



## Installation Instructions

### Laminate Flooring Clicklock

Visit [homelegend.com](http://homelegend.com) for latest version of installation instructions.

Products Included	Approved Grade Levels	Approved Installation Methods
Laminate Flooring with click lock joint system.	Above Grade. On Grade. Below Grade.	Primary Method: Floating

#### CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

 **WARNING:** This product can expose you to formaldehyde gas which is known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information, go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).

 **WARNING:** Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood).

#### CAUTION: ASBESTOS IN EXISTING FLOOR

**Home Legend product does not contain asbestos.** Existing installed resilient flooring and asphaltic adhesive may contain **asbestos fillers or crystalline silica**. **Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, bead-blast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, asphaltic "cutback" adhesive or other adhesive.** See "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" ([rfci.com](http://rfci.com)) for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures.

#### Owner/Installer Responsibility

The owner is advised to be at home during the installation for consultation/direction. The owner and installer should discuss installation and layout to maximize satisfaction. If this is not possible, consultation should be done prior to installation.

The owner/installer assumes all responsibility for product quality of completed installation.

**PERFORM PRE-INSTALL INSPECTION. FOR CLAIMS PURPOSES, YOU ARE ALLOWED TO OPEN UP TO 4 BOXES FOR PRODUCT INSPECTION. DO NOT OPEN ALL THE BOXES. OPENING ALL THE BOXES CONSTITUTES YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRODUCT. INSPECT ALL THE PLANKS IN THESE 4 BOXES CAREFULLY. EXAMINE FLOORING FOR COLOR, FINISH AND QUALITY. IF YOU DISCOVER THAT PRODUCTS ARE DEFECTIVE, OR IF MATERIAL IS QUESTIONABLE, YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE RETAILER. IF YOU ARE SATISFIED, PROCEED WITH INSTALLATION.**

Flooring to be installed in one large area should be purchased at the same time. Product purchased at a later time than the first purchase may vary beyond your expectations.

Accessories, trims and moldings are manufactured to coordinate with the varied appearances of the floor planks. Any exact matches are coincidental. Non-matching accessories are not defective products.

This product is manufactured according to strict quality standards. In the event that defects are discovered in the field, the industry standards permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. The defects may be of any type, whether manufactured or natural. Order an additional 5% extra for cutting wastage and grading allowances (10% for diagonal installations).

During installation, inspect the planks continuously. Defects that can be seen from a standing position should be cut off or held out.

Installing defective planks implies acceptance.

Squeaking and clicking noises are the result of interactions among flooring, joists and subfloors when they move. Limiting the movements of the flooring system usually eliminates most of these noises. Sometimes, it is impossible to eliminate them completely and minor squeaking or clicking noises are to be accepted as normal flooring phenomenon. Minor scratches can generally be repaired with the use of putty, stain or filler. It is an industry standard practice of flooring installation and it should be accepted as normal by the home owner.

#### If You Need More Information

To assure the warranty is not inadvertently voided, before proceeding with any activity that is not covered in this manual, please contact our Technical Support Department.

#### Acclimation and In-service Conditions

This product requires 48 hours acclimation. Conditions in which the floor was installed should be maintained continuously thereafter. Acceptable in-service temperature range is 60°F-80°F and relative humidity (RH) of 35%-60%. Document as much installation conditions as possible below.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relative Humidity (%): \_\_\_\_\_

Temperature (F°): _____
Subfloor Type: _____
Subfloor Avg. Moisture Content: _____

### **Job Site Condition**

Prior to installation, the installer must ensure that at the time of installation, the job site conditions including subfloor/substrate, ambient temperature and relative humidity, and all impacting variables will not negatively affect floor. Home Legend will decline responsibility for damages associated with improper installation or poor site conditions.

### **Storage and Conditions**

Do not store flooring in uncontrolled environmental conditions. For example, garages and exterior patios are not acceptable areas to store flooring. Handle and unload flooring with care and store within the environmentally controlled site in which it is expected to perform. Flooring stored on concrete slab should be elevated at least four inches to allow air circulation under cartons.

