

Installation and care instructions

Laminate flooring

Preparatory measures, substrates and general instructions

Preparation

The packages must be acclimatised before you open them. Store them for approx. 48 hours (3–4 days in winter) (Fig. 1) unopened and flat on the floor in the centre of the room you want to work in.

Do not store the packages in front of damp or freshly wallpapered walls. Before you install the flooring, outer doors and windows must be installed and all painting and decorating work must be finished. The room temperature must be approx. 20°C (at least 15°C), and the relative humidity must be approx. 30–65 per cent.

The substrates must be considered as ready-to-lay in accordance with the generally accepted rules of the trade, taking into account VOB (German Construction Contract Procedures), Part C, DIN 18 356 »Parquetry« or DIN 18 365 »Floor covering work« respectively. Therefore, they must be dry, even, solid and clean. Any substrate unevenness of three or more millimetres for each initial metre and two or more millimetres for each subsequent continuous metre must be evened out according to DIN 18 202, table 3, line 4 (Fig. 2). We recommend consulting technical information sheet 02 from the Zentralverband für Parkett und Fußbodentechnik (Central Association for Parquet Flooring and Flooring Technology) and the BEB (German Federal Association of Screed and Floor Covering).

The residual humidity, measured using the CM method, of mineral substrates must be no more than 2 per cent (1.8 per cent for underfloor heating) and that of anhydrite screeds must be a maximum of 0.5 per cent (0.3 per cent for underfloor heating) (Fig. 3). For installation over underfloor heating systems or underfloor heating systems with cooling function, separate information sheets are available.

0.2 mm thick PE film (SD value ≥ 75 m) must be laid out on all mineral substrates (except poured asphalt screed) as a vapour barrier (Fig. 4). The strip edges must overlap by at least 20 cm and the overlapping edges must be masked off at the sides. Alternatively, you

can use insulating underlay with an integrated moisture-resistant barrier. In rooms that are not above a cellar and foundations, the currently valid building conditions require that the owner of the building provide a barrier against damage to the base plate due to moisture from the ground, in accordance with the DIN 18 195 directive.

Textile flooring such as carpet or needle fleece must be removed not only for technical reasons, but for hygiene reasons, too (Fig. 5).

planeo flooring can be laid on existing surfaces, such as ceramic tiles and boards or stone floors, so long as the old flooring is firmly bonded and there are no loose areas. You should also spread out a PE film (SD value ≥ 75 m) on these subfloors as a separating layer (Fig. 6).

On existing PVC, wooden planks, wood-based boards, OSB boards, drywall elements, etc., no vapour barrier must be used (Fig. 7 + 8).

If the floor area is longer or wider than 10 m (Fig. 9), you must provide an expansion joint. Cover this with a transition profile. It is also important to provide these joints between two adjacent rooms, in doorways (Fig. 10), passageways and rooms with a lot of angles. Always use a jointing profile for clean transitions to adjacent, lower areas or floor coverings and an end profile next to higher adjacent thresholds, tiles or the like. Give stairs a clean finish with the stair edge profile.

The laminate flooring can all be installed in humid rooms (Class W0-I, e.g. bathrooms).

They are not suitable for installation in outdoor areas or wet rooms such as showers, saunas, public washrooms or rooms with a floor drain (Fig. 11) – see separate briefing note.

All planeo floorings are suitable for installation in home conservatories (Fig. 12).

Shading and ventilation systems must be used to avoid strong sunlight and prevent the flooring from heating up. It is important to maintain a suitably consistent temperature for the living space all year round. The surface temperature of the floor must not permanently exceed 29°C – see separate briefing note.

Before installation, check all planks in daylight for recognisable faults and damages, as well as colour and structure (Fig. 13).

