THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING AHF PRODUCTS FLOORING. If properly installed and cared for your new flooring will be easy to maintain and will look great for years to come. If you have questions or comments, please visit us at www.ahfproducts.com or 1 866-243-2726.

These directions are based on industry standards and best practices. Failure to follow these installation instructions may result in damage to the flooring and void the warranty.

Prior to installation of any hardwood flooring product, the owner/installer must determine that the job-site is prepared and follows these installation instructions.

Owner/Installer Responsibility

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prior to installation of any hardwood flooring product, the owner/installer must determine that the job-site is prepared and follows these installation instructions.

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVES: Bruce® ProConnect™ Plus, Bruce Equalizer Pro, Bruce Summit Select®

RECOMMENDED ADHESIVE REMOVER: Low Odor mineral spirits

RECOMMENDED CLEANER: Bruce Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner

RECOMMENDED UNDERLAYMENT (Floating installation system only): Premium Underlayment

RECOMMENDED WOOD GLUE (Floating installation and joint gluing): Bruce EverSeal™ Adhesive

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• For complete warranty information call 1-866-243-2726 or go to www.ahfproducts.com
• For technical or installation questions, or to request a Safety Data Sheet, please call 1-866-243-2726 or visit www.woodexpert.ahfproducts.com our technical website
• For general questions or comments, please visit us at www.ahfproducts.com or call 1-866-243-2726.

NOTE: Do not staple down traditionally finished Pecan, Maple or Hickory products. All species of hand-scraped products (such as American Scrape & Rural Living) can be stapled down with 20 gauge staples ("1 minimum length for 3/8" – 1/2" engineered hardwood, for 9/16" hardwood use 1 1/4" fasteners). Birch, Hickory, Maple and Pecan hand-scraped products can be stapled down using the recommended fastening machines.

FOR PRODUCTS WIDER THAN 5": In addition to the use of mechanical fasteners, assisted glue applications should be used. The glue should be a premium grade urethane construction adhesive applied in a serpentine pattern to the back of each board.

Follow the recommended fastening pattern.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Owner/Installer Responsibility

Beautiful hardwood floors are a product of nature and therefore, not perfect. Our hardwood floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards. For optimum performance handling hardwood flooring, carefully read and follow these installation instructions.

These hardwood floors were manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit grading deficiencies not to exceed 5%. These grading deficiencies may be of a manufacturing or natural type. When flooring is ordered, 5% must be added to the actual square footage needed for cutting and grading allowance (10% for diagonal installations).

The owner/installer has final inspection responsibility as to grade, manufacture and factory finish. Inspection of all flooring should be done prior to installation. The flooring should also be carefully examined for color, finish and quality before installing it.

The installer must use reasonable selectivity and not use or cut off pieces with deficiencies, whatever the cause. Should an individual piece be doubtful as to grade, manufacture or factory finish, the installer should not use that piece. If material is not acceptable, do not install it and contact the seller immediately.

Prior to installation of any hardwood flooring product, the owner/installer must determine that the job-site environment and the sub-surfaces involved meet or exceed all applicable standards. Recommendations of the construction and materials industries, as well as local codes, should be followed. These instructions recommend that the construction and subfloor be clean, dry, stiff, structurally sound and flat. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from, or associated with, subfloor or substrates or job-site environmental deficiencies.

• Use of alkali, filler or putty stick for touch-up and appropriate products for correcting subfloor voids is accepted as part of normal installation procedures.

Attention Installers

CAUTION: WOOD DUST

SAWING, SANDING AND MACHINING WOOD PRODUCTS can PRODUCE WOOD DUST. ABORNE WOOD DUST CAN CAUSE RESPIRATORY, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. The INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC) has CLASSIFIED WOOD DUST as a NASAL CARCINOGEN IN HUMANS. Precautionary Measures: If power tools are used, they should be equipped with a dust collector. If high dust levels are encountered, use an appropriate NIOSH-designated dust mask. Avoid dust contact with eye and skin.

First Aid Measures in Case of Inhilation: In case of irritation, flush eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes. If you have any technical or installation questions, or to request a Safety Data Sheet, please call 1 866 243 2726 or visit our technical website at www.woodexpert.ahfproducts.com.

