

HERRINGBONE

COLLECTION

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS



Mikasa
REAL WOOD FLOORS

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MIKASA® REAL WOOD FLOORS - HERRINGBONE COLLECTION

The Mikasa Herringbone is best installed through nailing, staples and gluing down. It can also be installed as floating but more precaution should be taken like gluing the connections and more support on the floor in order to reduce the movement of the strips.

- **MIKASA®PRISTINE -15mm**

This product may be installed:

- in rooms, on, above or below ground level
- over plywood, OSB or concrete subfloors or directly over existing hard surfaces
- This product may be installed over a radiant heating system if:
 - The floor is NOT made with Jatoba or Maple hardwood. These wood types must not be used with radiant heating systems.
 - The installation conforms to MIKASA® special instructions for installation over radiant Heat. Detailed installation procedures are described in our Installation Guide. Download it directly from www.mikasafloors.com

The secret of a successful MIKASA® Herringbone floor installation is measurement accuracy and subfloor preparation. It is advisable to use extremely accurate measurements of the room and layout for best results. During the installation process it is advisable to validate measurements as you lay out the strips to make necessary adjustments. All measurements are to be calculated by the metric system for accurate and seamless installation.

INSTALLER'S / OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Since wood is a natural product, it contains inherent variations in colour, grain, appearance and other visual imperfections. MIKASA® floors are manufactured in accordance with industry standards which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. These defects may be the result of manufacturing or naturally occurring characteristics of the material. It is recommended that a 5% cutting or grading allowance be added to the total square footage when calculating the quantity of flooring required. It is the sole and joint responsibility

NOTE: SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OVER RADIANT HEAT ARE MENTIONED IN THIS BROCHURE. THESE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY ONLY TO THOSE PRODUCTS OF FLOORING THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY APPROVED FOR USE OVER RADIANT HEAT AND MEET THE CONDITIONS GIVEN ABOVE. INSTALLATION OF NON-APPROVED PRODUCTS OR INSTALLATION OF APPROVED PRODUCTS IN A NON-APPROVED MANNER, OVER RADIANT HEATING SYSTEMS WILL VOID THE PRODUCT WARRANTY.

This product should NOT be installed in bathrooms or laundry rooms.

of the installer and owner to conduct a quality inspection of all pieces of MIKASA® flooring before installation. Any piece of flooring that appears to contain a manufacturing defect should not be installed. Flooring that has been installed will be deemed to have been inspected and accepted by the installer and owner, even if the owner is not present at the time of installation. If a defect is found, please contact your dealer.

It is the sole responsibility of the installer to ensure that the job site, subfloor and installation tools and materials meet or exceed all applicable industry standards.

MIKASA™ accepts no responsibility for problems arising from incorrect or improper site preparation or installation procedures.

Check local building codes and bylaws before commencing installation to ensure compliance with local requirements. In the event of a discrepancy between local codes and manufacturer's guidelines, local codes should be followed.

Very important: MIKASA™ floors are made from wood and wood-based products, and like any wood product they will react to changes in the environment. Please pay special attention to site conditions, Subfloor, expansion space, temperature and humidity levels.

SITE PREPARATION:

Installation in newly-constructed home

Installation of flooring is one of the last jobs when constructing a home. Before you install your MIKASA® real wood floor, ensure that:

- The building is completely enclosed with all doors and windows in place, including a door from an attached garage to the interior of the house
- All concrete, masonry, plastering, drywall, texturing, painting and other wet work is complete and dry
- Basements and crawlspaces are dry; Crawlspaces must have no standing water; crawlspaces must also have a vapour barrier and adequate ventilation in accordance with local building codes
- Gutters and downspouts are in place, directing water away from the building
- HVAC systems are fully operational, enabling heat and humidity levels to be controlled and maintained throughout the structure
- Subfloor is properly prepared for installation
- While installing over radiant heat, ensure that the system is in full working order and has been fully tested and running for a minimum of two weeks prior to installation. The system should be turned off for 24 hours prior to installation in the install zone

Installation in existing home (Renovation)

Installation in an existing home must meet the same conditions as in a new home. If part of a larger remodeling project, ensure that all wet work (painting, wallpapering, texturing, etc.) is complete and thoroughly dry before commencing installation of the floor. In addition:

