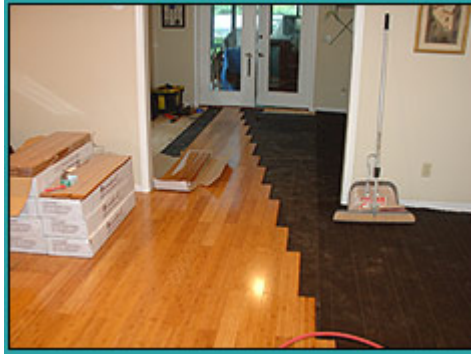


## Hardwood Installation



*Acclimation* is the most important part of the installation process. The moisture content of your home could range from 5-20%. All wood materials must be stored and rotated for 5 to 7 days in the room that it is to be installed. Acclimating the wood to your home's climate will eliminate swelling or shrinkage of wood materials after installation.

**Methods of Install** - Three different methods are used to install wood floors depending on the type of wood used.

- Nailed/Stapled
- Glued
- Floated

### **Nail-down**

1. First there must be a sub-floor to nail to. Typically this is plywood, which is nailed down onto the foundation.
2. The flooring is laid out in the manner desired by the customer - horizontal, vertical, diagonal, herringbone, etc.
3. Then it is nailed down with nails or staples depending on the specification of the type of wood.

### **Glue-down**

1. First anything sticking up on the surface of the concrete has to be scraped away.
2. The dust is swept up.
3. Slab is inspected for irregularities and flattened if necessary.
4. Then the gluing and installing process begins.

### **Floating**

Floating floors are glued tongue and groove and allowed to float freely over a cushioned underlayment that is applied to the sub-floor. The more common floating floors are constructed of the engineered variety, but a few manufacturers offer a clip type solid hardwood floor system. When the installation is complete all of the planks are glued to each other and become one unit and float on this layer of foam. Engineered floating floor systems provide more stability in the way they are constructed. They can be used below, above, or on grade successfully.