



*For Ideal Living*

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**Installation Instruction**

**Maintenance Instruction**

**Product Warranty**

**[www.Idealwood.ca](http://www.Idealwood.ca)**



## Installation Instruction and Maintenance

Please check the most updated version at [www.idealwood.ca](http://www.idealwood.ca)

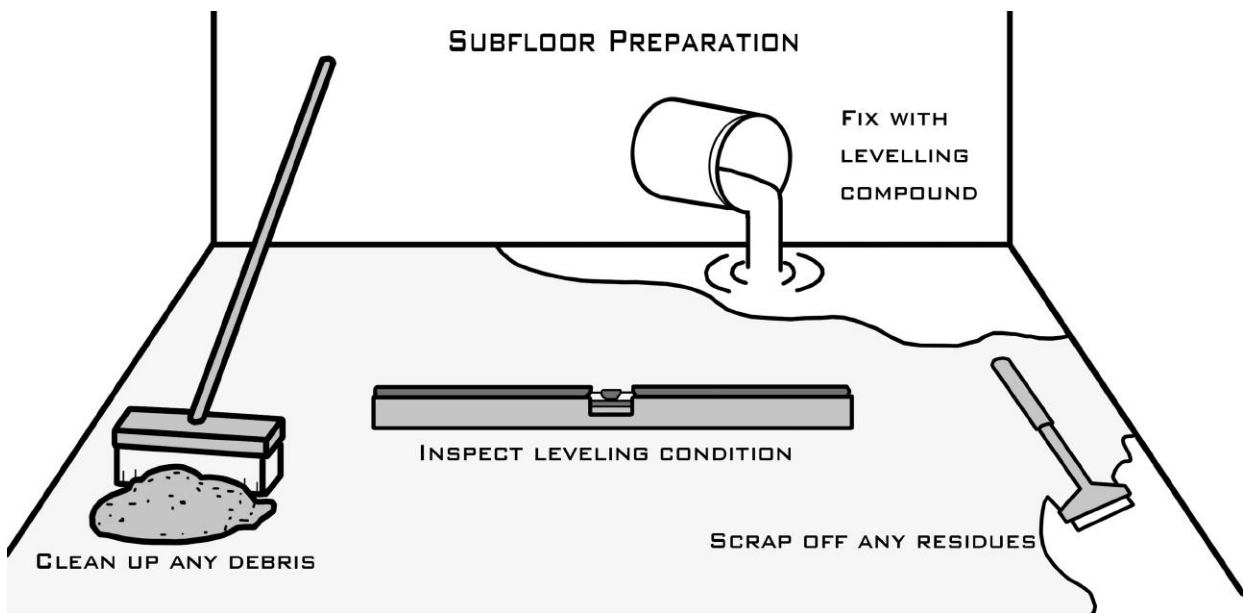
### Part 1, Pre-installation:

