal Wood Floor.

WARRANTY PROCESS

SEALED WOOD'S CURRATIVE ACTIONS/REMEDIES
THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EACH LIMITED WARRANTY ARE THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE FOR THESE WARRANTIES. IF YOU ARE FOUND TO BE ENTITLED TO COVERAGE UNDER ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IN ADDITION TO THOSE SPECIFICALLY LISTED ABOVE, AND YOU CAN PROVE THAT SEAL WOOD BREACHED SUCH WARRANTY, THEN YOUR SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY PROVEN BREACH IS EITHER (AT THE OPTION OF SEAL WOOD): (1) REPAIR THE DEFECTIVE PLANKS; (2) REPLACEMENT OF THE DEFECTIVE PLANKS. IF THE REMEDY THAT SEAL WOOD INITIALLY SELCTS IS FOUND TO FAIL IN IT ESSENTIAL PURPOSE, THEN ANY FURTHER REMEDY TO WHICH YOU MAY BE ENTITLED IS SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY LIMITED TO ONE OF THE REMAINING REMEDIES (OF THE TWO OPTIONS, DESCRIBED ABOVE IN THE LIMITED WARRANTIES), WHICH SHALL BE CHOSEN BY SEAL WOOD.

WARRANTY DISCLAIMER
ANY WARRANTIES ARISING OUT OF THIS SALE IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE LIMITED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES FOR MERCHANDISABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE LIMITED WARRANTY FOR RESIDENTIAL FINISH WEAR DESCRIBED ABOVE. THE REMEDIES AS DESCRIBED IN THESE WARRANTIES ARE THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR ANY BREACH By SEAL WOOD OF THE EXPRESSED AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARISING FROM THIS SALE. THESE WARRANTIES EXCLUDE CONSEQUENTIAL AND INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO REMOVAL OR DAMAGE TO MOLDINGS, CABINETS, BUILT-IN APPLIANCES, CARPETING, DRYWALL, WALLPAPER, PAINT, AND ALL RELOCATION COST ASSOCIATED WITH ANY REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THE FLOORING. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON THE AVAILABLE REMEDIES, OR THE LENGTH OF AN IMPLIED WARRANTY OR THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THESE WARRANTIES GIVE YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS, AND YOU MAY HAVE OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS THAT VARY FROM STATE TO STATE. UNLESS A STATEMENT MADE IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED AS A WARRANTY, ANY OTHER STATEMENTS MADE HEREIN, OR BY YOUR SELLER, ARE NOT WARRANTIES AND IS NOT A PART OF THE BASIS OF THE BARGAIN FOR THE SALE OF THE HARDWOOD FLOOR. ANY AND ALL WARRANTIES, EXCEPT THOSE LIMITED WARRANTIES PROVIDED HEREIN, ARE SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMED AND EXCLUDED.