Hybrid Floors

Installation Instructions

Australia

These instructions apply to all Godfrey Hirst hybrid floors. Please refer to the product packaging or specification sheet for specific product locking system type.

Godfrey Hirst recommends installation be carried out by a professional flooring installer.

Warning

Prior to any take-up or removal of floorcoverings, adhesives or underlay, you should be certain these do not contain asbestos. If it is known or suspected the previous flooring, adhesive or underlay contains asbestos, you should avoid creating dust and the previous flooring and/or components should only be removed by an appropriately licensed asbestos removal contractor.

General

1. Inspect product in good lighting conditions to ensure it is correct (colour, quality and quantity) as ordered. Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring is for interior use only.
2. Note locking systems on product packaging or specification sheet.
3. Generally Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring does not need to be acclimatised. However, if boxes are exposed to extreme temperatures (under 5°C or over 50°C) within 12 hours prior to installation, unopened boxes should be acclimatised for a minimum of 12 hours at temperature between 18-27°C and a relative humidity between 35-75%. This temperature and humidity range is to be maintained before, during and after installation. Packs should be stacked flat on the floor during acclimatisation and not be opened until the day of installation.
4. Subfloor must be solid, level (2mm over 1000mm), dry and clean. Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring can be installed over most existing floorcoverings (e.g. ceramic tiles, linoleum, PVC etc.) provided the floor is sound, smooth, flat, clean and dry and in the case of ceramics in a residential installation, grout line tolerances are no more than 3mm wide and 3mm deep. Otherwise grout joints should be filled to the level of the tiles with a suitable leveller.
5. Install a plastic sheet over rough subfloors such as chipboard to ensure the product's backing does not get caught on the rough subfloor and provides the required movement capability required for a floating floor.
6. Minimum 10mm expansion gaps to be provided at all fixed vertical surfaces (including around cabinetry, island benches and all fixed furniture).
7. Check each plank for visual defects and locking system integrity in optimal lighting before and during installation. Clean any debris out of locks before installation. Always use planks from several packs to randomise distribution and inspect each plank to get the best balanced visual installation. Always work from two or more packs at a time to ensure good colour and grain mix. Never install defective product. Installation is recognised as acceptance of all visual defects.
8. Boards can be cut with the score-and-snap method for straight cuts, and with clippers for complex cuts. If cutting boards using any type of saw, dust extraction and/or respiratory protection must be used.
9. Skirting boards or Godfrey Hirst scotia and/or end caps will be needed to cover the perimeter expansion gap. Alternately, the skirting boards can be undercut. Fixings should be to the wall only, never directly to the floor. Silicone or caulking compound should not be used. Godfrey Hirst has water resistant accessories to match/complement the hybrid flooring.
10. Minimum width of boards for first and last rows is 50mm. End stagger of joins in rows should be minimum 300mm.
11. Ensure that the first 3-4 rows are checked for straightness using a string line. Continue to check for straightness at all stages of the installation.
12. Godfrey Hirst hybrid floors are extremely stable and can be installed in individual rooms up to 20m long and 15m wide. In complex or multi-room installations, internal expansion joins at doorways/thresholds are required. This allows for individual rooms to expand and contract freely. A complex installation occurs anywhere a common room or area, such as a lounge or hallway, leads to another room through a doorway or narrow opening that could create a 'pinch point' that would restrict the movement of the raft.
13. Never install fixings through the flooring, such as floor-mounted door stoppers, sliding door runners, wardrobe tracks, bi-fold door rails, etc. These will pin the flooring in place, preventing expansion and leading to floor failure.

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Godfrey Hirst Australia Pty Ltd
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Please note:

