

# INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

## TORLYS Lexington Laminate

### DEAR CUSTOMER,

You have purchased a high quality **TORLYS Laminate flooring**, well suited for all residential rooms\*. Please take a moment to review the installation instructions and plan your installation carefully.

*\*TORLYS Laminate flooring is not suitable for use in SAUNAS.*

### SET UP

To ensure you have sufficient material on hand, calculate the total area of the room and add 5% of material to allow for custom cutting. 24 hours prior to installation, place the closed packages in the middle of the room, NEVER against a wall or in a corner. Do not open the packages until you are ready to begin installation. Inspect each plank before installation. If you find any defects, do not use the plank. Contact your dealer immediately.

**Please Note: The TORLYS Warranty does not cover labour for installation of planks with visible defects.**

### PREPARATION

Remove existing carpet, baseboards, quarter-rounds and thresholds. Undercut door jambs using a piece of flooring material (plus the respective underlay) as a guide. Repair all defects in the sub-floor. Ensure all doors can still open and close after installing the floor (minimum 3/8" – 1 cm clearance). The door frames may need to be adapted. To ensure visual appeal, we suggest you first dry-lay the material across the width of the room. The planks in the last row should be no less than 3" (7.5 cm) wide. Additional expansion and contraction can be achieved by undercutting drywall. Ensure that the job-site has been cleaned and cleared of debris that could potentially damage the finish of your TORLYS floor.

### SUB-FLOORS

Repair any defects in the sub-floor. Installation over an uneven sub-floor will cause premature damage to floor and make the floor feel unstable. All sub-floors must be clean, firm, flat (within 3/16" - 4.8 mm in 10 ft - 3m), dry (less than 3% moisture on concrete, 10% or less on plywood) and smooth. You can lay the planks over any solid and stable sub-floor material, including plywood, chipboard, old non-creaking flooring boards, hardwood flooring, concrete slabs, PVC or most ceramic tile (avoid heavily embossed tile). DO NOT install over existing carpet. Wood sub-floors must be structurally sound. Any loose parts must be nailed or screwed and, if necessary, a levelling compound must be applied. It is essential that the crawl space under wood sub-floors is sufficiently ventilated. Remove any obstacles and provide sufficient ventilation. A 6 mil (.15mm) poly vapour barrier must be installed on the crawl space floor. A freshly poured concrete slab must dry for at least 1 week per centimetre thickness, up to 4 cm (1-5/8"), and 2 weeks per centimetre thickness above 4 cm, with sufficient ventilation. A 6 centimetre (2-7/16") concrete slab must therefore dry out for a minimum of 8 weeks. A 6-mil/0.15mm poly vapour barrier must be installed on concrete sub-floors.

### LAYOUT

The floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to insure colour and shade mix. If possible, lay the planks parallel to window light. The ideal environment is a temperature of 60°F - 70°F (15°C - 20°C) and relative humidity of 40- 60%. The floor will be stronger and more stable if the joints are staggered at least 12" (30 cm) in each row. Staggered or irregular joints result in less waste and enhance the overall appearance of the floor. Do not stair step the flooring across the room. Expansion wedges must be used on

all walls to allow for proper expansion/contraction space. The wedges should be removed after the flooring installation has been completed, and the expansion/contraction space should be covered by baseboard and/or quarter round.

### NOTE

Never hit the planks directly with your hammer. Always use a TORLYS tapping block to protect the edges of the planks. DO NOT USE ANY OTHER TAPPING BLOCK – otherwise you will damage the planks!

### TOOLS

- Hammer (1 lb.)
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- 3/8" (10mm) Wedges\*
- Saw
- Tapping Block\*
- Last-Board Puller \*



*\*Note: available in a TORLYS Installation Kit*

*\*\*OPTIONAL for ease of installation and repairs use TORLYS Bulldog.*

When sawing pieces off the planks, use a fine-toothed hand saw, jigsaw or cross-cut saw.

