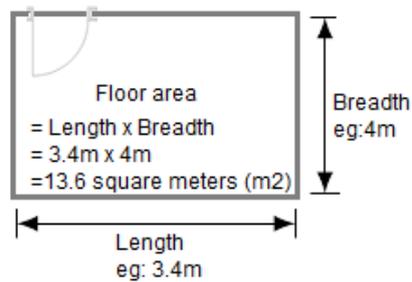




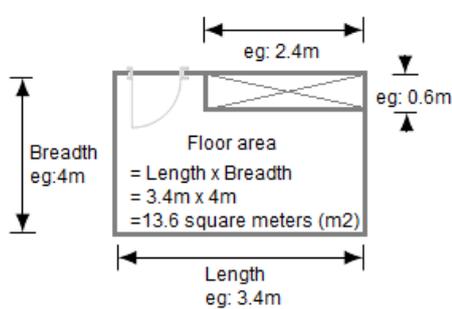
Exclusive Floors ‘How-To’ Installation Guide for Laminate Floors & LVT Click Vinyl

Step 1: Calculate the amount of material required to complete your installation.

a. Measuring your floor areas should be as easy as the length multiplied by the breadth of a room to get your floor area measured in square meters. Here’s a diagram to help you:



b. Exclude the surface area of your built-in cupboards that take up floor space.



Calculations:

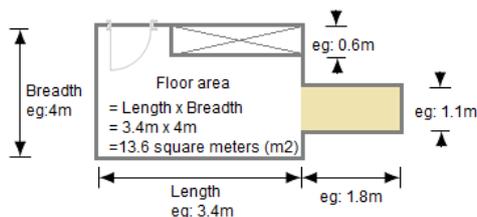
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total floor area} &= L \times B \\ &= 3.4 \times 4\text{m} \\ &= 13.6\text{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Subtract the floor area that the built-in cupboards occupy in the room

$$2.4\text{m} \times 0.6\text{m} = 1.44\text{m}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, total floor area minus built-in cupboard} \\ &= 13.6\text{m}^2 - 1.44\text{m}^2 = 12.16\text{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

c. Remember to include any small passageways or walk-in dressing areas that form part of the floor area.



Calculations:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total floor area} &= L \times B \\ &= 3.4 \times 4\text{m} \\ &= 13.6\text{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Subtract the floor area that the built-in cupboards occupy in the room

$$2.4\text{m} \times 0.6\text{m} = 1.44\text{m}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, total floor area minus built-in cupboard} \\ &= 13.6\text{m}^2 - 1.44\text{m}^2 = 12.16\text{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Add the floor area of any additional spaces that form part of the floor area:

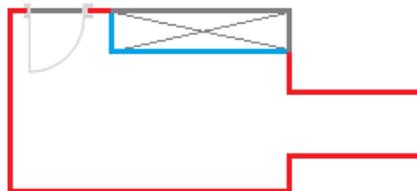
$$1.8\text{m} \times 1.1\text{m} = 1.98\text{m}^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, total floor area plus the additional area} \\ \text{calculated} \\ &= 12.16\text{m}^2 + 1.98\text{m}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 14.14\text{m}^2$$



d. For skirting boards, measure your room circumference where the skirting boards will be installed, seen in Red below, and measure your built-in cupboards for quarter-round profiles, seen in Blue:



eg:

Skirting Boards = 14.5 linear meters (LM)

Built-in cupboards = 3LM

Add 10% to all measurements for wastage:

Floor Area = 14.14m² + 10% = 15.55m²

Skirting Boards = 14.5LM + 10% = 15.95LM

Quarter-Rounds = 3LM + 10% = 3.3LM

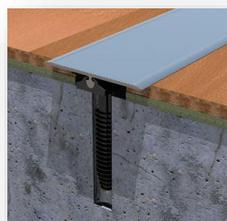
e. Also count & measure the doors. The following need to be considered:

How many standard doors will there be? Approximately 820mm each. Is there going to be a height difference between the new floor to be installed & the floor that meets it?

For doorways that have a height difference, you will need a *Reducer Profile*.



If there won't be any height difference, you will need a *T-Profile*.





For our room illustrated above, let's say there will be a height difference so we will need a *Reducer Profile* to cover for 1 standard door.

Reducer Profile = 1 standard door

*Other considerations like Sliding Doors, French Doors, Pivot Doors, Balustrades, Stairs etc. will also need to be considered when calculating material requirements. Each of these fixtures will need specific profiles which might require technical consideration. Please contact **Exclusive Floors** for further advice.

Step 2: Head to **Exclusive Floors** to buy your materials – you will be advised on the best quality & design options.

Once your floors are at your home, follow acclimatisation requirements for a minimum of 48 hours before installation. Stack the boxes in the area where the floors are to be installed in a manner that allows air to flow between them.



