WICANDERS



Installation Instructions 2G - HDF

AMORIM CORK SOLUTIONS

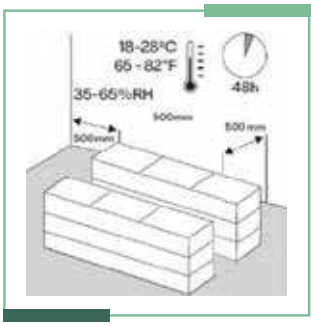
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General Considerations

- Our flooring is a finished product. After installation, it must be protected by covering at least the high-traffic areas with appropriate protection (e.g., RAM boards or construction paper). Do not cover the entire floor, as moisture may become trapped between the protective covering and the flooring, causing it to warp.
- According to the NWFA and the MMFA, the flooring should always be the last element to be installed, after all other work has been completed.

Transportation, Storage, and Acclimatization

- Transport and store the packages in a horizontal position. The packaged boards must be acclimated at the installation site, in a dry and well-ventilated area, for a minimum of 48 hours.
- Do not stack more than three packages and maintain a minimum spacing of 50 cm between stacks. During storage and installation, the ambient temperature should be between 18°C and 28°C and the relative humidity between 35% and 65%. To achieve these conditions, use heating, air conditioning, or a dehumidifier for the appropriate period of time before beginning installation.



Color Variations

- Some of our flooring is produced using digital printing technologies based on natural materials, which, while ensuring greater consistency, can result in a uniform appearance if the planks are installed directly from a single box. To ensure a more natural and balanced visual result and a more pleasing color composition, we recommend using three to four boxes simultaneously during installation to achieve a better mix of tones.

Local Inspection

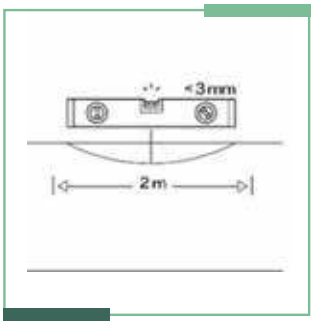
- Prior to installation, please inspect the site in daylight to check for any defects or damage to the subfloor surface. Our flooring is intended for indoor use.

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- Floor tiles should only be inspected in daylight (natural light) to detect any visible defects.
- The subfloor and site conditions must fully comply with these instructions.
- Amorim Cork Solutions cannot be held liable for claims related to unsuitable subfloors, improper applications, adhesives, and varnishes, the use of non-recommended maintenance products, or visible defects that can be detected prior to installation. Document with photos whenever possible.

Subfloor requirements

- **Subfloor requirements:** Ensure that the subfloor and site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. Wicanders flooring can be installed in all residential areas and most commercial areas, except in saunas, hot tubs, and permanently wet areas. The subfloor must be level, flat, clean, and in good structural condition, with no vertical movement.
- The floor must not have a slope exceeding 3 mm over 2 linear meters. Any deviations greater than this must be leveled before installation. It is highly recommended to use a level or straightedge of at least 2 or 3 meters, or a laser level, to check the level and flatness of the subfloor.



- Wicanders flooring can be installed over most hard surfaces, such as linoleum, stone, or ceramic tile floors, provided they are sufficiently secure, completely level, and free of loose areas.
  Soft subfloors, such as carpets and/or similar materials, must be removed.
- Regardless of their age, subfloors are always at risk of moisture, so it is necessary to measure and record the moisture content of the subfloor. For concrete subfloors without radiant heating, keep in mind that the maximum moisture content should not exceed 75% relative humidity (RH). You should perform calcium carbide moisture tests to ensure that moisture emission levels are below 1.4 kg/304.8 m^2/24 hours (U.S. and Canada) or a CM test.

Subfloor type	Moisture content (CM %) after heating	Unheated
Cement	1,5	2,0
Calcium sulfate/anhydrite	0,3	0,5

- It is strongly recommended to measure and document moisture conditions prior to installation.

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- If the installation is to be performed in basements or at any level below ground, the installer must be aware of the limitations regarding relative humidity and ambient temperature and decide whether to apply a primer to the concrete. Excessive moisture vapor above 75% RH in the concrete can lead to hydrostatic pressure.

