



# HIRAM FLOORS

*Black Forest Manufacturing*

PREMIUM FLOORING

made in Germany



ENGINEERED WIDE PLANK FLOORING  
INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS





## ON WOOD STRUCTURE

On wooden supports or laying plates, the floorboards can also be screwed diagonally into the tongues. Please pay attention to the possibility of sound transmission. On laying plates and/or an underfloor made of wood, we recommend laying 2 mm cork rolls as footfall sound insulation for softwood. For hardwood floors, do not use a layer of cork. In this case, the boards must be glued to the underlying structure.

## FLOATING INSTALLATION

Only country house floorboards made of spruce, larch, fir, and douglas fir can also be installed glued into the groove in a floating manner on footfall sound insulation. Hardwood floors such as oak, maple, ash, beech, walnut, cherry... must not be laid in a floating fashion! These boards must be glued to the underlying surface over the entire area! Please apply a generous amount of glue to both sides of the groove. Boards must be hammered together with a heavy hammer (min. 1500g) and a hardwood block (40/40/400 mm) on the tongue edge. If the tongue and groove are too tight a fit, please do not re-groove. Instead, run a rabbet plane no more than 1x along the entire length of the underside of the tongue. A floor consisting of long boards must have a tighter fit between tongue and groove so that it stays together even when the boards are slightly curved.

## FULL-SURFACE GLUING ON SCREED

The boards must be glued onto screed pre-sanded with a suitable sanding machine, over the entire area, using parquet glue (Bona R 850 1K Silan glue or equivalent). We recommend applying the glue over the entire floor area using a 1250g- 1500g toothed spatula. The installed boards must be stepped on and in some cases held down with light pressure via supports from the ceiling or using heavy objects so that the boards are pushed firmly into the glue layer until it has cured. The tongue and groove are not to be glued in this case!

## UNDERFLOOR HEATING

Hiram Engineered Boards are generally suitable for underfloor heating if the following is kept in mind: On screed with underfloor heating, all country house floorboards must be glued over the entire area (see above). The tongue and groove are then not glued together so that each board can „work“ for itself. The protocol of measures for heated screed must be adhered to (from heating professional). Check the moisture content of the screed and the wood.

Cement screed max. 1.8%, calcium sulphate screed max. 0.3% wooden three-layer boards 7% +/-1%. Before laying, the underfloor heating must have been switched off for at least 2 days or brought under a surface temperature of 20° C. Wait at least 6 days before heating up the floor again.

After laying: Never heat the floor surface above a temperature of 29° C, do not allow warming up and cooling down to take place rapidly, and ensure a balanced climate in the room (35 - 65% air humidity, 10° C - 29° C). Gaps and minor crack formation may occur in the top layers if the indoor climate fluctuates.

