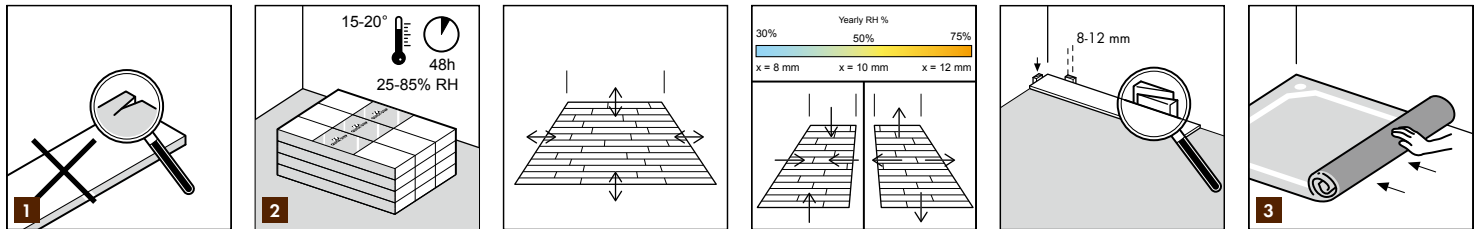


## Important Information

It is important to employ safe working practices when cutting or fitting floor coverings. Protective eyewear and safe footwear (steel capped preferably) should be worn throughout the installation to help prevent against injury. Dust extraction and respiratory protection (appropriate dust masks) should be used when cutting flooring or trims using a saw of any type. Materials Safety Data Sheets are available by contacting your local Premium Floors or Floorscape Branch. If using ancillary products like levelling compounds etc, it is recommended to adhere to the specific safety requirements as stated by the manufacturer of the product.

## INTRODUCTION

Quick-Step Timber floors are made using carefully screened raw materials, engineered to provide a high quality, pre-finished timber floor that will most often last a lifetime. The patented Multi-Fit joining system provides for fast, easy and strong floating installations, achieved by clicking the boards into position without the need for messy adhesives. Quick-Step Timber floors can be installed atop any level, dry, clean and sound surface, including existing hard floor coverings. An expansion gap needs to be left, during the installation of the floor, to the entire floor perimeter, allowing the floor to expand or contract (as one sheet or raft) across the subfloor in line with seasonal variations in relative humidity. A successful installation will rely heavily on strict adherence to these installation instructions. It is important to note that the two most common causes of floor failure or client dissatisfaction are installations over uneven subfloors and installations that do not provide sufficient perimeter expansion. It is also important to note that the Multi-Fit joining system allows for more boards to be completely installed without the need for a hammer and tapping block, however, some boards may need to be tapped together when fitting boards into profiles or installing around door frames. Care should be taken to ensure that the Uniclic tapping block is used when tapping boards into position and that tapping should not make contact with the plastic tongue at the end of the Multi-fit profiled boards as this could cause uneven joints or significantly reduce overall joint strength.

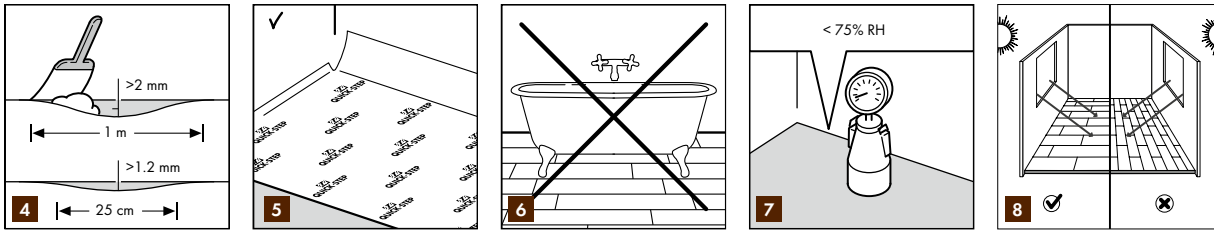


### 1 Site inspection

Timber floors should be installed in a “timber friendly environment”. This means that timber flooring is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded. Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, e.g.: around combustion heaters and other heat sources, as these generate extreme low humidity. Quick-Step timber should not be installed until these measures are in place, and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions.

