# Manor 12 Laminate Flooring

## Glueless Floating Installation Guide

### INSTALLER / OWNER RESPONSIBILITY

- It is the Installer/Owner's responsibility to carefully inspect ALL materials BEFORE installation as to the accuracy of the order and the conditions/quality of product such as milling, laminations, dimension, grade, color and finish.
- If the flooring is not acceptable for any reason or appears to be doubtful, do not install and contact your supplier. Once the flooring is installed, it is deemed to have been "accepted" by the owner even if the owner was absent at time of installation. Warranties & Claims DO NOT cover materials with visible defects once they are installed.
- He/she must use good judgment and reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with visible defects or imperfections. NOTE: The industry standard for allowable waste by the manufacturer is 5% to offset visual or milling defects during manufacturing process.
- **"Racking the Floor"** As you install the floor, blend the laminate planks from several cartons to provide a random look throughout the installation.
- Performance of the floor is highly dependent on proper installation. It is the responsibility of the installer to determine if the job site subfloor and job site conditions are environmentally and structurally acceptable for laminate flooring installation.
- Warranty does not cover problems resulting from or associated with the subfloor, job site environment or installation deficiencies.

### ACCLIMATION

Flooring should be at the job site at least 48 hours prior to installation to allow the laminate flooring to adapt to the temperature and moisture contents of the new environment. Cartons should be placed in the center of the installation site area. Keep away from the air vents, outside walls or windows. Do not store directly on the concrete. Flooring should be kept flat with the proper support at both ends and stack cartons to provide at least 4" space under and around the each carton to allow air to circulate evenly. Do not open cartons until ready to install. Heating and air conditioning units must be operating at least 7 days prior to the delivery of the flooring and maintain a consistent room temperature between 65-75$^{o}$ F and a relative humidity of 45-55%. This environment should be kept at the time of installation and after the installation all year around.

### SUBFLOORS AND JOBSITE CONDITION

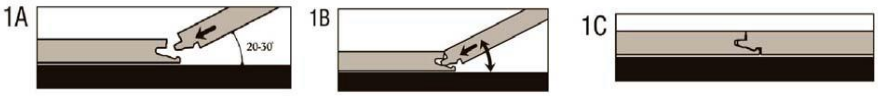
Laminate Flooring can be installed on, above, below grade or on almost all types of floors (existing stone floors, ceramic tiles, terrazzo, marble, PVC, linoleum floors and resilient (VCT) vinyl composition tile) providing they are clean, sound, dry and smooth.

- Must be checked for moisture. (Maximum moisture reading for wood subfloor is 14% and for concrete subfloor is 4.5%.)
- Must be clean, structurally sound and flat and level at 3/16" in a 10' radius or 1/8" in a 6' radius.
- Concrete subfloor must be completely cured and at least 90 days old.
- A moisture vapor barrier such as minimum of 6 mil polyethylene film should be installed between concrete and ground. Make sure the basements and crawl spaces are well ventilated.
- If installing over a crawl space or a concrete floor, use of polyethylene vapor barrier is required along with a minimum 2mm thickness foam underlayment. We recommend 2 in 1 Moisture Blok or 3 in 1 Sound Blok Plus underlayment by Forest Accents.
- Forest Accents laminate flooring needs room to expand. An expansion gap of 10-15mm (3/8" – 5/8") should always be left around the perimeter of the room (e.g.: between the flooring panels and the walls or any other fixed elements, such as heating pipes or door jambs). The expansion gap can be covered up with baseboards, quarter round, or the appropriate floor molding. T-moldings (at least 2cm (1") in width) must be used between adjoining rooms, hallways and doorways. T-moldings must be used in the middle of rooms measuring 10 meters (33') in the direction of the panel length and more than 8 meters (26') in the direction of the panel width.

### GENERAL

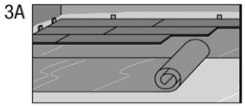
Uniclic® is a revolutionary system for installing laminate floors without using glue. The panels can be clicked together simply thanks to the ingenious shape of the tongue and groove.

Method A ( Angle-In installation method): Position the panel to be installed at an angle of 20 to 30° to the panel already installed. Move the panel gently up and down while exerting forward pressure. The panels will automatically click into place. You can either insert the tongue into the groove, or the groove on to the tongue. The tongue into the groove is the easiest method. (See diagrams 1A --- 1B --- 1C.)



