Installing solid boards
Floor laying

Wood is a living material

A wooden floor has amazing properties, with each board having its own unique look. The natural movement of wooden flooring is affected by relative humidity (RH) and temperature.

MOISTURE CONTENT AND RH

In our factory, the wood is dried to "furniture dry" level, i.e. a moisture content of around 8%. This is to ensure that the floor moves as little as possible after installation. Wood adapts to the relative humidity of the air. The ideal environment for solid floors is where the humidity is between 30–60%, which also corresponds to the Hus AMA (General material and labour description for house building) regulations.

INSTALLATION

We recommend that each board is screwed to the substrate, where possible. This is to allow each board to move individually, while also being the best installation method. The boards may shrink during the drier part of the year, giving rise to gaps between the boards. If the finished floor needs to be supplied with a protective cover, use a material that allows the floor to breathe. Never apply tape directly on the floor's surface.

UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Our floors can also be installed in combination with underfloor heating. Underfloor heating may result in slightly larger shrinkage cracks. The floor may be heated to a maximum of 27°C. Always lay a vapour barrier when installing on top of underfloor heating or concrete. Wooden joists, spaced boarding, chipboard and plywood in the subfloor should have a maximum moisture content of 9.5%. Install the floorboards at right angles to the direction of the underfloor heating coils.

STORAGE

Check that the packaging is intact on receipt of the goods. Repair any damage to the packaging. Keep the flooring dry and under cover. The flooring should be left in its unopened packaging at room temperature for 24–48 hours prior to installation. Open the packaging as the floor is being laid.

Installation

Screwing solid wood floors into wood-based substrates

Make sure the substrate is level and lay grey underlay paper on the beams closest to the wooden floor. The grey underlay paper is laid edge to edge and taped. The end match is glued, although not the long sides where the screws are installed.

On top of underfloor heating, always lay a vapour barrier and grey underlay paper closest to the wooden floor. Tape the vapour barrier with a 20 cm overlap.

Tools Screwdriver, alignment cord, saw, hammer, wedges, tapping blocks.

Materials Special screws can be purchased from Baseco: LTX 3,3 x 35 for 14 mm floor, PTX 4,2 x 48 for 20 mm floor, NWS 4,8 x 58 for 25 and 30 mm floor. Vapour barrier, grey underlay paper, tape and wood glue (not sold by Baseco).

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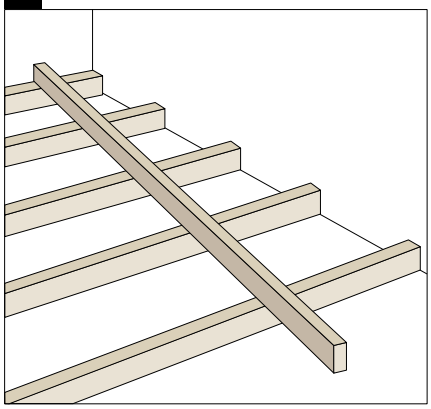

Check that the surface is level. Use a long straight edge and a spirit level.

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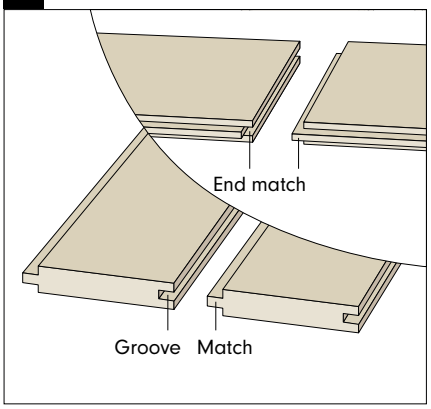

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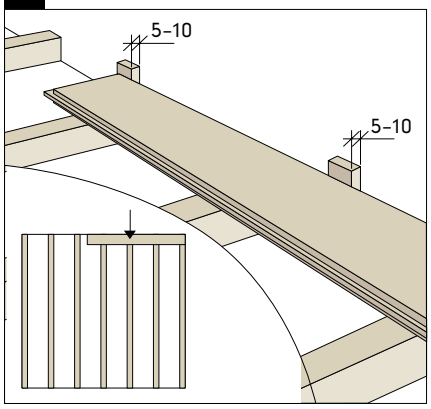

Fix the first board straight against the walls with the groove side against the wall. Ensure a distance of approximately 5-10 mm from the wall using spacer blocks.

