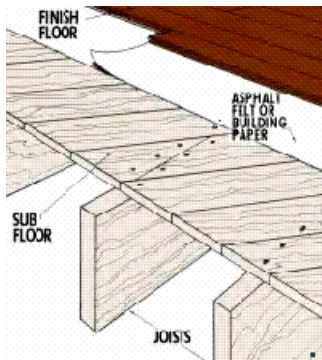


# Nail-Down or Staple-Down Installation

For the nail-down and staple-down methods, cover the subfloor with the 15lb. Asphalt felt, red rosin paper, or any other suitable lining material. This will help keep dust away from the wood floor, retard moisture from below, and may help prevent squeaks from occurring. There is no complete moisture barrier system for nail-down and staple-down applications.



Before installation, do a calculation to determine the width of the last row of boards. If it is less than 1 1/2" wide, split the difference between the starter row and the last row. In any case, you will most likely be required to cut the last row of boards to width with a table saw equipped with a plywood cutting blade.

Select a starter wall. An outside wall is best because it is more likely to be straight and square with the room. Measure out from this wall the width of the board plus 3/4". The gap between the board and the wall is needed expansion space and will be hidden by the molding.

Snap a chalk line from these points, parallel to that wall. Since most walls are not straight, the edge of some boards may have to be trimmed along the wall or cut to fit.

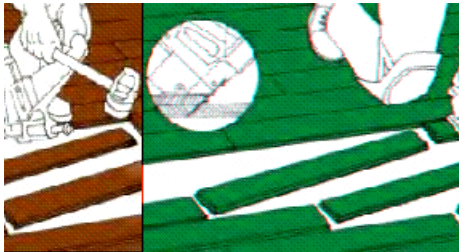
It is extremely important to blend boards from several cartons or bundles to ensure a good balance of color and graining.

## Installation

Install the first row of boards by laying the tongue edges on the chalk line. Proper alignment is critical. Misaligned starter rows can ruin the entire installation. Drill pilot holes through the face of each board (in dark grain) and secure to subfloor with finishing nails or use a pneumatic stapler. After the first row is complete, adjacent rows should also be predrilled in the nail pocket and secured with finishing nails set at 45 degrees. Rows of flooring will need to be installed in this manner until flooring boards are a sufficient distance away from the wall to accommodate the stapler. Stapling schedule is every 6" to 8" on center.

You **MUST** make a good connection with the tongue and groove system to create a stable floor. Use a tapping block to tap the boards together until the tongue-and-groove "snaps" into place.

Continue to staple new boards every 6" to 8" on center, fastening the ends of the boards approximately 2" from each end.



Watch your pattern for even distribution of long and short pieces. Avoid clustering end joints and stagger random lengths so that the end joints are no closer than 6".

Using a pry bar, position the final filler boards.

Face nail the final board with the pneumatic stapler ending up on the far wall with the same 3/4" expansion space as on the beginning wall.

If a manual nailer is desired, use a model with 1 1/4" cleats. Again, staple every 6" to 8" on center, while using the same procedures described previously.

## Clean Up

Retain a few leftover boards in case a repair is ever required.

Sweep floor to remove all dust and dirt. Take care not to scratch the finish. Follow up with a wood floor cleaner.

Final Inspection

After the floor is cleaned, inspect the floor for nicks, scratches or any other imperfections that need attention. Touch up nicks and scratches with manufacturer related touch-up products. The newly installed floor can accept traffic immediately.