Step 3: Ensure you have all the necessary tools to complete the installation. These will include Pull Bar, Hammer, Mallet, Hacksaw, Jigsaw, Mitre Box/Electric Mitre Saw, Laminate Installation Tapping Block Kit. Nails for fixing skirting boards, Quality Adhesive, Buff Tape. Ask the staff at Exclusive Floors for advice on further requirements.

Step 4: Remove existing flooring like Carpets, Tiles, etc. Ensure that all debris is cleared out & there are no traces of glue, nails, bits of carpet underfelt, etc.

Step 5: Check that the level of the floor meets requirements as specified by the manufacturer of your new laminate floors. Generally the floor gradient shouldn't exceed 2mm over 2m expanse throughout the floor. This is extremely important & should not be ignored as your new floor can get damaged & will not be covered under any manufacturer's warranty. Please contact us for further information on how damage is caused as a result of un-level subfloors. Also, look out for articles on our website for detailed explanations on subfloor requirements. If the floor is not sufficiently level, steps will need to be taken to rectify this. Self-Levelling screed, Cement Topping, etc. are products used for this process. For further details on floor levels, contact **Exclusive Floors** & we will be happy to advise you.

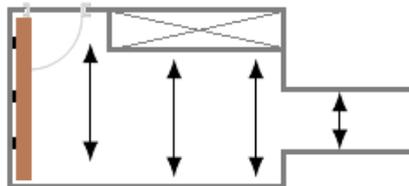


Step 6: Check that your air & floor's moisture levels comply with the manufacturer's requirements using a moisture meter. Do not install any floor where there is clear evidence of excessive moisture as it will cause the product to fail & will not be covered under warranty. Contact **Exclusive Floors** for assistance.

Step 7: Begin by laying down your Underlayment. Unroll it onto the floor & use Buff tape to seal the edges where you overlap one strip with another.



Step 8: Decide on which direction you want the floor to be installed & begin by laying down the first row of laminate floors against a wall. The best visual result will be to run the floors in the direction of the light source like a window, opposite the door entering the room. Sometimes this might not work in conjunction with the direction of the passage so you may need to consider your options.



Each plank has a male & female click lock design which may take some practice before you get the hang of it. Using tapping blocks & a mallet, follow the manufacturer's installation instructions that are often supplied in each box.



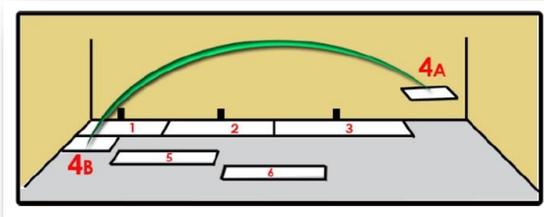
exclusive **FLOORS**

Top Tip: Try not to damage any planks & any locks as you won't be able to use those boards & will run short in the end.

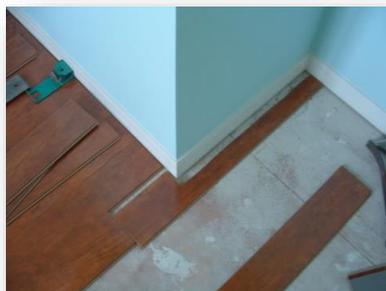
Ensure that a minimum expansion gap of 8-10mm is allowed around the entire perimeter of the floor. If you live near the coast or anywhere where air moisture levels are higher, allow for additional expansion gaps of about 10-15mm. Use spacing wedges to maintain this gap while installing your floors. NB: Always consider the skirting board thickness which must cover these expansion gaps.



Step 9: Stagger the short end joints in increments of a $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ board lengths. Use the offcut piece at the end of each row to begin the next row of flooring, still remembering to maintain the staggered effect. Remember to measure twice & cut once!



Cutting around door frames, BIC's & other obstacles may require careful consideration. Boards will need to be cut using a jigsaw or hand saw.





Step 10: Once your floor is installed, you will need to install your flooring profiles & seal all exposed edges using acrylic colour sealants or silicones. Expansion strips must be used to allow expansion over very large areas exceeding 8-10m.



Remember that your new floor is not to be fixed down permanently with the use of glue, screws, nails, etc. All profiles & accessories that are installed need to allow the floor to still move freely during expansion over time. Anything that restricts expansion will cause product failure that is not covered under manufacturer warranties.

Floor Care:

After installation, sweep the floors clean from dust & wipe the floors clean of any excess dust using a damp clean cloth. Using a water & white vinegar solution, moisten a clean microfiber mop & wipe the floors clean. The key is to use a minimal amount of moisture, your mop should not be dripping with liquid.

Note: Installing your laminate floors will require some technical know-how & practical DIY ability. These instructions cover the basics but additional installation methods may need to be considered depending on the specific job site. Call on **Exclusive Floors** to get a quote on an installation service to take out the hassle from start to finish.

