

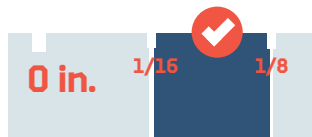
8 COMMON SUB-FLOOR INSTALLATION MISTAKES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

From Tight Spacing to Improper Fasteners, Simple Errors Can Lead to Callbacks. Here's a Best-Practice Refresher.

✘ Improper Spacing Between Panels

BEST PRACTICE:

Most manufacturers recommend 0.125 inches (0.0625 inches for some premium sub-floors) at panel ends and edges.



✘ Upside-Down Installation

BEST PRACTICE:

In all cases, the detailed panel trademark stamp should be installed downward so it can be examined during inspections.



✘ Improper Fastener Placement

BEST PRACTICE:

0.375 in. FROM PANEL CORNER

6 in. ON-CENTER ALONG THE PANEL EDGES

12 in. ON-CENTER ALONG CENTER SUPPORTS

Be sure to place all perimeter fasteners 0.375 inches back from the nearest panel edge.

✘ Not Gluing Properly

BEST PRACTICE:

For best results, don't glue too far ahead. Work no more than one panel ahead. Also, applying a small bead of glue in the tongue-and-groove can significantly help reduce any movement and noise.

✘ Delaying Fastening

BEST PRACTICE:

Fasten each panel fully as you go to ensure full adhesion and to avoid movement and noise down the road.

✘ Using Improper Fasteners

BEST PRACTICE:

Using code-approved screws rather than nails is the best option for avoiding movement.



✘ Letting Water Sit

BEST PRACTICE:

If the floor system is exposed to the elements and bulk water is present, sweep it off or drill drainage holes.



✘ Improper Storage

BEST PRACTICE:

Always store panels in a clean, dry area and off the ground. **If stored outside:** Cover panels with plastic sheets or tarps. Keep cover open and away from the sides and bottom of the panels to allow for air circulation.



A well-installed sub-floor is one that homeowners don't have to think about after they move in. Avoiding these common errors can help ensure your flooring system is stable, quiet and reliable for years to come.