- If the flooring is installed over concrete, it is MANDATORY to use a hygrometer to measure the relative humidity. If the relative humidity exceeds 75% without heating, a longer drying time for the screed or more effective vapor barriers will be required. Perform this test on concrete subfloors before installation to determine if there are any moisture issues. Providing this information in a clear, accurate, and truthful manner is an essential criterion for evaluating any potential claim. Failure to do so may result in the immediate rejection of the claim, as it will be impossible to verify that the installation was performed in accordance with required best practices.

- If in doubt, contact your Supplier.

Wicanders on wood flooring / chipboard / OSB

- If installing over a wooden subfloor, first remove any existing floor covering. There should be no visible signs of mold and/or insect infestation. Ensure that the plywood or OSB subfloor is mechanically fastened (screwed) and stable, with no movement, and also verify that the joints between the boards are smooth and tightly sealed. Existing laminate flooring, wood panels, or engineered wood panels must be free of tension. If there are any open cracks and/or height differences between the panels, these must be completely removed. We recommend using a self-leveling compound if there are unevenness in the subfloor.

- Existing wooden boards, engineered wood boards, OSB boards, gypsum board elements, or other materials must not be covered with polyethylene sheeting to act as a vapor barrier.

- The air gap beneath the wooden subfloor must be sufficiently ventilated. Remove any obstructions from the air gap and ensure there is sufficient ventilation (a minimum of 4 cm (0.62 in) of total ventilation openings per 1 m (3 ft) of flooring). The moisture content of the wood must not exceed 10%.

Moisture Protection

- Wicanders floors require the use of a waterproof membrane (polyethylene sheet) when installed over concrete, ceramic/stone and similar subfloors. An effective waterproof membrane with SD > 75 µm (resistance to water vapor diffusion) must be used, in accordance with standard EN 16354.
  Wicanders is not responsible for the penetration of moisture or vapor from the base of the subfloor upwards.

- Consult the technical data sheet and/or the instructions from the subfloor supplier.
  The use of subfloors that do not meet these requirements may damage the floating floors.
  Our product warranty will not apply in these cases. The use of a subfloor that is not suitable for the type of flooring or the installation location constitutes a breach of our installation rules.

- If in doubt, contact your supplier.

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Radiant Heating and Cooling

- Wicanders floating floors can be installed over radiant heating and/or cooling systems, provided that the manufacturer's instructions are strictly followed.
- Please note that a radiant subfloor must be dried by turning the heating on and off with a pause before installing the flooring. The initial heating protocol must be followed in accordance with MMFA recommendations (https://mmfa.eu/en/products/installation/laying/heatingcooling/) to prevent damage.
- This drying process is carried out as follows: begin the "warming phase," which should start at an operating temperature of 25°C for 3 days. The subfloor must be installed and cured for at least 60 to 90 days. Next, the temperature must be increased daily up to the maximum temperature permitted by the manufacturer's system. This maximum temperature must be maintained for at least 72 hours without interruption. The temperature is lowered by gradually reducing it each day until the surface reaches 18°C.
- During installation, the surface temperature should be around 18°C and must be maintained for 3 days after installation is complete.
- Keep in mind that carpets laid on the floor can act as heat accumulators and raise the floor surface temperature. **The maximum floor surface temperature must not exceed 25°C.**
- Underfloor cooling systems must be equipped with an advanced control and safety system to prevent internal condensation (dew point control).
- To prevent damage to the floor, the temperature of the cooling system must not be lowered below a certain temperature, known as the dew point temperature. Lower temperatures cause condensation on the floor and damage the floor covering (e.g., warping, deformation, swelling, and the formation of gaps). For heating and cooling systems, ensure that the relative humidity in the rooms during the heating or cooling season is between 35% and 65%, and that the subfloor temperature (temperature beneath the floor) is between 18 and 28 °C.