IMPORTANT HEALTH NOTICE FOR MINNESOTA RESIDENTS ONLY:

These building materials emit formaldehyde, eye, nose, and throat irritation, headache, nausea, and a variety of asthma-like symptoms, including shortness of breath, have been reported as a result of formaldehyde exposure. Elderly persons and young children, as well as anyone with a history of asthma, allergies, or lung problems, may be at greater risk. Research is continuing on the possible long-term effects of exposure to formaldehyde.

Reduced ventilation may allow formaldehyde and other contaminants to accumulate in the indoor air. High indoor temperatures and humidity raise formaldehyde levels. When a home is located in areas subject to extreme summer temperatures, an air-conditioning system can be used to control indoor temperature levels. Other means of controlled mechanical ventilation can be used to reduce levels of formaldehyde and other indoor air contaminants. If you have any questions regarding the health effects of formaldehyde, consult your doctor or local health department.

WARNING: Existing in-place resilient floor covering and asphaltic adhesives. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast, or mechanically chip or pulverize existing resilient floor coverings, backings, lining felt, asphaltic “cutback” adhesive, or other adhesive.

• These existing in-place products may contain asbestos fibers and/or crystalline silica.
• Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of such dust is a cancer and respiratory tract hazard.
• Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of serious bodily harm.
• Unless positively certain that the existing in-place product is a non-asbestos-containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern removal and disposal of material.

See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings for instructions on removing all resilient floor covering structures or contact your retailer or AHF Products at 1 866 243 2726.

AHF floor coverings and adhesives do NOT contain asbestos.

Preliminary Storage and Handling

• Handle and unload with care. Store in a dry place being sure to provide at least a four-inch air space under cartons which are stored upon “on-grade” concrete floors. Flooring should not be delivered until the building has been enclosed and all outside doors and windows are in place, and all construction, plastering, and other “wet” work has been completed and dry.

Although it is not necessary to acclimate engineered flooring it is best to store it in the environment in which it is expected to perform prior to installation. Check adhesive label for adhesive storage limitations.

Job-Site Conditions

• The building should be enclosed with all outside doors and windows in place. All concrete, masonry, framing members, drywall, paint, and other “wet” work should be thoroughly dry. The wall coverings should be in place and the painting complete, except for the final coat on the base molding. When possible, delay installation of base molding until flooring installation is complete. Baseboards and claw spaces must be dry and well ventilated.

• Exterior grading should be complete with surface drainage, offering a minimum drop of 3” to 15” (7.6 cm to 3.8 cm) to direct flow of water away from the structure. All gutters and downspouts should be in place.

• Engineered flooring may be installed below, on- or above-grade level. Do not install in full basement.

• Crawlspace must be a minimum of 18” (46 cm) from the ground to the underside of the joists. A ground cover of 6-20 mil black polyethylene film is essential as a vapor barrier with joints taped 6” (15 cm) and sealed with moisture resistant tape. The crawl space should have perimeter venting equal to a minimum of 1.5% of the crawl space square footage. These vents should be properly located to foster cross ventilation (Figure 1). When necessary, local regulations prevail.

• The installation site should have a consistent room temperature of 60-80°F (16-27°C) and humidity of 30-40% for 14 days prior to and during installation and until occupied.

SubFloor Conditions

• Clean – Subfloor must be free of wax, paint, oil, sealers, adhesives and other debris.
• Level/Flat – Subfloor must be within 3/16” in 10’ (5 mm in 3 m) and 1/8” in 6’ (3 mm in 2 m). Sand high areas or joints. If the floor is to be glued down, fill low areas with a latex additive cementitious leveling compound of 3,000-PSI minimum strength. Underlayments other than EverSeal added. Add Plastic Membrane. The installation site should have a consistent room temperature of 60-80°F (16-27°C) and humidity of 30-40% for 14 days prior to and during installation and until occupied.

• Subflooring with excessive vertical movement should be avoided. Optimum performance of hardwood floor covering products occurs when there is little horizontal or vertical movement of the subfloor. If the subfloor has excessive vertical movement (deflection) before installation of the flooring, it is likely it will do so after installation of the flooring is complete.

SubFloors with Radiant Heat

• Note: Always make certain the product selected is recommended for this type application. System must be operational and heated for at least 7 days prior to beginning the installation.

• Use an incremental control strategy that brings the floor through temperature changes gradually which may include an external thermostat. When a floor is installed in the presence of radiant heat, the manufacturer’s precautions for staple-down installation. Beware of stapling through radiant tubing or mesh.

