

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Mannington Earthly Elements is available in both plank and uniquely designed wood tile formats that are a breakaway from traditional wood planks. The Earthly Elements planks are 6" wide available in random length (from 12" to 48" lengths) with a traditional milled tongue and groove profile. Earthly Elements wood tiles are offered in a 12" x 12" square format, as well as, a 12" x 24" rectangular format that have unique removable, non-continuous plastic splines which allow for a multitude of design opportunities. Both the planks and tiles allow for endless design possibilities and a straight forward, fully adhered installation process.

STORAGE & HANDLING

When storing pallets, do not stack them more than two high and make certain they are protected from forklift trucks or other traffic. Also during storage, carefully protect package corners and lay boxes horizontally. All wood products should be stored in conditioned indoor environments.

Avoid extreme temperature and humidity variations between storage site and job site.

PRODUCT INSPECTION

Wood is a natural product, containing natural variations in color, tone, and grain.

Before any Mannington engineered wood flooring leaves our plant, each wood tile goes through numerous inspection stations. A slight color variation between wood tiles, however, is to be expected in a natural wood floor. Mannington cannot guarantee against natural variation in each wood tile, nor minor differences between samples and the color of the floor.

With Mannington, you're protected by our exclusive PREINSTALLATION LIMITED WARRANTY (Gold and Silver Series only). Return any wood tiles you are not satisfied with, uncut, BEFORE installation and we'll replace them. No questions asked.

We urge you to inspect for color, finish, and graining BEFORE installation. Care should be taken during installation to remove or repair particular characteristics you do not desire.

JOB SITE CONDITIONS

Mannington Engineered Hardwood may only be installed in climate controlled conditioned indoor environments. The HVAC system must be operational to maintain a 55° F to 75° F temperature and a 35% to 55% relative humidity level. The job site should have sufficient lighting to fully illuminate the work area. The hard wood should be installed only after the job site is free of other trades that may damage the finished flooring.

SUBFLOOR/ UNDERFLOOR RECOMMENDATIONS & PREPARATION

STRUCTURAL REQUIREMENTS

The structural integrity of the jobsite is critical for a satisfactory wood installation. The type and method of construction, grade level, and flooring system components all impact the installation of wood flooring products. Many times local building codes establish only minimum requirements for flooring systems.

These minimum requirements may not provide sufficient rigidity for successful installation and continued performance of wood flooring products.

Structural flooring systems are either constructed of concrete (or cement-like materials) or wood. For more comprehensive information, contact the manufacturer of the particular flooring system. The American Concrete Institute and the American Plywood Association can provide details for their respective products.

SUBFLOOR REQUIREMENTS

Make certain to check subfloor thoroughly for the following:

- Subfloor must be clean. Remove all oil, dirt, grease, wax, sealers, paint, adhesives, or any other substance that would hinder installation.
- Subfloor must be flat to ¼" per 10' span.
- Subfloor must be thoroughly dry.

**SUBFLOOR/
UNDERFLOOR
RECOMMENDATIONS &
PREPARATION**
continued

Wood subfloor moisture content must never exceed 14%.moisture content when measured with a dependable moisture meter. The difference between the wood subfloor system moisture content and that of the hardwood flooring should not be greater than 4%.

All wood subfloors must be structurally sound, dry, at least ¾" in thickness, solidly fastened to appropriately spaced floor joists, and in compliance with all local building codes.

- Earthy Elements may be adhered to a single layer of ¾" thick, tongue-and-groove plywood or structural grade oriented strand board (OSB) substrate over appropriately spaced floor joists. However, an underlayment panel should be installed to facilitate removal of the flooring in the future and prevent damage of the structural subfloor due to the tenacious bond of the adhesive.
- If the subfloor is plywood or OSB less than ¾" thick, add a second cross layer for strength and stability (minimum 3/8" thick to total 1" in thickness).
- Joist spacing of 19.2" and 24" on center may be acceptable if the subfloor system is designed in accordance with local building codes and is free of deflection.