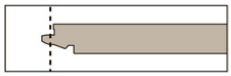

### START INSTALLATION

1. First install the underlayment, per width and gradually as you progress. Let the membrane run up the wall a bit before cutting to size. A molding will be attached to this later. **See diagrams 3A.**



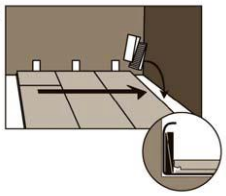
2. Begin the first row with a whole plank. First saw off the tongue on both the long and the short sides. (See **diagram** 3B.)

3B



3. Put the plank with the sawn off sides against the walls. Put spacers from the installation kit between the planks and the wall. This will ensure that your expansion joint is wide enough: 3/8”. (See diagram 3C.)

3C



4. The diagrams below indicate where the Uniclic® panels are clicked together by angling up and down or where they are tapped together flat. IMPORTANT – When using the flat tap method along wall lines be sure that no installation tool impacts the sides of the planks which could cause damage along the plank edges. Follow the diagrams precisely. (See diagrams 4.1 through 4.16.)

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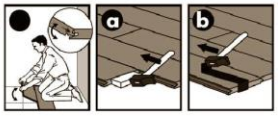
4.2



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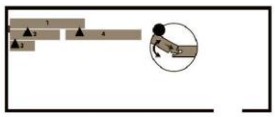

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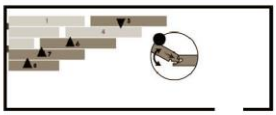

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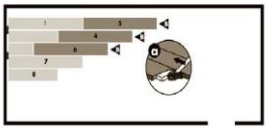

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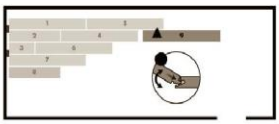

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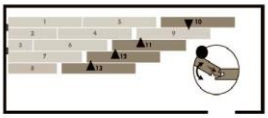

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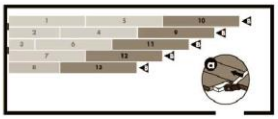

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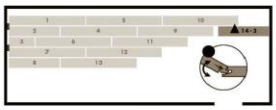

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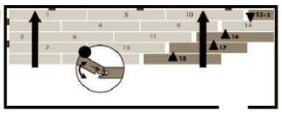

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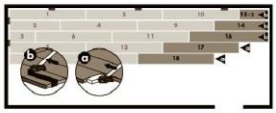

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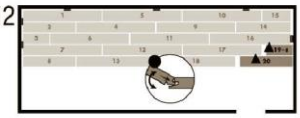

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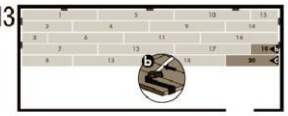

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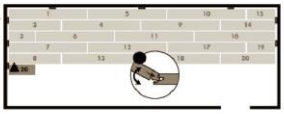

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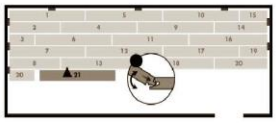
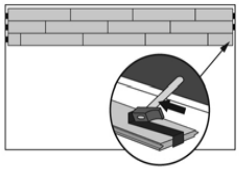


4.16

In places where it is too difficult to install the Uniclic® planks with the tapping block (e.g. against the wall), you can tap them together using the pull bar and a hammer. (See diagrams 5A --- 5B - 5C.)

5A



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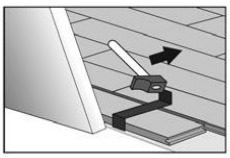
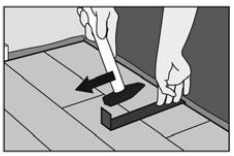


5C



There must be an 3/8” expansion joint between the last row and the wall. Keep this in mind when sawing the last row of panels.