#### **A, Responsibility of customers and installers:**

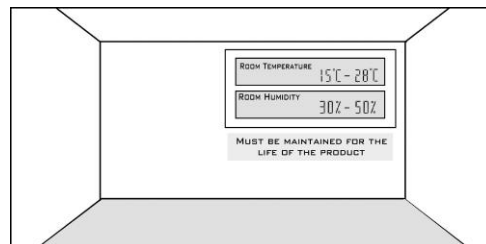
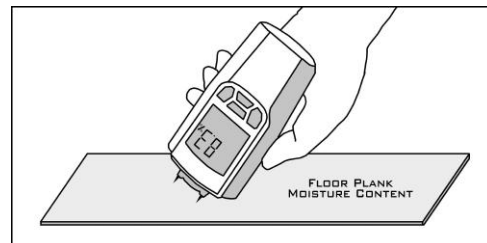
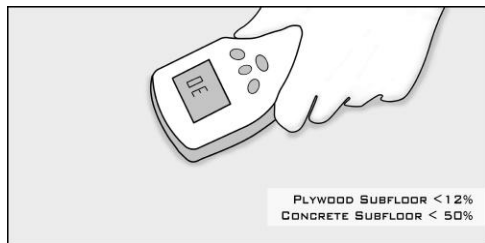
- It is a highly recommendation to all installers to completely read through installation instruction before starting the job.
- Visit [www.idealwood.ca](http://www.idealwood.ca) to ensure a updated version of installation instruction is obtained.
- All IDEALWOOD flooring products are made from natural wood, each board will carry a unique characteristics of wood grain appearance, knots and variation in color tone. All showroom sample is intended as color reference only. It is too small to accurately reproduce all natural wood characteristics occurring on a large floor area.
- A visual inspection of different boards by opening several boxes of product with homeowner or project management is highly recommended, before commencing installation.
- **Do not proceed installation** if product is not satisfying on colors or quality. Once product has been installed, it is considered products are deemed to be accepted by customers.
- All IDEALWOOD products are manufactured to meet industry practical standards with a maximum of 5% of defects as milling tolerance.
- It is the responsibility of the installer or customer to ensure all jobsite condition requirements are reached prior commencing installation. Manufacture takes no responsibility for defects causing by improper jobsite preparation and installation procedures.

#### **B, Subfloor Conditions:**

- Subfloor surface must be flat and maximum tolerance is 3/16" in 10 feet radius, If necessary, grind down any irregularities, using #20 grit papers, and fill any uneven spot with a compatible leveling compound.



- Plywood Subfloor moisture content must not exceed 12%, and the variance in moisture content between the subfloor and the flooring boards must not exceed 3%.
- Concrete subfloor must be tested for moisture content using test method ASTM F2170-11 and must return a reading of 50% relative humidity or less.



**C, Temperature and moisture conditions:**

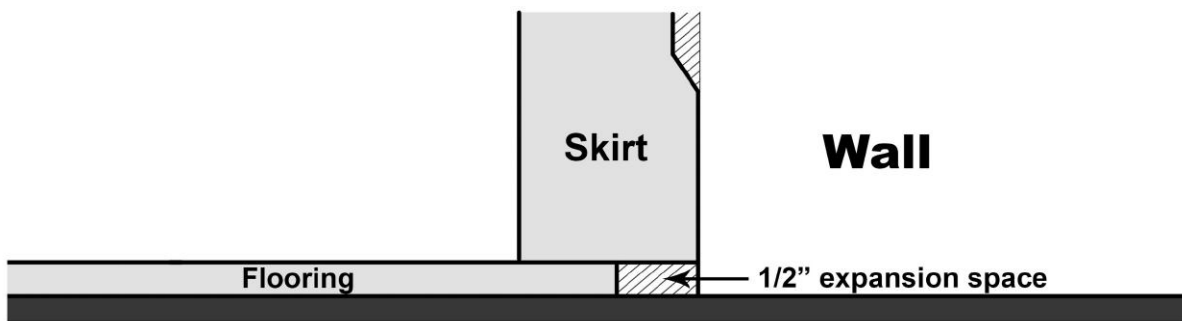
- It is also important that the flooring material be in the same temperature range as the installation site.
- Wood flooring should have a moisture content between 6 and 9 % or as expected for the environment in which the flooring will be used. If the moisture content is not within

this range, allow the flooring to acclimate at the climate controlled job site until the moisture content comes to within the acceptable range.

- Room temperature should be 15<sup>o</sup>-28<sup>o</sup> C with relative humidity between 30– 50%. These environmental conditions are specified as pre-installation requirements and **must be maintained for the life of the product.**

#### D, Space for expansion:

Wood flooring will expand and contract with changes in temperature and humidity. To allow for this, during installation leave a 1/2" expansion space around the entire perimeter of the floor between the flooring and the walls, and all vertical objects (e.g. door structures, fireplace). Undercutting vertical structures might be option by ensuring no damage to the structural function of the objects.