### **Existing Home**

Existing home should have a consistent room temperature of 60°F-80°F and relative humidity (RH) of 35%-60%. Continual extreme deviation from these conditions will affect the dimensions of flooring. During heating season, humidity may be much lower than the acceptable range. During the heating season, a humidifier is recommended to prevent excess shrinkage in flooring due to low humidity levels. During the non-heating season, humidity levels can be maintained by using an air conditioner, dehumidifier, or by turning on your heating system periodically.

### **New Construction or Remodel**

All work involving water, such as pouring basement concrete floors, drywall and plasterwork, plumbing, etc. must be completed well in advance of the floor delivery. Ensure that the building is enclosed. Where building codes allow, permanent heating and/or air conditioning systems should be operating at least five days preceding installation (this will promote proper acclimation if necessary) and should be maintained during and after installation. If it is not possible for the permanent heating and/or air conditioning system to be operating before, during and after installation, a temporary heating and/or dehumidification system that simulate normal living (occupied) conditions can enable the installation to proceed until the permanent heating and/or air conditioning system is fully operational.

Your job site should have a consistent temperature of 60°F-80°F and relative humidity (RH) of 35%-60% which should be maintained continuously thereafter.

### **Basements and Crawl Spaces**

Concrete slab or ground must be dry. The ground in the crawl spaces must be completely covered using 6 mil black polyethylene. Crawl space clearance between the earth and underside of joists should be no less than 18 inches and the perimeter vent area should be equal to 1.5% of the total square footage of the crawl space or as mandated by code.

### **Concrete Subfloor Requirements**

It must have minimum rated strength of 3000 psi.

It must be level to within 1/8" in a 6-foot span or 3/16" in a 10-foot span; no bumps or low spots. High spots can be removed by grinding; Gaps greater than 5/32" wide and 1/16" and depressions should be filled with patching compound formulated for use in floor installation. It must be clean; no construction debris, soil, mud and any other objects on or adhering to the floor; if necessary, scrape and sweep away before the installation; no protrusions of nails, debris, metals should remain.

New concrete slab must cure for at least 60 days. It must have a minimum 10 mil polyethylene sheet between the ground and the concrete. It must meet concrete moisture requirement below.

It must be free from moisture related conditions which can damage the installed flooring.

### **Light Weight Concrete**

It is concrete which rated strength is less than 3000 psi.

Perform a quick check by drawing a nail across the top; if it leaves indentation, it is probably light concrete.

For glue-down application, the concrete must possess shear strength greater than the glue. If concrete rated psi is unknown, contact the adhesive manufacturer for guidance.

### **Concrete Moisture**

All concrete subfloors should be tested for moisture content and the results documented. Visual checks are not reliable. Perform tests at locations around exterior doorways, near walls containing plumbing, near foundation walls and in the center of the room. Minimum sample size is 3 samples per 1000 square feet of area and one test for every additional 1000 square feet thereafter.

Its moisture content should meet one of the following criteria below:

- 5% when tested using Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter
- Less than 3 pounds per 1000 square feet per 24 hours when using Calcium Chloride test (ASTM F 1869)
- 75% when using Relative Humidity Testing (ASTM F-2170).

Please note: Concrete moisture content may be acceptable the time of the test. These tests do not guarantee a perpetual "dry" concrete slab. The concrete slab moisture content can vary at other times of the year. We are not responsible for moisture related damage to

installed flooring.

### **Wood Subfloor Requirements**

It must be clean; no presence of construction debris, soil, mud and any other objects on or adhering to the floor; no protrusions of nails, debris, metals should remain. If necessary, scrape and sweep the subfloor before the installation.

It must be structurally sound and stable; no movements or squeaks; no loose panels or loose nails; no signs of ply de-lamination or other damages. Repair all shortcomings before installation.