### 2 Subfloors

- a. Concrete subfloors – should be dry, level and clean
  - Dry – Concrete subfloors should be dry prior to installing a Quick Step timber floor. Check the moisture content of your concrete subfloor to ensure the moisture content is below 75% R/H in accordance with the methods prescribed in Australian Standard AS1884. For knowingly or obviously “wet” concrete subfloors, first remedy the source of moisture ingress. Installation can then be undertaken using 200Um builder’s plastic, ensuring joins are overlapped 300 mm and taped using a vapour-tight tape. Builders plastic should be installed vertically up walls and other vertical interfaces and can be trimmed after the flooring is installed.
  - Level – Concrete subfloors levels should not exceed 3 mm variation over 1 metre in any direction, using a 1 metre straightedge. Uneven subfloors should be ground flat or levelled using a cementitious self-smoothing compound like Ardex K15 (or similar).
  - Clean – Concrete floors should be free of old adhesives, building rubble etc. and generally clean prior to installation.
- b. Timber subfloors (including chipboard, existing floorboards, plywood etc.) – should be sound, dry, level and clean
  - Sound – Timber floors should be structurally sound, ensuring that loose boards / sheets are re-nailed or fixed to provide a sound, solid surface over which to install your new floor.
  - Dry – Timber floors should be moisture tested to ensure they are dry. Generally, this means below 12% moisture content when tested using an electrical resistance moisture meter designed to test timber. It is prudent to also check that areas under timber subfloors are sufficiently ventilated.
  - Level – Timber subfloors levels should not exceed 3 mm variation over 1 metre in any direction, using a 1 metre straightedge. Uneven subfloors should be sanded flat or, in some instances can be filled using a cementitious self-smoothing compound.
  - Clean – Timber subfloors should be clean and free of old adhesives, building rubble etc. prior to installation



c. Installation over existing floorcoverings – existing floorcoverings should be sound, dry, level and clean

- Sound – if installation is to occur over existing floor coverings, the existing flooring should be well adhered and comply with the requirements of being dry, level and clean as prescribed above.

### 3 Storing packs on site

Packs should be checked for damage upon delivery to site. Damage to any packs should be reported to your place of purchase immediately. Packs delivered to site should be stored flat and preferably off the ground, unless the installation will take place within 12 hours of the delivery. They should be stored in a dry, well ventilated area inside the installation area.

### 4 Check your underlay

Check that your underlay is the recommended underlay as results or performance cannot be guaranteed on underlays other than Quick-Step Combi-Lay or Quiet-Step Combi-Lay. If you have any questions at all, please consult your place of purchase.

### 5 Check your trims & profiles

It is recommended that you know how the trims and profiles to be installed with your flooring are installed as some profile bases are best installed prior to installing your floor. If you are in doubt, please contact your place of purchase prior to installation.

### 6 Installation over heated subfloors

Most Quick-Step Timber floors can be installed over heated subfloors but please note that there are specific guidelines for all installations over heated subfloors. Please contact your place of purchase for specific installation advice that will supplement these instructions when installing over heated subfloors. Note that Spotted Gum and Blackbutt timber flooring should not be installed atop heated concrete subfloors.

### 7 Direct stick installations

Quick-Step Timber floors can also be direct stuck to a well prepared subfloor, providing specific and additional installations instructions provided by your adhesive supplier are followed. All the adhesive supplier's recommendations regarding preparation, application, and use of a moisture barrier and other accessories must be followed.

