

OSCAR ONO FORÊT 2 COMPONENT CURED PREFINISHED
ENGINEERED PLANK FLOORING

Glued down and/or nailed For walls and floors.

Introduction:

This Installation protocol is intended for all Oscar Ono engineered floor boards covering our “Foret”, “Opus”, “Classic” and “Basics” range. Where we speak about “end grain” we include “Flat grain/ “Crown cut” as well. Version 1.1

Installation, Filling & Maintenance Instructions for 20mm / ¾” Engineered Forêt European Oak Planks on birch plywood (D4 glue class), non FSC. FSC on request.

Please read the entire specification before the installation.

BEFORE THE INSTALLATION

All jobsite conditions should comply with Oscar Ono specifications, including but not limited to humidity levels and sub-floor conditions. Be sure that the end grain Forêt planks meet your expectations. When possible, we suggest loose-laying several square feet of the flooring in the general location where they will be installed. If the visual appearance, color, sheen, or manufacturing quality does not meet your expectations, do not proceed with the installation. The placement of any Oscar Ono flooring products into mastic for adhering purposes constitutes your acceptance of the materials.

Do not open cartons prior to installation. Store and climatize the unopened cartons indoors. Length of acclimation will depend on job site conditions. Please contact us if you have questions about your specific conditions. Prior to installation, inspect all Forêt planks in daylight for any visible faults or damage. Report as needed. No claims can be accepted once flooring has been installed. To achieve a regular distribution of the grade in the installed floor, we recommend installing from different cartons or pallets at the same time.

CHECK HUMIDITY

Streve B.V. – Narcissenstraat 40, 3772 JB, Barneveld, The Netherlands

Vat: NL860013285B01

IBAN: NL84 KNAB 0259 0606 58 BIC: KNABNL2H

Chamber of commerce number: 74748890

The GC are available on simple request.

With a reliable hygrometer, sling psychrometer, or electronic monitoring device, check the humidity in the space where the flooring is to be installed. Normal humidity should read between 35-55% assuming a 18°-25° C / 65°-75°F temperature. If humidity is not normal, postpone installation until conditions are normal.

CONDITIONING

Do not install unless heating, air conditioning, and humidity controls are in full operation and room conditions are normal. Do not open cartons prior to installation. Store and acclimate unopened cartons inside the spaces where they are to be installed. The length of acclimation may be adjusted at the discretion of the installing contractor and is based upon the atmospheric conditions at the time of the year. In any event, the temperature of the room and the building must be uniformly maintained at not less than 18° C / 65°F from delivery, through acclimation, as well as during and after installation.

ACCLIMATION FOR ALL OSCAR ONO INTERIOR WOOD FLOORING PRODUCTS

The purpose of acclimating wood flooring is to allow the moisture content of the planks to adjust to normal conditions. The temperature and humidity that will be typical once the facility is opened, and the permanent Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system is functioning and balanced.

Before Forêt planks are delivered, the job site must be checked to determine if it is ready. The structure should be fully enclosed, with doors and windows in place, and interior climate controls operational for at least 48 hours to stabilize the moisture conditions. Wood flooring should not be delivered until all wet-work is completed. If conditions are not stable, acclimation may be harmful to the installation.

If you know the Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) of wood in your region, the wood might already be at the proper moisture content, and acclimation for any length of time may not be necessary. The installer should have a clear understanding of the EMC in order to determine the length of acclimation. This requires knowing and recording the moisture content of the wood at the time of delivery, and what the expected moisture content will be at equilibrium. The flooring is manufactured at 7-9% EMC.

At equilibrium, the moisture content of the wood neither gains nor loses water because it has reached equilibrium with the vapor pressure of the surrounding atmosphere. Changes in relative humidity and temperature of surrounding air cause both seasonal, long term, and daily short-term changes in the moisture content. Long-term changes are gradual as moisture slowly penetrates the wood, while short-term fluctuations influence only the wood surface. Protective coatings slow the changes in moisture content, but ultimately the wood will attain equilibrium.

Humidity maintained above 60-70% at normal residential temperatures can adversely affect wood components. Humidity sustained at or above this level can result in an EMC of 12% or more with associated expansion. Humidity maintained at or below 25-30% can adversely affect wood components and result in an EMC below 6%. This condition can cause greater than normal shrinkage with associated cracks. (Source: Wood Handbook U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Products Laboratory)

Ideal conditions for all wood flooring would be to acclimate and install at the average level of humidity in your particular facility, which should be in 35-55% range. (Source: National Wood Flooring Association Wood Flooring Installation Guidelines and Methods, revised 05/2012, page 10, article B-1 Wood's Comfort Zone). As a general rule, with geographic exceptions, wood flooring will perform best when the interior environment is controlled to stay within a relative humidity range of 30-50%, and a temperature range of 60° to 80° F. In some climates, the ideal humidity range might be higher or lower, 25-45% or 45-65%, for example. We would be pleased to discuss with you length of acclimation for your particular installation.

NOTE: We always recommend at least 2 days of acclimation prior to installation. Never install plank flooring on the same day as delivery.