It must be flat; no visible bumps or low spots; the subfloor should be flat to within 1/8" in 6 feet span or 3/16" in 10 feet.

Test for moisture using reliable moisture meter. Perform tests at locations around exterior doorways, near foundation walls, near walls containing plumbing lines and in the center of the room. Measure 20 locations per 1000 square feet.

Moisture content of subfloor should be less than 14%.

#### *Plywood or Oriented Strand Board (OSB) Specifications*

On truss/joist spacing of 16" (406mm) O/C or less, the industry standard for single-panel subflooring is minimum 5/8" (19/32", 15.1 mm) CD Exposure 1 plywood subfloor panels (CD Exposure 1) or 23/32" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4' x 8' sheets. Expansion gap between panels should be 1/8" (3 mm). If there is not sufficient spacing, cut in the required spacing with a circular saw if panels are not tongued and grooved. Do not cut in expansion space on joined tongue and groove of panels.

### **Particle Board or Fiber Board**

Only for floating installation.

### **Existing Floors**

Installation over existing floor requires the installer to consider potential issues related to moisture damage, adhesive failure and fastener failure. Contact the adhesive and fastener manufacturers respectively for their specific instructions, recommendations and requirements. Acceptable floor coverings include: solid hardwood, linoleum, terrazzo, ceramic tile and other "moisture sealing floors."

Unacceptable floor coverings include: carpet, needle punch felt, edge glued linoleum and other "moisture absorbing flooring."

### **Radiant Heated Subfloor**

This product can be installed over radiant heated subfloor. Operating surface temperature must be less than 85°F. Decrease temperature before installation. Increase temperature gradually after installation. Contact heater manufacturer for specific installation instruction.

### **Moisture Barrier and Moisture Retarder**

*Concrete Subfloor:* For floating installation, use 6 mil polyethylene film or other means with equivalent permeability. Overlap the edge seams and tape it together. Extend moisture barrier up to the wall about 1 inch high. When installed on above grade concrete and the moisture content meets standards for concrete moisture, a moisture barrier is not required. For direct glue installation, use moisture barrier if moisture level exceeds requirement (see Concrete Moisture section).

*Wood Subfloor:* Moisture retarder is optional.

Overlap along the edge seams 2" - 4" wide. This retards moisture movement from below. Extend the moisture retarder to about 1" from the walls. Secure to the subfloor as necessary.

### **Sound Control Underlayment**

It is optional. Check with sound control manufacturer for application guidelines. Generally, the less compressive underlayment is preferred.

### **Expansion Gap**

Required gap width range is 5/16" to 3/8". It is required around the perimeter of the floor and between floor and all vertical obstructions. Do not place permanently mounted structures such as kitchen counter/cabinet on the installed floor.

### **Transition Molding**

Floating installation, transition T-molding is required in the following cases: floor spanning greater than 40 feet in length or width; doorways or passageways 5 ft. wide or less.

Note: Floor areas interrupted by wall openings greater than 5 ft. wide or interrupted by wall sections extending out of the wall, or floor areas which are not rectangular may experience buckling or gapping if there is excessive floor expansion or shrinkage.

### **Wet Areas**

This product can be installed in kitchens, mud rooms, powder rooms, bathrooms and laundry rooms.

Do not install in saunas, swimming pool areas and other similar extreme wet areas.

Fill all expansion gaps with water repellant caulk. Do not allow water or liquids to remain on the floor and seep into the joints. To minimize moisture damage, we recommend applying a thin film of water repellant to joints between planks.

## Tools and Materials

### Basics:

Tape measure • Moisture meter (wood, concrete or both) • Chalk line & chalk • Hammer • Electric power saw • Carbide tipped saw blade for fine cut • NIOSH-designated dust mask • Hand saw or jamb saw • Eye protection • Straight edge or Spacers • Pry Bar • Mallet • Broom • Color matched wood putty • Tapping block • Pull bar

### Safety and Health Precautions

Power tools can be dangerous. Operate in strict accordance to manufacturer's operating instructions and safety precautions. Unsafe and improper use can cause serious injuries.

