

This Installation Instruction Covers Nydree Gravitare Engineered Flooring Manufactured by Nydree Flooring, LLC.

PLANK STORAGE PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

- Flooring must be stored in an enclosed and well-ventilated building. Never store flooring outdoors. Do not store flooring directly on warehouse floors. KEEP FLOORING IN POLYETHYLENE BAG AND ON WRAPPED SKIDS. The storage area within the building should be clean and dry. Ideally the warehouse will be temperature and humidity controlled. Temperature range: 60-80 °F (15-26 °C) and Relative Humidity: 30-55%.
- Do not store flooring outside in non-ventilated facilities such as garages, 18-wheel truck trailers, etc.. Extreme heat developed during the summer months could distort the flooring.
- Nydree Flooring, LLC will not be responsible for damage to flooring caused by improper storage.

ACCLIMATION

Each pallet of Nydree Engineered Hardwood Flooring will arrive to the job site wrapped in a polyethylene bag and typically shrink-wrapped to maintain the flooring at its most desirable installation moisture content. If material needs to be inspected prior to flooring installation, carefully remove the shrink-wrap and lift off polybag. After inspecting, put polybag back over pallet of flooring and secure with tape until installation. DO NOT REMOVE NYDREE ENGINEERED HARDWOOD FLOORING FROM THE POLYBAG UNTIL THE DAY OF INSTALLATION. Flooring that has been removed for installation and not used within the day should be returned to the polybag until ready for installation. Remember, no acclimation time is needed or desired when installing Nydree engineered flooring. Removing the polybag prior to installation could lead to plank distortion (bowing, crowning, twisting, cupping). Temperature of jobsite, material and adhesives should be acclimated to 60° - 80°F (15° - 26°C), before, during and after installation.

Note: Install finished flooring from multiple cartons throughout all skids of material to obtain a random distribution of the natural color/sheen variation which is an inherent characteristic of genuine hardwood floors. To prevent permanent damage to the flooring, the hardwood flooring should be installed as one of the last steps of the construction project.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Nydree Engineered Hardwood Flooring can be installed on, above, or below grade.
- Permanent HVAC must be in operation (2 weeks minimum). Portable propane heaters (Salamanders) are not acceptable. Permanent lighting must be provided prior to flooring installation to ensure proper flooring inspection during installation.
- The ideal relative humidity for flooring installation is between 30 and 55%, prior, during and after installation is completed. Keep in mind that if the relative humidity drops below 30% for extended periods, the flooring could shrink causing surface splits and gaps and is site related and not a manufacturing defect. Job site temperature should be 60° - 80°F (15° - 26°C).
- Do not install flooring until all other significant wet construction work (dry-wall) is complete. Moisture producing activities such as drywall, concrete, masonry, painting and grouting must be complete and cured.
- Avoid storing magnetic underlayment cartons in direct sunlight.
- Do not install flooring outdoors. Interior installations only.

FLOATING INSTALLATION USING ROLLS OF MAGNETIC UNDERLAYMENT

Subfloor Preparation

Nydree Gravitare can be installed directly over all existing hard surface floor coverings provided they are clean (free of debris), smooth, well-bonded and **flat!** Subfloor Flatness is key when installing Nydree Gravitare Flooring. **Subfloor must be flat to within 3/16" in 10 ft. (4.76mm per 3m). If flatness is not within this specification, then corrective measures must be taken.**

**Do not install over any carpet or fiber product.
Do not install over particleboard/chipboard.
All prior floating installations must be removed.**

Additional Specific Subfloor Notes

Concrete. Gravitare/Magnetic Underlayment can be installed on concrete with up to 95% in-situ RH moisture results. If there is visible water on the concrete or hydrostatic pressure do not install magnetic underlayment/Gravitare flooring. Use Portland cement-based filler to patch saw-cut control joints (score marks in concrete), cold/construction seams(concrete), cracks, holes, voids, low spots, depressions, grooves, indentations and defects of small areas. Fill level with the surrounding surface. Do not fill or bridge concrete slab moving joints. These joints must be carried through the flooring surface using an expansion joint covering system. **DO NOT skim coat large areas with extremely thin layers of patching compound.** Sand and/or scour patched areas smooth after material is fully cured according to manufacturer's instructions. Use only quality materials and Portland cement-based patching products. Suggested patching products include: Ardex Feather Finish®, Ardex SD-P®, Bostik UltraFinish™ Pro, and Bostik Webcrete®95.

VCT/Tile or Sheet Vinyl. No more than one layer permitted. If the vinyl is not smooth and has a textured surface, an embossing leveler must be used to make the floor smooth and flat.

Ceramic/Marble/Clay Tile/Terrazo. Grout lines must be embossed or covered with a polymer modified Portland cement-based self-leveling screed or skim coat.

Existing Wood Flooring/Underlayment Grade Plywood. Ensure that all nail/staple/screw heads are set flush with or below surface. Sand high edges of plywood underlayment joints level and any high edges in existing wood flooring. Verify that the wood is dry. The reading on any wood moisture meter should be 12% or less.

