



EcoDomo[®]
Leather Surfacing and Fabrication Company

Rainforest Collection Installation Instructions

Before You Start

- Calculate floor area and add 5% of material to allow for custom cutting.
- Acclimate the closed packages in the room, 24 hours prior to installation. Put the packs in the middle of the room.
- Do not open packages until you are ready to start installation.
- Inspect each plank before installation. If you find any defects do not use it and contact your supplier immediately.
- Read these instructions in its entirety.

Important

Leather and Cork are natural materials. Expect some color and shade variation between planks. Always work from several boxes at the same time and shuffle planks for the best visual appearance. Protect flooring from direct sunlight, to reduce fading! All-natural materials will change in color/shade with exposure to light.

Job Site Preparation

Remove existing carpet, baseboards, quarter-rounds and thresholds and undercut door jams, using a piece of flooring material as a guide. Repair all defects in the sub-floor. Check that:

- The doors can still open and close after installing the floor. (minimum 3/8" clearance)
- The door frames may need to be adapted to install the floor under them.
- For aesthetic appearance we suggest that you dry lay the material across the width of the room to ensure that the pieces of the last row are no less than 4" wide.
- For a pattern or design in flooring we recommend you find the center of the room and measure out to build the pattern.

Sub-Floors

Repair any defects in sub-floor. All sub-floors must be clean, firm, flat (within 3/16" in 10 ft), dry (3% moisture on concrete, 10% or less on plywood) and smooth. You can lay the planks over any solid and stable sub-floor material, including plywood, chipboard, old non-creaking flooring boards, hardwood flooring, concrete slabs, PVC or most ceramic tile (avoid heavily embossed tile). In all installations, first cover sub-floor with 6-mil poly, overlap edges by 12", duct-tape seems and run up 4" on each wall. ECODOMO Leather and Cork Flooring already have a built-in a cork underlayment so no additional foam pad is required.

Floor Layout

The floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure color and shade mix. If possible, lay the planks parallel with the incidence of light. The ideal environment is a temperature of 60-70°F and relative humidity of 40-60%. The floor will be stronger and more stable if you lay it so the joints are staggered by at least 12". Staggered or irregular joints lead to less waste and improve overall appearance. Expansion spacers (part of your installation kit) must be used on all walls. Installing expansion spacers on all four walls will ensure proper expansion space has been allowed. The spacers will be removed after the flooring installation has been completed. This expansion space (minimum 3/8"), will be covered by baseboards and/or quarter round.

Tools

Never hit the planks directly with your hammer. Always use the recommended installation kit (10mm – 3/8" spacers, pull bar, tapping block) plus:

- Hammer (1 lb)
- Saw (fine-toothed hand saw, jig saw or cross-cut saw)
- Tape Measure
- Pencil

Instructions

ECODOMO Leather and Cork are floating floors that feature a glue-less interlocking, tongue- and-groove, system. The floor can be assembled together by angling or tapping the planks together.

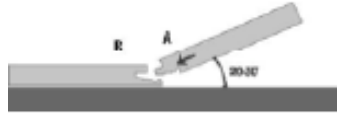
DO NOT USE GLUE! Always use the tapping block provided in the installation kit.

- Floating floors must be able to expand or contract on ALL sides.
- A minimum 3/8" expansion gap MUST BE provided at all walls. The same must also be provided around pipes, at thresholds, and at doorways.
- Expansion gaps are covered by a molding that is not fixed to the leather or cork floor but to the wall.
- ECODOMO Leather and Cork Flooring can be installed in any direction, depending on incoming natural light or the final look you are trying to achieve, but the planks are normally installed in the same direction as the longest wall (less cuts will be needed).
- In areas longer or wider than 30 feet an expansion T - mould must be used.



1) The First Rows

- Start installing the floor on the right-side corner of the room. Always remember that the easiest way to install the floor is by clicking the tongue (A) into the groove (B).



- Saw off the tongue of the first plank to be installed, both on the short as well as the long edge. For all other first-row planks cut off the tongue on the long side (Photo I).



- Install the first plank on the right-hand corner of the room. Leave a minimum spacing of 3/8" from the wall, using the spacers provided in the installation kit. This space must also be provided at all columns, heating pipes, steel doorframes, etc. The planks are laid with the tongue side facing the wall to be able to work with the tongue/groove system.
- Plank #2 is now clicked into the first plank by tapping the short sides with the tapping block. Please ensure that the planks of the first row are straight (Photo II). Repeat process until the first row is completed.



- Plank #2 is now clicked into the first plank by tapping the short sides with the tapping block. Please ensure that the planks of the first row are straight (Photo II). Repeat process until the first row is completed.



- Start the second row with the cut piece leftover from the first row: this will create a staggered joint. The cut edge is installed facing the wall, with the expansion wedge in place. This piece is now angled and clicked into plank #1 of the first row. The cut pieces should be a minimum of 8" in length (Photo III).



- Continue the second row with a full piece, click it to the first row (Photo IV) while, at the same time, making sure that it is no more than 1/4" away from the edge of the first piece of row #2. Using the tapping block, tap the new plank into the first piece of row #2 (Photo V). You should not attempt to knock the two planks into place with one hit.



- Repeat, plank for plank, until the installation is completed.
- The stagger between the head joints should be 8” minimum, and preferably 12”. The last plank of each row is cut so that a 3/8” gap with the wall is taken into consideration.

2) The Final Row

Measure and cut the planks of the final row so that there is a minimum (3/8”) expansion space between the final row and the wall. These planks will be tapped into the last installed row using the Pull Bar and hammer.

3) Installation Under Door Frames

Saw the planks so that after installation there is a minimum 3/8” expansion joint. This can be achieved by undercutting the door frames. If you cannot rotate this plank, use the Tapping Block and hammer to tap the planks together.

4) Completing the Installation

- Remove all spacers and install baseboards and/or quarter round.
- Never attach the baseboard to the floor itself, but allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the baseboard. If a vapor barrier has been used, attach the baseboard through the plastic membrane sticking up from the floor, with the use of finishing nails.
- Finish the pipes with rosettes or silicone seal. In places where no profiles or baseboards can be placed, the expansion gap must be filled with silicone sealant.

Preventative Maintenance

- Install floor protectors on furniture legs, to help protect against scratches and dents. The furniture pads (e.g. felt pads) should have no wrinkles and be made of soft, non-staining materials.
- DO NOT DRAG FURNITURE or other heavy objects on the floor. Avoid high heels or shoes that need repair. Some types of high heel shoes can severely damage the surface of any floor covering.
- Sweep, dust mop and vacuum floor regularly. For deeper cleaning use the recommended cleaner and follow the maintenance instructions on the container. The recommended Cork Floor Dressing should be used, as required by traffic.
- Don't let sand and grit build up on the floor. Use protective mats or rugs at doorways and areas of heavy wear/traffic.
- Never wet mop, never wax or use oil-based products on your ECODOMO Leather or Cork Floor.
- Use only recommended maintenance products. **IMPORTANT:** Maintain room at 40-60% Relative Humidity. This may require either a humidifier or a dehumidifier



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Questions or Comments?

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