### FLOATING METHOD

Prepare the sub-floor. Cover the sub-floor with TORLYS foam (or cork) underlayment, rolled out and taped at seams. The TORLYS foam underlayment includes a 3" adhesive overlap, which makes the use of damp-proof tape necessary only at the short ends of the rolls. The TORLYS underlayment will also provide a sound deadening barrier for your floor. When using TORLYS cork underlayment (instead of TORLYS foam) over concrete, first cover the sub-floor with 6 mil (0.15mm) poly, overlap edges by 12" (30cm), damp-proof tape the seams and run up 4" (10cm) on each wall. The use of a 6-mil (0.15mm) poly vapour barrier is mandatory for all installations over concrete sub-floors. DO NOT USE GLUE

### PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

To ensure the full benefit of the **TORLYS Laminate Flooring** warranty and to extend the beauty of your new floor for years to come, we recommended the following preventative maintenance suggestions: Install floor protectors on furniture legs to protect against scratches and dents. These furniture pads should have no wrinkles and be made of soft, non-staining material (e.g. felt pads). Do not drag furniture or other heavy objects across the floor. Avoid high heels or shoes that need repair. Some types of high heel shoes can severely damage the surface of any floor covering. For minor scratch repairs, a touch-up kit is available at your TORLYS Dealer. For damages that require plank replacement, a tool, the TORLYS Bulldog, is also available through your dealer. Sweep and vacuum floor regularly. Avoid sand and grit build up. Use protective mats or rugs at doorways and areas of heavy wear. For dry maintenance, use a dust mop, vacuum cleaner or dry cloth. For damp maintenance, use the TORLYS Cleaning Kit, available from your Authorized Dealer, and follow the maintenance instructions on the container.

### IMPORTANT!

**To keep your warranty valid, use TORLYS recommended maintenance products and follow TORLYS maintenance instructions.**

Maintain the humidity level at 30-60%. Certain regions within North America have extreme changes in humidity levels, which may affect all floors. To maintain humidity within a healthy range, a humidifier or dehumidifier may be required. Never wet mop your TORLYS Laminate floor. Never wax or use oil based products on your TORLYS Laminate floor.

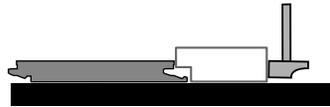
## INSTRUCTIONS

### 1) GENERAL

TORLYS Lexington has a revolutionary joint system for installing floating floors without glue. Instead, it uses an ingenious tongue and groove system to "click" the planks together.

#### IMPORTANT!

Use a hammer and the special TORLYS tapping block. Never use any other tapping block, as it may damage the planks. For a long edge, and if you cannot angle-click the planks (e.g. when installing under door frames) tap planks together gradually. Begin tapping lightly at the corner of a plank until the joint has clicked together. Repeat the process approximately every 12" (30 cm) until the entire long edge of the plank has clicked in with the next plank. Never attempt to knock the joint into place with just one hit.



For the best results, follow the installation instructions and use only:

#### A) TORLYS INSTALLATION KIT

(Wedges, TORLYS tapping block and last-board puller)

#### B) TORLYS MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS

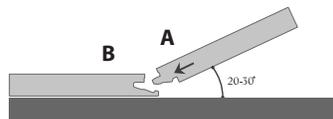
(Dust Mop, TORLYS Natural Glow (PH Neutral) Cleaner)

#### C) TORLYS UNDERLAYMENTS

(6-mil Poly Vapour Barrier with CORK Underlayment)

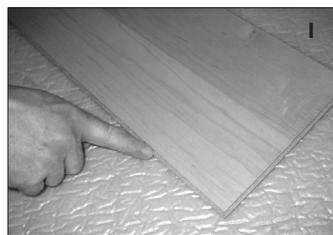
### 2) CORRECT INSTALLATION

Wood is the primary component of **TORLYS Laminate flooring**. Since the humidity of a room can vary from one season to the next, the floor must be able to expand and contract in ALL directions. A minimum of 3/8" (8 - 10mm) expansion/contraction gap must be provided at all walls, around pipes and at thresholds. These gaps should be covered by a moulding that is not fixed to the floor but to the sub-floor (T-moulds, Reducers, Square-nosing) or to the wall (Baseboards and/or Quarter-round). Provide expansion gaps under doors. Install the planks in the same direction as the longest wall, or, if possible, parallel to window light, for a more appealing look. In areas longer or wider than 50 feet (15 meters), a Transition Moulding (e.g. T-Moulding) must be used. Transition mouldings are also required in doorways. Begin installing the floor from the left corner of the room. Always remember that the easiest way to install the floor is by placing the tongue (A) in to the groove (B).



