

# Collection **Concerto** Collection

Plancher flottant *1867* Laminate Flooring

## **Installation Instructions**

### **Floating Laminate: FOLD DOWN SERIES, The Tank lock from Välinge**

The laminated floor, **Concerto Collection** can be installed over most sub-floors, and are constructed to be very dimensionally stable, making them suitable for installation over all grade levels. (See information and installation guidelines below.)

### **Attention – Installer and/or owner responsibility**

Inspect “all” materials carefully before installation. These floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit a defect tolerance of 5%. Even though our product goes through many inspections before it leaves the plant, it is the responsibility of the customer and installer to perform a final inspection prior to installation. Any laminate warranties that may be offered with this product do not cover materials with visible defects once they are installed. We recommend that you visit the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) website at [woodfloors.org/consumer](http://woodfloors.org/consumer) for installation help and maintenance tips.

### **Tools**

Basic tools and accessories: broom or vacuum, chalk line, wood cleaner, hand or electric jamb saw, miter saw, moisture meter, safety glasses, straight edge, table saw, tape measure, square, utility knife, pry bar and underlayment (for floating installations).

### **Job Site Conditions**

It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site sub floor and job site conditions are environmentally stable (Temp 60° F-80° F / Relative Humidity 40%-60%) and structurally (see local building codes) acceptable for wood floor installation. The customer and/or installer is responsible for wood failure resulting from or connected with sub-floor, subsurface, job site damage or deficiencies after the hardwood flooring has been installed. See NWFA guidelines.

### **Sub-floor preparation and recommendations for all installations**

#### **Concrete**

New concrete slabs require a minimum of 90 days drying time before covering them with a any laminate floor. Lightweight concrete has a dry density of 100 pounds or less per cubic foot and is only suitable for engineered wood floors when using the floating installation method. Many products have been developed as self-leveling toppings or floor underlayment. These include cellular concrete, resin reinforced cementations, underlayment, and gypsum-based materials. Although some of these products may have the necessary qualifications of underlayment for wood flooring installation, others do not. To test for lightweight concrete, scrape a coin or key across the surface of the sub-floor. If the surface powders easily or has a dry density of 100

pounds or less per cubic foot, use only the floating installation method. All Concrete sub-floors must be dry, smooth (level with 3/16" in a 10 foot Radius – 1/8" in 6") and free of structural defects. Hand scrape or sand with a 20 grit #3-1/2 open face paper to remove loose, flaky concrete. Grind high spots in concrete and fill low spots with a Portland based leveling compound (min. 3,000 psi). Concrete must be free of paint, oil, existing adhesives, wax grease, dirt and curing compounds. These may be removed chemically or mechanically, but do not use solvent-based strippers under any circumstances. These laminate floors may be installed on grade, above grade, as well as below grade where moisture conditions do not exist. To ensure a long lasting bond, make sure that the perimeter of the foundation has adequate drainage and vapor barrier.

- Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test
- Less than a reading of 5.0 on a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter (moisture meter)
- Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test
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### **Wood Sub-Floors**

Wood sub-floors need to be well nailed or secured with screws. Nails should be shanks and screws need to be counter sunk. The wood sub-floor needs to be structurally sound and dry. It should not exceed 3% of the moisture content of wood flooring to be installed prior to installation. If the sub-floor is single layer, less than 3/4" thick, add a single cross layer for strength and stability (minimum 5/16" thick for a total 1" thickness). This is to reduce the possibility of squeaking. Wood sub-floors must be free of paint, oil, existing adhesive, wax, grease, dirt, urethane, varnish, etc. Underlayment grade OSB (not the wax side) is also a suitable sub-floor. Particleboard can be used as a sub-floor in glue less floating floor installations. When installing over existing wood flooring, install at right angles to the existing floor. Sub-floor Moisture on and below grade applications are susceptible to moisture and should be tested for moisture prior to installation in several locations within the installation area. Acceptable conditions for above, on and below grade applications are:

- Less than 3 lbs. /1000 sq. ft. /24 hrs. on calcium chloride test
- Less than a reading of 5.0 on a Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter (moisture meter)

To correct any sub-floor problems concerning moisture, either wait until the sub-floor dries to meet specifications or use appropriate moisture barrier. Sub-floors Other Than Wood or Concrete  
Note: Perimeter glued resilient vinyl and rubber tiles are unacceptable underlayment for a floating installation and must be removed. Terrazzo, tile and any other hard surfaces that are dry, structurally sound and level, as described above, are suitable as a sub-floor for locking floating engineered wood floors.