#### E, Boards Inspection:

When racking, inspect all boards for visible manufacturing defects. Boards with manufacturing defects in excess of industry standards (5% of total quantity) may be replaced by the dealer under the terms of the product warranty. **Once installed, boards will be considered to have been accepted by the customer and will not be eligible for replacement.** (See Warranty for details.)

#### F, Installation over a radiant heat system:

If installing over radiant heat, ensure that the system is in full working order and has been fully tested and running for a minimum of two weeks prior to installation. The system should be turned off for 24 hours prior to installation in the install zone.

**Remarks: Ideal Classic collection with sapelle and Hickory species are not approved for radiant heat direct glue down installation.**

## G, Storage:

- Flooring should be delivered and stored at the jobsite for 48 hours prior to installation to allow the product to acclimate to actual jobsite's moisture content, relative humidity and temperature.
- Do not open package of product before installation. **Do not deliver flooring to job site if climate conditions have not been met and maintained as described above otherwise damage to product may result, which will not be covered by warranty program.**

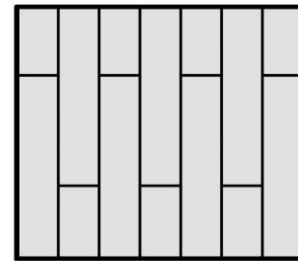
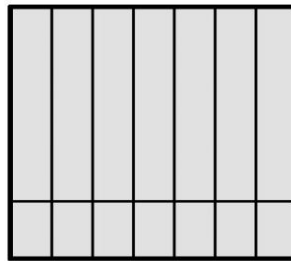
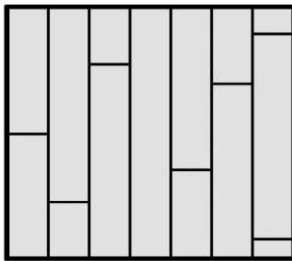
## H, Use of masking tapes:

- Only 3M scotch blue tape is allowed for all types of installation methods.



## I, Stagger patterns:

- Stagger short end (butt joints) with a minimum of 8" for the adjacent 2 rows.
- Avoid using boards less than 10".
- Avoid 'H' style, stair-step style in any adjacent rows.



## Part 2, Installation:

### A, Staple Down Installation:

Note: We recommend staple down installation with specified products only, please refer to list of products below:

- Ideal Wood--Urban Genius Engineered Hardwood Collection

**Tools and Fasteners required:**

| Pneumatic Tools                    | Fastener (Staple)         | Fastener (Cleats)         | Spacing of Fasteners                  |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 18 gauge pneumatic flooring nailer | 1"1/2 length,<br>18 gauge | 1"1/2 length,<br>16 gauge | Every 3" to 4" along tongue of boards |
| 18 gauge brad nailer               |                           |                           | 1" to 2" from both end of every row   |

\*Cleats is used as assistance for fastening strength only, Staples must be the major fastener.

**Plywood subfloor required:**

5/8" thick plywood, or 7/10" OSB construction subfloor is required for staple installation.

**Expansion Space:**

Expansion space is required throughout the whole perimeter of installation areas.

**Underlayment required:**

NWFA approved vapor underlayment or wax paper is required and should be lay down with 2" to 4" overlap with every previous run.