### 8 Selecting the installation direction

Quick-Step Timber floors will look and perform better when installed along the length of an installation area. Another consideration is the direction of natural light, with installations looking better parallel to the source of incoming light. Also remember that timber flooring is not colourfast and that UV light will change the colour of your timber floor as part of a natural process called oxidisation.

### 9 Compartmentalisation

In large or multi-room installations, you might need to install trims throughout the installation area. This is known as compartmentalization. Check with your place of purchase prior to installation whether the area to be installed needs to be compartmentalised and for more information on the location of in-floor trims.

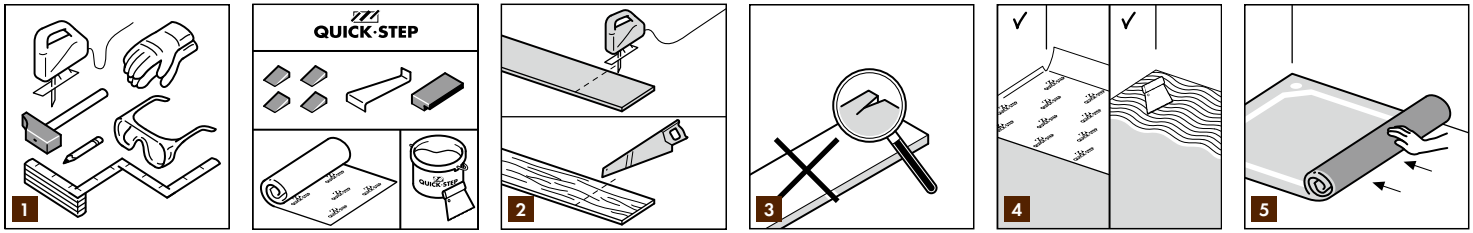
### 10 Check boards prior to installation

It is important that, during the installation process, you;

- Check that the floor that is delivered is the floor that was ordered
- Check each board prior to installation. Boards with visible faults should not be installed. Install flooring in well-lit conditions/areas

### 11 Finally

- Quick-Step Timber flooring should not be installed in wet areas like bathrooms, laundries and toilets and should not be installed in external areas.
- Any questions prior to or during the installation process should be directed to your place of purchase. It is always advised to seek advice before continuing with installation of flooring.



**1**

Quick-Step wood floors are easy to install and require only a few tools. In addition to a few common DIY tools (tape measure, pencil, hammer, handsaw (or electric saw) or jigsaw, carpenters square and possible power drill and hand gloves) you will also need the Quick-Step installation kit containing a tapping block, pull bar and spacers. Be sure you have all tools available before starting the installation.

**2**

When cutting the Quick-Step wood plank be sure you are not creating splinters or chipping when cutting. If using a handsaw or a drop saw, keep the decorative surface faced up. If using a jigsaw keep decorative surface down.

**3**

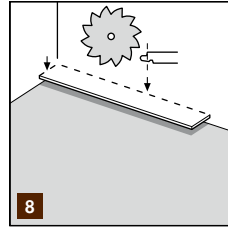
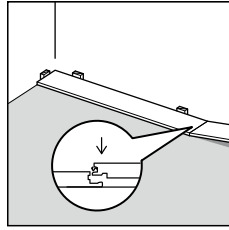
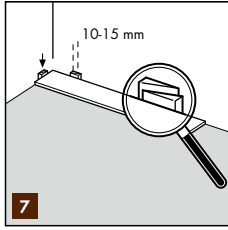
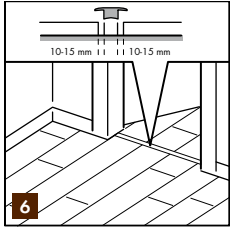
Every Quick-Step wood plank is methodically checked for any imperfections before being packed. Still, packs can be damaged during transportation or when the packs are opened. Do not install a plank with a damaged surface, edge or click joint. Carefully inspect each plank before installing. At Quick-Step a pack can contain one plank that consists of multiple, shorter pieces. The amount of shorter begin/end pieces per pack can vary between two and four. These pieces can be used to start or finish rows but should also be installed randomly throughout the floor to add to the authenticity of your floor. Cumulative length of all shorter pieces will always be equal to the length of one standard plank. Be aware of the fact wood is not a homogeneous material. There will be differences from plank to plank as there are differences from tree to tree. This aspect provides you with the warm and natural feeling a wood floor has to offer.