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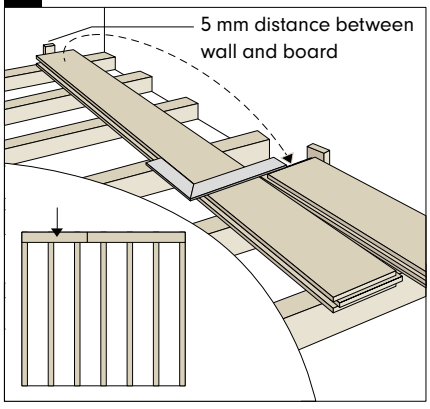

The board that is to be cut at the end of the row should be slid in against the wall, with a spacer block in between. Measure and cut the final board to the correct length according to the diagram.

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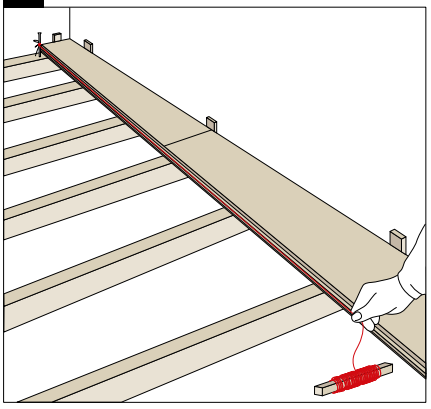

Check with alignment cord that the first length is straight. Align with the wall using wedges.

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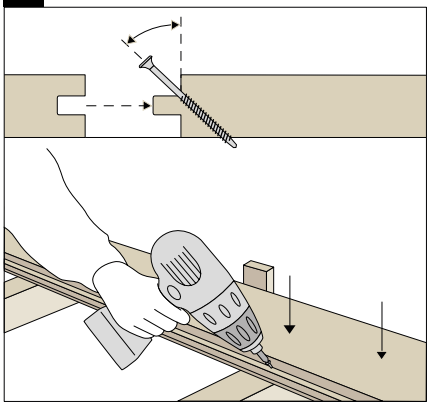

Screw the board into place at a 45° angle at the top of the match. One screw into each joist. Apply weight to the board (kneel on it) when screwing in the board. When screwing into chipboard or plywood, screw with c/c 400 mm between the screws. Also screw the board into place from above close to the wall.

BASECO

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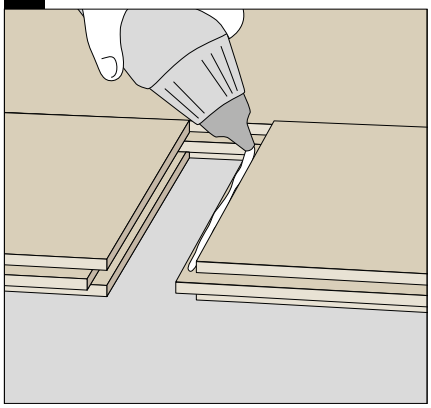

The floorboards should be glued at the end match and pressed into place with distance wedges or a crowbar. Wipe off excess glue immediately with a damp cloth. Do not glue the long sides!

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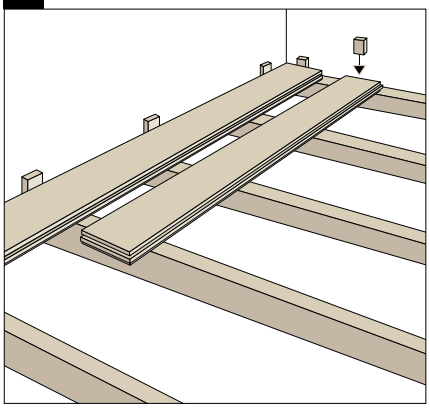

When installing the second row of boards, start with the piece of board left over from the first row.