Avoid inhalation and exposures to wood dust by mechanical means and by wearing personal protective equipment.

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) which include NIOSH or OSHA approve dust masks, safety goggle and work gloves.

## Helpful Pointers

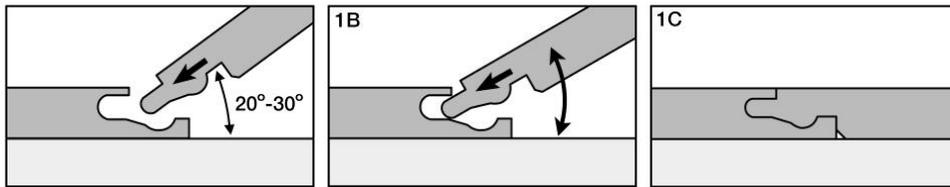
### General Tips

- Make sure your work area is well lit. Good visibility ensures that color is consistent and that visually defective planks are detected and removed.
- Preferred minimum length of the first and last plank is 12". The remainder of the last plank can be used as a starter board on the following rows.
- Using a shorter piece at undercut door jams will help when fitting flooring in place.

## Click Lock Technique

Position the second panel in the groove of the first panel at a 20° or 30° angle.

Move the panel gently up and down while exerting pressure toward the first panel. The panel will auto-matically lock into place. See diagrams below.

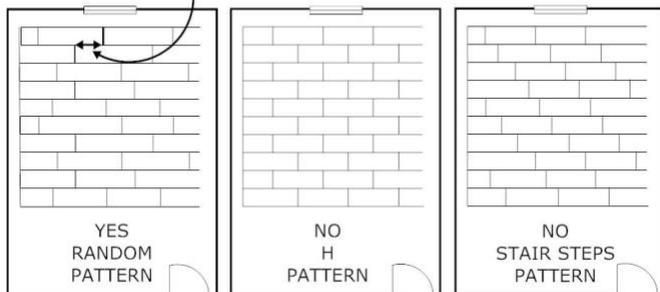


## Floating Installation Procedure

### Step 1 - Pre-install Activities

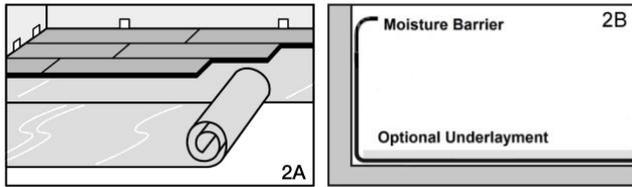
- Rack up planks from several boxes.
- Ensure ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 6" between the rows. See diagram below. Random pattern is most common, but it is a personal preference.
- Inspect product for defects. If material is questionable, contact the retailer immediately. Do not proceed with installation

Min. 6" stagger from end-joint to end-joint between rows



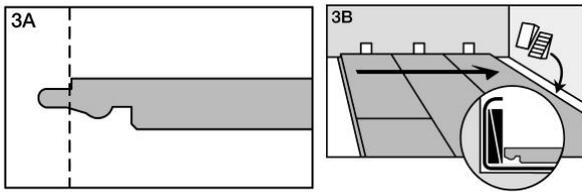
### Step 2 – Install Moisture Barrier (if on concrete) and Optional Underlayment if selected.

- For concrete, let the moisture barrier run up the wall a bit before cutting to size.
- Install the underlayment on top of the moisture barrier. Cut 1 inch from the wall. See diagrams below.



