

## Important Information

It is important to employ safe working practices when cutting or fitting floor coverings. Protective eyewear and safe footwear (steel capped preferably) should be worn throughout the installation to help prevent against injury. Dust extraction and respiratory protection (appropriate dust masks) should be used when cutting flooring or trims using a saw of any type. Safety Data Sheets are available by contacting your local Premium Floors. If using ancillary products like levelling compounds etc, it is recommended to adhere to the specific safety requirements as stated by the manufacturer of the product.

## INTRODUCTION

These guidelines are intended for flooring professionals who are accustomed to the direct stick applications for engineered wood flooring (EWF). In some States and Countries, the direct fixing of wood flooring constitutes licensed work, and may require a license to complete. There are numerous ways to approach the installation of herringbone, this guide represents some, but not all methods that can be used. These guidelines apply to Quick-Step Readyflor Herringbone, which come in packs that include both A and B boards. The boards have a tongue and groove profile and as such must be direct glued to the subfloor. Please allow between 15-20% for cuts and waste. While direct stick installation is not suitable over heated sub-floors, Blackbutt and Spotted Gum Flooring should never be installed over heated sub-floors.

### 1 Subfloor preparation

Sub-floors should comply with the requirements of AS1884-2021, with concrete sub-floors not to exceed 80%RH and wood floors not to exceed 14% MC. It is recommended that a moisture barrier is applied to the subfloor. All sub-floors must be flat, dry and stable, with maximum unevenness not to exceed 2mm per LM.

Wood based sub-floors should be inspected to ensure adequate under floor cross flow ventilation is in place.

Cement floors may require grinding and levelling, in accordance with the instructions from the levelling compound manufacturer.

If wood floors require sheeting, plywood is recommended. It is of the utmost importance that the subfloor is dry, clean, solid, and flat.

Only elastomeric adhesives should be used, while following all instructions, apply a continuous damp proof in conjunction with the elastomeric adhesive. This will assist in the provision of an impervious surface (as part of E3 Alternative Solution – contact Floorscape NZ for further information). These adhesives include Modified Silicone/Hybrid and Polyurethane adhesives from Quick-Step, Soudal, Sika, Mapei, and Bostik. Use the recommended trowel and application rates, while achieving a minimum transfer rate of 85%.

Quick-Step Parquet glue is recommended – coverage is approx. 1kg per 1m<sup>2</sup> over a wood substrate, less over concrete. Follow the instructions regarding drying time, consumption, application, etc.

It is recommended that all unnecessary foot traffic across the floor is prevented while adhesive is curing. Maintaining consistent humidity before, during and after installation is also recommended whilst the adhesive is curing.

### 2 Expansion

Variation in climatic conditions will cause wood flooring to expand in humid conditions and contract in drier conditions, therefore a continuous perimeter gap of 10 mm must be provided for around the entire perimeter of the floor and all vertical surfaces like, and not limited to, pipes, door frames and kitchen stone waterfall bench tops. Perimeter expansion gap required will vary depending on the climatic conditions in your region.

Maximum raft size should not exceed 13 metres in length or width, further to this, where there are subfloor control joints, a control joint in the herringbone floor should be provided for and it should be filled or covered with a flexible joint or a profile. This gap should be a minimum of 10mm.

### 3 Please note

**As your floor is a natural product, surface structure, texture and colours in wood will vary. That is why we recommend mixing floor planks from different packs to ensure even distribution across the floor.**

All flooring will dent, chip and scratch unless care is taken to protect it, appropriate soft felt pads should be used on all moveable furniture. Matting at room entrances will greatly reduce grit and dirt from being transferred onto your flooring

Before you begin your installation, we recommend that you sort the planks into two piles - left and right-hand piles. Each box of Herringbone flooring comes with an equal number of planks whether A/B.

After installation, the floor should be protected from following trades, however, never use any type of adhesive tapes directly on the flooring as this may reactivate and damage the UV cured acrylic lacquer.

### 4 Tools needed

Tape measure; framing square; flooring nail gun; chalk or laser line; rubber mallet; circular saw; straight edge; drill/driver; wood glue

**1** Single herringbone pattern

Careful planning of how the herringbone pattern will be set out is imperative to prevent runout.