NOTE: Structurally sound wood floors will not have movements or deflections. Subfloor movement or improper subfloor installation will eventually cause squeaking. It is the owner's responsibility to be certain the substrate and substructure are in compliance with all local building codes.

Concrete subfloors must be visibly dry, with no history of or show no evidence of excessive moisture or moisture vapor transmission. Just as a frame of reference, Calcium Chloride test results should be at 5 pounds or less moisture vapor transmission. The calcium chloride test must be performed in accordance with the ASTM F 1869 procedure. Additionally the in situ relative humidity should not exceed 75%. Relative humidity testing must be performed in accordance with the ASTM F 2170 procedure.

EXISTING FLOOR COVERINGS

- In most cases, the existing floor covering should be removed and the substrate prepared to receive a new resilient floor covering.
- When removal of the existing hard surface flooring is not an option, Mannington Earthy Elements can be installed over a properly prepared single layer of existing floor coverings.
- Prepare the existing hard surface flooring by thoroughly stripping the surface of all dirt, wax, oils, or grease and then covering with an appropriate cementitious topping designed for this purpose. (such as Mannington MVP 2023 /latex)
- It is the floor covering retailers or installer's responsibility to determine if the existing floor covering is suitable as an underfloor for the installation of any Mannington flooring product. If there is any doubt about the suitability of the existing floor, remove it or cover it with an appropriate underlayment.

**LAY-OUT AND
INSTALLATION**

DETERMINE DESIGN

The unique modularity of Earthy Elements allows for interesting design and layout possibilities. We have identified five patterns that combine the tile shape, size and coloration to provide for interesting flooring layouts. Keep in mind that certain designs and room configuration will affect the percentage of product that will need to be ordered beyond the actual square foot requirements of the work area. Typically a 10 to 15 % "waste factor" should be included.

BLEND CARTONS

To provide for a uniform appearance throughout the entire installation, open sufficient cartons to blend wood tiles for shade variations. Make sure your work area is well-lit. Good visibility ensures that color is consistent and that visually defective wood tiles are detected and removed.

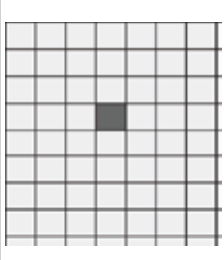
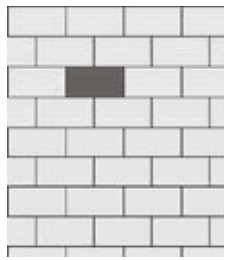
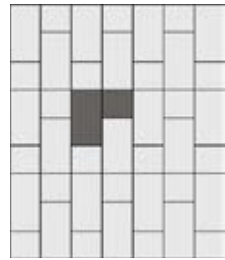
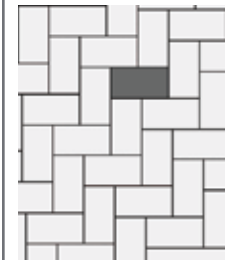
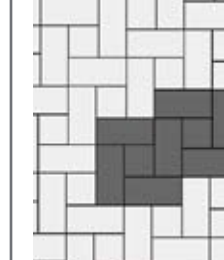
**LAY-OUT AND
INSTALLATION**
continued

Match all transition moldings with a plank or wood tile that is close in graining and color before installation.

It is always a good idea to retain product from the original installation in case a repair is ever required.

LAYOUT DESIGN

The selected design should be "balanced" in the work area. Careful and accurate measurements are required. Typically the center of the work area must be determined and "squared" by snapping chalk lines across both the width and length of the room. Using these lines as a reference, transpose the lines to the starting wall being certain to maintain squareness and straightness.