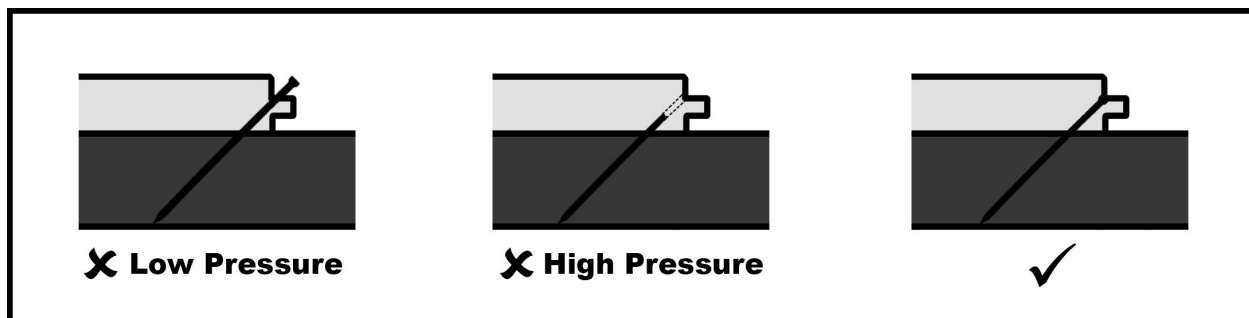
**Obtaining the suitable compressor output pressure:**

Set compressor from 80psi and adjust pressure until fasteners are properly set to the tongue of boards. Failure of this step may cause squeaks noise. Refer to notes below for proper way of securing fasteners.

**Proper penetration of the staples:**

Staples should be 45 degrees penetrating through the tongue and flush with the nail pocket.

**\*\*\* Failure of any of the above precautions will void the warranty\*\*\***



### Starting your installation:

Layout your vapor barrier layer in the direction parallel to the direction of flooring layout. Start your first row with tongue side of boards facing away from the wall (if starting along a wall) in order to maintain a proper expansion gap (\*For best result, mark a chalk line as reference for proper straight line up)

Top nail boards of first row with finishing nails every 6 to 8 inches, and maximum 2 inches away from each end of every board. Then snap nails at a 45 degrees angle to the tongue of boards. (Refer to nails spacing chart above).

Laser or chalk guideline to inspect a proper straight layout of first row is recommended before continue on

Proper stagger boards for the subsequent rows (\*Refer to the stagger guild lines above), and use pneumatic nail or staple gun whenever enough space is allowed for the gun use.

Maintain proper expansion space along all walls **and ANY VERTICAL OBJECT**, and nailing schedule throughout the whole installation process. (\*always inspect boards for defects during installation)

Use multiple lengths of boards at beginning of every row to create a random, natural staggered patterns.

When installing last couple rows, there might not be enough space for a nail/staple gun to be used, top nailing as first row to finish.

Fill all top nail holes at starting row and last row with color matching wood fillers.

### B, Floating Installation:

#### Underlayment requirement:

- Use **Good Neighbour Underlayment** or underlayment products with equivalent or higher specs for all floating installations.
- Vapor barrier is required for installations over concrete or plywood subfloors.
- Follow NWFA guidelines for proper underlayment and vapor barrier used.
- Addition layer of vapor barrier may be used when proceeding floating installations below ground level.

#### Glue requirements:

- Deccobond 18 T&G adhesive, or products recommended as per NWFA guidelines.

#### Tapes used during installation:

- Only 3M Scotch-Blue tape is allowed for security tightening of joints during installation, and all tapes must be removed within 24 hours.

