



## Installation Instructions

### NORTHERN FOREST, PASSPORT AND HERITAGE SERIES NAIL-DOWN INSTRUCTIONS

#### **THE COMMITMENT**

LEGEND Corporation is committed to one goal: Provide homeowners with the best wood flooring products on the market today. LEGEND Quality Wood Flooring is the result of the relentless pursuit of affordable quality. Unlike other manufacturers, LEGEND has only one level of quality - The Best!

At LEGEND we believe that everyone needs to accept responsibility for his or her own actions. When you purchase a LEGEND floor, you can be assured that LEGEND Corporation will honor its obligations.

#### **OWNER RESPONSIBILITY**

LEGEND Corporation wants every Owner to be satisfied with their new floor. It is very important that you carefully inspect the LEGEND product prior to installation. If for any reason you, the Owner, or installers are not satisfied with your LEGEND Quality Wood Flooring prior to installation, return the entire product in the original cartons for a refund or replacement.

You made a great decision when you selected LEGEND Quality Hardwood Flooring. It is now your responsibility to protect your LEGEND floor after it is installed. The Owner has three absolutely critical responsibilities: 1) Cleaning, 2) Protection and 3) Moisture control.

Keep your LEGEND floor clean. It is best to vacuum the floor with a brush attachment. Dirt, rocks, sand and sharp objects will damage any wood floor. Wipe up spills of liquid or food quickly. Never wet mop your LEGEND floor. Use LEGEND Casual Care floor cleaner as directed for regular maintenance.

Protect your LEGEND floor! Use felt and pressure disbursement floor protectors under all furniture and appliances. High-heeled shoes often cause indentations. Periodically clean and replace floor protectors used on chairs. Use rugs or mats near all exterior points of entry into the home, and in high traffic areas that are difficult to keep clean. Use window shades that either filter or prevent direct sunlight on the floor, and be aware that pets can damage wood flooring.

Your LEGEND floor needs moisture control! Wood floors perform best in environments that most humans enjoy. Keep the interior of your home in a constant temperature range of 60 – 80 degrees with relative humidity of 35% - 55%. Variances from these temperature and humidity ranges may likely produce adverse changes in the wood.

As the Owner of a LEGEND floor, you may need to take certain measure to minimize possible changes to the wood floor that will occur naturally. Each home environment is unique however, the normalization and stabilization of humidity in the range of 35% to 55%, minimalization of sub-floor moisture, and the reduction of exposure to sunlight are very important.



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### INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility the flooring installer(s) to do their job right. The LEGEND Quality Wood Flooring must be installed in accordance with the LEGEND Corporation's written instructions, National Wood Flooring Association guideline and careful professional trade practices. It is required that the installer properly takes and records all Moisture Content readings. Call (877) 534-3631 for installation support. Improper installation of a LEGEND floor resulting in damage is not the responsibility of LEGEND Corporation.

Prior to installation, if any material appears to be defective or incorrect – STOP, it must not be installed; contact the distributor for an inspection. If the Owner is unsatisfied with the product, simply return the entire uninstalled product in the original cartons for a refund or replacement; do not install.

Wood flooring problems are often related to poor sub floor conditions. The sub floor must be dry, clean, smooth and level prior to installation of the LEGEND floor. The moisture content of the sub floor and the LEGEND floor, after proper acclimation, must be within 2% of each other at the time of installation. Installation of LEGEND flooring over radiant heating systems is not recommended or covered by this warranty.

### STEP 1: TOOLS

- Quality hardwood flooring nailer with appropriate fasteners
- Rubber mallet
- Table Saw or band saw
- Jamb saw or hand saw
- Hammer
- Chalk line
- Tape measure
- Nailset
- Pencil

### STEP 2: HANDLING AND STORAGE

When unloading material at job-site, handle with care. Precautions should be taken when delivering during extreme weather conditions to protect wood from getting wet or picking up moisture.

Flooring should not be delivered to job-site unless building has been closed in with outside windows and doors. From the time flooring is delivered, temperature and humidity should be maintained at or near occupancy levels. Prior to installation, flooring should be acclimated to job-site conditions for approximately 4 or 5 days in small lots and stored in rooms where installation will take place. Make sure that moisture content between flooring and installation site is stabilized within 2%.



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### STEP 3: PREPARING THE SUBFLOOR

Remove all moldings around walls and undercut the door casing and door jambs. To allow flooring to transition underneath jambs or other objects, you may use a piece of the wood flooring to set the height of the cut.

#### Approved subfloor

Solid  $\frac{3}{4}$ " flooring is meant for nail down installation only. Approved subfloors should be constructed of board lumber (1"x 4" min) or plywood ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " min) over wooden joists. DO NOT nail over particleboard or similar products. To achieve a successful installation, the subfloor must be clean and sound before installation begins. Time spent on proper subfloor preparation will be rewarded later with trouble-free floors. Subfloor should be level within  $\frac{3}{16}$ " in a 6' radius.

