

## Central Park - Laminate

# Installation Guidelines

### GENERAL INFORMATION

NOTE: Open cartons just prior to installation, acclimation recommended as best practice.

NOTE: Mannington on Main Central Park Flooring is intended to be installed as a floating floor system.  
Do not secure flooring to underfloor.

### STORAGE & HANDLING

- Thoroughly inspect laminate panels before installation. The warranty does not cover labor for repair or replacement when a panel with visual defects is installed permanently.
- Always store flooring horizontally in the original, unopened package.
- The storage area should be climate controlled with a temperature range between 65°F and 90°F (18°C and 32°C) and a relative humidity between 30% and 65%.
- Do not stack pallets. Store pallets so they are protected from fork lifts or other traffic. Protect package corners during storage.
- Always handle cartons carefully. Do not puncture packaging. Cartons should not be opened until time of installation.

### JOBSITE CONDITIONS

- Under normal conditions Central Park flooring does not need to be acclimated to the job site. If extreme temperature and humidity variations exist during storage or transportation, acclimating the laminate flooring to jobsite conditions is required.
- In all cases, jobsite temperature should be at least 65°F and no greater than 90°F and the relative humidity should be between 30% and 65%. The temperature and humidity must be controlled and maintained within the ranges described above for the life of the laminate flooring.
- For 12 mm product, area should not exceed 3,000 square feet and no greater than 55 linear feet length or width.

### SUBFLOOR/UNDERFLOOR RECOMMENDATIONS & PREPARATION

- Subfloors must be structurally sound, clean, dry and smooth. Subfloor variations should not exceed 1/8" in 6' (3.18 mm in 1.8 m). All high spots must be sanded or ground. Fill low spots, cracks and depressions with high quality Portland based cement patch.
- You may install Central Park Flooring over existing resilient floor coverings, wood flooring and ceramic tile (grout joints exceeding 1/4" must be leveled). This does not apply to loose lay or multiple layers of vinyl flooring.
- Appropriate laminate underlayment must be used when installing over all hard surfaces.
- Do not install Central Park Flooring on top of carpeting.
- Do not install Central Park Flooring in high-humidity areas where the floor is usually wet (steam rooms or saunas).

### RADIANT-HEATED SUBFLOORS

Central Park Flooring may be installed over hydronic radiant-heated subfloors, provided the surface temperature of the system does not exceed 85°F. Before installing Central Park Flooring over newly constructed radiant- heating systems, operate the system at maximum capacity to force any residual moisture from the cementitious topping of the radiant heating system. Then set the thermostat to a comfortable room temperature for the installation. Radiant Heating mats are acceptable if designed and warranted to be used with laminate flooring by their manufacturer. Electric radiant heat mats cannot exceed 80° F.

For more information, contact your Mannington on Main representative or visit

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**GETTING STARTED**

Assemble all required tools listed below before beginning the installation process.

**TOOLS & MATERIALS**

Appropriate underlayment; spacing wedges—5/16" (1 cm); utility knife; hammer; tapping block; pencil; tape measure; carpenter's square; transition moldings; hand or power jamb saw; circular or miter saw; jig saw; drill; chalk line; safety glasses\*

\* Always wear safety glasses when using a hammer or power equipment. Follow safety instructions and MSDS Data Sheets.

Don't forget to order moldings that blend with the flooring. Before installing the first panel, select a dozen or more panels that closely blend with the molding.

• For future repairs, wrap remaining panels in original shrink wrapping and store in a normal, dry interior storage area.

1. Remove existing wall base, trim, and transition moldings. Measure out the entire work area. Undercut all door casings so the new flooring will fit freely underneath. Use a scrap piece of the new laminate flooring as a guide. Make the cut using a hand or power jamb saw. Be certain to allow enough room under the casing for an expansion gap.
2. Inspect each plank before installing it. Remove any manufacturing residues from the tongue and groove before installing.
3. Determine in which direction the panels will be laid. As a general rule, the long dimension of the panels should be laid parallel to the longest wall. When possible lay out panels parallel to the light coming in from windows.
4. A minimum 5/16" expansion gap must be provided at all walls and fixed vertical surfaces.
5. When installing in a bathroom the expansion gap must be filled using 100% silicone caulking. Additionally, all exterior expansion gaps as well as the gap around the toilet flange must be filled.
6. Make sure the last row of panels to be laid in the work area will be more than 2" wide. If not, the first panel to be laid in the work area must be cut to compensate the difference on the last panel.
7. Cover entire installation area with the appropriate underlayment. Install one sheet net along the starting wall. Unroll only one sheet at a time during panel installation to prevent damaging the underlayment. Once the first sheet of underlayment is covered with laminate flooring, install the second sheet. Do not overlap sheets. Butt the two edges of the sheet together and seal with sealing tape or duct tape. Always use appropriate underlayment; never install laminate flooring directly over exposed substrates.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