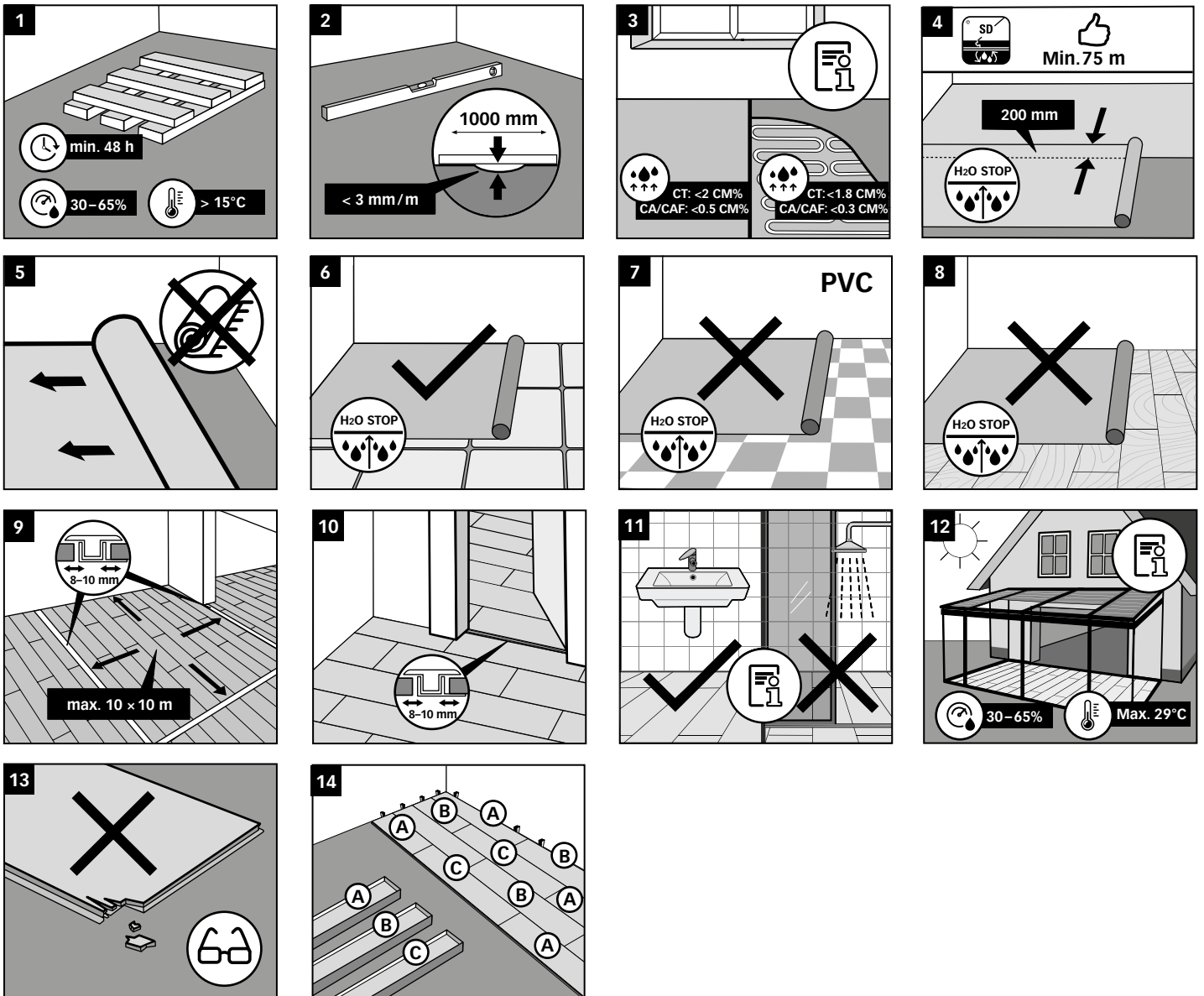
Arrange the planks before laying so that you achieve the floor pattern and colour you want (Fig. 14). You cannot make a claim for any products you have already installed.

Precautionary measures

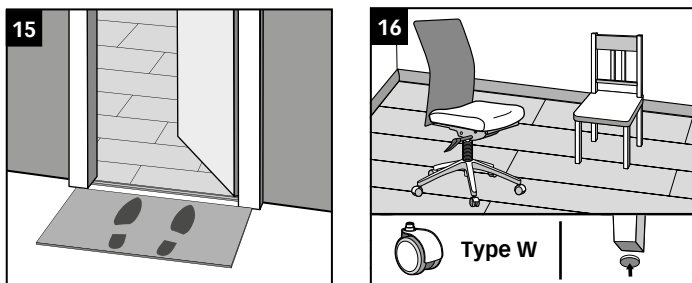
To protect the wood from dirt, a sufficiently large entrance covering must always be laid (such as a doormat or carpet) (Fig. 15).

In addition, you should also fit chair and furniture feet with felt sliders; office chairs, mobile containers, etc., on castors must be equipped with soft, standard running surfaces (type W) (Fig. 16).

Preparation



Precautionary measures



Installation



Fig. 1

You need the following tools and aids to install laminate flooring with Multiclic technology: Hammer, keyhole or electric saw, possibly power drill, folding metre rule, pencil, wedges (spacer wedges), heel bar, angle or adjustable bevel, tapping block, possibly PE film (0.2 mm).