1. Godfrey Hirst recommends that batches not be mixed. In circumstances where the installer has two or more batches, they must check to ensure they are compatible in design, colour, surface texture, gloss level, dimensions and locking system.
2. Always measure and keep a record of your subfloor moisture content results, in accordance with AS1884. Indicated moisture content of a concrete subfloor must be less than 80%RH, while for timber floors indicated moisture must be less than 14%MC. Where moisture testing has not been carried out, a continuous damp proof membrane must be installed in the form of either 200 micron plastic sheet, overlapped and taped at the joins or a suitable liquid applied membrane.
3. Although Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring is impervious to moisture, it should not be installed in areas that have a continual risk of excessive moisture/flooding such as saunas or outdoor areas.
4. For installation on stairs, please refer to the Hybrid Floor Staircase Installation section within the Godfrey Hirst Accessories Installation Instructions (available at www.godfreyhirst.com).
5. Hybrid floors must be installed using a floating floor system – they need to be able to move. Ensure expansion gaps allow for movement, and furniture items exceeding 200kg are not placed on the floor.
6. Insufficient expansion gaps, including in doorways and under trims, may cause buckling, peaking, cupping and/or separation of the flooring, which in most cases will lead to failure of the installation.
7. Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring should never be installed over any electrical radiant heating system - the speed of sudden temperature changes having the potential to negatively affect the floor. Godfrey Hirst hybrid flooring may, if properly installed, be installed over hydronic underfloor radiant heating systems.
8. Uneven subfloors can cause the locking system to break and/or the floor to sound drummy, or become noisy, and will cause early deterioration and/or failure of the floor.
9. Godfrey Hirst hybrid floors are not recommended for hairdressing salons.
10. Care and Maintenance Guidelines must be followed to maintain the product warranty. Please ensure the occupier refers to the Godfrey Hirst Hybrid Care and Maintenance Guidelines found at www.godfreyhirst.com/au/news/hard-flooring-care-guides.

Wet Area Installation Requirements

Only the Godfrey Hirst Metropol 1200, Metropol 1500, Metropol Oak and linked products and Apollo, Apollo 1500, Apollo Hardwood, Apollo Stone and linked products may be installed in wet areas, and only where all of the following conditions are met:

1. The Metropol and Apollo Hybrid Flooring Ranges are only suitable for installation in Category 3 wet areas as defined in AS3740:2021 as
   - bathroom areas outside enclosed shower areas;
   - bathrooms without a shower area;
   - water closets or powder rooms; and
   - laundry rooms without a shower.
2. Compliance with F2D2 and H4D2 is limited to the requirement for water resistant building elements to be used in wet areas. Where the Metropol and Apollo Hybrid Flooring is proposed to be used in wet areas, the wet area waterproofing must be provided in accordance with deemed-to-satisfy provisions of the BCA 2022 Amdt 2 Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 and/or AS 3740:2021 as applicable.
3. Metropol and Apollo Hybrid Flooring cannot be installed in wet areas where a floor waste is provided.
4. Installation of Metropol and Apollo Hybrid Flooring must otherwise be in strict accordance with these installation instructions.
5. The Metropol and Apollo Hybrid Flooring range of products must be installed onto properly prepared and flat substrates. The maximum variation of the substrate allowed is 2mm over 1000mm.
6. The wet area is less than 12m^2 in total and does not contain a floor waste (drain) or freestanding bathtub.
7. The wet area is isolated/separated from the balance of the floor/area with a Godfrey Hirst T-mould, end cap or similar at the doorway or other adjoining areas.
8. The perimeter of the wet area floor is sealed using a bathroom grade soft silicone to prevent moisture seeping under the floor.

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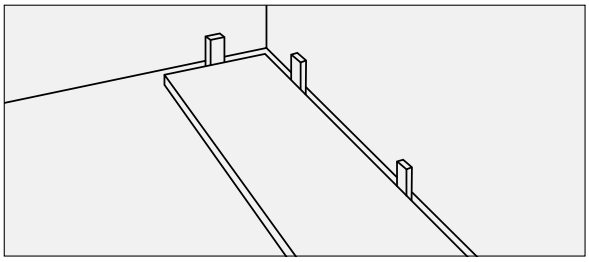
Australia

Detailed Drawings

1. Perform preparation works including (but not limited to) any levelling, undercutting of door jambs and/or skirting boards.

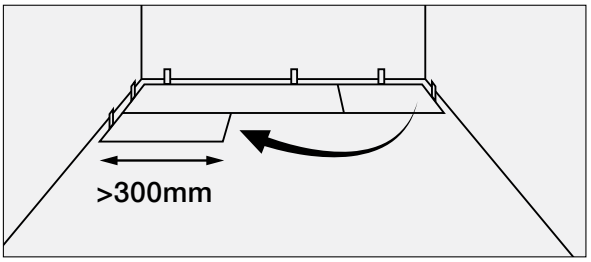
2. Hybrid floors are normally installed adjacent the longest run where possible. Plan your installation, refer to note 8 below, which may necessitate trimming the first row.

