



Product: **Style Lock Floating Floor**

Installation Instructions

For a visual demonstration click, www.uniclic.com/technology

www.stylebambooflooring.com



Installation Guide

Please read this guide carefully to ensure the installation of your floor is to an appropriate standard. For compliance to our comprehensive warranty provisions these steps and important tips should be followed to ensure a satisfactory floor installation. If assistance is required please consult with your reseller or professional installer.

For Warranty Compliance;

Prior to installation carefully examine the flooring for:

- Grade.
- Colour and profile, note; all natural products will display colour variation and texture.
- Finish and quality.
- Straightness and warping.
- Ensure there is adequate lighting for a proper inspection.
- Any suspect or obvious out of grade products should be reported to your reseller immediately for assessment.

Pre-Installation

- Flooring should be one of the last items installed for all commercial or domestic applications. It is expected that all plaster and painting work should be completed prior to installation.
- All work involving water eg. Plumbing in kitchen, laundry, and bathroom should be completed before bamboo flooring installation to avoid unnecessary spillage.
- Trade education on-site is required to alert associated trades that the product being installed is pre-finished and care is required to avoid unnecessary damage to surface coatings etc.
- Do not store bamboo (loose boards) long term directly on concrete or near outside walls.
- Style bamboo flooring is not recommended for bathroom, laundry or wet areas.
- During installation, all bamboo cuts (sides or ends) must be sealed with sealing oil. Take special precautions and seal sides and ends near bathrooms and laundry doors, kitchen appliances windows and entries that could be subject to water ingress.
- Surface damage or water ingress during and after installation will not be covered by warranty.

For High Temperature and High Humidity regions including Coastal zones.

- Special care should be taken to provide adequate acclimatisation of the flooring planks prior to installation. It is recommended that the planks should be removed from the packaging and stored in the area they are to be installed. Industry practice suggests a minimum of approx. 5 days acclimatisation will be helpful.
- In these types of environments expansion and contraction is common and the planks need to achieve some form of balance prior to installation. Methods of installation that accommodate for these types of changes are recommended in the regions that may include, **North Queensland, Northern Territory and the coastal regions of Queensland and New South Wales. Sub-Tropical regions of South East Asia would also require acclimatization.**
- **Note: Housing locations situated on elevated sites with open sub-floor spaces require special precautions. In such locations, very dry winds or wind blown rain and fog can result in very extreme changes to the lower surface area of the floor. Extreme shrinkage or swelling may result. Protection to the underside of the floor is required.**
- **For room widths greater than 6.0m appropriate expansion allowances and joints must be incorporated into the floor installation to provide a quality outcome. Door entries etc. provide excellent opportunities for expansion trims to be introduced.**

General Installation

Style Lock Flooring uses an ingenious patented form of tongue and groove to 'click' the planks together. The Uniclic system requires no glue or nails, Style Lock Flooring is much easier and cleaner to work with providing fuss free and easy installation. An installation video can be viewed by clicking www.uniclic.com the installation section will help guide you through the techniques required for your project.

Installation tips.....

- Do not use Style Lock Flooring in damp or wet areas.
- Do not attempt to knock the Style Lock Flooring Joint into place with one hit. Be sure to tap off all joints, even if the plank appears to be in place.
- Tapping Block should be used; otherwise you may damage the plank.
- Do not install defective planks, and make sure to check each plank prior to installation.
- For room widths greater than 6 metres, further expansion provisions will be necessary.
- For new construction, allowing the floor to float under the plaster walls is advantageous. This practice enables the floor to have more space to cater for natural expansion and contraction. Skirting should be fixed after installation.

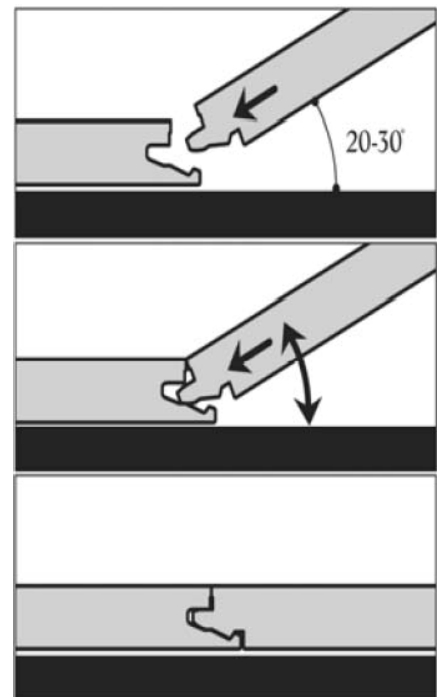
1. You can join together the planks of the Style Lock Flooring System in two different ways:

A. The planks can be rotated to fit into one another with either the tongue into the groove, or the groove into the tongue. The easiest way is to fit the Style Lock Flooring tongue into groove.