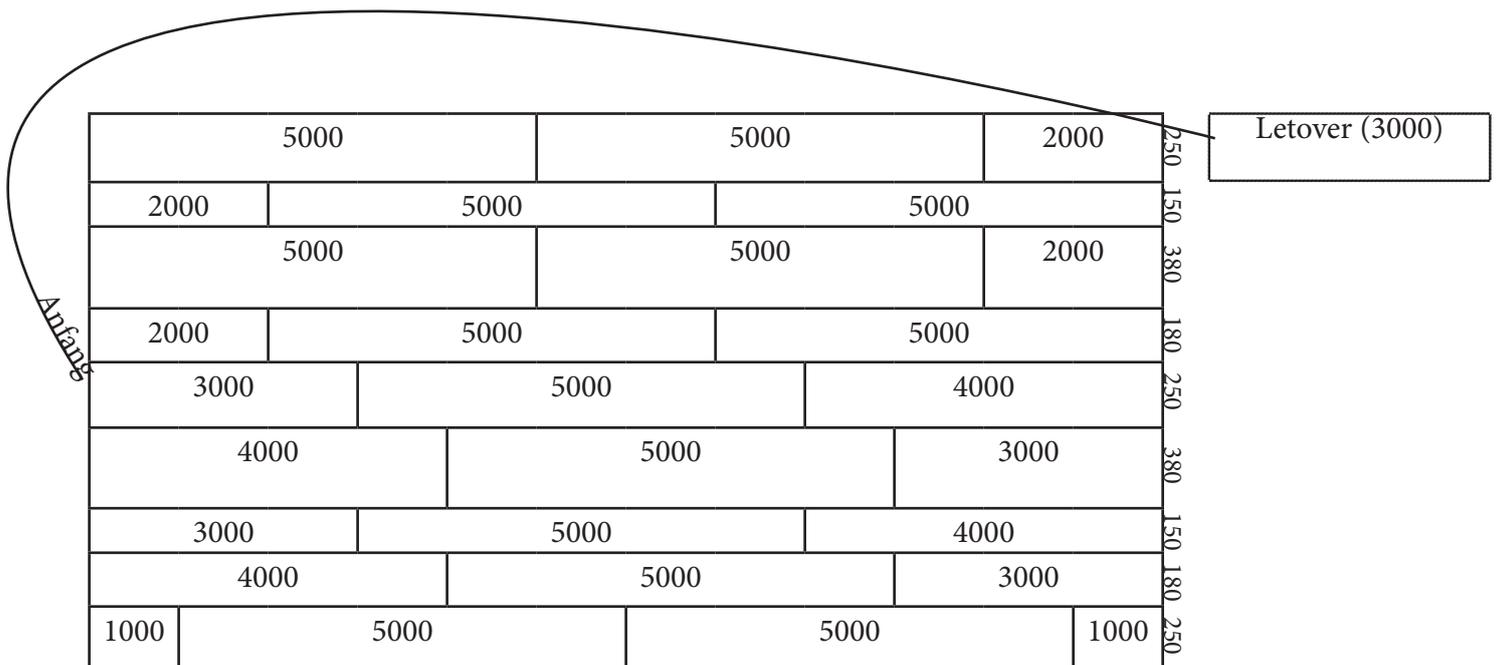
# NOTE

Underfloor heating is extremely drying for the wood. Hence, increased crack formation may occur in the core area and small gaps may form between the boards, but these constitute no grounds for a claim. Boards must be examined before installation, as claims on them can no longer be accepted once they have been laid. The ends of the boards have no grooves (unless specified explicitly in order) and may need to be connected to external tongues, in which case they will need to be glued. Break the edges slightly with sandpaper. Already grooved boards may (very rarely) need to be slightly re-planed by hand in order to achieve a clean joint.

## RECOMMENDATION

The installation of the flooring should be the last task on a construction site. If this is not possible due to scheduling or organisational reasons, the installed boards must always be covered with a suitable material. In the case of oiled surfaces, the application of NH Refresher should be performed after laying (see product description). In the case of floors which have only been pre-oiled, a surface oiling must be performed on site. (Only use the provided surface products!)

## LAYING TECHNIQUE



As previously mentioned in the installation instructions, the special sorting also contains boards with various widths. When laying along the length of the room, the boards are cut to size leaving an 8 mm gap to the walls and installed. In continuous laying, the boards are laid without much waste pieces from cutting. In this case, a groove and external tongue on the ends will need to be present, as the boards are joined on the ends. In order to create a beautiful aesthetic for the floor, it is recommended that the boards of various widths be mixed in succession. To do so, the boards must be sorted according to size. One would begin e.g. with a width of 250 mm and lay the first line. The remaining boards are set off to one side and used again later on for the starting board. Subsequently, a board with a width of e.g. 380 mm is used to start the laying of the next line. The remaining boards are set off to one side and used again later on for the starting board etc. This creates lines of different widths. If one width of boards runs out and is insufficient for the complete length of the line, these remaining boards are used for wall niches or as terminal boards before a wall.



# Cleaning and care instructions

## NATURAL COLOUR CHANGES

Because each Hiram engineered floorboard is an entirely natural product, colour changes that are completely natural occur over time. Depending on the intensity of the sunlight, light woods may become darker and dark woods lighter, whereby this effect is the most apparent within the first 3-6 months.

## ON THE TOPIC OF INDOOR CLIMATE

The ideal indoor climate for the floorboards is between 40% and 60% relative air humidity, but central heating systems often cause humidity to fall below these values in winter. Humidifiers, regular airing, houseplants, or even small fountains all help to keep the indoor climate within the optimal range. Furthermore, checking it regularly with a hygrometer is also helpful.

## INITIAL CARE – ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!

Your natural floor will maintain its unique appeal and its long-term robustness if initial care measures are performed after laying.

### CARE OIL

((Without solvents, not subject to labelling requirements, from Naturhaus) Only use the care oil on clean, dry, and undamaged surfaces. Apply the care oil thinly, leave it on for a short period of time, distribute it evenly with a lint-free cloth, or even better with a single disc machine with a white pad, and polish it out lengthwise with a fresh pad.

Finally, stretch the cotton cloth over the white pad and polish it out once more. When doing so, it is important that the product is polished in until a finger test against the grain no longer results in visible streaks. Let the applied care oil dry openly for 12 hours. Be gentle with the floor for at least a week.

During this period, avoid moisture and humidity.

## ONGOING CLEANING

Clean & Polish (contains care oil, from Naturhaus) Depending on how dirty the surfaces are, add 10 - 200 ml to 4 l lukewarm water. Use this liquid to mop the surface. Polishing with a soft, lint-free cloth, a blocker, or a suitable device after drying (approx. 30 mins) increases the sheen. Stubborn stains (e.g. coffee, red wine, juice) are removed with undiluted Clean & Polish, then wiped away with warm water and left to dry. Subsequently, treat the cleaned areas with care oil again.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Your floor has been treated with high-quality products. The surface consisting of natural oils, resins, and waxes is robust and long-lived. You will enjoy it even more if you observe the following points:

- Only perform dry cleaning tasks for 14 days after the installation of the flooring is complete. The surface requires this time to reach its final hardness and robustness.
- Protect the floor in the entrance area with dirt and moisture traps.
- Avoid standing water (leaking flower pots or vases).
- Remove loose dirt regularly by vacuuming or sweeping.
- Fix suitable gliding pads (e.g. felt) to mobile furniture and chairs.
- Where possible, do not use any floor coverings with a rubberised or latex underside. These coatings may contain substances which leave stains after some time.
- Never use aggressive, highly alkaline, or solvent-containing cleaning agents. Such cleaning agents damage the oil surface or even dissolve it.
- Never use microfibre cloths to clean the floor. Microfibre cloths act like extremely fine sandpaper and damage the surface over the long term.
- The comfort of persons and the maintenance of the wood flooring requires a healthy indoor climate. A room temperature of 18°C to 20°C and a relative humidity of 50%-60% result in the ideal indoor climate. Lower air humidity levels cause the wood to shrink (formation of gaps), while higher levels cause it to swell (rough surfaces; in the worst case, structural damage).



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