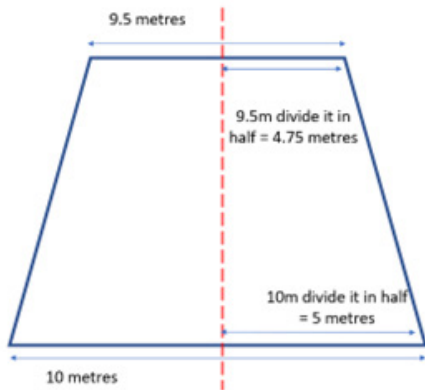
Remember it is to be expected that each panel, although slight and only fractions of a millimetre, will have a difference in length and width and there will also be variation in the placement of each panel and so we cannot rely on the floor continuing to stay square as we lay which is why we need to continually check and adjust the panel placement.

A Y axis centre line will help to ensure that the pattern is centre to the hallway or main area of central focus.

The X axis line will help to prevent run out and provide a greater degree of accuracy when planning to join back up a body of flooring from a hallway and a body of flooring from a living area.

**2** Determine the Y Axis

To ensure that this centre line is at 90 degrees to the North and South exterior walls, the Northern end of the building should be measured from the East wall to the West wall. This measurement should then be divided in two and the centre point marked. This should be repeated with the southern end of the building and the centre point marked on the floor. A string or laser line can be used to mark this centre line.



**3** Determine the X Axis

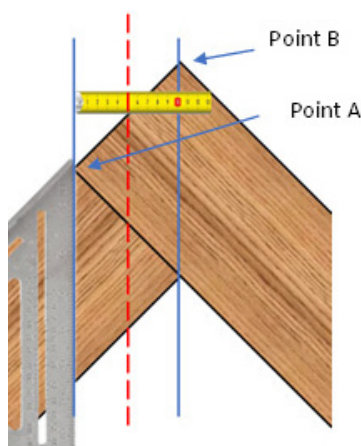
It is not necessary for the X axis to be a centre line, it may be marked where it is most helpful to ensure that as the herringbone pattern is laid at 90° to the Y axis.

It may be useful to have an additional Y axis line to ensure columns of herringbone continue to accurately run parallel sections of floor that are separated by an obstacle or wall and must then join back up with the main body of the floor.

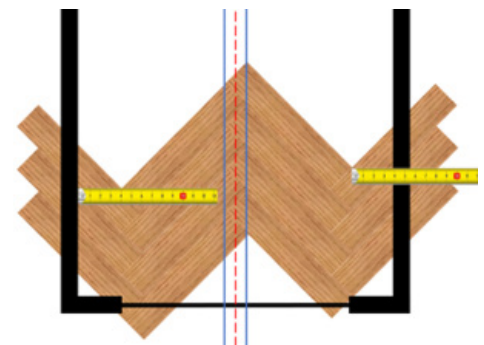


**4** Determining the centre line of the herringbone pattern

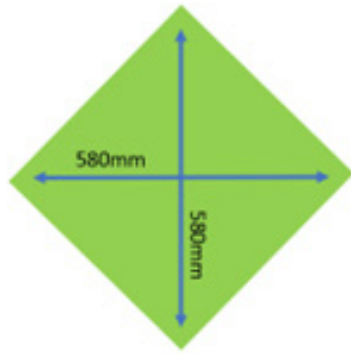
Using a set square mark two lines at points A and B. Divide this measurement by two, this halfway point is our centre line.



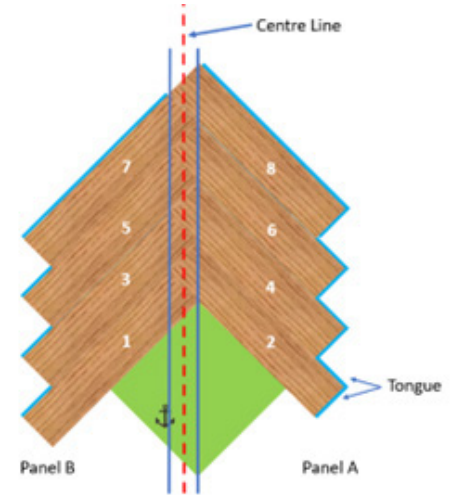
In instances where the entrance of the dwelling is the main priority of focus the herringbone pattern should be aligned to the centre line of the hallway.