Furthermore, if you are using products without a sound-absorbing Silence cushion, use the system-bound insulating under-lay. Any other insulating underlay must have a suitable pressure stability (CS value ≥ 15 kPa).

The flooring is installed as a floating structure without glue. The specially designed click connection allows quick and easy installation. Two different installation options are available to choose from. Option 1: Angle in the head end and long side; Option 2: Angle in the long side and join the head end using the tapping block and several light taps with the hammer.

Fig. 2

Remove any dirt, small stones, etc. from the surface prior to installation.

Fig. 3

PE film 0.2 mm thick must be laid out to form a "bath" on all mineral substrates (except poured asphalt screed) as a vapour barrier. The strip edges must overlap by at least 20 cm and the overlapping edges must be masked off. Alternatively, the option is available to use insulating underlay with integrated vapour barrier.

Fig. 4

Lay the corresponding insulating underlay with a pressure resistance of > 15 kPa in the private residential sector or > 60 kPa in the commercial sector.

Fig. 5

Before installation, check all planks in daylight for recognisable faults in colour and structure. Goods already installed cannot be claimed for later.

Fig. 6

Install a mixture of planks from different packages.

Fig. 7

When sawing the elements, make sure you work from the correct side: if you use a bench saw, keep the decorative side facing up, if you use a keyhole or portable circular saw, keep the decorative side down.

Start by laying the first complete plank in the left-hand corner of the room with the tongue sides facing the wall. Saw the tongues off the first plank, both on the short and the long side. Remove only the tongues on the long sides of all the other planks you want to lay in the first row.

Fig. 8

Using wedges, you can easily keep a gap of at least 10 mm from the wall.

Fig. 9

Angle the end of the next complete plank into the end of plank 1. Install the other planks in this row in exactly the same way across the entire width of the room.

Fig. 10 + Fig. 14

The last planks in each row are cut to size so that a gap of 10 mm to the wall is taken into account. You can use cut-off pieces of planks to start subsequent rows.

Option 1

Make sure that the planks in the first row are straight. Cut the first plank of the second row down to approx. 80 cm.

Fig. 11

Angle the head end of the next complete plank into the end of the previous plank.

Fig. 12 + Fig. 13

Once you have angled in all of the planks in a row, angle them into the previously laid row and press them down slowly using a forward and downward turning motion. The row of planks has to click into the previously installed row. Alternatively, you can angle in the head end of each individual plank first and then connect the long side by slightly raising it and angling it into the previous row. Continue installing the panels row by row in this way.

Option 2

Fig. 15

Cut the first plank of the second row down to approx. 80 cm. Angle this plank with the tongue into the groove side of the previous row of planks and press the plank down slowly using a forward and downward turning motion. The plank has to click into the previously installed row.

Again, angle the next complete plank of the second row first on its long edge against the previously laid plank. Make sure the long joint is always tight.

Fig. 16

Once you have angled in the plank so it lies flat on the subfloor, click the head ends together using the tapping block and light taps with the hammer. Continue installing the panels row by row in this way.

Fig. 17

Remember that the end joints must always be offset by at least 30–40 cm.

Fig. 18 + Fig. 19

The last planks in each row are cut to size so that a gap of 10 mm to the wall is taken into account. Lay the plank with the tongue side facing the wall to mark the remaining plank width.

Fig. 20

Start by laying the last row in the right-hand corner of the room and angle the long side of the plank into the second-last row.

Fig. 21

The next plank is angled in along the long side and lowered down in the same way. The head-end connection is then established with the help of a heel bar and several light taps with the hammer.

Fig. 25

Next, remove the wooden wedges from around the walls.

Fig. 26

Screw the skirting board clips to the wall at intervals of 40–50 cm. To ensure that the skirting board fits tightly, do not position it on an uneven wall.

Fig. 27

The skirting board is placed on the clip from above and pressed down. For the length joints of the skirting boards, the clip is placed on the joint with a half overlap to ensure a good hold. Please avoid bringing any silicone products into contact with the skirting boards.

Fig. 22 – Fig. 24

To take a plank row back out again, lift the entire row, levering it at the side out of the last row. Then you can separate the head ends of the planks by angling them. This way, the locking system remains intact and the planks can be refitted.

Cleaning and care

The quality does not stop with the installation.