- Remove all furniture, artwork and other valuables from installation area
- Remove skirting and profiles
- Undercut door casings (use a piece of flooring as a depth gauge)
- Remove existing flooring, if necessary (carpets and underlay must be removed, but most of the MIKASA® floors with glue free locking joint systems can be installed directly over most other flooring types, including sheet or tile vinyl, ceramic, parquet, etc. Ask your dealer in case of any doubt.)
- If installing over radiant heat, it is strongly recommended that a radiant heat technician be consulted prior to installation. All to ensure that the heating system can be operated effectively at temperatures acceptable to MIKASA® flooring. The system should be turned off in the install zone for 24 hours prior to installation. (Installation instructions for underfloor heating and thermal conductivity can be downloaded from www.mikasafloors.com)

Climate control

Conditions at the job site must be maintained between 65°- 75°F (18°- 24°C) and humidity at 35 - 55% before, during and after the installation. Flooring material should not be delivered to the job site until these conditions have been met and maintained for one week prior to installation if installing over a wood subfloor and two weeks if installing over concrete. Following installation, these conditions should be maintained at all times to ensure proper performance of the floor.

When temperature and humidity have met the conditions detailed above, material may be delivered to the job site. While stacking the boxes, cross-stack to ensure good air flow between layers. Do not lay boxes directly on concrete subfloors; elevate them on blocks. Do not open the boxes; leave them closed until conditions are perfect for installation, then open as and when needed.

Subfloor preparation

Like many home improvement projects, one of the most critical parts of installing MIKASA® flooring is to make sure the surface is properly prepared before installing the product. So, take the time to do this step completely and thoroughly.

The installer and customer are jointly and solely responsible for ensuring that the subfloor is suitable for flooring and properly prepared for installation.

All subfloors must be clean, dry, structurally sound and flat by 1/8" in 8' (or 3mm in 1m). Plywood subfloors must meet local building code requirements (US: minimum 3/4"(19mm) T&G plywood or 23/32" (18mm) T&G OSB. Canada: minimum 5/8" (16mm) T&G plywood or 3/4"(19mm) T&G OSB). They must be secure to the joints, free of squeaks and protruding fasteners.

Moisture content

All subfloors must be tested for moisture content according to NWFA guidelines, and the moisture content of both subfloor and flooring must be within allowable limits before commencing installation. The moisture content of plywood or OSB subfloor must not exceed 12%. The moisture content of the flooring must be within 4 percentage points of the subfloor.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured (60 days) prior to installation. Moisture content of the slab should not exceed 3 lb. / 1000 sq./ft. / 24 hours.

If the flooring is being installed over a radiant heating system, moisture content of the slab should not exceed 2 lb. / 1000 sq./ft. / 24 hours. The system should be turned off in the installation zone for 24 hours before installation begins and left off for the duration of the installation period.

Colour racking

MIKASA® flooring being a natural product contains natural variations in colour and has grainy patterns. In order to prevent colour "grouping" or repetitive grain patterns in the finished floor, it is recommended that boards be racked (visually sorted) before installation to create a satisfactory and pleasing colour arrangement. Immediately prior to installation, unpack 1 or 2 cartons to get a sense of the range of colour variation and arrange the planks to achieve a satisfactory appearance.

While racking, inspect all boards for visible manufacturing defects. Boards with manufacturing defects in excess of industry standards (5% of total quantity) may be replaced by the dealer under the terms of the product warranty. Once installed, boards will be considered to have been accepted by the customer and will not be eligible for replacement. (See Warranty for details.)

Expansion space

MIKASA® real wood floors will expand and contract with changes in ambient temperature and humidity. To allow for this, during installation, leave a 3/8" (10mm) expansion space around the entire perimeter of the floor between the flooring and walls. Also, leave some space between the flooring and any vertical obstacle, such as stairs, pipes, door sills, tiles, cabinets, etc.

NOTE: In climates with extreme variations in humidity (beyond the range of 35 to 55%), or in large installations 75+ sqm (800+ feet), a larger expansion space may be required.

