

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.

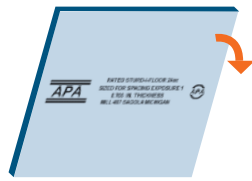
1 IMPROPER STORAGE

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.



2 UPSIDE-DOWN INSTALLATION

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

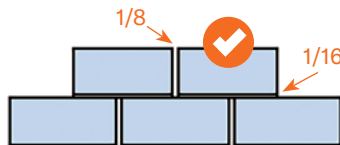


3 NOT GLUING PROPERLY

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 movement and noise.

4 IMPROPER SPACING BETWEEN PANELS

Except for tongue and groove (T&G) joints on the long edges, panel edges and ends should be spaced 1/8 in. T&G joints are self-spacing to 1/16 in.—do NOT force together.



5 DELAYING FASTENING

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

6 USING IMPROPER FASTENERS

Use code-approved fasteners. Ring-shank and screw-shank nails can help prevent movement later on.

- Use 6d ring- or screw-shank nails or 8d common nails for panels up to 23/32 Performance Category.
- Use 8d ring- or screw-shank nails or 10d common nails for panels up to 1-1/8 Performance Category.



7 IMPROPER FASTENER PLACEMENT

In the absence of project specifications, follow these guidelines:

- Place edge nails 3/8 in. from panels ends and edges.
- Nail 6 in. on-center along panel ends and, if applicable, the edges.
- Nail 12 in. on-center along intermediate supports.

Note: Tighter nail spacing may be specified by the designer or required by code.

8 LETTING WATER SIT

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



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.



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WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.