

Installation Tips: Plywood Subfloor



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Below is a list of tips to ensure that your Carlisle Wide Plank floor is installed properly. If you have questions, **we encourage you to contact your Carlisle Wide Plank Specialist at any time.**

1. Choose a qualified installer for your new Carlisle Wide Plank floor. Most performance related issues are driven by environmental factors and improper installation methods.
2. Moisture is the single greatest environmental factor that will influence the performance of your floor. Determine the extent to which expansion gaps will be utilized during installation. Proper use of gaps can help account for any moisture changes (subfloor or ambient) expected in the environment.
3. When installing over a plywood subfloor, use a combination of nails and construction adhesive. They will work in tandem to firmly attach your floor to the subfloor, while allowing for some flexibility with seasonal changes.
4. Identify an appropriate blind nailing and adhesive schedule for the floor. This will determine where nails and adhesive will be started on each board and what distance will be allowed between each. A distance of 7"–9" apart is usually sufficient. It is ultimately the responsibility of the installer to determine the appropriate distance for jobsite conditions and the flooring being installed. We recommend the use of either Montinator construction adhesive from Wakol, or PL Premium construction adhesive; both can be found at most local hardware stores.
5. Keep some clean rags and mineral spirits available in the event that glue gets on the face of the board. Wipe it up immediately to prevent the glue from curing on the face and marring the board.
6. Nail spacing and pattern will vary greatly when face nails are used. Contact your Carlisle Wide Plank Specialist to discuss traditional face nailing patterns and our recommendation for use.
7. Snap a chalk line on the floor as an alignment reference for your boards. You can periodically check the edges of your rows against this line to ensure that it is straight, particularly with the first row as that determines all subsequent rows. This is especially critical when installing pattern floors.

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8. While installing and finishing, white soled shoes, shoe covers or socks should be worn in order to help reduce the potential for scuffing the boards.
9. Unless you ordered a Ranch Collection floor or it was pre-arranged prior to the production of the floor, don't install a multi-width floor in a repeating pattern. This may cause you to run short on some widths before the installation is complete. Separate widths into piles and randomly stagger within the floor. This will help create a successful installation as well as help to preserve the beauty of the floor.