If installing the floor in a room measuring more than 30 ft. (10m) by floorboard width, or more than 30 ft. (10m) measured by board length, leave an expansion gap in the center of the space and cover it with an expansion profile (T-cap). The gap should be wide enough to allow 3/8" (10mm) expansion space on each side of the T-cap base. An expansion gap and T-cap should be used in any door threshold where the flooring is being carried through into an adjoining room.

Special Instructions for Installation Over Radiant Heat

If installing over radiant heat, place approved heat sensors on the subfloor in accordance with MIKASA® Special Instructions

The floor must be able to move free — do not connect or install close to any construction part.

Rooms with off square areas like for example L-, F-, T-, U- shapes, separate the areas with an expansion joint and especially always in door openings.

for Installation over Radiant Heat. A minimum of 5 sensors must be placed for every 1000 square feet of flooring installed. Installation instructions for radiant heating and thermal conductivity can be downloaded from www.mikasafloors.com.

Vapour Barrier & Underlay

If the flooring is being installed on a concrete sub-floor, or over a crawlspace, or below ground level, a vapor barrier must be installed. An underlay that reduces impact sound & vapor must be laid under the planks. For example, use MIKASA™ VaProtect™ or moisture barrier and Underlay / felt paper as an intermediate layer. Seal the seams with duct tape along their entire length. Leave an excess of 4" (100mm) of sheeting extending up the wall at all outer edges and hold in place with blue or painter's masking tape. (This excess will be trimmed away later.)

Starting Wall

For best results, MIKASA® real wood floors should be installed with the boards running parallel to incoming sunlight. When you have determined which direction the flooring will run, decide where you want to start — usually the longest wall adjacent to the wall with windows. It is important that the flooring be installed in perfectly straight rows parallel to the starting wall. To verify that the starting wall itself is straight, measure out 12 inches (300mm) from each end of the wall and snap a chalk line parallel to it. Measure the distance from the line to the wall every 2 or 3 feet (600-900mm). If it is consistent, the wall is straight. If there is a variance anywhere of more than a quarter inch (7 mm), you may need to trim the edge of the first row of floor boards to match the shape of the wall.

INSTALLATION

Tools and Materials Required:

1. MIKASA Herringbone product with A and B profile.
2. Approved and suggested adhesive by MIKASA.
3. Adhesive manufacturer's recommended trowel, in case of glued installation
4. Tape Measure
5. Chalk Line
6. Straight Edge
7. Expansion Shims
8. Floor Protectors
9. Hammer
10. Wood saws

Step 1:

1.1 Snap chalk line (Y) through center of room as shown in Fig. 1.1 above. Next, determine perpendicular line (X). Important: Line X must be exactly 90° to line Y to form perfectly square corner.

1.2 To ensure this angle: A) From center point (a) of line Y, measure about 100mm along line Y and mark point (b) (Fig. 1.2A).

B) From center point (a) measure 75mm in general direction of where line X will be and scribe an arc (Fig. 1.2B).

C) Return to original 100mm mark (b) on line Y and measure 125mm, scribing an arc crossing 75mm arc from previous step (Fig. 1.2C).

D) Verify all measurements before proceeding.

E) If correct, snap chalk line through intersection of arcs and center point of line Y. Chalk line represents line X and should form 90° angle with line Y as shown in Fig. 1.1.

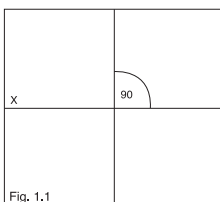


Fig. 1.1

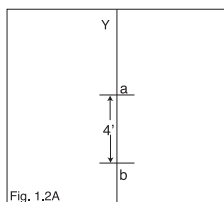


Fig. 1.2A

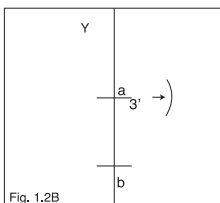


Fig. 1.2B

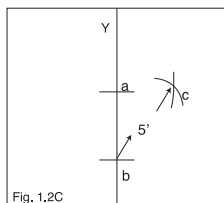
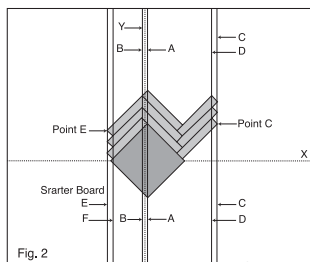
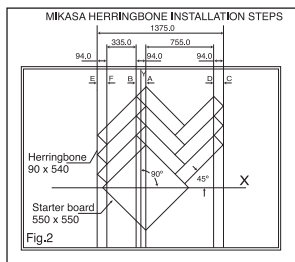


Fig. 1.2C

1.3 Measure out 47mm from each side of line Y and snap chalk lines, A & B to serve as guidelines for top corners of boards as shown in Fig. 2.