You have bought a quality product "made in Germany". These cleaning and care instructions will provide you with all the information important to ensuring a long period of value preservation and a beautiful appearance of your flooring. With a bit of time and effort, you can contribute to ensuring that you are able to enjoy your new planeo flooring for a long time to come.

planeo products are based on selected materials, which are processed by experienced experts with state-of-the-art technology to create a quality product "made in Germany". The premium quality includes substantiated consultation and excellent service. For this reason, you will only find planeo products in selected specialist shops.

1. The right care

Your dream floor also needs the right care. planeo complements its product range with a high-quality series of care products from Dr. Schutz. Cleaners and care products, tailored for the floorings, ensure that your floor looks good in the long term. Even if you only need to run the vacuum round for day-to-day care (to remove loose dust), the surfaces should be cleaned and cared for regularly with Dr. Schutz care products to preserve the value of your floor.

When cleaning, please be aware that the floor must only ever be slightly moistened. In the ideal case, the film of water should be a thin mist, so that it dries out after about a minute. You should not use any abrasive cleaners, even in case of more severe stains. Even for stubborn stains and dirt, the Dr. Schutz Elatex Stain Remover* will help.

2. Preservation of value | Precautionary measures

A room temperature of approx. 18–22°C and a relative air humidity of approx. 30–65 per cent will contribute to your personal well-being and are the basis for a healthy room climate. With such a room climate, you will also help your planeo floor obtain the optimal conditions, as it reacts to its climatic surroundings like any other wooden material. Low air humidity with a high temperature will lead to a contracting process in the wood, which dries the floor out. If you determine an air humidity which is considerably lower than 30 percent in the long term, we recommend the use of air humidifiers (vaporizers). This will prevent your planeo floor drying out excessively. As with all wooden products, very high air humidity will cause absorption of humidity, which can lead to the length and thickness increasing.

The introduction of dirt onto the floor:

Most dirt is brought into your home from the outside and transferred onto the flooring. For this reason, we recommend installing a sufficiently large entrance covering (such as a doormat) in the entrance. Please consider that dirt, such as sand or small stones, will act like sandpaper on all floorings and can lead to unsightly scratches. To protect the wood from scratches, you should also fit chair and furniture feet with felt sliders; office chairs, mobile containers and similar on castors must be equipped with soft, standard running surfaces (type w). Please only use light, non-migrating furniture glides, if possible. Terracotta or clay flower pots/planters can also cause discolouration. Please use suitable, non-migrating mats.

3. Cleaning after completion of construction work

Newly laid planeo floors must be cleaned after completion of construction work and before first use in order to completely remove any dirt that has collected during the course of the installation.

You should clean **laminat flooring** after completion of construction work with Dr. Schutz Laminat Cleaner*, diluted with water in a ratio of 1:200. Clean the floor using a well wrung out mop and then neutralise with clear water.

Cleaning and care

4. Day-to-day cleaning

To remove daily dirt, vacuuming or sweeping is sufficient. For conventional mopping, Dr. Schutz Laminate Cleaner*, diluted with water in a ratio of 1:200, can be used occasionally. The floor should be wiped using a damp non-lint cloth, which has been dipped in this solution and wrung out well. Remove stains, smears and other bonded dirt with Dr. Schutz Elatex Stain Remover* or undiluted Dr. Schutz Laminate Cleaner* and a non-scratch, white pad. Then, wipe with a damp cloth or mop, until the dirt and cleaning agent residue is completely removed.

5. General information about cleaning and care

Never leave planeo flooring moist or wet over a long period of time. When cleaning, always try to use a dry method if possible (using a mop, hair broom, vacuum cleaner), or only wipe with a damp, wrung out cloth and do not leave any "puddles" on the floor. Steam cleaners are not suitable for the flooring. Do not use any cream cleaners, scouring powders, sanitary cleaners or harsh solvents, as these agents can attack the surface of the floor. Please only use suitable cleaners. Problem stains on laminate flooring can be removed with Dr. Schutz Elatex Stain Remover. Please be aware that you may increase the gloss level on the laminate surface by removing the stain with increased pressure with a white pad. For this reason, try this out in an inconspicuous place or left-over plank first.

All kinds of chemicals, such as solvents, antiseptics and disinfectants, hair dye, fats, nail varnish remover, acetone, felt pen or ballpoint ink, many cause permanent stains.

** Water-based care products (e.g. polymer dispersions) or Dr. Schutz Elatex Stain Remover can penetrate the seams of the planks in the case of improper adhesion or incomplete jointing, leading to swelling of the base material.*