• Turn on heat and let subfloor cool down to room temperature 3-4 hours prior to starting the job.

• Before installation begins, ascertain that the heating system is designed and controlled for wood flooring and that the circuit does not include other floor covering types. Failure to do so may cause excessive heat damage and shrinkage.

• Refer to radiant heat system manufacturer’s precautions for staple-down installation. Beware of stapling through radiant tubing or mesh.

• After installation, turn the heating system back on immediately. The finished floor surface must not exceed 85°F (29°C) throughout the life of the floor.

• Radiant heating systems normally create dry heat that can lower interior humidity levels. It may be necessary to add humidity with humidifiers to maintain the recommended levels (30-50%) and prevent damage to the wood floor.

• The flooring should be left to “condition” and glued over radiant heat to avoid longitudinal shrinkage. Apply a bead of the recommended wood glue to the groove end then insert the tongue. Wipe excess adhesive away immediately.

2nd Floor
1st Floor
Basement

Floor Level

1st Floor
2nd Floor
Basement

Joists

Soil Line

Figure 1

Our Family of Brands

Bruce®
Hartco®
Capella
PARTERRE
HI WO LEMER
Robbins
tmbr.

2nd Line
1st Floor ground floor
Basement
Ground floor
Ground floor
Their engineering methods, are the responsibility of the builder, engineer, architect or consumer who is better able to understand the standards and recommendations of the construction and materials industries must be met or exceeded. When installing parallel to the floor joists it may be necessary to measure moisture content of both the subfloor and the hardwood flooring to determine proper moisture content. The wood subfloor should be checked at various locations throughout the installation approximately 20

In addition to the use of mechanical fasteners, assisted glue applications must be used. The glue should be a premium urethane construction adhesive applied in a serpentine pattern to the back of each board. Then follow the recommendations for the construction installation. When installing products wider than 3-1/4˝ (8 cm) approved underlayment, must be added.

NOTE: Make certain the floor covering materials are well bonded to the subfloor/underlayment with full spread adhesive and are not more than two layers thick, not to exceed 3/16˝ (5 mm).

• Clean the flooring materials as necessary to create a good adhesive bond. If a maintenance material is present on the floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure

• Always allow a minimum 1/4˝ (6 mm) expansion around all vertical

• Be attentive to staggering the ends of the boards at least 4˝-6˝ (10-15 cm) when possible, in adjacent rows (Figure 3) This will help ensure a more favorable overall appearance of the floor.

• Install these boards adjoining the moldings.

• Waferboard and Chipboard: Must be a minimum 40-lb. density, stamped underlayment grade and 3/4˝ (19 mm) thick.

• Readings or more should be taken and documented. The difference between the moisture content of the wood subfloor

• Wood subflooring • Wood structural panels and underlayment • Fully adhered existing wood floors

• Recommended wood glue for floors exceeding 3-1/4˝ (8 cm) in width

• Recommended fastening pattern with a staple or cleat.

• Some tile products may be too brittle for staple penetration. Always test an area for breakage before proceeding.

• Recommended wood glue for floors exceeding 3-1/4˝ (8 cm) in width

• Recommended starter boards cut to various lengths. Avoid staggering the rows

• Engineered flooring that is glued to concrete, the minimum thickness of that flooring must be 1/2˝ (13 mm) to allow for the length of the fastener.

• Acoustic Concrete normally contains large quantities of gypsum that may inhibit the adhesive’s capability to properly

• Recommended hardwood flooring cleaner • Electric power saw • Eye protection • Recommended wood glue

• Only Bruce Equalizer™ moisture cured adhesive or Bruce Summit

• Recommended hardwood flooring cleaner • Electric power saw • Eye protection • Recommended wood glue

• The flooring must be glued or floated directly over full-spread, permanently bonded acrylic cork. The cork must have a density of no less than 11 lb./cubic foot. The cork, in general, should be pure cork combined with a polyurethane or resin binder. Install cork in accordance with cork manufacturer’s recommendations. Always check for adequate adhesive bond.

• Always check for adequate adhesive bond.

• Always check for adequate adhesive bond.

• Recommended adhesive and virtual binder. Install cork in accordance with cork manufacturer’s recommendations. Always check for adequate adhesive bond.