Underlayment

- Since Wicanders flooring already comes with a pre-installed cork underlay, no additional underlay is required. However, to improve comfort and acoustic performance, better results can be achieved by using a cork underlay that supports the interlocking system during daily use.
- Our recommendations for Amorim brand cork underlayments are: https://amorimcorksolutions.com/media/9629/go4cork_brochure_26.pdf

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- If the customer prefers to use subfloors other than those recommended by us, they must meet the following technical specifications:

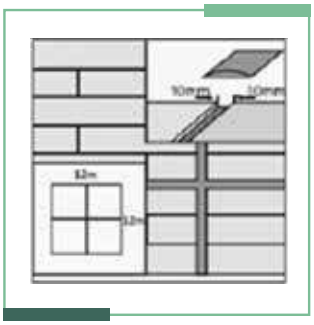
DL_{25}	Sustained load generated while walking, etc.	>10.000 cycles	>100.000 cycles
CS	Compressive strength at a specified compressive stress	>10 kPa	>60 kPa
CC	Live load generated by furniture, etc.	>2 kPa	>20 kPa

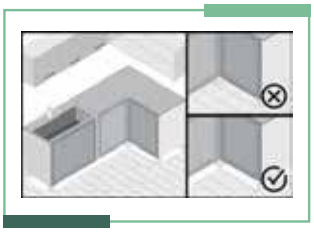
Installation in direct sunlight

- Wicanders flooring should be protected from heat and sunlight by using UV-protective films, curtains, and/or blinds; exposure to excessive heat (above 45 °C) should be avoided.

Expansion Gaps

- Wicanders flooring is installed as "floating flooring," so the planks should not be fixed to the subfloor. Baseboards must not be pressed down, so as not to restrict the movement of the flooring. Also leave a 10 mm expansion gap between the flooring and walls and other fixed objects.
- Transitions between two rooms and asymmetrical flooring areas require additional expansion space in flooring areas larger than 12 m in length or width (145 m^2).
- Any heavy, permanent structures, such as kitchen islands or cabinets, must be installed first and not on top of the floating floors, since the floors must be able to move around the heavy objects; otherwise, gaps with visible gaps may appear, or the planks may become separated or damaged.





Terms of use

- To ensure that the flooring retains its properties and to guarantee everyone's comfort, the room temperature should be between approximately 18 °C and 22 °C, and the relative humidity between 30% and 65%.

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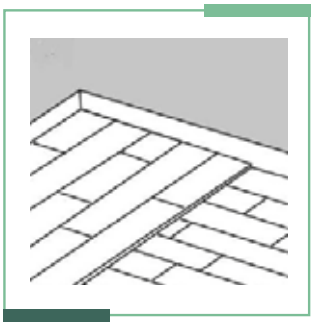
- Within these ranges, ideal conditions for preserving the flooring are ensured. If these conditions are not met, the materials may react to atmospheric variations, causing changes in their performance.
- The maintenance and cleaning instructions for the flooring must also be followed.
- **Complaints**: For any complaint review, Wicanders requires photographic or physical records of the batch number printed on the box label. For the same reason, leftover installation material (complete planks/scraps) should be saved for analysis at the factory if necessary.
  Ensure that best installation practices are followed, as photographic evidence may be required in the event of a complaint.

Tools Needed

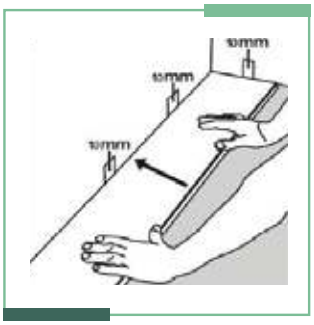
- Pad saw or fine-toothed electric saw, utility knife, spacer wedges, pencil, ruler/set square, tapping block/rubber mallet, measuring tape.
- Wicanders floating floors with the 2G click system are installed manually; however, if you must use the **tapping block and/or rubber mallet, these should be used sparingly as they can damage the click system**.
- This list is not exhaustive, and not all tools are necessary, depending on the type of Wicanders flooring being installed. Protective equipment, such as safety goggles, a dust mask, and gloves for sawing/cutting the planks, must be used.



- On wooden floors, we recommend that you lay the Wicanders tiles across the direction of the existing floor. After verifying conditions for installation, place the waterproof membrane (polyethylene sheet) in the case of installation on top of ceramic or hard surfaces such as cementitious mortars or stone; **we recommend that you start the installation from the right corner**.