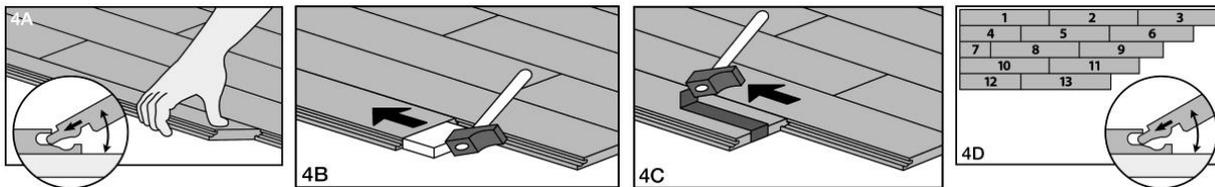
### Step 3 – Install the First Row

- Saw off the tongue from the length and width of the first plank. Create expansion gap by placing spacers between the planks and the walls for expansion.
- Saw off the tongues from only the length of the remaining planks to be installed in the first row.
- Use the angling method to connect and lock the joints between the planks. Remember to use the spacer for maintaining expansion gap. See diagrams below.



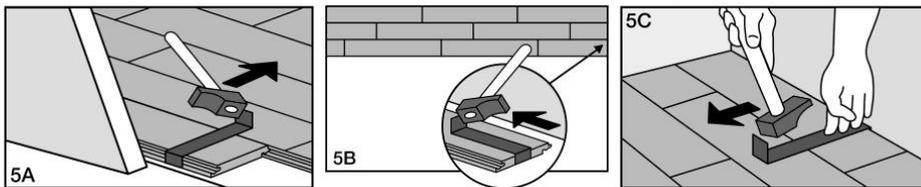
### Step 4 – Install the Remaining Rows

- Stagger the end joints by at least 6 inches. Use angling method to lock the joint along the long edge.
- Use the angling technique to lock the long edge together.
- Use either the tapping block or pull bar to drive the next plank toward the first plank until the end joints are locked.
- Repeat the steps until the row is complete. See diagrams below.



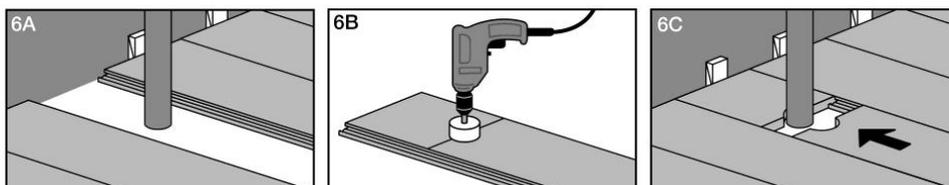
### Step 5 – Tight Spaces

- In tight spaces use the pull bar and a hammer. See diagrams below.



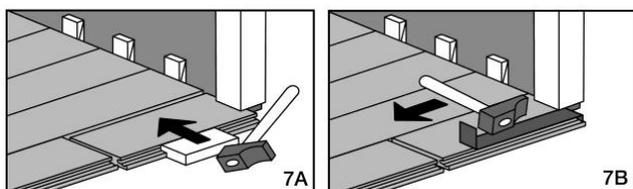
### Step 6 – Pipes

- Expansion gaps around vertical pipes is created by drilling a hole through a locked ends joint.
- Drill a hole the size of the diameter plus 3/4 inch for expansion.
- Separate the panels and rejoin them around the pipe. See diagrams.



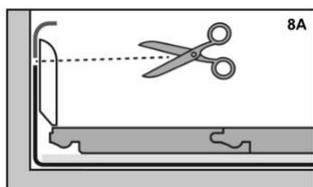
### Step 7 - Under Door Frames

- Ensure a 3/8 inch expansion gap between floor and door jamb.
- Use a tapping block and a hammer, or a pull bar and a hammer. See diagrams.