A square board of 20 mm 580mm x 580mm MDF, particle board or ply can be temporarily fastened to the sub-floor to aid in aligning the herringbone correctly and also as an immovable object to work off. Having a firm vertical surface is useful for initially getting setup and helps prevent the panels from moving around when tapping them together.

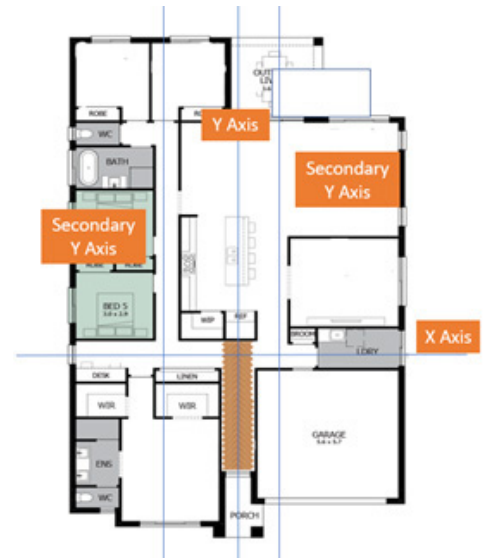


Boards should have the tongue facing out from the square board. Board 1 should be installed first and then followed by board 2 and so on,

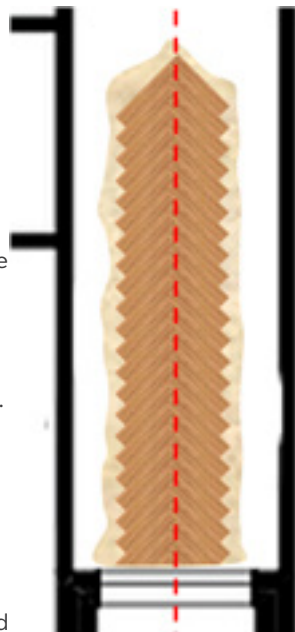


**5** First Row

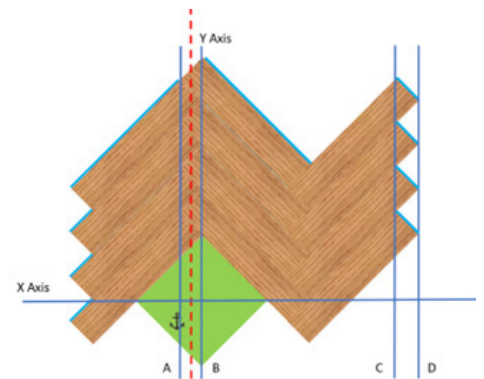
Before gluing begins it is best to dry lay the first column and workout cuts to infill the spaces up to the walls. Once happy with the alignment and cuts have been made, pull up the flooring in preparation to commence application of the adhesive.



Trowel out enough adhesive to lay out and align the first 2 rows at a time. Ensure that as you layout the flooring along the Y axis that flooring remains aligned as you go. Slight adjustments will need to be made as you go along. Only trowel out small sections of adhesive to avoid adhesive drying out and forming a skin which could reduce adhesion strength. Use the X axis in the same way as to keep alignment of the herringbone pattern.



Line C and D have been added and they line up with the end corners of the panels. C and D lines can be used to reference additional Y axis lines. This will help to ensure that each row remain parallel to each other and parallel to the Y axis.



It is easy for boards to move around while tapping the boards together and the adhesive is not yet set, consequently it is recommended that once the first two rows have been layed, the adhesive should be allowed to set before proceeding.

The following day, the floor can be continued either side of the centre line.