• Recommended starter boards cut to various lengths. Avoid staggering the rows

• Acoustic Cork Underlayment

• Can be used between the joist and subfloor, as well as engineered joist/slab/subfloor systems. Engineered flooring systems may allow for wider joist spacing and thinner subflooring materials. When wider joist spacing of 19.2˝ or greater is used at least one of the following options must be used:

• Option 1: When wider joist spacing of 19.2˝ or greater is used, additional plywood subfloor material must be added to reduce color and shade mixture.

• Option 2: In addition to the use of mechanical fasteners, assisted glue applications must be used. The glue should be a premium urethane construction adhesive applied in a serpentine pattern to the back of each board. Then follow the recommendations for the construction installation. Installation:


• Levelboard and Chipboard: Conforming to US Voluntary Product Standard PS 2009 or Canadian standard CAN/CSA 0255-0-92. Must be 3/4˝ (19 mm) thick when used as a subfloor or 3/8˝ (9.5 mm) thick when used as an underlayment.

• DO NOT sand any resilient products. They may contain asbestos fibers, which may be harmful.

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• Recommended hardwood flooring cleaner • Electric power saw • Eye protection • Recommended wood glue

• Recommended starter boards cut to various lengths. Avoid staggering the rows

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• Option 1: When wider joist spacing of 19.2˝ or greater is used, additional plywood subfloor material must be added to reduce color and shade mixture.

• Option 2: In addition to the use of mechanical fasteners, assisted glue applications must be used. The glue should be a premium urethane construction adhesive applied in a serpentine pattern to the back of each board. Then follow the recommendations for the construction installation. Installation:


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• Do not sand any resilient products. They may contain asbestos fibers, which may be harmful.
STEP 1: Doorway and Wall Preparation

(All Installation Methods)

- Undercut door casings and jambs. Remove any existing base, shoe molding, or door stops. These items can be replaced after installation. All door casings and jambs should be undercut to avoid difficult scuff cuts (Figure 4).

STEP 2: Establishing a Starting Point

(All Installation Methods)

- Installation parallel to the longest wall is recommended for best visual effects, however, the floor should be installed perpendicular to the floor joists if the subfloor has been reinforced to reduce subfloor sagging.
- When possible, begin the layout or installation from the straightest, longest wall, generally an outside wall.
- In at least two places, at least 18" (45 cm) from the corner, measure out equal distances from the starting wall (Figure 5) and snap a chalk line. The measurement must be the sum of the width of the flooring plus an additional 3/8" (9.5 mm) to allow for 1/4" (6 mm) expansion space and the width of the tongue. Allow 1/2" (13 mm) expansion when installing floating floors.

STEP 3: Installing First & Second Rows

(Mechanically Fastened/Floating-Down Installations)

- Use the longest, straightest boards available for the first two rows. For random and alternate width products, use the widest plank for the first row. Align tongue of first row on chalk line. The groove should be facing the starting wall. Pre-drill 1/2" (13 mm) from back (groove) edge, 1-1/2" (32-5 mm) from each end, and at 6" (15 cm) intervals when possible (Figure 6). Fasten using 4 or 6 slotted finishing nails or 1" (2.5 cm) pneumatic finish nails/brads. Countersink the nails.
- Pre-drill and nail-a-nail at a 45° angle through the tongue of the first row every 1-1/2" (32-5 mm) from the ends and spaced in 3-4" (7-6.0 cm) intervals. Countersink nails flush on the grooved side of groove with the following row(s). Continue to install using this method with rows until starter can be used. Alternatively use a pneumatic finish nailer and install nails/brads at the same intervals with a minimum length of 1" (2.5 cm).
- End-joints of adjacent rows should be staggered a minimum of 4-1/2" (10-15 cm) when possible, to create a more favorable overall appearance (Figure 3).
- If the Engineered Hardwood Flooring plank is wider than 5" it must be installed applying a 1/4"-thick bead of Premium construction adhesive to the back of each board. (Figure 7).