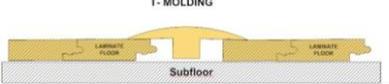
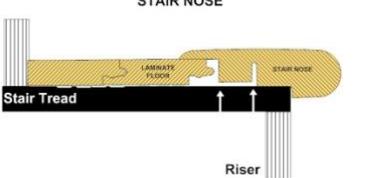
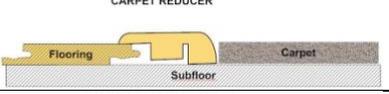
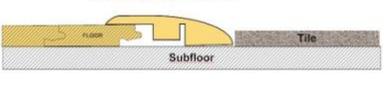
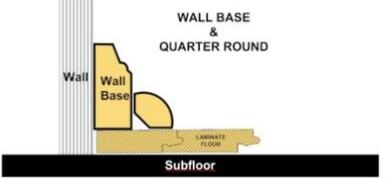
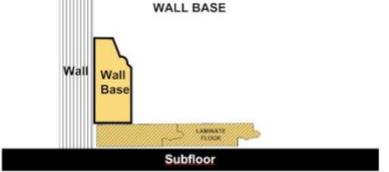
#### Step 8 – Finishing Touches

- Clean the floor.
- Remove all spacers.
- Trim excess moisture barrier to just below the top of the wallbase. See diagrams.
- Install the molding on the plastic membrane that runs up the wall from under the floor. Never fasten the molding to the floor.
- Caulk around pipes and in places where molding cannot be installed.
- Use matching putty where necessary
- Install or reinstall all wall trim pieces. Nail them through the wall, but not to the subfloor to avoid restricting the expansion gap.
- Install transition trim pieces. Nail them to the subfloor, not the flooring.
- At doorways, transitions should be used to protect the edges of the floor and to provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another.
- If the floor is to be covered, use a breathable material such as cardboard. Do not cover with plastic



## Accessories

Pictures are for illustrative purposes only. Actual product may differ from pictures.

 <p>T-MOLDING</p>	<p>T-Molding is used to create a transition between floor coverings of similar heights or to cover an expansion gap.</p>
 <p>STAIR NOSE</p>	<p>Stair Nose is used in conjunction with flooring installed on stair steps or finished edge of a higher-level floor like in a sunken living room.</p>
 <p>CARPET REDUCER</p>	<p>Carpet Reducer (also called Baby Threshold or End Cap) is used to transition floor coverings of differing heights. This reducer strip is also commonly used to border a fireplace, sliding glass door and other exterior door jambs.</p>
 <p>HARD SURFACE REDUCER</p>	<p>Hard Surface Reducer is used to transition to another hard surface flooring of different heights such as tile, vinyl, concrete.</p>
 <p>WALL BASE &amp; QUARTER ROUND</p>	<p>Quarter Round is used to cover the expansion space between the Wall Base and your flooring. It can also be used them to make smooth transitions between the floor and cabinetry. It can be used with or without Wall Base molding.</p>
 <p>WALL BASE</p>	<p>Wall Base is used to give a finished look at the base of the walls. It can be used with or without Quarter Round.</p>

## Technical Support

For installation information and technical questions not covered in this installation guide, please contact our Technical Support Representative by calling the toll-free number below.

**Toll Free Number: 877-630-1800**

**Warranty**

This flooring product comes with a Home Legend Limited Wear Warranty. The warranty applies to original purchaser of the flooring. It warrants the original purchaser that the finish surface will not wear through for duration of the stated warranty from the date of purchase. Please contact our Customer Service Representative by calling our toll-free number 877-630-1800 or 877-960-8001 or send in the warranty registration below for a written copy which provides detail terms of coverage and limitations. You may also email your request to [claims@homelegend.com](mailto:claims@homelegend.com).

**WARRANTY REGISTRATION**

UPON RECEIPT OF THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND COPY OF RECEIPT, WE WILL SEND YOU A WRITTEN WARRANTY DOCUMENT. SEND ONE COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH A COPY OF PROOF OF PURCHASE TO:

HOME LEGEND, LLC  
WARRANTY REGISTRATION  
P.O. BOX 887  
ADAIRSVILLE, GA 30103

Customer Name	
Customer Address	
City, State, ZIP Code	
Phone/E-mail	
Product Model Number	
Product Description	
Date Purchase	
Retailer Name	
Retailer Address	
City, State, ZIP Code	
Installer	