

WICANDERS WISE

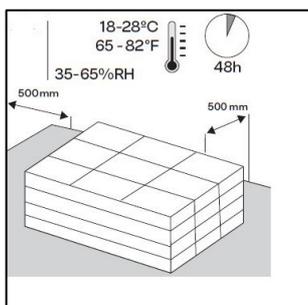
Installation Instructions

HDF and Inspire

Installation Instructions for 2G Wicanders Wise

Cork flooring is a finished product. Care should be taken after the installation by covering 50% of the finished floor/or walkways where other trades may travel with floor protection such as RAM board or builders' paper. Do not entirely cover the finished floor as this may trap moisture between the protective layer and flooring, causing cupping. As per NWFA, flooring should always be the last thing to be installed after all other trades have been completed. *Amorim acknowledges Certified Inspectors by FCITS.org only for professional assistance with proper documentation.*

Transport, storage, and acclimatization: Transport and store packages horizontally. Packaged boards must be acclimatized on site in a dry, well-ventilated area for at least 24 hours to allow the flooring to acclimate. Do not stack more than three packages high and leave a 15 cm (6-inch) gap between stacks. Remove boards from packaging immediately before installation. During storage and installation, maintain the temperature and relative humidity at a level consistent with the conditions that will prevail after the building is occupied. This means keeping the temperature between 18°C and 28°C (65 to 82°F) and the relative humidity between 35% and 65%. To achieve these conditions, use heating, air conditioning, or a humidifier for the appropriate period of time to accomplish these requirements before beginning installation. The use of a dehumidifier may be necessary for installation below grade.



Wicanders Wise shade variation is an inherent and attractive characteristic.

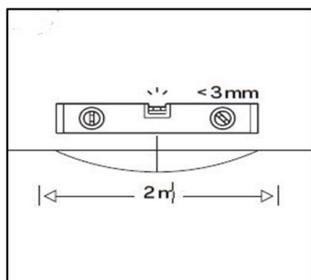
To achieve the most pleasant blend of shades, shuffle the planks before installation, working with three or four cartons at the same time to blend shading.

Site inspection Prior to installation, please inspect the tiles in daylight for any visible faults or damage, and also check if the subfloor and site conditions are in accordance with the specifications described within these instructions. Amorim Cork Flooring cannot be held responsible for claims associated with improper subfloors, improper applications, adhesives, varnishes, and the use of maintenance

Shade variations: Our floors are produced using digital printing technologies, which, although they ensure greater consistency, can result in a uniform appearance if the planks are installed directly from a single box. To ensure a more natural and balanced visual result and a more pleasing shade composition, it is recommended to use three to four boxes simultaneously during installation to obtain a better shade mix.

Subfloor requirements: Please inspect the planks in daylight for any visible faults or damage. Also, check if the subfloor and site conditions are in accordance with the specifications described within these instructions. Wicanders Wise can be installed in all domestic areas and in most commercial areas, except in saunas and permanent wet regions. The subfloor must be level, flat, clean, and in good structural condition, having no vertical movement. The subfloor must be flat within 3mm (3/16") over a distance of 3 linear meters (6 ½ feet). Deviations above this value must be leveled before underlay installation. The content of the concrete substrate must not exceed 2.5% (MC) by weight (or less than ≤75% RH or less than 3 lbs. using the calcium chloride test or In-situ probes). Any moisture problems must be resolved before installation begins. The environmental substrate conditions during and after installation must be ≥18°C (65°F) to 28°C (82°F).

It is highly recommended to use a minimum 6' or 8' level or laser for testing the levelness and flatness of the subfloor or substrate. It is possible to use Wicanders Wise in other areas, like bathrooms or areas where spillages frequently occur. However, a polyurethane sealant must be applied in the expansion joints to prevent the water from penetrating under the installed floor (which can create conditions for the growth of fungus, mold, or smell). Wicanders Wise can be installed on top of most hard surfaces, such as resilient floor coverings and ceramic tiles, provided they are sufficiently fixed, completely level, and have no loose areas. Soft subfloors, such as carpets, must be removed. For Wicanders Wise installation, no underlay is required except over concrete, where a mitigating moisture barrier must be installed.



Underlay: As the Wicanders Wise already has a pre-attached cork underlayment, an additional cork underlay is not required. However, to improve comfort and acoustic performance, as well as for other reasons, the best results can be expected with an underlay that supports the click system during daily use, which can be found at [UNDERLAYMENTS US SEP.pdf \(amorimflooring.com\)](https://www.amorimflooring.com/UNDERLAYMENTS_US_SEP.pdf). Our recommendation for cork subfloors from Amorim brands is: GO4CORK UNIQUE or ACOUSTICORK T23. If installing over concrete, the underlayment must be a Class I or use a mitigating sealer or a 6-mil polyethylene sheet, and it must be applied over the concrete before installing the underlayment. Remember to read the limitations of any underlayment or sealers fully. Amorim is not responsible for the misuse of another manufacturer's product.