- Turn the male side of the board towards the wall. Leave a 10mm gap on the short side.

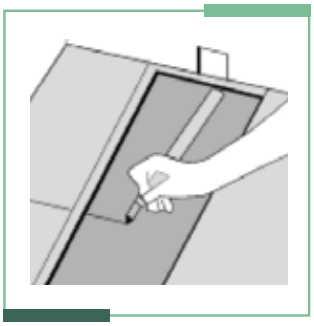


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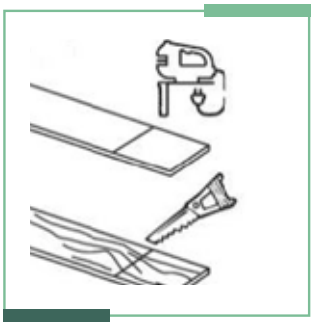
- Hold the next plate at an angle (between approximately 10º and 30º) against the first one and place it flat on the floor. Complete the first row in the same way.



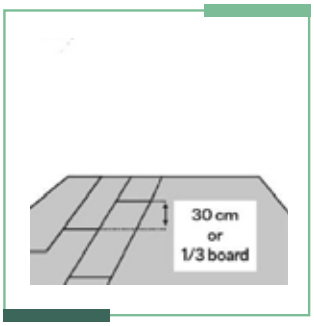
- Cut the last board of the first row to the correct length. Place the last board face down with the short side (without the locking strip) facing the wall. The distance from the wall should be 10mm.



- Mark where the board needs to be cut and place it on the work surface, cutting it to the correct size using any type of saw recommended for this installation.



- Make sure the long sides of the boards form a straight line. Use the cut piece from the previous row's board to start the next row. Always ensure that the end joints overlap by at least 30 cm or 1/3 of the board. If the piece is too short, start with a new board and cut it in half.

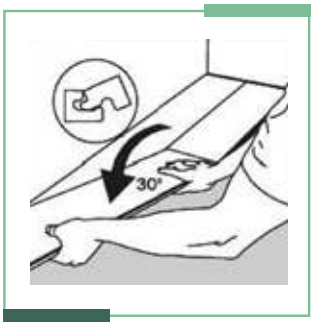


- Place the first board of the new row with the male side at an angle (between 10º and 30º) against the side with the notch on the board in the previous row. Push it forward and place it flat on the floor at the same time.

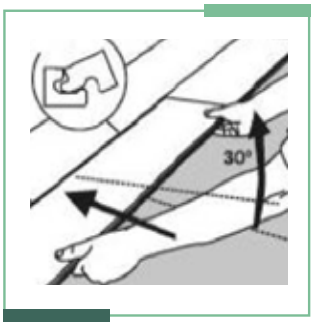


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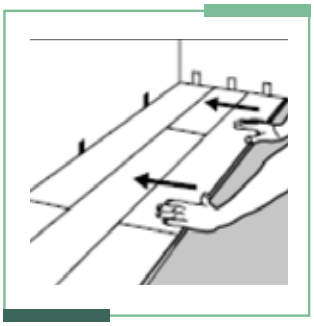
- Place the first board of the new row with the male side at an angle (between 10º and 30º) against the side with the notch on the board in the previous row. Push it forward and place it flat on the floor at the same time.



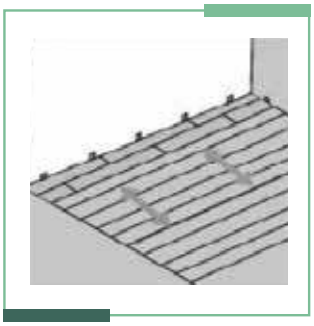
- Lift the board (along with the board in front of it in the same row) slightly upward (between 10° and 30°), push them against the row in front, and set it down. Tip: This movement requires a few minor adjustments to the compression angle.



