

ECO-CLICKS floating floor INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE INSTALLATION STARTS: Verify product type, size, thickness, and color. Check for any visual defects.

Cork is a natural product and shade variations will occur. Planks MUST be “shuffled” from several boxes during installation. It is the installer’s responsibility to blend shades and pull out any extreme variations.

Any suspect defective material must be brought to the attention of your material provider. **NO CLAIMS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE MATERIAL HAS BEEN INSTALLED.**

When subjected to direct sunlight, cork will fade. UV protection is necessary.

When specifying furniture to be placed on cork, proper casters or glides should be specified and use of felt or carpet pads are recommended. If intense pinpoint pressure (high heel or spikes, improper furniture footings) is applied to cork floors, dents which will not recover may occur.

Eco-Clicks can go over many different substrates and can be installed above, on or below grade. It can not be installed over carpet, or wood floors that are over concrete, as moisture could be trapped under wood. It should not be installed in rooms with a floor drain or sump pump.

Eco-Clicks are designed to “float” and should not be nailed or glued to the substrate. Because the floor floats, it will expand and contract with humidity and temperature changes. For this reason it is essential that a 1/2” expansion space be left around the floor’s perimeter. Areas greater than 900 sq ft or runs greater than 30 linear feet require a T-molding to provide additional expansion.

No cabinets should be nailed or secured to the floating floor. If cabinets are secured to the

substrate, the hole for anchoring bolts must be 1” on center larger than the bolt to allow for the 1/2” expansion space.

PREPARATION OF SUBSTRATE: Before installing any materials make sure that the area is completely dry and level 3/16” in 10 feet, do calcium chloride test and check for pH level. Moisture should not exceed 5 lbs/ 1000 sq ft; pH level should be 7-10. The substrate should not slope more than 1” in 6’.

Concrete floors: If floor is uneven, level it with a Portland based patching compounds. If floor is new, be sure it is completely dry, concrete must cure for at least 60 days (several months curing is preferred). Sweep area clean. Slab should adhere to ASTM F1869 for water vapor emissions. Cracks, expansion joints, voids and uneven areas should be filled. When installing **Eco-Clicks over concrete or terrazzo, vapor barriers must be used.**

Wood floors: Wood substrates must have a minimum 18” of cross ventilated space between the bottom of the joist and the ground. Crawl spaces shall be insulated and protected by a vapor barrier. If needed, floor may be covered with 3/8” A.P.A. approved underlayment plywood. **Vapor barriers should not be used over wood substrates.**

JOB SITE CONDITIONS AND MATERIAL ACCLIMATION: All trades must be out of the area before installation begins. After installation is complete and if other trades will work in the area, appropriate protective cover should be placed on the floor. The area where flooring is to be installed should be temperature controlled between 65° and 75° F for 72 hours prior to, during and after installation. The Eco-Clicks flooring must be placed in the area where it is to be installed 72 hours before starting installation to properly acclimate. Keep the planks in their boxes until installation begins.

RADIANT HEAT: When Eco-Clicks is being installed over radiant heat, the heating system should be activated 2 weeks prior to installation.

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS: ECO-CLICKS FLOATING FLOOR

The heating system should be set to 65° - 72°F for installation. The flooring substrate surface temperature should not exceed 84° F.

Tools needed for installing Eco-Clicks include a pull bar, tapping block, ½” spacers, hammer and circular saw.

INSTALLATION: After the substrate has been properly prepared and planks have been acclimated for 72 hours installation can begin.

1. If installing over concrete a vapor barrier is required. Cover the floor with a minimum 6-mil thick polyethylene sheeting. Overlap sheets 6” – 8” and tape sheets together using a water proof tape. Run the sheets up the walls 4” – 6”.

2. Eco-Clicks must be installed with a ½” (thickness of the plank) expansion space at all walls and against any stationary objects. Remove all existing molding and undercut all door jams.

3. An expansion joint must be installed in every door way.

4. Begin the installation with the wall that will be most visible when the floor is complete. Once this is selected align the first plank with the wall and use a 1/2” spacer at the wall when laying the first plank. Lay the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall.

5. Install the second plank, paying close attention that it is in line with the first. Continue in this manner until the end of the wall is reached. Cut the last plank to fit. **REMEMBER** to leave a ½” expansion joint by the wall. If you have 10” or more left over from the plank that was cut to fit, use this to start the second row. If the plank is less than 10”, do not use it. Cut a full plank in half and use this to start the second row.

6. Use a tapping block and hammer to tighten planks together. **DO NOT** use a hammer on the planks directly or this will damage the planks. Use multiple taps; do not knock the joint in place with one hit. For short sides use small taps; for long sides start at the corner and gradually move along the long side until the whole side has snapped into place.

7. All plank ends must be a minimum of 10” long. When starting the next row of planks insert the tongue into the groove and continue to install the second row.

8. For the last row of the room cut the planks lengthwise to complete the last row. The width of the last row must be 3” or greater. It is helpful when installing the last row to use a pull bar.

9. Remove all spacers and install base, reducers, etc. When installing molding attach to the walls only, not to the floor.

Transition moldings that may be used with Eco-Clicks include: T-molding for doorways, carpet transitions, end moldings and hard surface reducers.

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS:

The initial cleaning should not take place until 12 hours after installation. This initial cleaning is very important. This cleaning is done to remove any dirt and grit from the job site.

To avoid possible damage to the flooring, the following never should be used on the floor: steel wool or abrasive brushes, abrasive or alkaline cleaners, solvents of any type.

INITIAL CLEANING:

Thoroughly sweep or vacuum flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit. The floor should be cleaned with **Capri Neutral Cleaner** which is a biodegradable neutral pH floor cleaner.

The cleaner is ready to use, no mixing of water for dilution is required. Apply cleaner to the floors with a mop and spread evenly, agitating heavily soiled areas. Use a Wet Vac to remove liquid. Rinse floor with a damp mop.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM:

A regular maintenance program is essential for keeping your cork floors beautiful for years/decades. The frequency of cleaning will depend on the amount of traffic and type of usage. EC306 Eco-Clicks Cleaning Instructions are available at capricork.com or by calling 800.492.2613.