

## GUIDELINES FOR CORRECT INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE SPC FLOOR

*This guide is intended for users in charge of installing, using and maintaining the SPC floor. In the event that it is subsequently sold to third parties or any other reason, the BAUFLOOR® floor must be delivered complete with all documentation. Before starting any operation with the construction product, it is necessary to have read the entire manual regarding the operations to be carried out. In case of further information requested, please contact your salesperson directly to request the BAUFLOOR® SPC floor data sheet.*

### WARRANTY

The guarantee regulations are valid only if BAUFLOOR® SPC flooring is used under the conditions of intended use. With the exception of routine maintenance, if foreseen and carried out with the procedures indicated, any modification made to the product by the user or by unauthorized companies, will result in the forfeiture of the warranty. The warranty does not extend to damage caused by inexperience or negligence in the use of the construction product, or by poor or omitted maintenance. Failure to comply with the rules of use and the methods of intervention, installation and maintenance of the BAUFLOOR® SPC floor contained in the manual will result in the cancellation of the warranty terms. The material must be checked upon delivery and its use or modification is considered as acceptance of the same. Any defects or non-conformities of the material supplied must be communicated to the seller in a short time. The supplier's obligations cannot go beyond the replacement of the material recognized as defective.

### INTENDED USE

BAUFLOOR® SPC flooring can only be used as flooring for indoor environments and its installation is only floating. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods, in which case it could cause discoloration. During the hours of maximum intensity of sunlight, the use of curtains or shutters is recommended. Excessive temperature due to direct sunlight can cause thermal expansion and deformation of the floor. The use of BAUFLOOR® SPC flooring in outdoor environments not directly illuminated by sunlight and subjected to air recirculation, should only be recommended and approved by the professionals who will take care of the installation. The mixed installation method, floating and partial glueing, must be recommended and approved only by the professionals who will take care of the installation.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAYING

When installing BAUFLOOR® SPC flooring, it is essential to ensure that the substrate is flat, compact, without cracks, clean and dry.

- ▶ It can be laid on existing floors, such as parquet, ceramic, linoleum, PVC, rubber, marble, granite, stone.
- ▶ It can be laid on ceramic and wood tiles, make sure that any unevenness due to joints or irregularities, if excessive, are filled and leveled.
- ▶ It can be laid on a cement screed, make sure that the rising humidity is less than 2% to avoid the formation of mold and unpleasant odors. The use of a vapor barrier is recommended in case of rising damp. Always check the flatness of the screed.
- ▶ It can be installed on raised floors, but they must be flat, level and their structure fixed.
- ▶ It can be installed on underfloor heating systems, make sure that, when the new system is switched on, the slab of the screed does not exceed 40°C (impossible with heat pump systems but likely with hybrid or gas systems).
- ▶ It can be placed under the door jambs, if necessary, a flat pull bar can be used to facilitate the locking of the slats.
- ▶ It cannot be placed directly on top of the carpet.

Before starting the installation of the floor, check that the quality of the products supplied complies with your needs. Any complaints subsequent to the cutting / laying of the material will not be accepted. Before their installation, the staves must be left for at least 48 hours in the rooms intended for installation, which must be previously and appropriately airconditioned. The ideal temperature in the installation environment is between 18-25°C and that of the floor between 15-27°C. Arrange the boxes in such a way as to allow the material to acquire the optimal recommended temperature throughout its volume. These climatic conditions must be maintained even after installation for at least 7 days. Make sure that in the acclimatization phase the boxes are placed on flat surfaces, to avoid any deformation of the slats. During the installation phase, we recommend taking the staves from different boxes, taking care to mix them in order to make the final effect more harmonious and minimize any variations in tone.

- ▶ For surfaces greater than 100 square meters or in rooms with a length/width greater than 20 m, evaluate if necessary to install suitable expansion profiles.
- ▶ For rooms that may have different ambient temperatures, it is necessary to install expansion joints.
- ▶ It is preferable to create the coupling of 2 manually cut planks close to the walls or skirting boards, in order to avoid frequent stomping and to reduce the risk of lifting the surface film of the planks.
- ▶ Make sure that when installing the skirting board or the finishing edges, they must be fixed to the wall and must never be fixed directly to the floor.