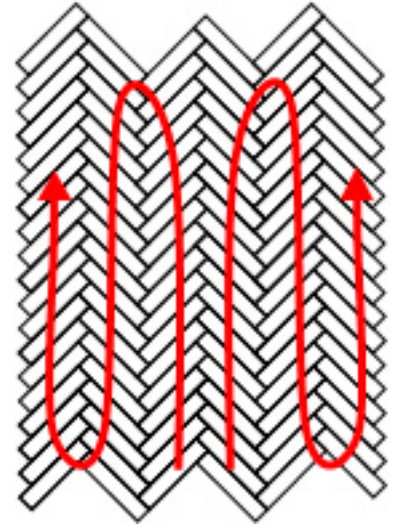
**6** Continuing Alignment with additional Y Axis

When the floor has diverged into two sections additional Y axis lines can help to ensure that the flooring joins back up more accurately and you will avoid having either an excessive gap or an overlap. You can use as many additional Y axis as you like.



Each new row of full planks should be completed before starting a new row, working from the top of each to bottom and from the bottom back to the top. Generally, the long side of each panel should be engaged into the previous panels long side. Panels should be tapped together using a tapping block and hammer or pull-bar and hammer or Unifix Tool.

Always tap boards together in the direction of where you sit on the panels.



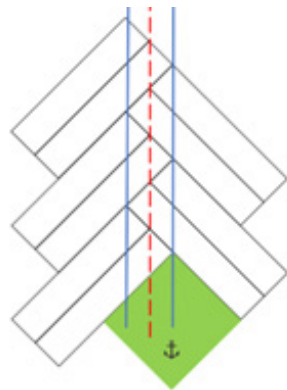
Once all the full boards that can be layed are down, panels that require trimming can then be installed along the walls. Extra space maybe required to manoeuvre panels into place under door frames and architraves.

**Other patterns**

Aside from single herringbone pattern there is also double herringbone and mosaic patterns that are alternative options.

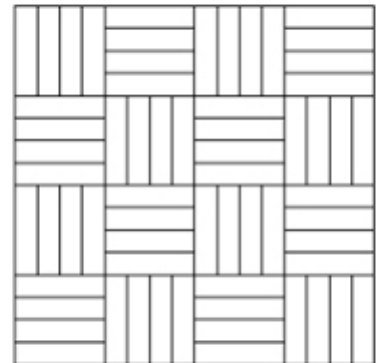
**7** Double herringbone

For the Double Herringbone you can refer to the same installation instructions as for the Single Herringbone pattern above. The only difference is that you need to put 2 planks next to each other.



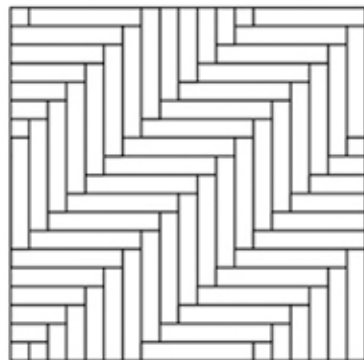
**8** Mosaic herringbone

The 4:1 width to length ratio enables us to do a 90° alternating 4 panel mosaic design. In a similar way to the herringbone a centre line will help to ensure a symmetrical finish that is pleasing to the eye. It is recommended to mark a line every 580mm to ensure the rows remain aligned from start to finish.



**9** Diagonal/90 degree patterns

Herringbone can also include an installation on a diagonal to the walls. Always carefully set out the starting line (normally 45 degrees to the longest visible wall) and go about the set-up in the prescribed way.



Quick-Step Readyflor Herringbone is not designed to be exposed to extremes of humidity or temperature. It is important to note that floors exposed to such conditions may fail. Sensible protection of the flooring from such extremes, particularly in unoccupied homes, must be afforded.

Measures can include curtains, awning, blinds, window tinting, and early commissioning and/or regular use of air conditioning or humidity control devices. Protection of the flooring from any radiant heat source should also be provided, eg: around combustion heaters and other heaters, as these generate extreme low humidity.