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**INSTALLATION PROCEDURE**

- Carefully measure the room to determine squareness of the area and to provide for a “balanced” layout. If the width of the last row of planks will be less than one half of the panel width, adjust the width of the first row of planks by rip cutting the panels.
- If the wall along the first row of planks is irregular, scribe the planks to fit the wall and cut.
- Central Park is an angle/angle locking system. Installing tongue into groove is the preferred method. Always lay planks from left to right, with the tongue side against the starting wall. Remove the tongue on the first row of the planks to provide for a solid edge at the wall juncture. Provide a 5/16” expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces.
- Just as the work area was laid out to provide for a balanced width it should also be “balanced” to avoid having any short planks at either the beginning or end of a row. Plan the plank layout to have the first plank and the last plank in a row to be at least 12” (300 mm) long.
- Begin the installation by laying the first plank on the floor with the tongue side to the wall, cut off the tongue profile. (Refer to photo #1) With a slight angle, position the end tongue of the second plank in the first row into the end groove of the first plank and lock into position (refer to photo #2).
- Begin second row with at least 12” stagger of end joints, assemble the first panel in the second row to the adjacent panel in the first row by slightly angling tongue into groove until plank locks into position. Insert the tongue at about a 15-20° angle and lock the planks together.
- Position the end tongue of the second plank over the first plank in the second row, approximately 1/8” to 1/4” away from the side groove. Lock the end seam together (refer to photo #3). Always lock the end (“head”) seams together before connecting side seams (refer to photo #4). If necessary lightly tap plank as installed using a Mannington universal tapping block.
- Continue laying the floor from tongue into groove, plank after plank, row after row. Maintain a 5/16” expansion gap at all fixed vertical surfaces. Work from several different cartons to minimize “clustering” of patterns. Maintain a random stagger of end seams (minimum 6-8”). Unroll additional widths of the appropriate Laminate underlayment as required.
- The last row of panels will more than likely need to be cut to fit. If not, it is still necessary to cut off the groove profile to provide a full plank thickness at the wall. If nothing prevents angling this last row of planks into position, proceed as normal to complete the installation.
- If there are obstacles (door casing, toe kicks, radiators) that prevent the last row of panels from being angled into position it may be necessary to lightly plane or sand off a bit of the locking profile of the groove and tongue. Position the panel onto the already installed rows; slide the panel under the obstruction. It’s a good practice to prefit the panel to make certain it will slide into place before applying adhesive. Separate the panel to completely expose the groove. Apply a thin bead of Mannington Mega Glue onto the groove; slide the last row panel back into position (refer to photo #5). If necessary use a last board puller to position the panel and lightly tap panel to close any gaps. Wipe off excess glue and secure with blue resealable tape.
- Remove spacers and install appropriate trims and moldings. Moldings should not be nailed, glued or latex/acrylic caulked to the floating laminate.

**Coordinating Moldings**



Step Nosing

Reducer Strip

Wall Base

Quarter Round Molding

T-Molding

End Cap

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**REPAIRS**

Always inspect panels before installation; however, if damage occurs after installation the following repair procedures may be used:

- If a panel is slightly damaged or chipped, fill the void with a Color Matched Filler. Several products are now available to fill small chips.
- If a panel is severely damaged and must be replaced the flooring will need to be disassembled back to the damaged planks. Determine the shortest distance from a sidewall and remove the molding. Lift up and out on the panels and remove the entire row back to the damaged area. Replace the damaged plank and reassemble the flooring. Additionally, a single plank replacement can be performed (see Mannington YouTube channel for laminate plank replacement video).

**MAINTENANCE**

Central Park Flooring is very easy to maintain and is extremely resistant to wear and stains.

- Spot clean your floor as needed and completely clean when needed with Mannington's Ultra Clean System.
- Occasionally vacuum or sweep to eliminate loose dust and debris.
- Wipe soiled spots with a cloth dampened with clean water or Mannington Ultra Clean. Make sure the cloth is thoroughly wrung out. Never flood the floor with water or cleaner.
- After damp cleaning, dry the floor thoroughly with a clean cloth.
- Remove tough, stubborn stains such as paint, adhesive, asphalt, oil, etc. with alcohol, acetone or nail polish remover.
- Place rugs or floor mats on heavy traffic areas to avoid excess wear and tear.
- Place doormats in front of outside entrances.
- Never wax, polish or use soap. Doing so may damage the wearsurface, causing it to be slippery or to have unattractive smudges.
- Central Park laminate is steam mop approved.
- Never use scouring powder products, steel wool or abrasives.
- Do not treat or seal Central Park Flooring panels after they have been installed.

**Questions? Call Mannington Toll-Free at 1-800-FLOOR-US (1-800-356-6787).**

**WARRANTIES**

For detailed warranty information, consult the Central Park Flooring Warranty available at the retailer where you purchased the floor. If you did not receive the appropriate warranty from the retailer, please call 1-800-FLOOR-US during normal business hours or write to:

Mannington on Main  
75 Mannington Mills Road  
Salem, New Jersey 08079  
Attn: Consumer Affairs  
[www.ManningtononMain.com](http://www.ManningtononMain.com)

In Canada, write to:  
P.O. Box 67021  
3200 Erin Mills Parkway  
Mississauga, ON  
Canada L5L 5W9

For more information, contact your Mannington on Main representative or visit