

CASCADE NEXT GEN – ORGANIX INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

BEFORE INSTALLATION:

1. **READ THESE DETAILED INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING.**
2. Material and tool requirements:
 - Estimate square footage and add 10%.
 - 6-mil poly vapor barrier must be used over concrete or in moisture prone areas.
 - Rubber mallet, wood glue, tapping block, spacers, pull bar, and circular saw with a fine-toothed blade, pencil, and straight edge.
3. Acclimation: Store unopened boxes flat in the room where the flooring is to be installed for a minimum of 24 hours prior to installation. Material that has been exposed to extreme high or low temperatures should be given extra time to acclimate to room temperature. Once boxes are opened, they should be installed immediately.
4. Inspect the flooring planks carefully for any possible damage or defects before installation. No claims regarding visual defects will be accepted after the flooring has been installed. If you discover apparent defects in the flooring planks, you should stop the installation immediately. Labor will not be paid on apparent visible defects after installation.

Installing in Wet Areas – When installing in areas that are prone to moisture, such as bathrooms and laundry rooms, the expansion spaces must be filled with an appropriate silicone-based sealant to ensure moisture cannot get under the floor. Although this flooring is moisture resistant, spills should not be left unattended.

Suitable Substrates

- Concrete
- Plywood, OSB ¾", particle board 40lb density. Must be structurally sound and installed following the manufacturer's installation instructions. Deflection in the subfloor may cause the floor to squeak and/or compromise the locking mechanism. Failures caused by subfloor deflection are not covered under the warranty.
- Suspended hardwood flooring that is fully adhered. Must be smooth and square edge.
- Ceramic tile, Marble, Terazzo. All must have been leveled and grout joints filled.
- Single layer resilient flooring that is fully adhered (excluding cushion backed products). Embossing must be leveled

Do Not Install Over

- Carpet
- Existing floating floors
- Hardwood that is directly over concrete

Installation Instructions:

1. The use of incorrect tools may damage your flooring and void your warranty.
2. This flooring is designed to be installed as a floating floor. Under no circumstances should flooring planks be glued, nailed, screwed, or otherwise adhered ex. door stopper, closet track, to the subfloor in any way. This statement does not apply when installing on stairs. Stair treads, risers and moldings must be fully secured using a compatible adhesive. Heavy objects such as cabinets and islands cannot be installed on top of flooring.
3. This flooring needs room to expand. An expansion gap of 10–13 mm (3/8" to 1/2") should always be left around the perimeter of the room (e.g.: between the flooring planks and the walls or any other fixed elements, such as heating pipes or door jambs). This expansion gap can be covered up with baseboards, quarter rounds or the appropriate floor trim. T Moldings must be used in areas that exceed 6,000sf. Rooms that exceed 2,500sf should use a ½"

expansion space around the perimeter. Runs should not exceed 30m (98.5') along the length of the planks and 20m (65.5') along the width of the plank.

4. Before installation can begin, the HVAC system must be operational for a minimum of 14 days. The area to receive flooring must be maintained between 10°C (50°F) and 32°C (90°F) for 24 hours before, during and after the installation. Maintain temperatures between -18°C (0°F) and 77°C (170°F) throughout the life of the floor. The relative humidity in the room must be maintained within 25-70 % RH. Sudden fluctuations in temperature or humidity may compromise the performance of the flooring. The temperature difference between the flooring planks and the subfloor should not exceed ±3° C.
5. The subfloor must be absolutely level, dry, clean, and secured. Deflection in the subfloor may damage the locking system and void your warranty. Differences in subfloor levelness of more than 3/16" in 10' or 1/8" in 6' must either be sanded down or filled in with suitable floor filling compound.
6. For installation below grade, or on a concrete subfloor, a 6mil poly vapour barrier must be used. When using a calcium chloride moisture test for concrete subfloors (ASTM F1869), values must be ≤ 3 lbs/1000ft²/24-hr or <75% RH with an in situ probe (ASTM F2170). Wood subfloor moisture content must not exceed 12%.
7. For additional acoustic insulation, an appropriate underlayment can be used. Underlayment maximum thickness under this flooring is 4mm with a minimum density of 53 kg/m³ (3.5 lbs/ft³). An additional layer of underlayment that causes deflection will void the floor's warranty.
8. Flooring planks should preferably be installed longitudinally (lengthwise) of the main light source.
9. Avoid narrow pieces at the finish wall. Measure the distance between the starting wall and the finishing wall. Divide this number by the width of the flooring plank. The remainder must be greater than 6.35 cm (2.5").
10. Cascade Next Gen warrants the use of its products over hydronic radiant heat systems only. The temperature must be increased gradually and must never exceed 26 °C (79 °F). Before installing over newly constructed radiant heat systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heat system. The maximum moisture content of the subfloor is 1.5% (CM method) or less than 3lbs/24 hour per 1000 sqft (Calcium chloride method).
11. Cascade Next Gen flooring can be walked on immediately following installation. As soon as part of the flooring has been installed, the furniture can be moved onto the finished installation. Always use felt pads under heavy furniture to avoid damage to the floor.

Assembling flooring panels:

1. For best results, make sure to work from 2-3 cartons at a time to ensure a random look. For the first row of planks, cut off the tongue of the plank. Lay the first plank with the trimmed tongue edge on the long side of the plank facing the wall while taking special care to maintain proper expansion as explained in point #3 above.
2. Assemble the planks end joints by lowering the tongue of the plank into the groove from top to bottom. Once the end joint channels are in proper alignment, use a rubber mallet to engage the Valinge 5G® locking system.
3. To start the second row, use the remainder of the last plank of the first row if it is longer than 30cm (12") otherwise, cut a new plank in half and proceed. To ensure structural integrity of your floor, it is mandatory to ALWAYS STAGGER THE END JOINTS FROM ROW TO ROW BY AT LEAST 15.25cm (6"). SHORT AND LONG SIDE LOCKS MUST BE SECURLY TAPPED IN WITH THE APPROPRAITE AMOUNT OF FORCE AND WITH A COMPATIBLE TAPPING BLOCK TO QUALIFY FOR THE TOPICAL MOISTURE WARRANTY.
In the case where you are unable to angle planks (e.g. Under a doorframe or radiator), you must cut away the locking edge of the lip of the bottom groove by using a wood chisel. Run a bead of glue on the now modified tongue and groove. Tighten the panels gently with the use of a pull bar and a hammer.
If a doorframe must be undercut, lay a plank of flooring next to the doorframe with the patterned side facing down. Undercut the door jamb with a saw, then slide the flooring plank under the door jamb with the decorative pattern facing upwards. Please note that the floor must be allowed to expand under the door jamb and the recommended expansion gap must be respected.
4. Continue the installation as instructed above until you get to the last row. For the last row, measure the exact width required. To do this, lay a plank of flooring on the second to last row. Then lay a second plank of flooring on top of this plank with the tongue side of the plank touching the wall. This will allow you to determine the width needed for the final row. Make a mark with a pencil and cut with a saw along this mark. The expansion gap must be respected!

See Separate Document for the "Cascade Next Gen Maintenance & Warranty" Detail.