



**ANTHOLOGY
WOODS**

Solid Wood Flooring Installation Guidelines

Thank you for choosing Anthology Woods for your wood floor. We take great pride in our wood products and have worked hard to provide you with the highest quality wood floor available. Taking care during installation and continued maintenance will preserve your floor for generations to come.

This document will provide general installation guidelines, however Anthology Woods recommends that your flooring be installed by an experienced, licensed and bonded flooring contractor only. We also recommend following the detailed instructions of the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA). Anthology Woods provides the general installation guidelines presented here as a recommendation only and does not assume responsibility for the installation or finishing of your flooring. Please consult with your installer and the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) for further guidance.

Upon delivery of your floor, inspect the order for any damage that may have incurred during shipment. Make note of any visible damage on the Bill of Lading prior to accepting the shipment. Contact Anthology Woods immediately if there is any damage and we will work with you to file a claim with the shipping company.

Once your wood is delivered move it immediately into a controlled environment. Do not leave wood products outdoors, in a garage or other outbuilding, or anywhere without temperature and humidity control.

Wood is a natural material that “adapts” to its environment by absorbing or releasing moisture to come into balance with its surroundings. Therefore it is important to acclimate your wood flooring to the environment where it will be installed prior to installation. Solid wood flooring should only be placed in the installation area after all wet work is done (this includes drywall, plaster, tile, and painting). The HVAC system should be operational and the environment should be maintained at the same temperature and humidity levels as normal living conditions (generally 60-80 degrees and 30-50% humidity). To acclimate your wood flooring, start by opening the bundles and/or boxes. Stack the wood in an alternating pattern, or with stickers between layers, such that every piece has adequate airflow all the way around it. The moisture content difference between your wood floor and wood subfloor should be less than 2% at the time of installation. Consult with your installer regarding proper acclimation for your area, and reference the NWFA for proper moisture levels for your area.

Anthology Woods floors can be installed over a variety of substrates and specific detailed instructions for different installation methods can be obtained from the National Wood Flooring Association. Generally solid wood flooring is best suited for above grade installations and best results will be obtained over a wood subfloor (see NWFA guidelines for installations

over concrete subflooring or contact Anthology Woods for guidance), with a ventilated crawl space and proper moisture barriers.

Typical wood flooring installation methods are appropriate for Anthology Woods solid flooring. Use an appropriate fastener (1-1/2" to 2" in length) and blind nail through the tongue every 6-8". Wide plank floors (over 5" face width) are susceptible to increased movement, therefore in addition to blind nailing, apply an appropriate adhesive following the adhesive manufacturers instructions. Additional installation methods, including installation over other subfloor materials can be obtained from the NWFA or by consulting your flooring installer.

If you have ordered a mixed-width product from Anthology Woods, check your Materials Quote and packing list to determine the quantity of each width provided. Many of our mixed-width products are sold with roughly equal amounts of each width by lineal footage, however some are not and it is best to double check your packing list for the final tally. There is no set pattern for installing these floors and the particular pattern you choose is up to you and the installer. Regardless, it is always best to "rack-out" a large area of the floor prior to installation. This will help in both managing the material to make sure you have enough to complete each run, and with balancing the character, color and aesthetic proportions of your floor.

While Anthology Woods offers pre-finishing of our solid wood floors, we believe the best finish for most solid wood floors is obtained by sanding and finishing in place. Filling, sanding and finishing should be done by an experienced professional, and should involve sanding through progressively finer grits to remove scuffs and scratches. A variety of different finish types are suitable for Anthology Woods floors and you can learn more about different finishes by visiting our website (www.anthologywoods.com). If you have purchased a natural patina or distressed floor you may wish to simply screen your floor to preserve the patina and character. A screen sand will help soften any over-wood issues and other inconsistencies. Finishing your floor should happen towards the very end of your project when other trades have completed their work and adequate time and space is given for the finish to cure.

If you have additional questions regarding installation please contact Anthology Woods and speak to one of our technical experts. Thank you for choosing Anthology Woods!