**4**

Quick-Step Timber flooring is normally installed floating but can also be glued down. For glue down installation see special notes.

**5**

If you choose to install a floating floor you must lay the first section of underlay parallel to the length of the planks to be installed. Gradually add the next sections of underlay as you lay the planks. It is vital that you use a recommended underlay to smooth away any unevenness in the floor base. The Quick-Step underlays also incorporate an excellent damp proof to protect the wood panels from sub-floor moisture.



**6**

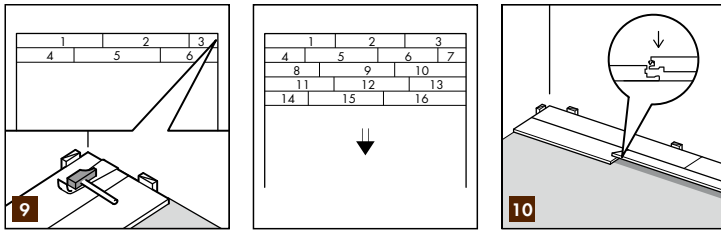
Quick-Step Timber flooring will often need to be compartmentalised. This means that a control joint should be provided at doorways. This will improve the floor performance by allowing each compartment to contract and expand independently, without affecting the movement of the adjoining area. Otherwise, most large, open spaces can normally be installed without any control joints. If you are unsure consult your Quick-Step retailer about the best location for control joints.

**7**

Often the installation is done parallel to the room's longest wall. The most common direction of installation of all types of wood floors is from left to right with the tongue side (A) facing the starting wall. Always remember the spacers to ensure your expansion gap! Thanks to the Multifit joining system the installation is very easy. This system makes it very simple to dismantle a plank if needed without destroying the connection mechanism. The end joint can be assembled in different ways by folding down, angling, sliding or tapping in horizontally. The quickest, easiest and most secure way is by angling the long join into position than folding down the short join.

**8**

Depending on the width of the room, you may choose to 'rip down' the starting boards, so you are not finishing on the opposing wall with thin pieces. If the starting wall is curved, the first row will need to be scribed to accommodate this. Use spacers! Always cut off the tongue on the first plank also on the short side. This plank will then have the plastic tongue in the end to the right.


**9**

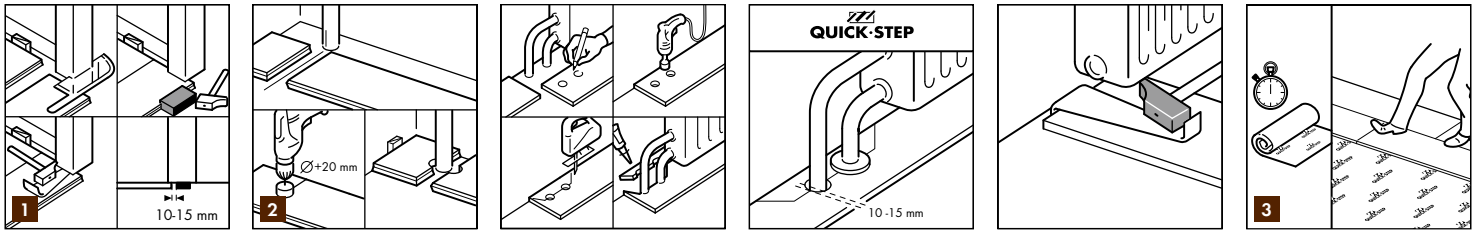
Install the first 2 rows in accordance to the illustration. We recommend the overlap/staggering between end joints to be about 1/3 of the plank length and never less than 300 mm. Once the first 2 rows are installed, the gap can be adjusted as necessary. The cut-off from the first and second row should normally be perfect as starting planks in the 3rd and 4th rows. Always remember using the spacers to keep the correct distance to the walls.