If the customer prefers to use other underlays than the ones recommended by us, they must comply with the following technical characteristics:

Property	Description	Minimum requirements	Higher requirements
DL75	Sustained load generated by walking etc.	≥ 10.000 Cycles	≥ 100.000 Cycles
CS	Compressive strenght at a defined compression stress	≥ 200 kPa	≥ 400 kPa
CC	Sustained load generated by furniture etc.	≥ 10 kPa	≥ 35 kPa

Radiant-Heated Subfloors Wicanders Wise floating floors can be laid in combination with floor heating and/or cooling systems. For the heating or cooling systems, follow the instructions supplied by the system manufacturer/contractor or contact your supplier. To avoid problems with functioning and durability during the construction phase, follow the norms and rules concerning installation.

Very important for subfloor heating systems: Please note that the drying of a heated subfloor must be done by turning the heating on and off with a pause before installing the floor. After that, you can begin the "heating phase". The beginning of the heating phase in concrete subfloors is to be made not before 21 days after the complete curing of the substrate. The heating phase must begin with a running temperature of 25 °C (77°F) for 3 days. The subfloor should be in place and cured for at least 60-90 days. The temperature should then be increased daily until the maximum temperature is reached, as allowed by the manufacturer's system. This maximum value should be kept for at least 72 hours without turning it off. The decrease in temperature is made by reducing it gradually every day until the surface achieves 18°C (65°F). During installation, the surface temperature should be at least 18 °C (65°F) and maintained for 3 days after completion (for floating floors). Then, the temperature should be increased slowly to a maximum of 28 °C (82°F) on the subfloor surface. Remember that rugs or mats placed on top of the floor may function as heat accumulators and will increase the floor surface temperature. Maximum floor surface temperature should not exceed 25°C (78°F).

The following structured steps should be taken:

Hydronic radiant can also have the same effect on the flooring if it is turned on and set too high at first. Electric radiant heat is almost instantaneous, while hydronic will take a bit longer. Both instant heat within that short period of time can damage the flooring's dimensional stability, resulting in cupping and distortions. The heat should be set at a one-degree interval in three or four hours, then another degree in the same period of time until five degrees is obtained. That is a slow increase over 24 hours. The shock of quick heating causes the planks to expand more quickly than they can slowly expand into the expansion gaps. Pressure develops and deforms the planks, which are permanently damaged. If the temperature is increased three degrees over half an hour due to being set at that temperature, the period is one-half hour, not twenty-four. Electric and hydronic radiant heat is acceptable; however, care must be taken NOT to increase the temperature in one or two hours. This is why there is a five-degree limit in 24 hours.

Very important for cooling systems, floor cooling systems must be equipped with an advanced control and safety system to prevent internal condensation (dew point regulation). To avoid damage to the floor, the supply temperature of the cooling system must not be reduced below a specific temperature, the so-called dew point temperature. Lower temperatures will produce condensation in the floor and damage the floor covering (e.g., warping, distortion, swelling, gapping). For both heating and cooling systems, ensure the relative air humidity in the rooms is between 35% and 65% during the heating or cooling season, and the subfloor temperature (the temperature underneath the floor) is between 18-28°C (65°F-82°F).

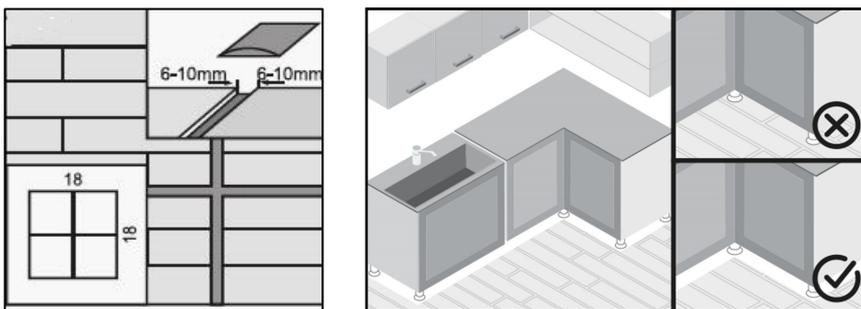
Wicanders Wise on wooden floor/chipboard / OSB: In case of installation on a wooden subfloor, please first remove any existing floor covering. No signs of mold and/or insect infestations should be visible. Make sure that the APA grade plywood and OSB subfloor are mechanically fixed (screw), make sure that they are stable and show no movement at any time, and at the same time, the joints between the panels are even and firmly closed. Existing laminated flooring, wood planks, or engineered wood planks must be free of tension. If there are any visible open seams and/ or height differences between panels, then they need to be entirely removed. Existing wood planks, engineered wood boards, OSB panels, drywall elements, and other similar materials must not be covered with PE foil, which acts as a vapor barrier.

Crawl Space: The area below the floor should also be sufficiently ventilated in an adequate way (back-vented skirting board) to maintain the equilibrium moisture content of the wood planks, engineered wood boards, OSB panels, and drywall elements. The crawl space under the wooden subfloor must be sufficiently ventilated. Remove any obstacles from the crawl space and make sure there is sufficient ventilation (minimum 4cm² (0.62" ²) total ventilation openings per 1m² (3sqft) of flooring). You may also refer to the NWFA guidelines listed under Jobsite Conditions, 9a, requiring 1.5 square feet per 100 square feet of crawl space square footage unless local building codes differ. The moisture content of the wood must not exceed 10%.

