**Laying instructions for HARO laminate flooring with Top Connect**

**Attention:** Read thoroughly from beginning to end before installation! Please always comply with the installation instructions that are enclosed with the cartons. The accompanying instructions are binding!

1. **Installation tools:** Tapping block, pencil, saw.
2. Always use 0.2 mm thick PE film overlapped by 30 cm as an underlay when laying your floor over floor screed. This should overlap in the 30 cm impact area. Extend underlay up all walls. After having installed the skirtings cut underlay at the upper edge of the skirtings.
3. For sound insulation and to smooth out slight irregularities of the subfloor, unroll 2 mm thick cork underlay. Do not overlap. Our range of accessories also offers alternative insulation underlays. Asphalt-bitumen felt is not suitable for sound insulation. Do not use any additional insulation underlay when laying HARO laminate floor with Silent Pro®.
4. **Tongue side / Groove side**

Starting in the right-hand corner of the room, align the boards of the first row with the tongue side parallel to the wall, and fix them in place with wall spacers as you proceed (always keep an expansion gap of 10–15 mm (3/8” – 1/2”) around perimeter).

The remaining boards of the first row must be clicked in from above at the head ends into the previous boards. Pressure applied briefly to the side joint clicks in the board into the adjacent board. It is important to ensure that the first row is straight and exactly parallel to the wall. Cut the last board of the first row to size, leaving an expansion gap of 1015 mm (3/8” – 1/2”) between the board and wall. Fit in the board and lay it flat.

The next row is started with the leftover piece of the first row (short side offset of at least 50 cm). This considerably reduces waste. The rest of the installation is performed board-by-board. First, the boards are angled into the previous row along the long side by applying a small amount of force.

The board is then lowered in on the short side. Ensure here that the board is flush at the short side with the previously laid board. Pressure applied briefly to the side joint clicks in the board.

Cut to size and fit in the boards of the last row. Leave a gap of 10 to 15 mm between the boards and wall.

If radiator pipes protrude from the floor, drill or saw a cutout into the board (the size of the cutout depends on the radiator pipe and the required expansion space).
In doorways, mount a suitable moulding system to ensure the necessary expansion space. This also applies if the same floor is to be laid in the adjoining room. In this case, a transition moulding should be used for covering the required expansion gap.

Leave an expansion space of approx. 5 mm between the board and the base of the moulding. As a rule, a fine saw must be used to cut a gap the thickness of a board in wooden door frames to allow the laminate floor to expand. Be sure to remove all distance spacers once all boards are laid. Fasten skirtings (with or without clip system) to the walls – that’s it.

To unlock the boards, you can slide them in parallel.
Measures to take before installation

Do not open the cartons prior to installation. Store and climatise the unopened cartons inside. New constructions to be closed in with air conditioning or heating units during the winter months. Recommended room conditions for installation are 18 °C (65 °F).

Important: Prior to installation, inspect the boards in daylight for any visible faults or damage and also check colour and texture. No claims are accepted once flooring boards have been installed. Elastic and textile floor coverings must be completely removed leaving no remains.

Installation direction

The direction of laying normally depends on the main source of light fall in the room, e.g. French windows. The boards should run parallel with the entering light for best appearance. However, the proportions of the room can also be emphasised by skilled selection of the direction in which your parquet is laid. Light-coloured wood makes small rooms appear larger. With floating installation in large areas over 10 m (33 ft.) in length or width, an expansion joint must be allowed for. Apply an expansion moulding or cover strip over said expansion joint.

- Ensure that the boards are always laid lengthways in narrow hallways.
- When installing T, L or U-shaped areas, separate the flooring areas according to the room layout by using a suitable profile system.

Preparing the subfloor: The subfloor must be level, dry and solid; the respective DINs must be compiled with. Cement screed, mastic asphalt, V100 particle boards, old floor coverings, such as ceramic or low-pile glued down carpets, for example, are suitable.

Moisture check

The subfloor must be checked for moisture by using e.g. a CM measuring instrument.

Moisture content limit

Cement screed max. 2.0 % CM, with underfloor heating 1.8 % CM; anhydride screed max. 0.5 % CM, with underfloor heating 0.3 % CM. When laying parquet flooring over newly installed concrete screed or cast plaster subfloors – after a curing time of at least 6 to 8 weeks – or over underfloor heating, always use 0.2 mm (8 mils) PE film as an underlayment for additional moisture protection. Overlap seams with 30 cm (12") and tape. When laying your floor in rooms on or below grade, it is necessary that a state-of-the-art or DIN-compliant moisture barrier be installed.

Installation over underfloor heating

When installing your floor over underfloor heating, the screed must be laid in accordance with the German DIN 1853 standard. Before you start the installation, please verify that the underfloor heating system has been installed in compliance with DIN EN 1264 Part 1-4 and that the proper preparatory heat-up phase has been completed once the professional installers have been coordinated. Detailed instructions on the installation over underfloor heating can be obtained from your HARO dealer. Compliance with indoor climate conditions must in particular be ensured with underfloor heating.

Care

Dry cleaning: It is generally sufficient to clean HARO laminate floors with a mop, soft broom or vacuum cleaner. Heel streaks or grease stains can be removed with acetone.

Damp cleaning: We recommend damp mopping your floor surface regularly with clean & green active diluted in water. Cleaning frequency depends here on the wear and tear your floor is subjected to.

Please note: Do not use soap-based detergents, abrasive cleaners, scouring powder, steel wool, wax or polish for cleaning and maintenance. Always avoid letting water stand on the laminate floor surface. Steam cleaning machines are not suitable for cleaning laminate flooring.

Indoor climate conditions

To keep your HARO floor looking like new, and also for your own personal well-being, please ensure an indoor climate of approx. 30–60 % relative air humidity and an ambient temperature of approx. 20°C (68 °F). In order to keep the air humidity constant, especially during hot periods, we recommend you use a humidifier. This will prevent any extreme drying out of the floor. Air humidifiers should be switched on right from the beginning of the heating season. If air humidity falls below normal values, small gaps may appear, which generally close again after the heating period.

Additional preventive protection

To preserve the quality and beauty of your floor we recommend using Teflon furniture glides (PTFE) under chairs and furniture legs and doormats in entrances. Chair castors and office roller chairs must comply with German Standard DIN 12529. Use only lined rollers of type W (soft). For additional protection, we recommend placing protective HARO mats under armchairs and office chairs.

12/15 Subject to modification in the interest of technical development.