**10**

Lift the connecting plank up in an angle of about 20-30 degrees, push it into the long side groove and slide it gently towards the left until the plank ends meet. Push the plank firmly downwards to the floor and the Multifit system will lock the joint perfectly in the end. Always check every joint before continuing (you may gently tap down with the Uniclic tapping block and hammer if needed).

### SPECIAL NOTES

- 10 mm is the minimum perimeter expansion gap for all applications. Larger floors or floors that will be exposed to higher levels of relative humidity will need larger expansion gaps. Some multi-room or very large installations will need expansion joints installed throughout the floor. In most cases, multi-room installations will need to be separated at doorways using connector trims, a range of which are available from your local Quick-Step Retailer. Quick-Step Timber flooring will expand and contract more in the width than in the length. A Quick-Step Timber floor will move very little when maintained at a RH of between 40 and 60%. However, in dryer areas the floor will contract, while in more humid areas the floor will expand. To ensure enough clearance for this natural movement and to avoid open joints, squeaking, etc. always keep a minimum gap of 10 mm from the walls, thresholds, staircases and other vertical surfaces. Use the spacers of the installation kit to keep the correct perimeter expansion gap. This perimeter gap can be 10 mm in areas of low humidity like the South Island of NZ, or inland Australia, but may need to be as much as 15 mm in areas of high humidity like in Northern Qld or Coastal regions. Remember that the bigger the floor, the larger the gap that is generally required, and that the floor will move more in the width than in the length. A floating installation is never fastened with nails, glue, screws or in any other way.
- Quick-Step Timber flooring can be direct stuck to a prepared subfloor. We recommend the use of Quick-Step Parquet Adhesive used as instructed, along with their recommended ancillary products. Please ensure you contact your place of purchase for special instructions prior to direct stick installation.
- When installing Quick-Step on stairs, glue both tread and riser using a recommended polyurethane or construction adhesive. No underlay should be used on tread or riser. Special stair nosing trims are also available for this application.
- It is the installer's responsibility to check each board for faults or defects, in appropriate finished lighting conditions, prior to installation. Labour costs or any other costs associated with the replacement of boards after they have been installed will not be accepted by Premium Floors Australia P/L, Floorscape Ltd. (NZ) or its agents.
- Quick-Step is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded. Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, e.g.: around combustion heaters and other heaters, as these generate extreme low humidity. Quick-Step wood should not be installed until these measures are in place, and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions.
- It is the home owner's responsibility to provide a moderate indoor environment to prevent cracking and distortion of the flooring, even when unoccupied.



**1**

For a nice finish where the next flooring meets a threshold we recommend undercutting the architrave and door jams. This is best done prior to commencement of the installation. Use a piece of flooring and underlay as a guide, and with a flexible hand saw undercut where ever possible. Then the cut end of the flooring can slide in under the jam and out of sight. The final boards will need to be ripped down the length and brought into position using the pulling bar if necessary.