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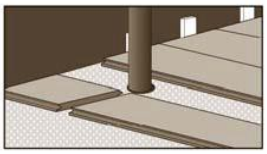
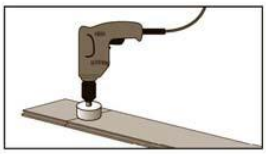
**Wet Areas**

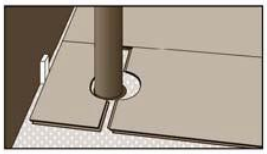
Since prolonged water exposure could damage your laminate flooring, the following installation recommendations should be closely followed. Wet areas would include, but are not limited to, bathrooms, powder rooms, kitchens, mud rooms, foyers, and laundry rooms. Neither flooring panels nor flooring accessories are recommended for extreme humid applications such as in saunas or swimming pool areas. An expansion area of 3/8" must be provided around all vertical obstructions including walls, permanent cabinets, pipes etc. All perimeter expansion areas must be completely filled in with a water repellant sealant. When applying sealant, it is helpful to first apply a strip of masking tape parallel to and approximately 1mm (1/32") from the edge of the flooring. Then fill the expansion area with sealant, remove any excess with a plastic scraper or putty knife, then remove the tape. Let dry for 24 hours.

**Pipes**

In rows where there is a pipe, make sure the pipe falls exactly in line with the short side of two panels. Take a drill bit with the same diameter as the pipe plus 20mm (3/4'') for the expansion. Click the panels together on the short side and drill a hole in the center of the joint between the two panels. Now you can install the panels in the floor. (See diagrams 6A-6B-6C.)

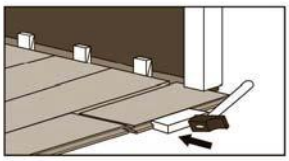
6A 

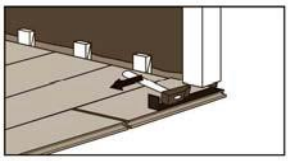
6B 

6C 

**Under doorframes**

When sawing the panels, ensure that the expansion joint under the door is at least 3/8''. If you cannot lift the panel, use an adapted tapping block or pull bar and hammer to tap the panels together with the planks flat on the floor. (See diagrams 7A-7B.)

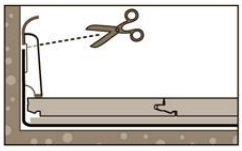
7A 

7B 

**Finishing**

Remove all spacers. Install the molding on the plastic membrane that runs up the wall from under the floor. Never attach the molding to the floor. This method allows the floor to expand and contract under the molding. (See diagram 8A.)

For a perfect finish around pipes, use rosettes or caulking. In places where profiles or skirting cannot be placed, fill expansion gaps with caulking.

8A 

**Installation over Radiant Heated Floors**

Always follow the instruction from the radiant heating system manufacturer. Below is the general instruction.

- Operation of radiant heat system should be set to run at 2/3 maximum output for a minimum of 2 weeks prior to installation of flooring to further allow any remaining moisture from concrete to evaporate.
- All radiant heating systems must be set to room temp. (A minimum of 64°F), for at least 4 days before flooring delivery; acclimation, or installation processes may begin.
- Proceed with the floating installation. Use of 2 in 1 or 3 in 1 underlayment is mandatory.
- After completing the installation, do not change the radiant heat setting for 48 hrs.
- 48 hours after the installation, slowly raise the temperature by few degree daily increments over period of one week its preferred temperature for flooring to adjust to the temperature changes in a gradual manner. Avoid dramatic temperature changes at anytime.
- Operate the radiant heating system at the lowest possible temperature required to achieve a comfortable living environment. Never raise the flooring surface temperature setting above 80 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Dedicated thermostat should be installed to allow the temperature of the radiant heating system to be accurately controlled.

**Disassembling**

Your Laminate Flooring can very easy be disassembled, which enables replacement during installation and also after made installation when it is needed or desired to replace one or several planks or even the whole floor.

**Precautions**

- Protect furniture and chair legs with proper felt or plastic caps.
- Avoid bringing dirt, water and sand indoors by providing a suitable floor mat at the door.
- Use (office) chairs and seats with soft wheels that are suitable for a laminate floor and/or use a suitable desk mat.
- Ensure that humidity in the room is always at least 50%. Use a humidifier if you need to.

**Care and Maintenance**

Your Laminate Flooring should be cleaned using a vacuum-cleaner. Use a recommended hardwood/laminate floor cleaner. Place doormats at entrances and use floor protectors, felt pads under chair and furniture legs. See Care and Maintenance Guide for more information.