Installation instructions are based on using as much as possible of this last installation technique. Fitting the groove onto the tongue is only required in a few specific situations.

Position the plank to be installed at an angle of 20-30° to the plank already installed (Diagram A). Move the Plank to be fitted slightly up and down at the same time exerting forward pressure. The planks will then click into place together.

B. In some cases, the planks cannot be rotated into one another, for example along the short edge of a plank that has already been clicked into place along the long side, or under a door frame etc. In this case, the planks can also be fitted lying flat.



You should not attempt to knock the Style Lock Flooring Joint into place with one hit. For the short edge, use a number of smaller taps until the planks click together completely. For the long edge you should tap them together gradually; begin tapping lightly at the corner of a plank until the joint is made, then repeat the process some 300mm along until the entire long edge of the plank has clicked in with the other.

2. Tools for installing the Floor

In addition to the traditional tools for installing Style Lock Flooring, such as a hammer, saw, crowbar or pinch bar with protruding edge (to be tapped on with a hammer), and spacer block (5mm to 10mm), it is absolutely vital to use the TAPPING BLOCK when installing the floor. With another type of tapping block, you are certain to damage the planks. When sawing pieces off the planks, use a fine-toothed hand saw, jigsaw or cross-cut saw. To achieve a clean cut, saw with the face side down with a jigsaw. Face side up with a hand saw or cross-cut saw.

3. The Best Preparation (Refer earlier note, for High Humidity regions)

The floor should preferably be installed parallel to the way the light falls. The ideal environment is a temperature of 15° - 20° Celsius and relative humidity of 50%–60%. For **dry environments** allow Style Lock Flooring to acclimatize for 48 hours in its original packing, in the area where it is to be installed. Place the packs in the middle of the room, NEVER against a wall or place in a corner. Check that-

- Doors can still open and close after installing the floor with a sub-floor (minimum of 10mm)
- Door frames may need to be adapted to install the floor under them
- Old plinths can be removed

4. The Base Floor

The base floor must be thoroughly clean and flat before Style Lock Flooring can be installed on it. Flatten any unevenness of more than 1cm/3.6m. Depending on the situation, the following cases may present themselves:

Concrete (New Construction):

- The moisture content of the concrete may not exceed 2.5% (CM Method).
- A freshly poured coating must dry out for at least 1 week per 24mm thickness up to 40mm, and 2 weeks per 34mm thickness above 40mm with sufficient ventilation. (34mm concrete must therefore dry out for a minimum of 8 weeks).
- In the case of flooring heating, the moisture content may not exceed 1.5% (CM Method). In this case, some specific installing instructions are applicable. Please refer to the section on Radiant Heated Sub-Floors.

Concrete (Renovated Constructions):

- In the case of sheet vinyl flooring i.e. linoleum etc., Style Lock Flooring may be installed on the existing floor covering. Note: regardless of existing flooring, sub-floor requirements still apply.

Wooden Floor:

- Style Lock Flooring may be installed over existing floor coverings such as full spread sheet vinyl; however it must be properly bonded with no loose edges or seams.
- The wooden floor must be sufficiently stable. Any loose parts must be nailed down and if necessary, a level under floor must be installed.
- The moisture content of the wood may not exceed 10%.
- It is essential that the crawl space under the wooden floor be sufficiently ventilated (minimum 15mm total ventilation opening per square metre of floor).
- Be sure to install new planks across the planks in a cross-hatch fashion.

5. Radiant Heated Sub-Floors

Style Flooring products are suitable for installation over most radiant heating systems as long as the surface temperature of the installed flooring never exceeds 28° Celsius.

Because the radiant heating systems create 'dry' heat, it is essential that the relative humidity in the installation environment be maintained between 35%-55%. Also, the maximum difference in moisture content between the sub-floor and the flooring material must never exceed 4%.

The owner/installer assumes sole responsibility for ensuring the job site has environmental conditions/controls suitable for the installation of Style Flooring over the chosen radiant heating system.