Wicanders Wise on ceramic tile floors. The maximum joint should not be wider than 2mm (3/32"), and 1mm (1/32") depth. If this is not the case, or if there is any kind of embossing, skim-coat the grout lines with a floor leveler.

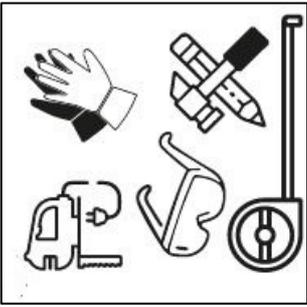
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Expansion Gaps Wicanders Wise floating floors are installed as a "floating floor," so the planks should not be fixed to the subfloor. The skirting boards/moldings cannot be pressed down, as they restrict the floor's movement. It is recommended to leave the thickness of a business card between the flooring and trim for free movement of the flooring. Also, provide 5mm (3/16") expansion gaps to the walls and other fixed objects. Do not install any permanent and heavy structures, such as kitchen islands or cabinets, on top of floating floors. Skirting boards/moldings should cover a minimum of 7mm (9/32") of the floor. Transitions between two rooms and asymmetrical floor areas require extra expansion gaps in floor areas with dimensions larger than 18m (60 feet) in either length or width (325 m² / 3,500 sq ft). Doorways less than 48 inches must have a T-mold for the additional expansion required. It is a good idea to leave the thickness of a business card under baseboards or quarter rounds so as not to pin the flooring from floating.



Installation with excessive heat or direct sunlight: Wicanders Wise flooring must be protected from heat and sunlight by using curtains and/or blinds. In areas that will be exposed to excessive heat (≥ 45 °C / 110 °F) or direct sunlight, the entire area must be glued to the subfloor using an approved adhesive (see our glue recommendation list). Transition profiles must separate floating areas and glued areas to maintain an expansion area for the floating sections.

After installation, ensure that the Wicanders Wise is not exposed to temperatures below 62°F (17 °C) or above 82°F (28 °C). If this area is subject to higher temperatures, it is recommended to glue the area, separating it from the floating section using a T-mold. Never expose the glued area to more than 110°F.



Tools required: Pad saw or a fine-toothed electrical saw, utility knife, spacer wedges, pencil, L square ruler/ straight edge, meter measure / measuring tape. NEVER USE A TAP & BLOCK. List of tools that might be necessary. This list is not exhaustive, and not all tools are needed depending on the type of Wicanders Wise floors to be installed. Use protective equipment such as safety goggles, dust masks, and gloves when sawing/cutting the planks. Wicanders Wise on ceramic tile floors.

Moisture Protection: Despite its age, there is always a risk of moisture in subfloors, so it is necessary to measure and keep records of the subfloor's moisture content. On concrete subfloors without radiant heat, consider the maximum humidity less than 75% RH or conduct calcium chloride or INSITU probe moisture tests to ensure that moisture emission levels are less than 3 lbs./1000ft²/24 hours (USA and Canada) and less than 75% RH, or CM Test.

It is mandatory to keep moisture records and photos of the pre-installation conditions of the concrete to avoid a denial if a claim for moisture is presented to Amorim.

Type Of Subfloor	Moisture content CM% Heated	Non-heated
Concrete	1,5 <75%RH	2,0 <75%RH
Calcium Sulfate/anhydrite	0,3 <75%RH	0,5 <75%RH

Industry standards for In-situ probes for testing the RH are a minimum of three for the first 1000 sq ft and one per 1000 sq ft thereafter. Calcium Chloride tests require the same method.

WARNING TO THE INSTALLER: Always test the subfloor, wood, or concrete before installing to determine if a moisture issue is present. This information is required for any claims, along with your findings. Also, be aware of the ambient RH in basements before installing.

Wicanders Wise must not be installed where excessive moisture emissions may exist per applicable standards. When it is installed on concrete, ceramics, or stone subfloors, a minimum 6-mil PE must be installed over the concrete having a Class I rating or with SD>75 m (water vapor diffusion resistance), according to EN 16354. A 100% mitigating sealer may be applied to the concrete to avoid using the 6-mil membrane. If using the glue-down method, only a 100% mitigating adhesive must be used.

Always be aware of the adhesive or sealer's limitations.

Always follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. You may find a list of approved adhesives at

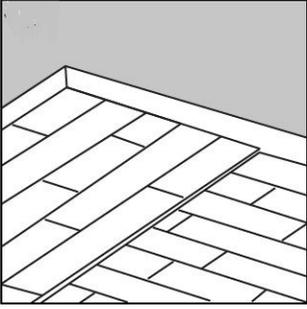
https://pim.amorimflooring.com/uploads/files/documents/products/Auxiliary%20Product%20Selector/ADHESIVE_RECOMMENDATION_JUL25.pdf.

Maintenance products may be found at:

[ADDITIONAL CLEANING PRODUCTS US_SEP.pdf\(amorimflooring.com\)](#).

Preventative Care: [Preventive Care USA.pdf\(amorimflooring.com\)](#).

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