

Restoration Collection® Professional Installation Guidelines for Walls

Laminate flooring applied to walls gives a room a warm luxurious atmosphere. Wainscoting, diagonals, borders, or patterns can give a wide range of design effects. We recommend that you use professionally trained installers to complete these types of projects. When completed, these installations will add value to any home.

Preparation

One of the most important parts of the installation is preparation. While the flooring is inspected numerous times during the manufacturing process, the person who installs the floor is the final inspection point. Inspect all flooring before installation. Proper wall preparation is essential for a successful installation. The walls must be clean, dry, level, and structurally sound. Most installation problems will occur because of poor preparation. Always consult local building code prior to installation.

Plank Preparation

In order to use Mannington Laminate flooring planks for wall application, each plank will need to be modified for ease of installation. Remove the visible tongue off the small end using the decorative surface as a guide. This can easily be removed with chop saw or radial arm saw. Caution Do not to cut into the decorative surface. This will allow the plank to be snapped into place.

Pre-Installation Inspection:

All Mannington Laminate Flooring carries a **Pre-Installation Warranty**. Simply inspect the flooring before installation. If the installation mechanic or consumer is not satisfied for any reason, return the flooring for exchange. Do not install unsatisfactory flooring. This warranty is intended for first-quality flooring only. Cabin-grade, shop-grade, or specialty flooring is not covered under this warranty. The labels on the end of the carton will designate the grade of the flooring.

Installation:

Mannington Laminate Floors are either 8mm or 12 mm thick; all of the laminate plank products may be installed with the same procedure.

1. Use adhesive and screws to apply a plywood base for the flooring. Apply several beads of quality construction-grade adhesive to 3/8" CDX plywood. Once the plywood is in place, drill 1 1/2" drywall screws every 8" to 10" into the wall studs.
2. Once the plywood is in place, layout the installation. Very few rooms walls are square. Measure the wall and determine a center point in the direction which the floor is to be installed. Pop a chalk line along this center point. Divide the number of inches from the center point to the outside edge by the width of the planks to be used in the installation

Example: A wall 7' tall X 12' 3" long installed vertically with Restoration Plank
The center point should be approximately 73 1/2" from the corner of the wall.
 $73 \frac{1}{2} \div 6 \frac{3}{16} = 11 \frac{7}{8}$ planks

The width of the starting and ending plank will have to be cut down to remove 7/8" of the (approx 6" and 8") width plank. The planks can be cut next to the wall, however most wall corners are not straight. The planks can be scribed to fit the corner. However, it is much easier to cut the planks back (1/2" or 1 1/2" wide) and cover the space with matching quarter-round or transition molding. Whatever technique is chosen, the starting and ending planks should be close to the same width.

3. The pre-cut starting planks should have the groove facing the center line. Dry fit the starting planks and draw a line along the tongue. Be sure the line is parallel to the center line. The planks with the ends which have been prepared will enable plank to be snapped into position.
4. Once you are sure of measurement and alignment you will be using a brad nail gun to secure your glued plank to the wall. Be careful to set the nail gun to shoot brads into the groove. Brad nails must be fully seated to not interfere with the locking profile.
5. Start the installation by buttering the back of the starter planks with Mannington Wood Floors Ultra-Spread EZ adhesive. Use a 1/8" x 1/8" x 1/8" notched trowel. As an alternate adhesive you may use Mannington Triple Stick adhesive which can be applied with a caulk gun. Apply adhesive in an S pattern at least a 1/4" bead.
NOTE: Do not allow any adhesive to dry on the finish. Keep a rag dampened with mineral spirits to clean as you install.
6. Place the buttered planks on the starter line and drive the brad nail on an angle into the groove attaching to the plywood subsurface.
7. While installing following rows of planks, cut the planks so that no end joints are closer than 6" to each other. Try to achieve a random appearance. Lock long side tongue into the groove aligning with the end groove and drop into position.
8. Butter the back of the pre-cut planks with adhesive and push the tongue and groove into position. Brad nail at a 45° angle through the laminate groove into the plywood subsurface. The nail pocket is directly in the groove. All brad nails should be counter-sunk as not to interfere with the next plank.
9. Continue the above installation technique until the last row of planks. The last row of planks will be cut to fit on the tongue side. Pre-drill 4 or 5 holes through the top of the plank 1/4" in from the cut side of the plank. The same as the starter row of planks.
10. Butter the back of the planks and push them into position. Drive the 1¼" finishing nails through the pre-drilled holes in the planks into the plywood subsurface.
11. Finish the installation by installing the quarter-round, base, or transition molding and filling any nail holes with matching wood filler. Check the finish for any adhesive residue and clean with mineral spirits.

Maintain the flooring by occasionally vacuuming and/or dusting and cleaning with Mannington Wood Floors "Ultraclean".