STEP 4: Installing the Floor

(Mechanically Fastened/Floating-Down Installations)

- Always use the correct starter for the specific product being installed (see “Installation Applications”). Use a maximum 1" (2.5 cm) staple recommended by the starter manufacturer (e.g. 3/8" x 1" (9-7 mm) staple with a 1-1/4" (31mm) leg and a 1-1/4"-fastener for 8/16" products, 1-1/2" (2-5 mm) staple from the ends spaced at 3-4" (8-10 cm) intervals. Continue to Step 5.
- Set compressor at 90 PSI. If tongue damage occurs, lower air pressure (Figure 8).
- Fasten several sacrificial boards to the floor. At least two boards, stapled side by side, must be used to indicate machine adjustments.
- Check for surface damage, air pressure setting, tongue damage, edge blistering, etc. before proceeding. Make all adjustments and corrections before installation begins. Once proper adjustments have been made, remove and destroy the boards.
- Install the remainder of the floor working from one of the corners. The long side of the room must be faced with the correct edge when clearance does not permit blind nailing with a stapler or a brad nailer. Pre-drill and face-nail or pneumatically nail on the tongue side, following the nailing pattern used for the first row.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATIONS

- Maximum adhesive working times: Bruce Equalizer Pro adhesive - 60 minutes; Bruce ProConnect™ - 45 minutes; 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape. Before adhesive is removed from the surface. Use clean towels, changed frequently, to prevent haze and adhesive residue.
- To eliminate minor shifting or gapping of product during installation, use 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape to hold the planks together. After installation is complete, remove all of the 3M Scotch-Blue™ 2080 Tape from the surface of the newly installed flooring. Do not let the tape remain on the flooring longer than 24 hours. Avoid the use of masking or duct tape, which leaves an adhesive residue and may damage the finish.
- If necessary, use weights to flatten boards with adhesive. To prevent hollow spots, boards that cannot be flattened should be cut lengthways to reduce the bow, or should not be used.
- Be sure not to spread adhesive too far ahead of your work area (Figure 10).
- Complete the installation using this same technique for the remainder of the floor.
- Avoid heavy foot traffic on the floor for at least 24 hours. Lift the furniture or fixtures back into place after 24 hours.

General Information for Floating Floors

- Floating floors can be installed on any structurally sound surface that meets or exceeds local building codes. Any width of flooring can be installed in this manner but wider widths are preferred.
- Plan the floor layout (in width) to avoid having to rip the last row over a doorway. If necessary, use weights to flatten boards with adhesive. To prevent hollow spots, boards that cannot be flattened may require ripping the first row to assure the last row is at least the minimum width.
- Allow 1/2" (13 mm) expansion around all vertical obstructions.

STEP 3: Installing the Underlayment

(Floating Installations Only)

- Install the underlayment in the same direction the hardwood flooring is to be installed.
- Extend the underlayment a few inches up the wall.
- Trim excess prior to installing trim or moldings.
- The floating floor underlayment already has double-sided tape for ease of tape the precut overlapping seams (Figure 12). If a non-adhesive underlayment is used, tape all seams with the included tape.

STEP 4: Installing the Floor

(Floating Installations Only)

