Shaw Engineered Hardwood - Wall Installation Quick Guide
Horizontal Floor to Ceiling Installation & Wainscot Installation

Recommended Spaces

- Interior walls
- Low moisture rooms
- Walls less than 10' tall x 40' wide
- Walls without anchored objects (such as a TV)
- Vertical walls only
- Flat walls without wallpaper
Welcome!

This guide will help you install your new wood wall planks via Two methods—horizontal floor to ceiling installation and wainscoting installation. Here are a few quick tips before getting started:

**HELPFUL TIPS:**

- Do not install on walls that are greater than 10 feet tall and 40 feet long, and do not install on ceilings or other overhead surfaces.
- Installation on walls located in wet areas, i.e., backsplash, bathrooms etc., is not recommended.
- Do not install the engineered directly on walls that have wallpaper or paneling. The wall surface must be a painted or primed drywall, properly fastened to a wood framed wall. Metal stud framing is not approved for laminate to wall installation.
- The engineered hardwood wall installation should only be installed in climate-controlled areas (not recommended on exterior walls or in acclimated rooms). The conditions of the areas should be maintained between 65-75 degrees F and 35-55% relative humidity.
- Maintain 3/16" expansion space around all perimeters of installation.
- Do not install on walls that are below grade exterior walls (basements).
- Do not install the engineered hardwood from floor to ceiling vertically. For this type of installation the engineered must run in the horizontal direction.
- Vertical installations are only recommended for a wainscot style application – single plank length only.
- Make sure to check the wall for flatness. The wall should be flat within 3/16 inch in 10 ft.
- Do not fasten any decorative objects, TVs or heavy objects directly to the laminate. Make sure to fasten any hanging objects to the wall studs.
- Installation Guidelines are for wood frame construction only.

*The above requirements are not intended to supersede federal, state or local building codes but as with many other interior finish products, may require modifying existing structural components for successful installation. Owner assumes responsibility for compliance with all building codes.*

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**CAUTION: WOOD DUST**

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen. The sawing, sanding, and/or machining of wood products can produce wood dust that can cause respiratory, eye, and skin irritations. Equipment should be equipped with a dust collector to reduce airborne wood dust. Wear an appropriate NIOSH designated dust mask to reduce exposure to airborne wood dust. Avoid contact with eyes and skin. In case of irritation, flush eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes. In cases of severe irritation; seek immediate medical attention. For further technical or installation questions or to request a Product Specification Data Sheet contact the manufacturer. 1-800-441-7429

Attention California Installers & Consumers

**WARNING**

Installation of this product and wood product may create wood dust, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer.
METHOD A
Horizontal Floor to Ceiling Installation
(Engineered Hardwood Only)

Tools and Material

- Caulk gun
- General construction adhesive
- Tape measure
- 1 ½ -1 ¾ inch brad nails
- Stud finder
- Ladder
- Appropriate saw for cutting and ripping laminate
- 18 gauge brad/staple gun
- Dust mask
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Chalk line
- Pry bar
- Screw driver (flat & Phillip’s head)
- Hammer
METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation

STEP 1
Remove existing baseboards on the wall that will be receiving the engineered hardwood.

STEP 2
Make sure to turn off the power supply while working around exposed power outlets or light switches. Remove any electric outlet and light switch covers. Take care not to touch any exposed wiring.

STEP 3
Mark all studs using a stud finder and then using a chalk line from top to bottom mark the wall studs.

STEP 4
Determine if the installation will start at the ceiling working down or from the floor working up. Starting from the top down is best when there is existing crown molding. When working from the ceiling down, the tongue of the engineered hardwood should face toward the floor.
METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation (cont.)

STEP 5
Measure the wall to determine if the first row of planks will need to be cut down to avoid a small piece on the finish row. Remember to leave the engineered hardwood ½ inch away from the finish floor/subfloor. When working from the floor up, the tongue of the engineered hardwood should face toward the ceiling.