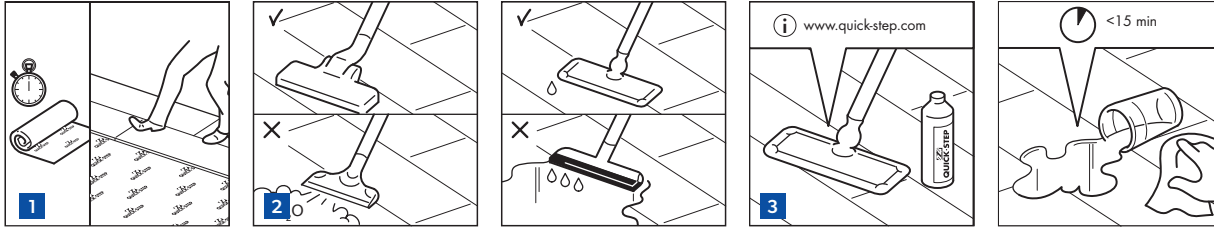
Quick-Step Readyflor Herringbone should not be installed until these measures are in place and should not be installed more than 2 weeks prior to occupation of the home. It is important to understand that any warranty, expressed or implied, may be voided if the floor is exposed to extreme conditions.

It is the homeowner's responsibility to provide a moderate indoor environment in order to prevent cracking and distortion of the flooring, even when unoccupied.

**1** For a nice finish where the next flooring meets a threshold, we recommend undercutting the architrave and door jams. This is best done prior to commencement of the installation. Use a piece of flooring and underlay as a guide, and with a flexible hand saw undercut wherever possible. Then the cut end of the flooring can slide in under the jam and out of sight. The final planks will need to be ripped down the length and brought into position using the pulling bar if necessary.

**2** Inspect the final surface of the installed floor, remove all spacers and install the Quick-Step scotia, or skirting boards, making sure to anchor these only to the vertical surfaces and not to the flooring itself. Finishing profiles can now also be installed. Like traditional wood flooring, your Quick-Step Timber floor can be re-coated with an approved coating when it begins to show signs of wear. Contact your Quick-Step retailer for more information when necessary.





**1** When installing a floating floor, you can walk on it during installation and immediately afterwards. During times when the air is usually extremely dry, we strongly recommend using humidifiers to normalise the environment and obtain a constant humidity level. In times of high relative humidity, the room should be well ventilated.

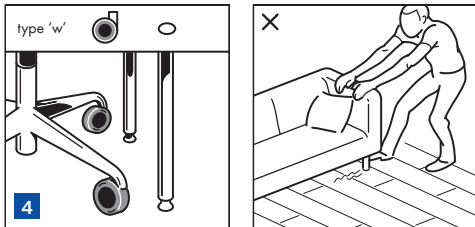
**2** To remove dirt and dust from the floor use a dry mop, a brush or a vacuum cleaner. Make sure the vacuum cleaner is equipped with soft wheels and a special timber brush to avoid scratching your floor. Never use a steam cleaner to clean your wooden floor. For the first cleaning of the floor make sure to first remove **ALL** dust and dirt before using a cloth. Wet maintenance of a wooden floor is absolutely forbidden.

**3** Only use the Quick-Step cleaning kit for floor maintenance. Remember that using other cleaning products may damage your floor or leave a residue that will affect the appeal of your floor. Always wipe the floor dry immediately so that no more moisture or liquid is visible on the floor. Timber floors must only be cleaned with a barely damp cloth. Quick-Step Timber floors, which are oiled, requiring special care.

**For Quick-Step Timber floors with waterproof surface:**

Wet or steam mops can be used on these products, however they are not recommended.

Please reference the Quick-Step Flooring Maintenance Guide available from your retailer.



**4** Castor chairs must use only "soft wheels" (type W) and a plastic protector mat should be placed under the area where the chair is placed/used. All furniture legs should be protected by felt pads to avoid scratching the lacquered/oiled surface. Avoid sliding/dragging furniture over the wooden surface to avoid possible scratching. Lifting the furniture is recommended. Use protective sheeting like Masonite or MDF to protect the floor when returning appliances or heavy furniture back into position. Always place a quality door mat at any entrance door to avoid introduction of sand, dirt or water which might create scratches.

**5** The manufacturer bears no responsibility for problems or damage which arises through improper preparation of the subfloor, the floor installation itself or the exposure of the floor to unsuitable climatic conditions/maintenance. The right for compensation for damaged or differently coloured panels does not extend to planks which have already been installed. In the event of further questions please contact your retailer.