



*Manufacturer's of:*    [Classic Coffers Ceiling](#)    [Castle Plank Flooring](#)    [Reclaimed Timbers](#)

## **General Guidelines for: Installation of Hardwood Flooring**

1. Area of installation must be protected from weather and utilities must be operational to maintain room temperature and humidity levels of approximately 40%. This is necessary for acclimation and stability of the wood to long-term living conditions.
2. Evaluate job site and subfloor conditions as the completed floor is only as good as the subfloor. Damp areas on or below subfloor must be dry before installing wood floor. Ensure proper drainage around building to prevent water build-up. After new construction allow 2-3 days general drying of the atmosphere of the home after dry walling and painting, etc. Floor should acclimate to a humidity level consistent with normal daily conditions within the space. Plywood subfloor should be dry, securely nailed and flat.
3. Store flooring inside the install location for a minimum of 5-7 days to allow proper acclimation and reduce the amount of natural expansion and contraction of wood flooring products.
4. All solid wood expands across the grain. Allow a minimum of 1/2" between solid walls, cabinets, etc. for expansion and to prevent buckling. Base moldings will cover this 1/2" space. Allow 3/4" to 1" for large areas.
5. Plank and strip floors should run the long way of the room. Use squares and chalk lines to insure straight and parallel installation.
  - a) Nailing schedule: 1 1/2" to 4" widths use a 2" serrated edge barbed flooring nail or 2" 15 gauge staple with 1/2" crown 6" to 8" apart. 5" and wider plank flooring we recommend a #70 or #8D screw 6" to 8" apart.
6. Wood is a natural product, subject to infinite variations. Flooring is manufactured on high speed equipment. Should a piece be doubtful, do not install it! Cut it for the wall line, or put it in a closet where it would be least noticed.
7. Sanding and finishing – Refer to National Wood Flooring Association Guidelines at [NWFA.org](http://NWFA.org).

