

# HOW TO INSTALL PREMIUM WIDE PLANKS

## A Detailed installation & care guide

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### BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Please read this guide thoroughly before installation. The Relative Space Sumo Collection is crafted from high-quality natural hardwood. Each plank features unique grain, tone, and texture variations that enhance its character. These natural differences are not defects but part of the flooring's artisanal beauty. This guide will help ensure proper installation and long-lasting care.

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### REVIEW YOUR ORDER

- Inspect all boxes upon delivery for any damage or inconsistencies.
  - Expect natural variation in color, grain, and texture.
  - Mix planks from multiple boxes during installation for a balanced look.
  - Order an additional 5-10% of material to allow for trimming, pattern matching, and future repairs.
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### REQUIRED MATERIALS

For Installation:

- Moisture barrier (recommended when installing over concrete or radiant heating systems)

- Approved adhesive or underlayment (depending on glue-down or floating installation)
- Rubber mallet and tapping block
- Flooring spacers to maintain expansion gaps
- Hardwood-appropriate saw (e.g., miter saw, jigsaw)
- Measuring tape and chalk line

For Cleaning & Finishing:

- See finish-specific care instructions below for recommended products.

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## SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

- Ensure the subfloor is clean, level, dry, and stable before installation.
- Suitable subfloors include plywood, OSB, concrete (with moisture barrier), or radiant-heated floors (verify compatibility).
- Follow manufacturer's moisture guidelines to avoid future flooring damage.

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## FLOOR INSTALLATION

Dry Layout:

- Arrange planks to evenly distribute natural grain and color variations.

- Acclimate unopened boxes in the installation area for 48 to 72 hours prior to installation.

#### Installation Method:

- Select nail-down, glue-down, or floating installation based on plank specifications and subfloor type.
- Use flooring spacers to maintain a ½ inch expansion gap around walls and fixed objects.

#### Installation Process:

- Start from a straight wall edge, gently tapping planks into place using a rubber mallet and tapping block to ensure tight seams.
- Trim planks carefully with appropriate saws for a precise fit.

#### Post-Installation:

- Clean sawdust and debris immediately after finishing installation.
- Limit heavy foot traffic for at least 24 hours to allow adhesives or finishes to cure fully.

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## CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

#### Lacquer Finish:

- Use a pH-neutral hardwood floor cleaner formulated for lacquered surfaces.
- Avoid steam mops, wax, or oil-based cleaners that may damage the finish.
- Clean regularly with a soft, slightly damp microfiber mop.
- Vacuum often with a soft brush attachment to remove dust.

- Prevent water pooling or standing on the floor.

#### Oil Finish:

- Clean only with products specifically designed for oiled wood floors; avoid plain water.
- Re-oil high-traffic areas every 6 to 12 months to maintain protection and appearance.
- Avoid vinegar, ammonia, or generic cleaners that may harm the oil finish.
- Use a lightly damp microfiber mop and dry immediately with a soft cloth.
- Apply maintenance oil to scratches or worn spots as needed.

#### Rubio Monocoat Finish:

- Clean with Rubio Surface Care Spray or Rubio Soap diluted in water.
  - Avoid generic or pH-neutral cleaners that can damage the molecular finish.
  - Use Rubio Maintenance Oil for spot repairs on scratches or dry areas.
  - Dry mop regularly and vacuum with a soft brush to remove dust.
  - Maintain indoor relative humidity between 40% and 60% to prevent wood movement.
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## INSTALLATION SAFETY

- Always wear safety glasses (or goggles) and gloves to protect your eyes and hands during cutting and installation.
- Work in a well-ventilated space, especially when handling adhesives or finishes.
- Avoid inhaling dust by cutting wood outdoors or in areas with good airflow.
- Wash your hands thoroughly after handling adhesives, finishes, or wood dust—especially before eating or drinking.
- Keep tools and materials out of children's reach and follow all safety instructions.