#### Installation over a radiant heat:

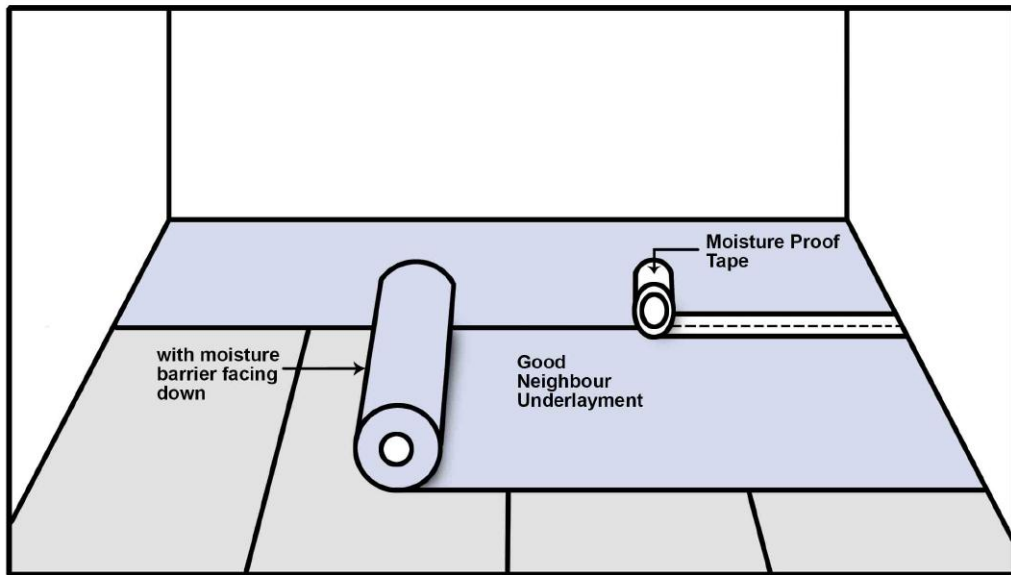
- Dramatic change of temperature on floor surface after installation must be avoid.
- Refer to temperature control paragraph from the pre-installation section.



- Turn off heat system and wait for 12 hours to turn on after installation.

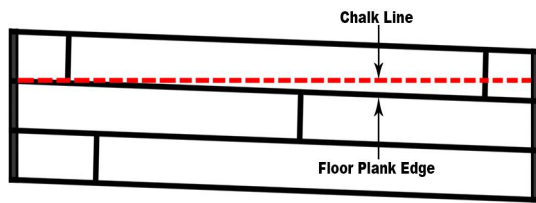
**Starting your installation:**

- Roll out the underlayment in a perpendicular direction to the flooring, with the vapor barrier side facing downward. Laying the next row in the same direction of the first row with overlapping the second row on top of the (vapor barrier overlapping edge) of the first row. Peeling of the adhesive strip attached to the bottom of underlayment and making sure the underlayment tightly joints together, but, without overlapping each other. At junction of the short sides, moisture proof tape needs to be used.

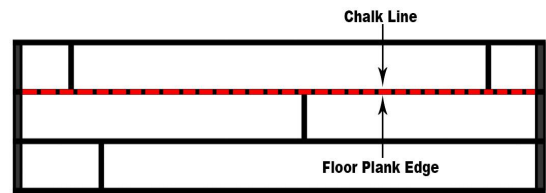


- Start the first two rows of flooring with groove side of boards facing to the wall. Apply Decco bond adhesive at all short side grooves of each board and joint boards. Apply adhesive at all long side and short side grooves of each board from 2nd row, then joint boards to the long side of 1st row while jointing short sides of the second row. (keep in mind, 1/2" expansion gap must be maintained) Ensure all boards are jointed tightly by using a professional tapping block
- Use laser or chalk guideline to ensure the first two rows are perfectly straight before continue. 3M scotch Blue tape is required to secure boards in place after straighten of boards have been obtained. Clean up any excess adhesive with damp cloth.





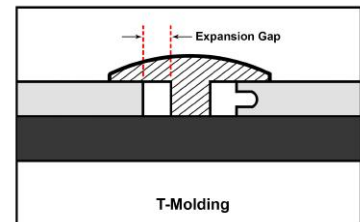
✗ Not Straight, Stop and Adjust



✓ Straight Set, Continue Installation

- **\*\*STOP\*\*** and wait for a minimum of 30 minutes before continuing the rest of the rows.
- Continue the rest of rows with same skills as the 1st couple rows. There're few things need to keep in mind throughout the entire installation:

- Expansion gaps must be maintained **(with space larger than 30 ft x 30 ft, or encountering any doorway with less than 3 ft wide, a T-cap molding must be installed)**. No object should be mounted on top of a flooring with a floating installation (for example, cabinet, sliding door assembly)
- Rules of stagger patterns
- Cleanup of excess adhesive
- Inspection of boards for defects before install
- If install on a subfloor heating system, bring the temperature up gradually after a minimum of 12 hours, when the adhesive is completely dry out.