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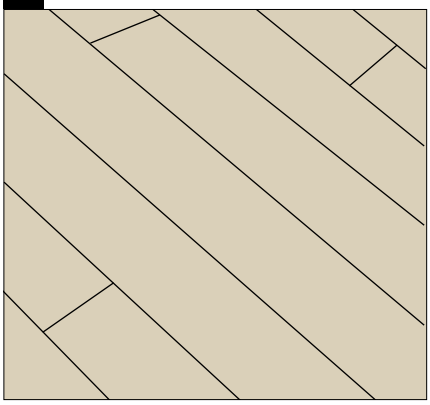

Space out the joints across the entire floor, making sure that there is more than 60 cm between joints on adjacent rows of boards. This ensures that the joints end up on different sides of the joists.

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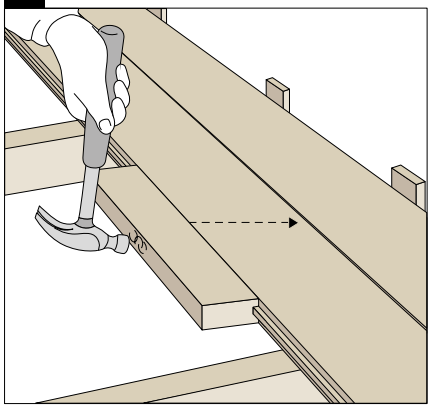

Tap the boards together using a tapping block, a piece of floorboard measuring approximately 300 mm in length. You can also use a wooden joist, e.g. 45x95 mm. Feel free to kneel on the board while you tap it together, as the board will then be held in place until you have inserted the screw. Solid boards are not always perfectly straight, so start screwing where there are gaps. If necessary, tap the board again and tighten the screw a little more.

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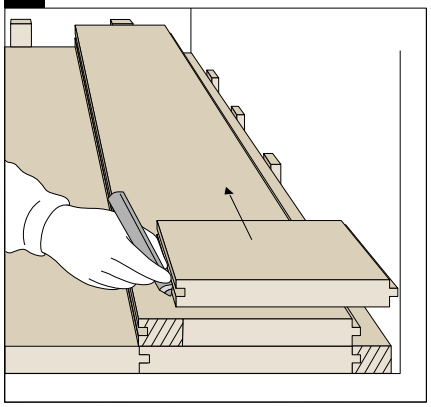

The final row of boards normally has to be split lengthwise. Place the boards that are to be split directly on top of the last board and draw the sawing line in relation to a piece of board that is moved along the wall. In this way, any distortions in the wall are addressed. If the penultimate board is so close to the wall that it cannot be screwed into place through the match, you can glue the last narrow piece to it before putting the board in place. It can be beneficial to remove a little of the bottom edge of the board, which allows it to move into place by the wall more easily. Screw the board into place from above close to the wall.

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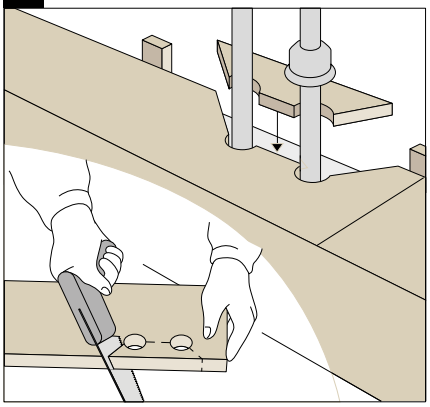

Measure the position of the pipes on the board and drill holes that are 10 mm larger than the pipes. Use a jigsaw to cut in towards the hole at an angle. Install the board and then glue the piece that was cut off into place. Remove all filler pieces before installing the skirting boards.