CHECK CONCRETE SUB-FLOOR

The sub-flooring should be depressed 20mm or ¾" corresponding to the depth of the Forêt plank. If cork or rubber underlayment is specified for added resiliency, allow for extra depth. A vapor barrier or reliable water resistant concrete sealer (i.e. Rubio Easybond or Bostik's MVP or an equivalent) should be used when moisture from below is of concern. New concrete slabs must be cured (at least 50 days) and dry. Below grade installations are not recommended. Be sure the concrete sub-floor is smooth and level. Tolerance should not exceed 5MM or 3/16" on a 30 cm / 10 ft. straight edge in any direction. Check floor level with straight metal strip on edge, double check edges and corners. Eliminate any washboard irregularity. All rough spots or gravel protruding must be ground smooth and low areas filled with leveling compound. If tolerance is not as specified, the flooring contractor must insist the masonry contractor make necessary corrections. Concrete should be tested for moisture content, and be no greater than 1.4KG / 3 lbs. per 92 SQM / 1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours (ASTM F-1869), or 75% RH (ASTM 2170). We recommend a bond test before spreading mastic and installing Forêt planks. A test should be made with your chosen adhesive and several of our planks before beginning the installation. Check with us about your particular condition.

WOOD SUB-FLOOR

There should not be any cupped area, or projecting nails. If planks are to be installed on an existing synthetic floor or raised computer floor system, 12mm or ½" minimum plywood or hardboard underlayment should be added, glued and screwed to the synthetic surface.

EXPANSION VOID

As a general rule, perimeter expansion space should be 20mm or ¾" wide. Cork strips 12mm or ½" to 38mm or 1-½" may be used against all walls and columns, unless concealed by shoe moldings or other base. Place temporary wooden strips along the walls and columns equal to the width of the void to be created. After installing planks flush to the strips, at the end of the day, remove the temporary strips, leaving a uniform void for expansion. In aisleways and other narrow areas where planks meet carpet or other flooring, the expansion void can be omitted. Schluter strips should be used at plank edges against carpet or other adjacent flooring materials.

APPLYING MASTIC/ADHESIVE/NAILING

NOTE: Be sure flooring has been accepted before gluing in place. For older sub-floors, be sure the surface is clean and free from dirt, oil, or grease. Store all mastic/adhesive for 72 hours at room temperature. Use a 4.5mm or 3/16" V notched trowel. If the coverage is less than 50 sq. ft. per gallon, change trowel angle or file down trowel to reduced depth. We suggest Rubio Easybond or Bostik's Best Urethane or Mapei 980 adhesive.

DO NOT use mastic or adhesive that contains water. We suggest Rubio Easybond or Bostik's MVP if a vapor barrier is needed. Allow MVP to dry and apply Rubio Easybond or Bostik's Urethane Adhesive the next day.

INSTALLING FORÊT PLANKS

FORÊT planks can be installed in any direction and in any desired pattern. However, board direction many times depends on the main source of light. Boards should run parallel with the entering light for best appearance. However, the proportions of the room can also be emphasized by selection of the direction in which the flooring is installed. In doorways and large areas over 10 meter or 33 feet in length and/or width, a cork expansion joint or other suitable material should be installed. Apply a molding or cover strip over the expansion joint. We suggest cork expansion joint 16mm or ⅝" in height x any width up to 25mm or 1". Insure that the boards are always laid lengthwise in narrow hallways. For sound insulation and to smooth out slight irregularities of the sub-floor, use roll or sheet goods of 3mm or ⅛" cork space. We don t recommend "floating installation".

Forêt planks may be nailed directly over wood or plywood sub-floors, which are solid, level, and well ventilated below. Top nail and blind nail the 1st row. Typical 25 mm or 1 to 30mm or 1-1/2" staples every 75-100mm or 3"-4", or 25mm to 30mm / 1 to 1-1/4" hardwood flooring cleats every 100-150mm or 4"-6".

Glue in place for a more permanent installation.

Start the installation in the right-hand corner of the room and fix the first flooring board in place with distance spacers from the wall 10mm or ⅜" to 15 mm or ½". We suggest the

groove side of the board be placed towards the wall, thus exposing the tongue as the laying is performed. Start every other row with a half of a plank. Using hammer and tapping plank to snug the newly installed planks over the exposed tongue. Measure the last board of the first row, and keep in mind to leave a gap of 10mm – 15mm or 3/8" to 1/2" between board ends and walls. Start the second row with the leftover piece of the first row, which will reduce cutting waste. Join the subsequent boards together row by row, working from right to left. Snap the boards together at the long side using hammer and tapping plank. Do not tap directly on the flooring edge. On completion, remove the distance spacers at all walls. Attach a base molding to the wall and not to the flooring, covering over the space created during installation. If no base is to be used, suggest filling void with pre-molded cork.

CAUTION

Since Engineered FORÊT has only a thin surface of 8mm or 5/16" end grain wood, there can be no voids left below the end grain surface. Therefore, when installing the plank up against another flooring surface, or up against Schluter, you must cut off either the tongue or the groove, so that the end grain and ply bottom on which it sits fits tight against the adjacent flooring or Schluter. If a void is left by installing the tongue side against Schluter, you must first fill the void with 1/2 of a wooden slip tongue. If a void is left after installation, the entire edge of the end grain surface will break away, requiring difficult repairs. If there are any questions about this subject, please contact us before starting your installation.

NOTE: After installation the floor should be covered and protected to avoid construction damage. Do not use scotch tape, duct tape, etc. directly on the flooring. This can cause damage, especially on thermos treated flooring.

OPTIONAL FILLING

We do not recommend optional filling of the gaps between the patterns or boards. However Oscar Ono can assist with instruction video how to proceed. PLEASE NOTE THAT OSCAR ONO WAIVES ALL RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIABILITIES.

WALLS SHOULD REQUIRE NO MAINTENANCE.

WE DO NOT RECOMMEND URETHANE FINISH OF FORÊT PLANKS

Questions and concerns:

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us before or during installation and maintenance.

Call or e-mail for technical support. Oscar Ono shall not be responsible for results of installations made by others. We reserve the right to change specifications without notice.