### **Fold down flooring installation**

As above, the surface must be sound, tight and free of paint, oil, existing adhesives, wax, grease and dirt. Terrazzo and ceramic tile must be abraded. Warning! Do not sand existing resilient tile, sheet flooring, backing, or felt linings. These products may contain asbestos fibers that are not readily identifiable. Inhalation of asbestos dust can cause serious bodily harm. Check with local, state, province and federal laws before handling hazardous material and before attempting the removal of these floors.

### **Radiant Heated Sub-floors:**

A water radiant heat system must have been fully operational for at least a period of 4 weeks where temperatures

Will vary between 64 degrees Fahrenheit to 72 degrees Fahrenheit. The system must be verified as to being at the correct pressure, that the system is operating correctly and must be adjusted to a minimum temperature of 64 degrees Fahrenheit .Before installing over a radiant-heated floor turn off heat and wait until the floor has reached room temperature. After installing the floor, return the heat to the previous settings slowly by adding 4° Fahrenheit at a time per day .  
Caution: The slab surface must never exceed 80° Fahrenheit in temperature. It is important to check with the manufacturer of the radiant heat system that the chosen flooring is compatible with the water radiant heated system. Please note that when a floating is installed over a radiant heated subfloor it is normal to see gaps between flooring strips depending on the season,

however by maintaining the relative humidity level between 40% and 60% all year round gapping between boards should be very limited.

For an installation over an electric radiant heat system verify with the manufacturer of the radiant system that it is suitable for the type of flooring you wish to install. Same conditions apply as to temperature and relative humidity levels.

**Preparation:**

Remove all moldings and wall-base and undercut all door casings with a hand or power jamb saw using a scrap piece of flooring as a guide. "Racking the Floor" Start by using random length strips from the carton or by cutting four to five strips in random lengths, differing by at least 9". As you continue working across the floor be sure to maintain the 9" minimum stagger between end joints on all adjacent rows. Never waste material; use the left over pieces from the cuts to start the next row or to complete a row.

**Interlocking floating installation**

All flooring installations must use an approved underlayment. In a floating installation, a 1/2" expansion gap must be maintained around the perimeter of the room. (See corresponding photos on the next page for a step-by-step illustration of the following floating installation instructions.) After allowing the floor to acclimate and ensuring that proper subfloor requirements are met you can begin the installation by laying the underlayment: Open multiple boxes in order to create a nice pattern.

**For rooms having large dimensions exceeding 20 feet by 30 feet, you must plan to have an expansion joint using T moldings for finishing.**

Step 1: First plank first row, start at the left hand corner of the room with the locking system facing you, you must leave an expansion gap of 1/2" You can wait until the third row before adjusting the 1/2" expansion joint.

Step 2: Place the next board even with the first board.

Step 3: Let the board drop in a single action movement, make sure the long sides are straight. Complete the row in the same fashion.

Step 4: At the end of the row measure the board to be cut considering the expansion gap of 1/2".

Step 5: Cut the board using a jig saw placing the face board down, or if using a hand saw the board should be face up.

Step 6: To begin the second row use the cut piece of the last board of the previous row. This board should not be less than half of an original board.

Step 7: Minimum distance of end joints of parallel boards should not be less than 1/2" the size of a normal size board for visual effects and stability purposes.

Step 8: Second board of the second row, place the tight to the end joint of the first board and just drop the board in a single action movement.

Step 9: remember to adjust the 1/2" expansion gap using spacers.

Step 10: For the last row cut the last board lengthwise keeping in mind expansion requirements. Glue the end joints using waterless acrylic glue.

Step 11: For the last row, after gluing the end joints, add weight on the end joints until glue has dried.

After completing installation of a row, it is mandatory to lock in place the completed row limiting any side shifting from left to right movement on the length side, in order to keep the structural integrity of the locking system. Not following these instructions will cause separation on the end of the flooring strips as the locking system may break, this situation cannot be related to a defective product., it is considered the only reason for separation of the strips and falls in to being an installation problem



### **Special Installations**

Step 12- For hard to reach places, cut off locking system element using a chisel, put acrylic glue on the adjacent board and push the planks horizontally together. If necessary place spacers between the last boards until the glue has completely dried.

Step 13: water and radiator pipes- mark the center of where the pipe holes will be cut out, consider the expansion gap requirements, drill the hole and cut the board, install the cut piece and glue in place using acrylic glue.

### **Installation TIP**

After completion of each row , use a strip that you have cut on its length to half for which you will be using as a taping block, keep the tongue side intact. For every row you can lightly tap every strip to make sure that the boards are tightly locked in place. You should not see any spacing between each board.