The radiant heating system shall be in operation for at least 7 days prior to installation, shut off 4 hours prior to installation and then returned to operation once installation is complete. Please refer to www.radiantpanelassociation.org for further information.

6. Step by Step Installation

Because the humidity of the room can vary due to differences between the seasons for example, the floor must be able to expand in all directions. This expansion can amount to 10mm per metre, so the greater the surface area, the greater the room for expansion required. **The floor must be able to expand or contract on all sides. To facilitate this, an expansion gap is provided at walls of 15mm. Dependent on skirting thickness the more space the better. For room widths greater than 6.0m further expansion gaps may be necessary. Door entries etc. provide opportunities for expansion trims to be introduced.**

A gap must also be provided around pipes or at thresholds. With large surface areas, a wider gap must be provided, for example under a double wall. Take into account the fact that the floor may move in one direction. Where possible, provide expansion gaps i.e. under doors. These gaps are covered by a profile that is not fixed to the flooring but to the base floor.

Install the planks preferably in the same direction as the longest wall and the way the light falls (visually more attractive). Start installing the floor on one corner or in the middle of the area. You can also work from left to right, or right to left. Always remember that the easiest way of installing the floor is using the tongue into the groove.

In these installation instructions, we will begin installing the floor in the left-hand corner. This means that we are installing the floor from left to right and will be clicking the plank together using the tongue into the groove.

Take four planks and place them ready in the corner where you want to begin installation. For the time being, do not place them too close to the wall so that you can easily get between the wall and the planks. First saw through plank 2 so that you have a piece 80cm long that you can use with a groove along the long and short edge (the sawn off part against the wall). To ensure a perfect expansion joint, the tongues along the long edge of planks 1 and 3m which go against the wall, need to be sawn off.

A. We can now begin installation. Place your knees on plank 1 and push the tongue of plank 2 into the groove of plank 1. Rotate plank 2 up and down (while you hold plank 2 hard against plank 1) until both planks click together. If plank 2 does not stay flat or if the joint is not perfectly tight, this is a sign that the joint has not fully been made. If this is the case, rotate and press both planks again, using more force until they click in together.

B. Now install the second plank of the first row. Take plank 3 and hold it in your left hand. Hold the plank slanted so that the tongue (on the short edge) can be fitted easily into the groove (on the short edge) of plank 1. If the tongue sticks in the groove, rotate plank 3 up and down and at the same time push against plank 1. Make sure that planks 1 and 3 are perfectly aligned to one another. This is very important for installing the next rows. Before you go any further, place a weight (e.g. a full pack of planks) on top of planks 1 and 2.

C. Place both knees on planks 1 and 3. The weight (pack of planks) that is laying on planks 1 and 2 will ensure that the joints made previously will not come apart. Now take plank 4 in both hands and fit it on the slant into the groove on the short edge of plank 2. Ensure that on the long edge, there is a space of +/- 1cm between plank 4 and the planks in the first row. Rotate plank 4 gently downward and press it against plank 2 until you feel the tongue and groove click firmly together. Now the planks lie flat on the ground. Slightly lift up plank 2 and 4 and use your left hand to tap plank 4 on the long edge side so that it moves in the direction of the first row so that the tongue of the long side of plank 4 comes into direct contact with the groove of the first row.

D. Rotate planks 2 and 4 together up and down in order to make a joint between tongue and groove. Always make sure when rotating that you press the tongue and groove together with sufficient force. After a few rotations, the tongue and groove joint should have been made and you can now let the planks lie flat on the ground. If there is not visible space left in the joint, then you have joined the planks together correctly. If not, repeat the rotation movement (and press harder) or you must check that the planks in the first row are in perfect alignment. Now you have joined the first four planks and have got used to the technique. Use the same technique as with planks 3 and 4 so that the first two rows are fully installed. Now push the whole unit against the wall and fit in the expansion joint (+/-cm) using spacer blocks, so that you have a sturdy whole.

E. From the third row on, finish off each row at a time, each time joining the plank along its short edge, then along its long edge. You can use the left-over pieces that you have at the end of each row as the beginning planks of the next row. That way you make the best possible use of each plank. Always place a weight (a pack of planks) on the joints that you have just made in order to stabilize them.

F. Finishing. After installing our floor, you can immediately walk on it and begin the finishing process. This is one of the major benefits of the Style Lock Flooring System.