STEP 6
Using a tape measure, pencil and chalk line, establish a starting line. If you are starting at the floor, you can measure from the floor up the point where the first row will end (remember to allow for the ½ inch expansion gap at the floor), if you are starting from the ceiling you will need to measure from the ceiling down. Do this on both ends of the wall. Using a chalk line, pop a line using these two marks to establish a starting line.

STEP 8
Make sure to visually inspect each plank for any damage or visual defects.

STEP 9
Using a construction adhesive put an s-bead of adhesive on the back of the planks.
STEP 10
Push the plank onto the wall lining it up with the starting line that was established. Using the Brad nailer shoot a nail through the tongue of the plank into the wall studs. Proper air pressure is important - Make sure that the nail head is seated properly. Take care not to shoot completely through the engineered hardwood.

STEP 11
You may also face nail the first row of planks for added support, and place the nails low enough so that the baseboard or desired trim will cover the nails. Make sure to use a nail that is long enough to go through the engineered hardwood, sheetrock and into the wall stud.

STEP 12
Once the first row is complete you will need to Cut the first plank of the second row to create the proper end joint stagger. The end joints should not be closer than 8 inches.

STEP 13
Once you have cut the plank to the desired length apply an s-bead of adhesive to the back of the plank. Then, engage the length side groove and tongue. Slide or a tapping block or scrap piece of flooring can be used to tap/engage the short ends together. Using the Brad nailer, shoot a nail through the tongue of the plank into the wall studs.
METHOD A - Floor to Ceiling Installation (cont.)

STEP 14
Connect the planks in the following rows by repeating the process of applying adhesive to the back of the planks, engaging the length side tongue and groove, along with the short ends, and fastening the engineered hardwood with a brad nailer through the tongue in the wall stud.

STEP 15
The last row of the engineered hardwood may need to be cut. Measure the distance between the floor/ceiling to the last row of engineered hardwood that was installed and using a table saw or jig saw cut the engineered hardwood to the width desired.
Tools and Material

- Caulk gun
- General construction adhesive
- Tape measure
- 1 ½ -1 ¾ inch brad nails
- Stud finder
- Ladder
- Appropriate saw for cutting and ripping laminate
- 18 gauge brad/staple gun
- Dust mask
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Chalk line
- Pry bar
- Screw driver (flat & Phillip's head)
- Hammer
METHOD B - Wainscot Installation (cont.)

STEP 1
Remove existing baseboards on the wall that will be receiving the engineered hardwood.

STEP 2
Make sure to turn off the power supply while working around exposed power outlets or light switches. Remove any electrical outlet and light switch covers. Take care not to touch any exposed wiring.

STEP 3
Mark all studs using a stud finder and then using a chalk line from top to bottom, mark the studs.

STEP 4
Measure to determine the desired length of the planks. Make sure to allow for a ½ expansion between the floor and the engineered hardwood.
STEP 5
Using a construction adhesive put an s-bead of adhesive on the back of the planks.

STEP 7
Push the plank against the wall. Using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the tongue of the plank into the wall. Make sure that the nail head is seated properly and not sticking up. Take care not to shoot completely through the engineered hardwood. You may also face nail the planks at the bottom of the plank into the wall plate. Make sure to use a nail that is long enough to go through the engineered hardwood, sheetrock and into the wall plate.

STEP 8
For the second plank and all other planks you will need to insert the groove into the exposed tongue edge of the first plank. Using the brad nailer, shoot a nail through the tongue of the plank into the wall. Make sure to apply an s-bead of adhesive to the back of all planks. Then using the brad nailer shoot a nail through the tongue edge of every plank into the wall.
METHOD B - Wainscot Installation (cont.)

STEP 9
The last row of the laminate may need to be cut. Measure the distance between the finishing walls to the last row of engineered hardwood that was installed and using a table saw or jig saw cut the laminate to the width desired.