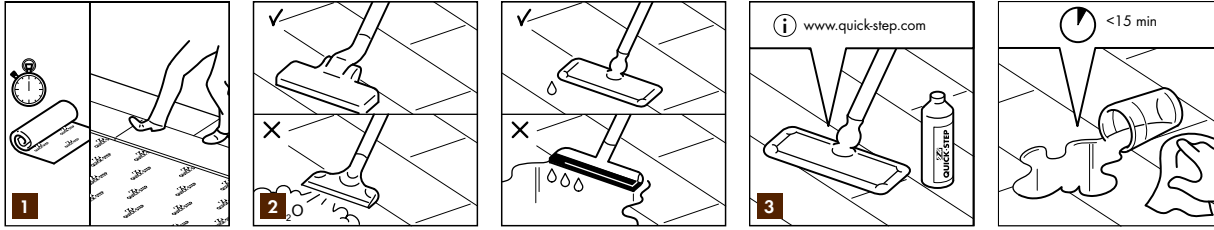
**2**

To install Quick-Step wood flooring around pipes, carefully measure and mark the planks with the exact centre point for each pipe. Drill a hole at each of the marked points that is equivalent to the diameter of the pipe + 16 mm in dry climate and 24 mm in wet climate. If located on the long side of the plank make a 45 degree cut from each hole to the edge of the plank and then cut between the holes as shown. If located on the end of a plank make a straight cut across the plank. Install the plank. Then using some regular wood glue along the cut edges of the piece you've cut out and glue the piece in place where it belongs. Be sure no glue comes between the cut-out piece and the subfloor. Use spacers to secure a tight glue point and remove any glue on the floor surface directly with a damp cloth. The gap you have created between the pipes are to ensure the floor can move as expected from season to season. These cannot be filled with any sealant, silicone or other adhesive.

**3**

Inspect the final surface of the installed floor, remove all spacers and install the Quick-Step scotia, or skirting boards, making sure to anchor these only to the vertical surfaces and not to the flooring itself. Finishing profiles can now also be installed.

Like traditional wood flooring, your Quick-Step wood floor can be re-coated with an approved coating when it begins to show signs of wear. Contact your Quick-Step retailer for more information when necessary.



**1**

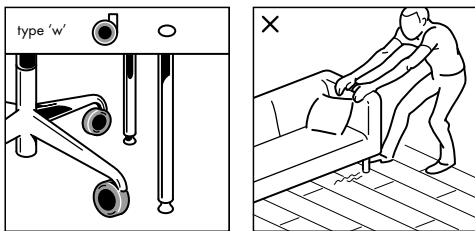
When installing a floating floor, you can walk on it during installation and immediately afterwards. During times when the air is usually extremely dry, we strongly recommend to use humidifiers to normalise the environment and obtain a constant humidity level. In times of high relative humidity, the room should be well ventilated.

**2**

To remove dirt and dust from the floor use a dry mop, a brush or a vacuum cleaner. Make sure the vacuum cleaner is equipped with soft wheels and a special timber brush to avoid scratching your floor. Never use a steam cleaner to clean your wooden floor. For the first cleaning of the floor make sure to first remove ALL dust and dirt before using a cloth. Wet maintenance of a wooden floor is absolutely forbidden.

**3**

Only use the Quick-Step cleaning kit for floor maintenance. Remember that using other cleaning products may damage your floor or leave a residue that will affect the appeal of your floor. Always wipe the floor dry immediately so that no more moisture or liquid is visible on the floor. Timber floors must only be cleaned with a barely damp cloth.



**4**

Castor chairs must use only "soft wheels" (type W) and a plastic protector mat should be placed under the area where the chair is placed/used. All furniture legs should be protected by felt pads to avoid scratching the lacquered/oiled surface. Avoid sliding/dragging furniture over the wooden surface to avoid possible scratching. Lifting the furniture is recommended. Use protective sheeting like Masonite or MDF to protect the floor when returning appliances or heavy furniture back into position. Always place a quality door mat at any entrance door to avoid introduction of sand, dirt or water which might create scratches.

**5**

Special cleaning instructions are available from your Quick-Step retailer or on the website for these products. Please read them with care before maintaining your floor and remember that some Quick Step timber floors are oiled, requiring special care.

**6**

The manufacturer bears no responsibility for problems or damage which arises through improper preparation of the subfloor, the floor installation itself or the exposure of the floor to unsuitable climatic conditions/maintenance. The right for compensation for damaged or differently coloured panels does not extend to planks which have already been installed. In the event of further questions please contact your retailer.