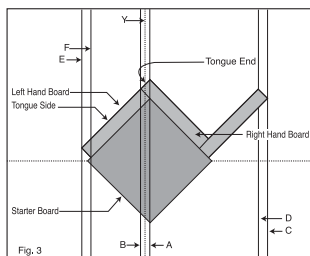
Step 2:



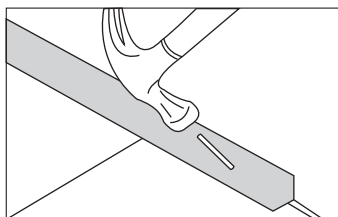
- 2.1 Cut starter board from plywood 15/18mm thickness x 550mm x 550mm. Starter board must be perfectly square. Use this piece of plywood to make as a starter/backer board which will be very handy to start first row of strips.
- 2.2 Align top and bottom corners of starter/backer board with line A and secure to floor (Fig. 2) by nailing the starter/backer to the subfloor. Leave the nail sticking out a bit for easy removal.
- 2.3 Dry-lay three rows (for procedure refer to Step 3) to determine distance to point C. (Fig. 2). Once distance is determined, snap another chalk line to represent guide line C. Repeat procedure for other side, point E and guide line E (Fig. 2). Begin installation in centre of room, aligning one corner E of backer board with guide line B and securing it to subfloor. Place one strip on each side of backer board to ensure measurement accuracy, then remove.
- 2.4 Parallel to line C and in direction of line Y, snap another guide line (D). Repeat procedure on other side for line F. These lines serve as pattern and adhesive guides.

Step 3:

- 3.1 Remove the starter/backer board. Spread adhesive from starter board to outside guide lines C, D, F and E. Amount of adhesive spread should account for flooring able to be laid during adhesive working time.
- 3.2 Place left-handed board with groove side against left side of starter board. End joint must line up with point on starter board.
- 3.3 Place right-handed board with groove side against right side of starter board. Ensure tongue on end joint lines up with long side tongue of left-handed board.
- 3.4 Continue installing in this manner, alternating installation with left-handed and right-handed boards, until starting area is completely installed.
- 3.5 Place weight on boards and let adhesive set up (refer to Adhesive supplier recommendation).
- 3.6 Remove starter board and complete installation as described above. Snap new guide lines as needed.



After Installation:



Remove expansion shims and use required MIKASA solid wood moldings and/or trim pieces to cover expansion space. Nail moldings to the wall and not on to the floor. Nailing the moldings on the floor shall result in obstructed expansion and contraction of the wood floor.

Clean Up

Immediately clean any spilt adhesive on the wood floor during installation.

Maintenance

Clean floor using dry dust mop or damp (lightly misted or well rung out) mop or cloth. Regularly use KLUMPP or BONA Wood Floor Cleaner for best results. Do not use oil soap or water emulsion, self-polishing waxes. DO NOT wet mop floor. Place Peel & Stick Floor Protectors on furniture legs to prevent damage. To know more, refer to the MIKASA Floor Care Guide & Maintenance Procedure in www.mikasafloors.com

- When using acoustic underlayment, it must be glued down over subfloor prior to gluing down strips, using the recommended adhesive.
- Extremely precise strip milling may require a tapping block for better tongue and groove fitting.
- Row to row installation requires that no glue seeps into grooves at any time for perfect tongue and groove fit.

Avoid getting adhesive on hands to minimise clean up. Wipe any adhesive from the floor immediately, using solvent and towels. Use paint thinner or lighter fluid to remove stubborn adhesive spills.

To maintain strips in place and avoid strip movement which causes gapping during installation, use 3M blue adhesive tape.

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WOOD



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