				
E-1 Checkerboard 100% 12" x 12"	E-2 Subway 100% 12" x 24"	E-3 Modified Weave 33% 12" x 12" 100% 12" x 24"	E-4 Herringbone 100% 12" x 24"	E-5 Staggered Pinwheel 20% 12" x 12" 80% 12" x 24"

FULLY ADHERED INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

Apply Mannington UltraSpread urethane adhesive with a 3/16" X 5/32" V notched trowel in an area that can be covered in less than 60 minutes. Working off of the plank or tile, place the first piece into the adhesive at the intersection of the starting lines to insure it is straight and square. Orient the adjoining wood tile so the plastic splines align in the groove of the adhered wood tile. If necessary to accommodate a non-typical design the plastic splines can be repositioned in the groove, but it is critical that the splines and grooves of adjoining wood tiles are fully engaged to prevent "over wood" or ledging from occurring. When utilizing both planks and tiles it is necessary to remove the splines from the tile so the fixed tongue of the plank can be adjoined. Be certain that the grain of the wood tile is in the proper direction as dictated by the design before positioning tile into the adhesive. If necessary, use a Mannington Wood Flooring tapping block to assure that the tiles are tightly positioned.

NEVER STRIKE THE SURFACE OF A FACTORY FINISHED WOOD FLOORING PRODUCT WITH ANY TYPE OF Mallet AS IT MAY MAR THE SURFACE.

Continue positioning wood tiles into the adhesive, being watchful of the design and grain positioning, until the adhered area is covered. Cut and fit tiles along the walls and fixed vertical surfaces as the installation progresses. For best results, strike a parallel chalk line to define the adhesive application area. If necessary, non-marring blue painter's tape may be used to secure wood tiles until the adhesive sets.

Releasable blue painters tape should never be left on flooring planks for more than a few hours. This type of tape is affected by heat and sunlight and will lose its "releasable" property. Always use fresh tape when securing wood tiles. Never get mineral spirits or paint thinner on the blue tape as this may leave a blemish.

**LAY-OUT AND
INSTALLATION
continued**

Once the entire work area has been installed, roll the wood tile flooring with a clean, 100 lbs. three section floor roller. Limit light foot traffic for several hours and do not expose the wood tile to heavy traffic for at least twelve hours.

FINAL INSPECTION

After the floor is cleaned, inspect it for nicks and scratches, and for planks that may have moved during installation, as well as any other imperfections that need attention. Touch up nicks and scratches with Mannington Hardwood Floors touch-up products.

FLOOR PROTECTION DURING CONSTRUCTION

Always protect the surface of installed flooring during construction by laying a quality felt paper over the floor and taping it to the baseboards. Never use plastic or polyethylene sheeting to cover the floor because they trap moisture. The covering material must allow the floor to breathe.

REPAIRS – MANNINGTON EARTHLY ELEMENTS HARDWOOD FLOORS

Although Mannington engineered wood flooring is inherently tough, it can be accidentally chipped by something falling on top of it. Always inspect each plank closely before installation. If damage occurs after installation, however, the following repair procedure may be used.

NOTE: Warranty does not cover labor for repair and replacement when a floor with visual defects has been permanently installed.

The bond of the UltraSpread adhesive is very tenacious and makes complete removal of a damaged tile difficult. Make certain the replacement tile is of the same size and color before starting the removal process. To remove a damaged tile, set the blade depth of a circular saw to the exact thickness of the wood tile and cut approximately 1/2" in from the edge of the tile. Use a hammer and sharp wood chisel to carefully cut to the corners. Using a flat bar or hammer and chisel as necessary remove the center portion of the tile. Carefully, wedge the flat bar under the remaining edges of the damaged tile and use vise grips to remove. Scrape as much residual adhesive as possible from the repair area. If the splines were damaged during the tile removal, reinsert the splines from the replacement tile into the groove of the existing tiles to provide a "platform" to position the replacement tile. As required remove the bottom of the groove of the replacement tile to allow it to "sit" on the splines, apply a sufficient application of UltraSpread adhesive to bond the replacement tile. Be careful to not apply too thick of adhesive application as to cause ledging. Weight the newly adhered tile in place and protect from traffic until the adhesive fully sets.