## C, Glue Down Installation:

### Glue requirement:

- Urethane base adhesive. Recommended brand: Mapei or Bostik.
  - Choose the right type of adhesive according to different jobsite conditions
  - Make sure proper adhesive removal agent is ready, refer to adhesive manufacturer's instructions (e.g. Mapei ultrabond urethane cleaner)

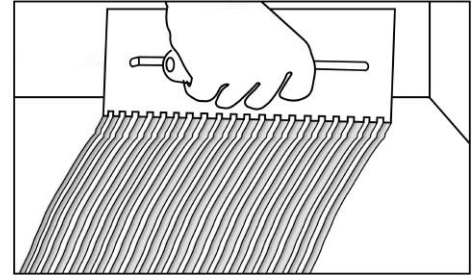
### Tapes used during installation:

- Only 3M Scotch-Blue tape is allowed for security tightening of joints during installation, and all tapes must be removed within 24 hours.

### Trowel used:

- Use a metal trowel only.
- Use trowel styles recommended by adhesive manufacture only.
- Replace any trowel that has worn teeth.

**\*\*Only professional hardwood flooring installers should be performing glue down installations.**



### Installation over a radiant heat:

- Ideal Classic collection with sapelle and Hickory species are not approved for radiant heat direct glue down installation.
- Make sure flooring product is approved for direct glue down over a radiant heat system.
- Refer to temperature control paragraph from the pre-installation section.
- Dramatic change of temperature on floor surface after installation must be avoid.
- Turn off radiant heat system and wait for 12 hours to turn on after installation.
- Radiant heat system must be properly tested prior to installation.
- Radiant heat system must be completely turn off for a minimum of 12 hours prior to installation.

**\*\*Any damage caused by radiant heat system will not be covered by product warranty.**

### Starting your installation:

- Chose a starter point to set the starting row. A main exterior wall should be used as a reference wall to start.
- Set two chalk line reference points by measuring the same distance from each end of the reference wall, then snap your chalk line.
- Start spreading adhesive to the subfloor along chalk line but not to cover it.
- Lay down the first row of boards along the chalk line and continue with the second row of boards.
- After the first 2 rows of boards been set, alignment procedure must be done by using a laser straight line or chalk line, to ensure the starting rows are perfectly straight and parallel to the reference wall.
- Then use approved adhesive tapes to secure joints of boards. In order to secure the starting rows in place. If installation on a plywood subfloor, top nailing of the first row of boards is recommended. If installation on a concrete subfloor, adjustable spacers is recommended.
- It is recommended to leave the first 2 starting rows overnight and get the adhesive full cured before continue on.
- Remove adhesive tapes within 12 hours and pull off tapes at a 45 degrees slow manner.
- Continue installation by spreading approximately 3 feet area along the starting row with adhesive. (Avoid spreading too much adhesive at a time).
- Install boards while ensuring every board is pressed and attached to adhesive.
- As installation continues, avoid working directly on top of newly installed areas.

- Always have your adhesive remover and damp dry cloth ready. Any excess adhesive left on flooring surface or hands of installer, must be clean off asap.
- Maintain proper expansion space throughout the whole installation zone.
- As the remainder of floor has been installed, go back to the starting rows and finish up the remaining area behind the starting row.
- Touch up all nail holes with color matching wood paste and install transition moldings.
- Remove and tapes being left on top of floor within 12 hours and wait 24 hours before regular traffic is allowed. If installation with radiant heat system, do not turn on the heat until adhesive gets fully cured (24 hours of wait time is recommended). Remember, avoid dramatic temperature change by turning system at a 3<sup>0</sup>c to 5<sup>0</sup>c increments. (Keep temperature below 28<sup>0</sup>C or 82<sup>0</sup>F at all time)

### Part 3, Protection, inspection, and Maintenance

#### A, Clean up:

- Sweep the floor with cloth towel along with recommended cleaner. (e.g. Bona hardwood cleaning spray)
- Inspect and clean any residue left behind after removing the adhesive tapes
- Inspect and clean any excess adhesive left during the job, proper adhesive remover is required.