- ▶ When installing the floor in environments at risk of humidity, such as basements or homes located on the ground floor, it is essential to take appropriate precautions to ensure the durability and stability of the covering over time. Before laying, it is advisable to carefully check the conditions of the subfloor, ensuring that it is dry, clean and perfectly level. In particular, to prevent any rising damp, it is mandatory to use a specific high-quality protective barrier capable of protecting the floor. This measure helps to preserve the integrity of the material and avoid deformations or damage due to infiltrations. The protective barrier recommended for this type of application is shown on page 255 of the catalogue. The adoption of this simple but effective protection system represents a fundamental step for correct and long-lasting laying, especially in environments subject to climatic variations or with residual humidity in the subfloor.
- ▶ In environments with high humidity levels, we recommend contacting the company directly for specific technical support. Our team is available to provide detailed guidance on the most suitable installation solutions. This step is particularly important to ensure a safe and long-lasting floor installation, especially in critical or non-standard conditions.

### FLOATING LAYING

Before starting the laying it is important to determine the layout of the floor. Planning and arrangement will prevent having narrow plank widths near the wall junctions or very short length pieces at the end of the rows. Always start laying the floor, from left to right on the side of the longest wall. It is necessary to use spacers to maintain a space from the walls of at least 8/10 mm, to allow the slats to expand and contract naturally.

- ▶ Determine if you need to cut the starting row. If the first row of planks is not to be cut in width, it will be necessary to remove the unused hooking edge so that the first plank is presented towards the wall in a clean and linear way.
- ▶ The second plank of the first row must be hooked head to head with the first already laid. Holding the part to be hooked at an inclination of about 25°, hook the insertion tab with the receiving tab and rest on the ground making sure, with slight pressure, that the coupling is completed and that the slats have the same height and orientation.
- ▶ Continue with the same method for the following tables. For the last plank of the first row always remember to leave a space from the wall of at least 8/10 mm
- ▶ Begin the second row by cutting a plank to the desired length. Keep in mind that it must not be shorter than 15 cm to achieve a good aesthetic effect. Place the first plank in the second row by inserting the long side tab into the groove of the plank of the first row. It is better to hook with a small insertion angle. Maintain pressure also on the lateral coupling while rotating the table towards the final coupling position.
- ▶ Lay the second plank of the second row by inserting the tab of the short end in the groove of the previously laid plank. Align the plank so that the tip of the long side tab is positioned just above the edge of the plank groove in the first row. Work holding the plank at an angle of approximately 30° and insert the long tongue into the groove of the adjacent plank. Little force is required to insert the tab into the groove and you should feel the tab lock.
- ▶ Work the entire length of the room by laying the slats along the wall in the first row and then aligning the slats in the second row. It is essential to keep these two rows straight and square as they are the "foundation" for the rest of the pose. Check often the squareness and linearity of the floor.

### TIPS FOR THE CUTTING OPERATION OF THE PLANK

- ▶ Use BAUFLOOR<sup>®</sup>'s machines for cutting floors (cutting covered by guarantee)
- ▶ Use high quality cutters (cut not covered by warranty)
  - Apply only a single deep incision when cutting
  - Divide the plank with a single blow

### MAINTENANCE AND ADVICE FOR USE

Regular floor cleaning takes little time and frequent cleaning of the surfaces will help maintain the characteristics of the BAUFLOOR<sup>®</sup> floor over time.

For this purpose it is recommended to use, optionally:

- ▶ Vacuum cleaner without carpet cleaner
- ▶ Broom with soft bristles
- ▶ Electrostatic cloth

The SPC floor is waterproof but it is always better to avoid water stagnation. The liquid could in fact, in case of stagnation, penetrate between the joints and deposit under the floor, generating bad smells.

To this end it is recommended to:

- ▶ Use a damp, well wrung rag
- ▶ Avoid mop-type brushes
- ▶ Avoid abrasive sponges
- ▶ Rub longitudinally being careful towards the plank

### RECOMMENDED CLEANING PRODUCTS

- ▶ Neutral soap, and in any case free of aggressive foaming agents

### PRODUCTS TO AVOID FOR CLEANING

- ▶ Products based on ammonia, bleach or chemicals that could attack the floor surface
- ▶ Soap/wax paste or polish which could form a slippery film on the surface
- ▶ Boiling water or steam cleaning tools that could damage the floor surface

#### WEAR AND ADVICE FOR USE

The wear of the BAUFLOOR SPC floor is linked to the frequency of use of the same. It is advisable to use felt pads to be placed under the furniture, especially those that are moved frequently. It is recommended to equip the furniture with large retractable rubber wheels. Avoid dragging heavy and / or sharp objects on the floor. Arrange a mat at the entrance to the house to reduce dirt and debris from shoes. Do not use mats with rubber or latex backs as they could stain and alter the color of the floor.

**BY RESPECTING THESE SIMPLE RULES,  
THE FLOOR WILL KEEP ITS BEAUTY FOR A LONG TIME.**

Watch the installation video



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