3. Start in the left corner, install the first row. Leave a minimum expansion gap of 10mm at ends and sides. The amount of expansion is dictated by the expected temperature fluctuations in the building. As a general rule, leave as much expansion as possible to allow for excessive temperature fluctuations.



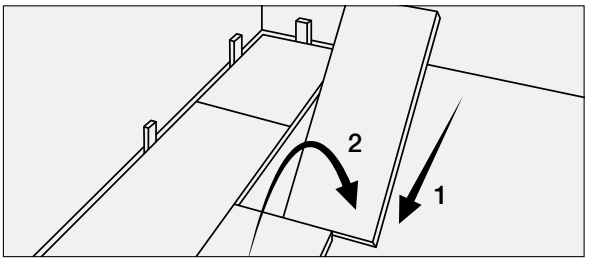
4. **Install the second row:**

   Use the off-cut from the first row to start the second row. It must be >300mm, and not closer than 300mm from the end join in the previous row.



Locking System: Uniclic® Angle-Angle (Sidetap)

Short side first, then slightly lift the row and engage the long side. Or, long side first and sidetap the short side with a tapping tool.



Locking System: Unipush® (Tap Fold-down)

Long side first, then fold down and gently tap the end-join ensuring it is properly aligned.

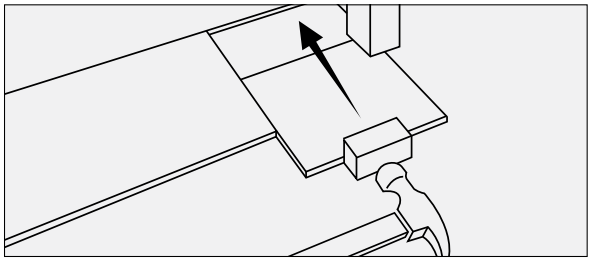
Check to be certain all planks are fully engaged; if slight gapping is noticed or the planks will not lay flat, simply disengage the long/top side join and then carefully slide the short/end join apart.

Do not pull up on this join as it will damage the locking mechanism. Reinstall the plank.

5. Continue laying the floor. Place wedges/packers to ensure the required expansion gap is respected.

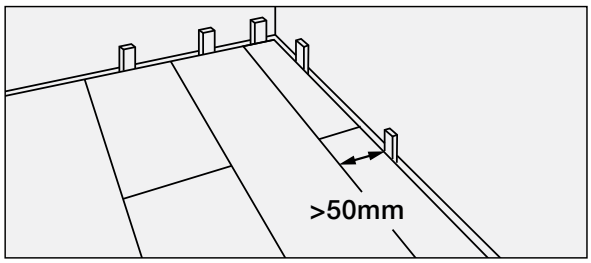
6. At doorways: **Uniclic® Angle-Angle** hybrid floors can be sidetapped. Engage the long side of the board and use a tapping block to engage the short end of the board.

   Trim the male part of the end click on **Unipush® (Tap Fold-down)** hybrid floors so the board can slide under the architrave. Use a PVC glue for the trimmed join, engage the long side of the board and use a tapping block to engage the short end of the board.



7. At other fixed points, such as heater vents or fixed pipes, leave an expansion gap.

8. The final row must be a minimum 50mm in width. Glue the last rows end joins with PVC glue.



9. Internal expansion gaps are required at doorways/thresholds and rooms exceeding 20m x 15m.

10. Remove spacers/wedges from around the room and install skirting boards and/or Godfrey Hirst scotia and/or finishing trims (in accordance with Godfrey Hirst accessories installation guidelines). Never fix any trims directly to the floor and ensure fixing does not compromise expansion gaps. Silicone or caulking compound should not be used.

NOTE For Unipush® (Tap Fold-down) hybrid floors: If necessary, to disassemble your Godfrey Hirst Unipush® (Tap Fold-down) hybrid floor, separate the whole row by lifting it up carefully at an angle. To separate the planks, leave them flat on the ground and slide them apart. If planks do not separate easy, you can slightly lift up the planks (5°) when sliding them apart.

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