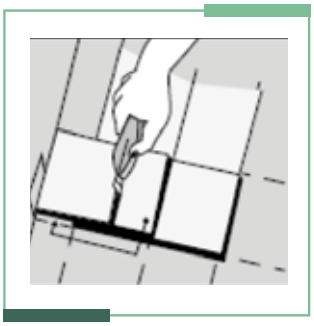
- Adjust the distance from the wall to 10mm once you have completed three rows.



- Check and adjust the distance from the wall to approximately 10mm every 2m.



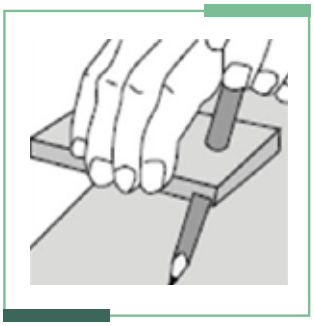
- Last row. Measure and cut the boards in the last row to the correct size. Leave a 10 mm gap from the wall. No board should be less than 5 cm wide.
- The last and first boards can be cut to the correct width. Place the last board on top of the second-to-last one. Mark the board with the help of a piece of board without the locking strip. Leave a 10 mm gap from the wall for expansion.



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Uneven walls

- Sometimes, the first row must be cut to fit an uneven wall. Transfer the shape of the wall to the tiles. Be sure to leave 10 mm of space for expansion. The width of the first row of tiles must be 5 cm or more.

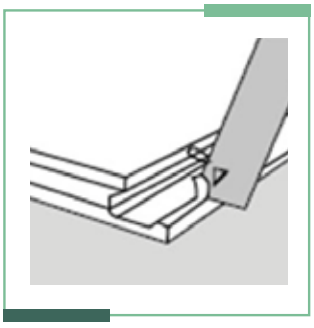


Door jambs

- If you need to cut a door jamb, use a spacer to achieve the correct height. Cut the door jamb and header to the required height, leaving a 2 mm gap for the spacers. The spacers can be installed in any direction. This makes it easier to plan the installation, for example, around doors.



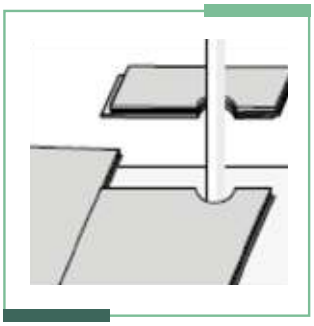
- If you can't get the board under the door jamb or a low radiator, cut off the locked end, apply glue (PVA D3 or isocyanate glue) to the notch, and slide the board into the correct position.



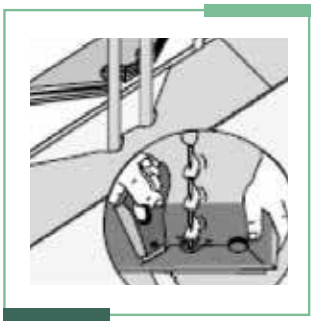
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Heating Tubes

- Drill the necessary holes in the plates, and the hole in the plate should be 10mm larger than the diameter of the tube.

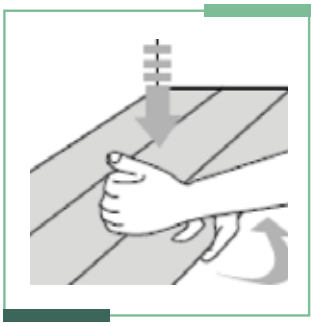


- Cut the plate at a 45º angle towards the hole. The cut piece should be glued back into place. Plug the hole with a pipe sleeve.

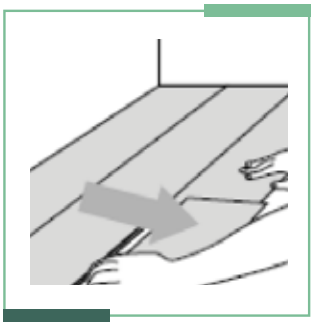


Pavement Removal

- To remove the flooring, lift the planks (on the long side) a few centimeters, and then slide them out along the short side



- Do not bend the connected plates backward, as this will damage them.



This Technical Information dated February 2026 supersedes all previous versions. All information herein is based on our best knowledge and on the recommendations of leading flooring manufacturers' associations, such as the MMFA, NWFA, and EPLF.