



Installation Considerations

What was the previous flooring in your room? Who will be installing the floor? These are just a few questions that you will need to answer before making the final decision on the type of floor you need.

Solid Wood Flooring

Solid wood flooring is installed by nailing or gluing. Special tools are needed and typically it can be installed over a solid subfloor (the material underneath your current flooring). If your subfloor is in poor repair or not solid, you may need to replace it before installation can proceed. The subfloor can be wood or existing flooring (except carpet) but cannot be over concrete or particleboard.

It is not recommended to install solid wood flooring over radiant heat or in a basement, because it may warp or crack. Bathroom installation should have the seams glued to avoid water pooling underneath the floor. Water on the surface of the floor should be cleaned up quickly and the product can be sensitive to humidity. Consult a flooring specialist at our store to discuss your specific bathroom installation.

Engineered Wood Flooring

Engineered flooring can install like solid wood, or can "float" over the existing subfloor. Floating means that the individual sections of the flooring lock or glue together into a sheet that lays on top of the subfloor without being fastened to it. It typically is pressure fit to the walls and requires more patience than skill to install. Engineered flooring can install over wood, concrete, or existing flooring (except carpeting).

Choose engineered flooring to install in a dry basement or over radiant heat as the plywood backing helps keep the hardwood stable and reduces movement caused by moisture. Bathroom installation should have the seams glued to avoid water pooling underneath the floor. Water on the surface of the floor should be cleaned up quickly and the product can be sensitive to humidity. Consult a flooring specialist at our store to discuss your specific bathroom installation.

Laminate Flooring

Laminate flooring is a floating floor. Most quality laminates install with a "click system" where once it locks together it is nearly impossible to separate. Laminate can install over wood, concrete, or existing flooring (except carpeting) on top of a foam pad.

Choose laminate flooring to install in a dry basement or over radiant heat. Damp areas will not harm the product as long as there is no standing water. If you want to install laminate in a bathroom, the seams should be glued to avoid water pooling underneath the floor.

Let Us Install It!

If you do not feel confident in installing your new floor, don't worry! Many of our stores offer professional installation at a reasonable price. Our expert sales staff can help you select the right flooring for you and then arrange for it to be installed. If your store does not offer installation, we can usually provide some names of local contractors for you to choose the one that best fits your job and budget.

No matter when or how you choose to put down your next floor, Curtis Lumber is the right place to start for expert help on your flooring project.