### 3) THE FIRST ROWS

Saw off the tongue on the long side of all the planks in the first row (Photo I). Orient the first plank in the left corner of the room. Maintain a minimum spacing of 3/8" (8-10 mm), using wedges. Lay the planks with the tongue side (I) facing the wall. The short sides of the planks will butt and overlap each other. This will



allow for a drop in place assembly. Lay the first rows along the wall (note that an expansion/contraction area of 3/8" i.e. 8-10mm must be provided at the wall, as well as at all columns, pipes, steel doorframes, etc). Turn the plank inclined with the end joint into the already laid plank and drop into place. Ensure that the planks of the first row are straight (II).



The cut piece from the first row becomes the starting piece for another row. Install the cut edge facing the wall, with the expansion wedge in place. Now angle this piece and click it into the first plank of the first row. The cut pieces should be a minimum of 12" (30cm) in length (III).



Continue the second row with a full piece, placing the tongue of the long side into the groove of first row piece (IV). Move the short end until it is pushed tight against the previous plank before it is lowered. Click the plank lengthwise into place. The plank must lock into the first row and the end joint must fit tightly into the previous plank.



Do not attempt to press the joint into place with one push. Continue this method for each plank, covering the entire width of the room.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the stagger between the head joints should be 12" (30cm) minimum, and preferably 16" (40cm). Cut the last planks of each row leaving a 3/8" (8-10 mm) gap to the wall.

### 4) THE FINAL ROW

There should be a minimum 3/8" (8-10 mm) expansion/contraction space between the final row and the wall. These planks will be tapped into the last row using the Lastboard Puller and hammer. Take the plank that has been marked for the width cut, push the plastic tongue out of the end groove with the aid of a screwdriver or similar tool.

Cut the plank to the correct width by placing the end, that held the plastic tongue, into the saw first. Cut the removed plastic tongue to the same length as the width of the cut plank (including plank tongue) and now return the cut plastic tongue into the end groove it was removed from.

Begin laying the last row of flooring in the right hand corner of the room. After the row of planks are installed, using a screw driver or similar tool, push the plastic tongue on each plank (which is pointing out towards the wall) into the plank of the flooring. The short sides will now be locked into place.

#### IMPORTANT

Every plank that is installed in the floor **MUST** have short sides held in place with a plastic tongue or warranty and performance of the floor will be affected.

### 5) UNDER DOOR FRAMES

Saw the planks so that after installation there is a minimum 3/8" (8-10mm) expansion/contraction gap. This expansion/contraction gap can be covered by undercutting the door jamb. If you cannot rotate this plank, use the TORLYS Tapping Block and hammer to tap the planks together. TORLYS has designed a special tool for this type of installation: the TORLYS Bulldog.

## 6) COMPLETING THE INSTALLATION

After installing your floor, you can immediately walk on it and begin the final touches. This is one of the major benefits of the glueless system. Remove all spacer wedges and install baseboards and/or quarter-rounds. Never attach the baseboard to the floor itself, but to the wall instead. You need to allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the baseboard. If a vapour barrier has been used, attach the baseboard through the plastic membrane sticking up from the floor, using finishing nails. Finish the pipes with rosettes or silicone seal. Where no mouldings or baseboards can be installed, or where undercutting is not an option, fill the expansion/contraction gap with silicone seal.

IN BATHROOMS: the use of silicone to seal the expansion gaps is mandatory in all bathroom installations.

## 7) RADIANT HEAT APPLICATION

**TORLYS Lexington flooring** can be installed over radiant heated subfloors. Follow the instructions of the manufacturer of the heating system carefully and make sure that the temperature at the surface of the subfloor does not exceed 80°F (27°C).

Please contact TORLYS for detailed information.

**[www.torlys.com](http://www.torlys.com)**

Head Office: 1900 Derry Road E., Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5S 1Y6