- Remove all spacer blocks
- Fix the skirting boards to the plastic membrane sticking up from the floor. Never fix the skirting boards to the floor itself, but allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the skirting board.
- Finish the pipes with rosettes or silicone.
- In places where no profiles or skirting boards can be place, the expansion gap must be filled with silicone. Silicone should also be inserted in the expansion at the perimeter where the Style Lock Flooring may be exposed to excess moisture, such as, toilets and in front of dishwashers and sinks etc.

7. Precautions

- **Do not steam mop or wet mop floor surface area after installation.**
- Protect furniture and chair feet by means of felt or plastic caps.
- Avoid bringing dirt, water and sand from outside by use of a doormat.
- Use wheeled chairs with soft rollers suitable for hard surface flooring.
- Make sure there is a minimum humidity of 35%-50% in the room, if necessary use a humidifier.
- Keep nails trimmed on animals.

8. Maintenance

- With its smooth surface, Style Lock flooring cannot retain dust or dirt.
- Never use a floor wax polish on the floor.
- For dry maintenance, wipe over with clean water or with wood floor cleaner. (Never use other cleaning products or detergents). This product cleans the floor very well and leaves a satin shine. Only use a well wrung out cloth. Always wipe dry immediately after until no moisture is visible on the floor.
- Never use scouring products.
- Despite the superior moisture resistance of Style Lock Flooring, remove any excess water immediately

9. Product Warranty

Structural Warranty

1. Style Limited warrants the product in the original manufactured state free from structural defects for **20 years in residential applications** and **10 years for use in commercial applications** from the date of purchase.
2. Style Limited will replace defective products only. This warranty excludes all other costs associated with installation of the product.

Finish Wear Layer Warranty

1. Style Limited warrants to the original purchaser that the surface finish wear layer of aluminum oxide will not peel or separate from the flooring plank for **10 years residential use and 5 years in commercial use from the date of purchase.**
2. This warranty covers normal residential traffic, provided that all preventative maintenance and care operations are maintained.
3. Style Limited and the recommended adhesive companies will only warrant floating, glue down or direct stick installations with the recommended adhesive series.

Warranty Exclusion

1. This warranty does not cover indentations, impact damage or scratches caused by sharp or heavy objects, grit, sand or other abrasive materials, stains arising from negligence, accidents or abuse, fire, excessive heat, water damage, erosion, infestation, normal wear, damages caused by pets, damage from spiked heel shoes, insufficient protection, misuse or improper alterations to the original manufacturers product.
2. Failure to follow all manufacturers' specific installation instructions voids this warranty.
3. Improper maintenance which includes the use of detergents, furniture dustings, sprays or other cleaning maintenance products voids this warranty.
4. Gloss reduction is not considered a finish defect. Defects to the finish must be readily visible and at least 10% of the product surface affected.
5. This warranty does not cover colour variations.
6. Gapping, cupping and crowning due to moisture ingress will not be warranted. Bamboo flooring will have a slight shrinkage and expansion under extreme atmospheric conditions.
7. This warranty does not cover fading due to sunlight.
8. This warranty does not cover damage as a result of spillage of water or any other liquid. It is recommended that spillages be cleaned immediately to preserve your floor.
9. Final inspection of product quality is the installer and/or the owner's responsibility. All flooring products should be inspected prior to installation. Careful examination should be made for colour, grade, finish and general quality before installing. If any material is not acceptable, immediately

- contact your supplier. Once the product has been installed it is deemed to have been accepted by the purchaser. This warranty does not cover installed material.
10. This warranty does not cover any incidental expenses such as labour costs, installation, transport, travel and any other cost associated with the installation of the product.
 11. Installation is the responsibility of the client and is not covered under this warranty.
 12. No warranty applies to any product that has not been paid in full.
 13. This warranty will be void once the original finish has been altered or refinished.

Claim Procedures

1. The original purchaser must notify Style Limited or their agents in writing within 30 days of discovering the problem – claims must be within the warranty coverage period – a copy of the original invoice and receipt is required.
2. Claims must include the description of the problem, a copy of the invoice to establish the date and cost and any additional information that can verify the claim.
3. Rectification by Style Limited or their representative solely is for pre-finished products available to the customer. No attempt shall be made by the customer to refinish, repair or replace any material prior to inspection for this will void the warranty.
4. Any claim is limited to the extent of the replacement of the floor on defective materials only. Any other incidental or additional expenses are not liable to Style Limited.