#### Wood sub floor

Wood sub floors should be dry. Do not install wood flooring over wet or damp surfaces. Screw or nail down any loose spots or places that squeak. Sand and level any high joints. The subfloor must be clean and sound; remove any plaster or products that may create an uneven surface. Sweep and vacuum to remove all dust. Cover the ground in crawl spaces with overlapping sheets of polyethylene (6 or 8 ml) to help protect the wood floor from ground moisture.

#### Concrete Subfloor

Consult your distributor for installation instructions.

### STEP 4: LAYOUT & INSTALLATION

Cover installation subfloor area with 15lb. asphalt felt. An exterior wall is usually the straightest and best reference line to start the installation. Direction of finished flooring should be at right angles to the floor joists whenever possible. Generally, running the flooring in the direction of the longest dimension of the room or building and gives the best appearance.

Be sure to rack the floor by laying out seven or eight rows of flooring end to end in a staggered pattern with end joints at least 6" apart. Proper placement of the first row of flooring is important.

Using a snap-line, establish the working line for a parallel installation by measuring an equal distance from the starting wall at both ends. This distance should be a multiple the width of the board plus  $\frac{3}{4}$ " for an expansion gap.

On the first row of flooring use 6d or 8d flooring nails to top nail surface of strips and countersink (pre-drilling nail holes will prevent splits). Nails should hit the joist whenever possible. To ensure proper alignment of flooring, make sure the flooring along the working line is straight. Work from several cartons at a time to insure variations in color and shades.

Allowing for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " expansion gap is critical. (Depending on the size of the job, a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " expansion gap is allowable on jobs up to 250 sq/ft). Wood expands and contracts with changes in humidity and will buckle if an adequate expansion space is not provided. Always allow for expansion when making end or side cuts around vertical objects.

**CAUTION:** It is extremely important to use the appropriate nailer and fasteners for installation. Make sure to properly space nails every 8"-10" along the length of the board with a minimum of 2 fasteners per piece 2" - 3" from each end. Remember to pre-drill holes to prevent splitting. Top and/or hand nail enough rows to allow adequate spacing from wall, continue installation with a floor-nailing machine. Nailer should be set for  $\frac{3}{4}$ " flooring using a minimum of 2" long approved floor fasteners.

Continue across the room until finished; remember to provide adequate spacing for expansion gap. Once completed install molding and trim. Thoroughly clean, sweep and vacuum installed floor before further use.



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### STEP 5: COMMON SENSE CARE

As with all hardwood flooring, it is important to properly clean and maintain the floor free from dirt, water, food, grease, and other spills which can damage the floor or finish. Make sure to install LEGEND™ floor protectors under furniture, chairs or other items that may sit directly on your hardwood floor to help prevent scratches, scarring and dents. Regularly, sweep dust mop and/or vacuum to keep dirt and grit from dulling the shine and scratching the finish. Wipe up all spills promptly with a soft, dry cloth when they occur. Avoid stiletto high heel shoes or shoes with soles in need of repair. A 1/4" heel can exert 2000psi (pounds per inch) when worn by a 125lb. woman.

LEGEND Casual Care Hardwood and Laminate Floor Cleaner is specially formulated to safely clean any LEGEND™ Quality Wood Flooring™. Casual Care can be used as a general floor cleaner or on tough spots and spills. Use floor mats at all entrances to help keep dirt and moisture from being tracked in. Area rugs are recommended in high traffic areas and in front of sinks. Mats and area rugs should be slip-resistant with a backing that will not discolor the floor. Do not use oil soaps or ammonia-based cleaners on any LEGEND Quality Wood Flooring. Refer to the LEGEND Floor Care Guide for further details.

LEGEND Corporation will not be responsible for improper installation or maintenance, accidents, negligence of others, plumbing failures, infestation damage, acts of nature, circumstances beyond Legend's control, or other disclaimed conditions described in our Warranty, resulting in damage or changes to the flooring.

### OUR FUTURE SUPPLY

Wood is the only natural and renewable resource in the flooring industry. LEGEND Corporation works closely with raw material producers that utilize responsible environmental and harvesting practices.

### NATURAL PRODUCT

Wood is a wonderful and renewable product of nature, and will always contain variations in color, tone, mineral deposits, grain and openness of grain. Display samples will vary from the product sold; every tree and board is different. All wood will "season", that is to say it will naturally change color and/or darken, due to various factors including aging, sunlight, temperature, humidity, and oxidation. Some wood species will experience dramatic changes. The hardness of wood also varies widely within the species offered in the LEGEND product line; some species will dent more easily than others. LEGEND charts are available to compare wood hardness, color variations, specie stability, and color fastness (change).

Your LEGEND floor contains the cellular structure that originally brought underground water up through the tree roots to the tips of each leaf. Wood will naturally expand and contract depending upon temperature and moisture conditions. Generally, as moisture increases, wood will expand, and as moisture decreases, wood will contract. Contraction in wood flooring may produce small gaps between each board. Cupping, cracking, splitting, crowning, warping, twisting and buckling are usually the result of extreme moisture related conditions. The naturally occurring effects of the wood occurring after installation are not within the control of Legend Corporation, are not "defects", and are not covered by this warranty.

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING ...

LEGEND QUALITY WOOD FLOORING

### LEGEND Corporation

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