

nature's\_life 

## Installation Instructions

### 1. Preparation and Planning

#### **Range of Application**

Prefabricated parquet is suitable flooring for normally heated, dry rooms. Floating installation is possible or it can be fully adhered on the substrate. The parquet is suitable for underfloor heating systems. For good heat transition the parquet should be fully glued down. On heated screed, planks with more than 22 cm width always have to be fully glued down.

#### **Room Climate and Heating**

During installation the rooms already have to have a normal climate (air temperature approx. 20° degrees Celsius, relative air humidity approx. 50-65 %). If the air humidity during installation is too high, this can lead to tensions in the parquet, which release only after some time. Appearance of joints and cracks as well as deformations in the parquet can be caused by too high surface temperatures brought about by fireplaces, tiled stoves, winter gardens or underfloor heating systems. It can also be caused by too dry room air, especially in low-energy houses with air heat exchanger and without systematic air humidification.

During the winter suitable air humidification is needed.

For underfloor heating systems the maximum permissible heat output is 55 W/m<sup>2</sup> and the heat must spread out evenly underneath the surface. The surface temperature may not exceed 29° degrees Celsius at any point. Covers (e.g. thick carpets or mattresses) lead to an inadmissible heat accumulation.

Damages and health impairments can be avoided, if the surface temperature of the parquet never exceeds 27° degrees Celsius and the relative air humidity is between 50 and 65 %. At the beginning of each heating period the temperature should be gradually increased within one week, until a normal temperature is reached.

#### **Handling of Closed Parcels**

Prefabricated parquet elements are shrinkwrapped from all sides and may not be damaged during transport and storage. During the winter the parquet has to adjust to the room temperature (48 hours) in the closed cartons before installation. Please open the cartons only immediately before installation.

#### **Substrate**

The substrate has to be free of textile old coatings, clean, permanently dry, level, hard and stable. Unevenness of more than 2 mm on 1 m must be eliminated or evened out, e.g. by milling or suitable filler and leveling compound.

For unheated screed the maximum permissible residual humidity for cement is 2 % as per CM method and for anhydrite 0.5 % as per CM method.

Before installation it should be checked and observed.

For heated screed the maximum permissible residual humidity for cement is 1.8 % and for anhydrite 0.3 %. Before installation the substrate must be dried according to the heating and test protocol for heated screed. Before installation the residual humidity must also be checked and observed.

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### **Edge Joints**

Wood is a natural material, which reacts to climatic variations through dimensional change. Observe at least 10 mm lateral expansion joint between the parquet and the wall as well as at all fixed components, door frames or heating pipes. If technically possible, please install the parquet underneath the door frames.

### **Floating Installation**

A 0.2 mm diffusion and aging resistant PE foil with 20 cm overlap is installed on the entire area as a vapor barrier. It is also installed on the walls in a tray-like form so that approx. 5 cm are raised like an edging. The footfall sound insulation is installed on the foil with a maximum of 3 mm in thickness and without overlap.

When using the floating installation method, in doorways the parquet always has to be separated by a joint. The floor has to be separated by a joint in a suitable position, if the parquet area is bigger than 10 m in longitudinal direction of the planks or 8 m in transverse direction or if the floor plan is very complex (L-, Z- or U-form, "hour glass" or constrictions) or if heavy or fixed components or structures prevent the movement of the wood, like it is the case during floating installation.

Alternatively, the parquet can be fully glued down on the substrate without separating joints, except for the joints in the doorways.

### **All-over glue down installation**

The parquet is glued directly to the substrate. An additional gluing of the joints is not necessary. Elastic adhesives, which are approved for common rooms and are suitable for multi-layer prefabricated parquet and heated screed are suitable for all-over adhesion. The assembly and processing instructions of the adhesive manufacturer are valid.

Expansion joints in the screed (recognizable by the insulating strips) must be adopted in the parquet. Cuts and cracks should be pasted over in a force-locking manner.

## **2. Installation**

### **Visual inspection**

Wood is a natural product and every piece is unique in color and appearance. For a harmonic overall image, it may be necessary to install planks from several different packages in alternation. In spite of constant and strict quality controls, mistakes cannot be fully eliminated.

Already installed planks cannot be claimed.