

Installation Guides

Audacity Laminate

Tools needed

Spacers, Saw, Adhesive Tape, Rubber Mallet, Ruler, Pencil, Tape Measure, Utility Knife

Laminate floors are a popular choice of flooring due to the fact that they are very easy to install. They can be installed in most areas of the house (excluding wet rooms) and are suitable for use over any type of subfloor, including those with underfloor heating.

If installing over water heating systems, ensure the surface temperature never exceeds 27°C.

Subfloor preparation

Inspect your subfloor before you begin. It must be clean, dry (max. 2.5% moisture content) and level to 5mm within a 3m span. If this flooring is intended to be installed over an existing wooden floor, it is recommended to repair any loose boards or squeaks before you begin.

If your floor is going to be installed over concrete substrates, a thin moisture-proof barrier will need to be installed over this. If installing over a wood substrate or below-grade, a vapour barrier must be installed if there is not already one in a well-ventilated crawl space. A minimum 0.15mm plastic poly sheeting should be used as a moisture barrier.

Acclimatisation conditions

Your new Audacity Laminate will need to be kept at room temperature for in its unopened packaging for at least 48 hours before you start the installation. The room temperature should be between 18-30°C and the relative humidity should be maintained between 30-65% before and during the installation.

Installation

1. Once you've thoroughly cleaned your subfloor in preparation, begin laying in the left-hand corner. Place the first board 10mm from the left wall. Use spacers between the wall and the board.
Note: Audacity has a backing pad attached so no underlay is needed.
2. Second board, first row: Drop the board and gently tap down the end with a rubber mallet so it firmly locks into the previous board until both are the same height. Make sure both are perfectly aligned.
3. At the end of the first row, leave an expansion gap of 10mm to the wall and measure the length of the last board to fit.
4. If cutting with a jig saw, the laminate surface should be turned down. If cutting with a hand saw, the laminate surface should be face up.
5. Start the second row with the leftover cut part of the last board of the previous row. This small board should measure at least 30cm. Otherwise, use another board that should be cut in two.

6. Click the long side of the board into the previous row and place it tight to the short end of the previous board. Drop the board and gently tap down the end with a rubber mallet so it firmly locks into place until both are at the same height. **Note:** If you notice both boards aren't at the same height or are not well locked together, please follow the disassembling instructions (bottom of the page). Disassemble and check if any debris are stuck inside and obstructing the lock.
7. After 2-3 rows, adjust the distance to the front wall by leaving an expansion gap of 10mm. Always ensure that the end joints are staggered at least 30cm.
8. To lay the last row: Position a loose board exactly on top of the last row laid. Place another board on top, with the tongue side touching the wall. Draw a line along the edge of this board to mark the first board. Cut along this line to obtain of the required width. Insert this cut board against the wall. The last row should be at least 50mm wide. The spacers can then be removed.
9. Holes for pipes: Measure the diameter of the pipe and drill a hole that is 20mm larger.
10. Door moulding and skirting: Lay a board (with the decorative side down) next to the door moulding and saw, to allow the board to fit underneath. Then slide the board under moulding.

With a floating floor, ensure you leave a 10mm gap between walls and fixtures, such as walls and fixtures.

Do not install heavy fixed objects such as kitchen cabinets directly over the boards. The floating installation requires that the boards can move freely.

For floor surfaces exceeding 400m² and/or lengths exceeding 20m and overlaps to new rooms and floor surfaces which do not join symmetrically, use expansion joints to divide the floor sections.

Once the flooring installation is complete, a general silicone-based sealant should be applied around the perimeter. This should also include any other areas where your Audacity Laminate flooring has been cut to fit.

After installation the room temperature should be between 15-35°C at 30-65% relative humidity.

Disassembling

Separate the whole row by lifting it up delicately at an angle. To separate the boards, leave them flat on the ground and slide them apart.

This is a brief guide on installing Audacity Laminate flooring. Always refer to the manufacturer's installation guides in the packs of flooring or visit our Flooring Manufacturers Installation Guides.

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If you require any further advice on installation then please call our technical department on 02476 012 840, e-mail us on technical@ukflooringdirect.co.uk or click the Live Help button at the bottom of any webpage.

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