- The first row can be installed using one of two methods after the layout has been completed (Step 2). Allow 1/2" (13 mm) expansion.
- If the wall is not straight, scribe the first board (Figure 13) as necessary to maintain alignment with the chalk line. Install a sacrificial board (with a straight edge) using the appropriate fasteners for the subfloor. If a board is used for the starter row, make certain the groove faces the wall.
- Align the first row with the wall using wedges to maintain a 1/2" (13 mm) expansion in place and to stabilize the product. If the wall is not straight, scribe the first board (Figure 13) as necessary to maintain alignment with the chalk line.
- Select the first board. All installations should begin with the groove side against the wall using the longest boards available. Apply a continuous 1/8" (3 mm) glue bead to the inside bottom of the groove on the end of the board. Do not apply glue to the groove side at this time (Item C, Figure 14). Products with the end tongue on the left should be installed right to left, opposite tongues should be left to right. (Item D, Figure 14). If a sacrificial board was used remove it DO NOT glue the first row to it.
- Complete the first row. Cut the last board allowing for 1/2" (13 mm) clearance between the wall and the floor. (Use the remaining end of the cut board as a starter board for any row following row three). Install a wedge on the end of the board between the hardwood flooring and the dowelling, allowing 1/2" (13 mm) expansion space. Avoid installation of any boards shorter than 16" (40.6 cm) in the first four rows. (Item F, Figure 14).
- Use a pull bar to pull the last board into place from the opposite end. Install wedges into the gap and tighten (Item B, Figure 14).
- If any glue gets on the floor, wipe off immediately with a clean damp cloth.
- Cut or remove a shorter board for the first board of the second row by laying a 1/8" (3 mm) bead along the inside bottom of the end side groove of the new board. Install the first board of row two. Apply a bead of glue to the inside bottom of the end side groove of the new board and install. When installing boards together, use a tapping block against the tongue side of the groove (Item G, Figure 14). Tap the board into place with a hammer on the tapping block. DO NOT tap on the edge directly with the hammer. Complete the second through fourth rows using this technique. Insert wedges on the ends, as necessary, to restrain the movement of the floor. In the remaining rows, use the joints 4-5 (10-15 cm) apart. Maintain the rest of the floor . Use all joints are tight. Use spacers on the long and butt walls. Use a tapping bar to tighten the joints from the ends.
STEP 5: Complete the Installation
(All Installation Methods)
• Remove all tape and clean the floor with the recommended hardwood flooring cleaner.
• Trim all underlayment (floating only) and install or re-install any transition pieces, reducer strips, T-moldings, thresholds, bases and/or quarter round moldings that may be needed. These products are available pre-finished to blend with your flooring (see below). Nail moldings into the wall, not the floor.
• Inspect the floor, filling all minor gaps with the appropriate blended filler.
• If the floor is to be covered, use a breathable material such as cardboard. Do not cover with plastic.
• Installers: Leave warranty and floor care information with the owner. Advise them of the product name and code number of the flooring they purchased.
• To prevent surface damage, avoid rolling heavy furniture and appliances on the floor. Use plywood, hardboard or appliance lifts if necessary. Use protective casters/caster cups or felt pads on the legs of furniture to prevent damage to the flooring.

V. TRANSITION AND WALL MOLDINGS

• **Reducer Strip:** A teardrop shaped molding used around fireplaces, doorways, as a room divider, or as a transition between hardwood flooring and adjacent thinner floor coverings. Fasten down with adhesive, small nails or double-faced tape.
• **Threshold:** A molding undercut for use against sliding door tracks, fireplaces, carpet, ceramic tile, or existing thresholds to allow for expansion space and to provide a smooth transition in height difference. Fasten to subfloor with adhesive and/or nails through the heel. Predrill nail holes to prevent splitting.
• **Stair Nosing:** A molding undercut for use as a stair landings trim, elevated floor perimeters, and stair steps. Fasten down firmly with adhesive and nails or screws. Predrill nail holes to prevent splitting.
• **Quarter Round:** A molding used to cover expansion space next to baseboards, case goods, and stair steps. Predrill and nail to the vertical surface, not into the floor.
• **Combination Base and Shoe:** A molding used when a base is desired. Used to cover expansion space between the floor and the wall. Predrill and nail into the wall, not the floor.
• **T-Molding:** A molding used as a transition piece from one rigid flooring to another of similar height or to gain expansion spaces. Fasten at the heel in the center of the molding. Additional rigid support may need to be added to the heel of the molding dependent upon the thickness of the goods covered. Do not use this molding as a transition to carpet.

CARE: INSTALLERS – ADVISE YOUR CUSTOMER OF THE FOLLOWING
Seasons: Heating and Non-heating
Recognizing that hardwood floor dimensions will be slightly affected by varying levels of humidity within the structure, care should be taken to control humidity levels and maintain them in the 30-50% range. To protect the flooring and provide lasting satisfaction, the manufacturer’s recommendations are below.
• **Heating Season (Dry):** A humidifier is recommended to prevent excessive shrinkage in hardwood floors due to low humidity levels. Wood stoves and electric heat tend to create very dry conditions.
• **Non-Heating Season (Humid, Wet):** Proper humidity levels can be maintained by use of an air conditioner, dehumidifier, or by turning on your heating system periodically during the summer months. Avoid excessive exposure to water from tracking during periods of inclement weather. Do not obstruct in any way the expansion joint around the perimeter of your floor.
• **Damage caused by failing to maintain the proper humidity levels is not manufacturing related and will void the floor’s warranty.**

NOTE: Final inspection by the end-user should occur from a standing position.

FLOOR REPAIR
Minor damage can be repaired with a Bruce touch-up kit or filler. Major damage will require board replacement, which can be done by a professional floor installer. Instructions for the board replacement can be found at ahfproducts.com.