#### B, Inspection:

- Visually inspect all floor surface with project management or homeowner and touch up any minor imperfection.
- Visually inspect all expansion spaces along walls and any vertical objects

#### C, Protection:

- Use heavy duty floor protection membrane (e.g. Floor Guard heavy-duty floor protection) to cover all areas.
- Avoid taping protection membrane directly to surface of floor by overlapping each run of the membrane while taping different run together.
- Tape the end run of membrane along baseboard or shoe base with extreme low adhesive tape.
- Extra layer of plywood, MDF board might be use along hallway or high traffic areas where furniture and appliances will be transfer into the premises.
- Putting felt pads on all furniture's legs are highly recommended since all hardwood products can be scratch and dent.
- Keep in mind, the use of area rugs will create a uneven color variation due to the uneven exposure to sunlight.





## Part 4, Product Warranty

| Urban Genius Collection  | Ideal Texture & Ideal Classic Collection   |
|--|--|
| <p><b>A, 35 years limited residential wear warranty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Idealwood™ warrants the top coating (UV lacquer finish) from the original manufacture, will not wear through in a residential application under normal residential traffic and usage, for a period of 35 years from purchasing date.</li> </ul> | <p><b>A, 25 years limited residential wear warranty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Idealwood™ warrants the top coating (UV lacquer finish) from the original manufacture, will not wear through in a residential application under normal residential traffic and usage, for a period of 25 years from purchasing date.</li> </ul> |

### **B, 3 years limited light commercial wear warranty**

- Idealwood™ warrants the products' top coating (UV lacquer finish) will not wear through in the light commercial application.
- All Idealwood™ products give no warranty for any use in any high humidity commercial premises, such as kitchen, bathrooms.
- Any high traffic commercial such as food court, supermarket, industrial zone, or entrance, hallway of a business office are not considered as a light commercial wear warranty.

### **C, Lifetime structure warranty**

- Idealwood™ warrants the products will not destructured under normal temperature and humidity conditions, and normal usage, for a lifelong period, from purchasing date.

### **D, Filing a Claim**

- Copy of original purchase receipt must be submitted to the original dealer.
- Coordinate with inspection appointments set by dealer and distribution.

### **E, Conditions of warranty**

- All Installation must be performed in accordance with Idealwood™ installation manual.
- Proper care and maintenance must be performed in accordance with Idealwood™ maintenance instruction.
- Surface sheen reduction is a natural aging of products, and is not considered to be defect of surface wear.
- Color changes due to exposure to light is a natural aging process of wood flooring products, and is not considered as a product defect.
- Any damage caused by chemical spills, water leakage, surface scratches of any kind, fire, high heel shoes marks, excess dryness or moisture is not cover by warranty.
- Installation of products which are not radiant heat approved will void warranty.
- Warranty of products is not transferable, and is limited to the original purchaser only.

- In accordance with flooring industrial standard, 5% of industrial defect out of the total quantity of products is allowed and, as a result, 10% of wastage during any installation should be calculated before installation is performed.
- Any defect piece is found prior to installation should not be installed, once products are installed will be deemed to have been accepted by the customer. It is the responsibility of the installer and the customer to inspect products' defect prior to installation. Idealwood™ accepts no responsibility for any labour cost for all claims.
- Idealwood™ only accept claims of defect products with over 10% of total quantity of products during warranty covered period. Customers can claim for the same quantity as defect quantity with same or similar products. But, in case a specific product has been discontinued, a similar product or portion of the original purchase value which is equivalent to the defect quantity, can be refund to the original purchaser.



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