Radiant Heated Floors. Gravitare Installations are not recommended.

MAGNETIC ROLL & SEAM TAPE INSTALATION

Magnetic roll.

“Installation Warrants Acceptance”

***Note:** Inspect the magnetic underlayment for any defects/imperfections prior to Gravitare flooring installation. If there is any doubt, do not install the underlayment. Contact Nydree Flooring immediately. Nydree Flooring will not be responsible for the installation of material with obvious defects.*

Do not drag sharp/heavy objects across the magnetic underlayment at any time. Use caution, as vacuum beater Bars, rolling caster wheels, spiked shoes, chairs, etc. could damage the underlayment during installation.

1. Rolls are labelled with a “this side up” sticker. The magnetic underlayment must be installed with the magnetic side facing up for the Gravitare flooring to bond properly. If unsure, use a piece of the Gravitare flooring to make sure it is bonding to the correct side of the magnetic underlayment.
2. The underlayment is manufactured with the magnetic side facing upwards when rolled out from the roll. This makes it very easy to simply roll out the underlayment leaving approximately 1 to 2 inches up the wall, slide it in to place and trim down the edges with a utility knife.
3. If a butt or cross seam must be constructed, overlap the panels approximately 2 inches and double cut them using a straight edge. The panels should be tightly abutted together with no gaps in between and no overlaps of any kind. If for some reason you encounter product that has a few untrue edges, simply use the same process as you would with a butt seam. Overlap the edges approximately 1 inch and double cut them using a straight edge.

Seam Tape.

1. Seam tape must be installed on all seams to maintain the excellent moisture vapor properties of the underlayment.

GRAVITARE FLOORING INSTALLATION

“Installation Warrants Acceptance”

***Note:** Prior to installing Gravitare flooring, it is mandatory to “dry lay” a portion of the initial course to verify proper layout and to visually inspect the flooring. Verify that the flooring is the correct species, color, width, grain, finish (gloss level) and quality (fit) prior to installation. If there is any doubt, do not install the flooring. Contact Nydree Flooring immediately. Nydree Flooring will not be responsible for the installation of the wrong flooring or for the installation of obvious defects.*

1. Make sure the magnetic surface is dust free and clean.
2. Balance the room so that cuts on the walls are of similar size.
3. Whenever possible install the Gravitare flooring at a 90 degree angle to the Magnetic underlayment.
4. Start by installing along a straight line or laser-line off of one wall. Adjust line accordingly if wall is not square and straight in relation to the rest of the area. Use a silver Sharpie to mark straight line while adhering to the required expansion space.
5. The recommended expansion spacing is ½” (12.7mm) at all vertical obstructions when flooring run is less than 50 feet (15.26m) and 1” (25.4mm) expansion spacing at all vertical obstructions when flooring run is greater than 50 feet. Keep in mind that these expansion spacing recommendations are provided solely to help prevent the floor from expanding and buckling in the event of long periods of relative humidity greater than 55%. Door frames can be undercut to allow the wood to slide underneath, still allowing for the expansion.
6. While aligning carefully along the strike line, lay three pieces of flooring lengthwise in the first course. Begin the second course by cutting off the first piece to an appropriate length or utilize the random length pieces included in each box to establish random butt joint location. End joints should be staggered at least 6” (15cm). Randomly stagger the flooring pattern.
7. Be sure to clean the back of any board that is cut, so that debris does not diminish the magnetic attraction to the underlayment.
8. Gravitare planks can be removed and replaced anywhere within the flooring installation. Use suction cup lifting devices to carefully disengage the plank.
9. The finished flooring installation can be put in use immediately. Finished flooring must be protected from abuse by other trade contractors. Use FortiBoard™ Floor Protector Paper (available thru Nydree), heavy kraft paper, cardboard, or equivalent. Do not use plastic or poly. Make sure the floor has been cleaned thoroughly (swept, vacuumed and dust mopped) prior to protecting, so that the flooring surface will not be scratched or dented by debris. If the floor is covered, consider covering the entire flooring installation, since some species are light-sensitive and uncovered areas may change color. When taping paper or sheets together, tape them to each other, not to the floor. Some flooring material (attic stock) should be set aside in case future repairs are needed. Some installers recommend ordering an additional 5% for this purpose.

INSTALLATION USING 2' X 2' PEEL AND STICK MAGNETIC TILES (RAISED ACCESS FLOORING)

Note: Global IFS and Tate Access Floor raised systems are acceptable for use with Gravitare Flooring.

Subfloor Preparation

Subfloor must be flat to within 3/16" in 10 ft. (4.76mm per 3m)

The lippage between access panels must not be more than 0.5mm (0.020")

All access floors must have pedestals adjusted to remove any rocking action and be levelled, with pedestals locked in position, to best avoid the potential for movement in the finished flooring. Access panels should be fixed to pedestals where possible.

Unprimed Steel 2' x 2' Access Panel Surface.