### **Maintenance**

Symphony laminate floors are very easy to maintain. Simply use a Wood/laminate cleaner and a specialty terry cloth flooring duster, which is available from most flooring retailers. NEVER WET MOP YOUR WOOD FLOORS.

#### **STEP 1:**

Vacuum or sweep your floor to remove any particles that could scratch your floor.

Warning: Vacuums with a beater bar or power rotary brush head can damage a laminate floor and should never be used.

STEP 2: Apply a specialty wood cleaner directly to the terry cloth flooring duster, not to the floor!

STEP 3: Use a back and forth motion with the duster. When the terry cloth cover becomes soiled, simply replace it with a clean one. Cleaning the floor with a soiled cover could cause streaking. The covers are reusable so simply throw the cover in the wash and dry it as you would any towel.

#### **Tips & Warnings:**

Never wet or damp mop your laminate floors. Water can damage them.

Vacuum or sweep regularly.

Remove spills promptly using a wood/laminate cleaner and a clean white cloth.

Use felt protectors under heavy pieces of furniture and chairs.

Use protective mats at all exterior entrances.

Never use oil soaps, wax or other household products to clean your floor.

Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture or appliances.

Never slide or roll heavy furniture or appliances across the floor.

## **25 YEAR Residential**

The Manufacturer warrants to the original purchaser that, under normal residential conditions, the wear layer or overlay of the Laminate Fold Down Series product in the original manufactured/purchased condition will not wear through, crack, flake or peel or delaminate from the structure for a period of twenty five (25) years for residential applications. Warranty applies only to the original purchaser on products installed and used in accordance with the installation instructions. Installer or purchaser must inspect each board for any manufacturing defects; any board or piece installed in the flooring shall be considered as accepted. Regular maintenance as specified below must be followed in order to validate this warranty. This warranty does not cover labor costs or any other incidental expenses incurred as a result of a covered defect. The responsibility of "The Manufacturer" is limited, at their discretion, to replacing defective products or refunding the portion of the floor in question as covered under the warranty. Any attempt to repair, refinish or replace the defective product prior to inspection or by written authorization from the Manufacturer will invalidate the warranty. This warranty is not transferable. When making a claim original proof of purchase or a receipt is required. "The Manufacturer" reserves the right to substitute an alternative product of equal value in case the flooring type selected is no longer available.

## **Warranty Exclusions**

"The Manufacturer" warranties do not extend or cover scratches, dents or any noticeable markings or damage caused by improper handling, installation, water damage, flooding, fire, natural disasters or acts of God, furniture, shoes of all types, pets and insects, et cetera. "the Manufacturer" will not warrant any product that is faulty from incorrect installation, neglect, environmental extremes, or improper storage and handling of product. The Sub-floor is the responsibility of the installer. Failure of a Laminate Fall Down Series floor product relating to the sub-floor, in any manner, is not the responsibility of the "Manufacturer" and is not covered under the warranty. A defect in the finish wear surface must be easily noticeable and cover an area of 2" square where there is wear through as seen from a standing position. Any variation or reduction in gloss level will not be considered under this warranty. Is excluded any light visual noticeable differences of a product under different angle, particular lighting or through large window. Light difference in color or texture from the sample comparable to the entire floor. Squeaking noises, cupping or telegraph marks of a floor in service

Flooring is made from natural raw materials and as such has cells running in all directions, therefore, all laminate floors will expand and contract with the change of seasons. The expanding and contracting is not covered under this warranty. It is recommended that the customer maintain a relative humidity level of 40-60% in the home by using a humidifier and/ or a dehumidifier to minimize movement of the flooring.

## **Warranty Inclusions:**

Warranty shall include and be limited to, only defects arising from the defective manufacturing, premature surface wear or defects in the wood fiber. Should a valid claim arise all reimbursements, repairs, replacement or compensation is the sole discretion of "The Manufacturer". Claims will only be administered if the above criteria have been met. Authorization of a claim without "The Manufacturer's" approval is at the sole discretion of the author. The Manufacturer will not compensate the author without prior written approval.

## **25 Year Limited Warranty**

- > Years 1-5 — 100 % Material only
- > Years 6-10 — 75% Material only
- > Years 11-15 — 50% Material only
- > Years 16-20 — 25% Material only

> Years 21-25 — 10% Material only

Leased properties and apartments are considered commercial properties under this warranty. The limited residential warranty does not apply to these types of properties and installations. If your product purchase also carries a limited commercial warranty, it is the limited commercial warranty that applies to rental units, leased properties and apartments per the condition, exclusions and terms specified herein.