- Scour all paint, dirt, contaminants and the surface of the metal with 3 ½ open coat (20 grit) paper using a floor machine or equivalent. The steel should have a faint metallic sheen. Sweep and vacuum clean.
- Wash the metal to remove oil residues with one of the following properly diluted neutral cleaners: Clean Scrub® (Hillyard), Once n' Done (Armstrong), or Stride (Johnson).
- Rinse three times with clear water. Allow to dry thoroughly

Concrete 2' x 2' Surface

- Follow subfloor preparation and additional specific subfloor notes for concrete in previous Floating Using Rolls of Magnetic Section (Page 1).

2' x 2' PEEL AND STICK MAGNETIC TILE INSTALLATION

Simply peel and stick adhesive to properly prepared access panel surface. Do not overlap magnetic tiles.

GRAVITATE FLOORING INSTALLATION – FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON PREVIOUS PAGE

CLEAN-UP & MAINTENANCE

A. Guidelines

- Remove protective covering following completion of work by other trade contractors. It is important to follow good housekeeping policies.
- Sweep, vacuum and dust mop flooring on a regular basis to keep unwanted sand particles and debris from scratching the flooring surface.
- Place mats or throw rugs at doorway exteriors, interiors & pivot areas to help prevent the tracking and grinding of grit, dirt, sand and moisture into the finish. Dirt can be ground into the floor surface causing the finish to scratch. Excess moisture can damage the wood fiber. Rugs and mats must be made of a breathable material and non-marking rubber to prevent moisture entrapment and finish discoloration.
- Never use excessive amounts of water for cleaning. Never pour any cleaner directly onto flooring. Never wet mop with any type of string mop. Continually wet mopping a hardwood floor means the floor is continually expanding, buckling and shrinking. The resulting stresses and movement of the flooring can cause abnormal and unsightly checking and cracking.
- Never use wax, oil-based soap, multi-purpose cleaners, window cleaner, vinegar, furniture polish or other household cleaning detergents on Nydree Engineered Hardwood Flooring. Remember to wipe up spills immediately.
- Use fabric-faced glides or large (at least 2" in diameter), broad surfaced (at least ¾" in width), barrel-type, double wheel casters (non-marking rubber or soft polyurethane) on chairs and furniture legs to prevent scratching, scuffing and other damage. Keep glides and casters clean by inspecting regularly to prevent scratching. Replace fabric-faced glides as needed.
- Keep in mind that high heels, cleats, and sports shoes can indent any wood floor surface.
- When moving heavy furniture, equipment, etc., use roller casters and be sure to protect the wood flooring with heavy cloth or cardboard.
- Keep HVAC systems set at 70°F (21°C) and 30-55% relative humidity. Use a humidifier in the winter months to keep all wood movement and shrinkage to a minimum.
- The sun's UV rays and strong artificial lighting can discolor some hardwood flooring species over time. If possible, periodically rearrange rugs and furniture to allow for even aging of the flooring. Some species darken (Cherry) and some species will amber or lighten over time (Oak).

B. Maintenance Products

Sealed with Standard Pedestrian 2.0 Urethane Finish

Bona® Professional Hardwood Flooring Cleaner

Nydree Flooring Dust Mop Treatment

Carefully follow the label directions of all maintenance and remedial products. Use only serviceable and clean equipment.

C. Maintenance Procedures

Sealed with standard Pedestrian 2.0 Urethane Finish

- Routine, regular maintenance, daily if necessary, should include sweeping, vacuuming or dust mopping with Nydree Flooring Dust Mop Treatment. Walking on a dusty or dirty floor is the fastest way to damage the finish.
- Periodically clean the floor with Bona Professional Hardwood Flooring Cleaner.

Small Installations

Lightly mist a small area and immediately wipe clean with microfiber cleaning pad. Replace microfiber cleaning pads regularly or whenever they become heavily soiled. Pads are machine washable. **Important Tip:** To avoid redistributing dirt and contaminants back onto the floor, rinse microfiber cleaning pads periodically with clean water. THOROUGHLY wring out cleaning pads before using on the floor.

Large Installations

Pour Bona Professional Hardwood Flooring Cleaner into a bucket. Soak several large towels in the solution, making sure they are thoroughly wet. **THOROUGHLY** wring out the towels to remove excess moisture. Wrap a towel around a push broom and tack the floor. (Tacking means to clean until no dirt/dust is left on the floor or towel). To prevent redeposit of dirt and oil, refold towel using clean sides as needed. Pay special attention to corners. Repeat the procedure in each area of the floor until the entire floor has been cleaned.

Commercial Installations – Option #1: With a 175 rpm floor buffer and a white polishing pad, **LIGHTLY** mist an 8' x 8' area with Bona Professional Hardwood Flooring Cleaner. Periodically replace the buffing pad as it becomes soiled. Do not allow the cleaner to dry before buffing. **Option #2:** Use Bona Power Scrubber or Autoscrubber using Bona Professional Hardwood Flooring Cleaner or Bona Deep Clean Solution. Make sure that the water setting is on low.

Spot Cleaning Apply cleaner to a clean cloth and scrub the area by hand.

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