

CALI[®] laminate aqua-tough natural



Milagra Cove

Installation Guide

(888) 788-2254
CALIfloors.com

Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Collections and Accessories

Page 2

P.A.C.E. and Pre-Installation: Floating Click-Lock

Pages 3 - 7

Installation Guide: Floating Click-Lock

Pages 7 - 10

Flooring System



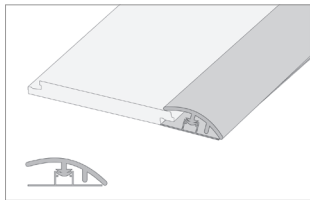
Aqua Tough Natural

7-11/16" Wide

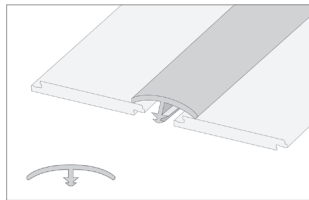
Planks Dims:

47-13/16" L x 7-11/16" W x 10mm H

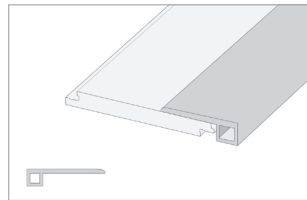
Flooring Accessories



Reducer



T-Molding



Threshold

FLOATING CLICK-LOCK

INSTALL GUIDE

Floating Click-Lock Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Installation (Pages 3-10)

Before you begin installation, remember to P.A.C.E. yourself with the checklist below. Full installation instructions and maintenance guidelines can also be found online at CALIfloors.com.

PA C E

**PREPARE
THE SUBFLOOR**

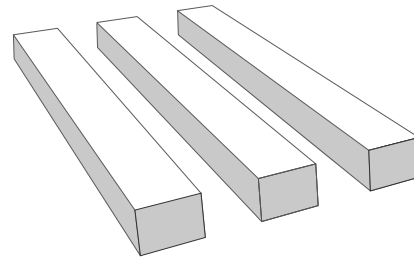


Use a Moisture Barrier

Test the subfloor moisture content prior to installation and apply an appropriate moisture barrier such as CALI 6 mil Plastic or Titebond 531 over concrete, or CALI Complete which can be used over all subfloor types. Make sure the subfloor is flat, level, clean and free of debris. New concrete must be cured for at least 60 days.

PA C E

**ACCLIMATE
FLOORING**



Acclimate your flooring for 24 hours

Prior to installation, store planks at room temperature, unopened and in their original packaging. Acclimate the boxes of flooring as close to the installation area as possible, for 24 hours in normal living conditions.

PA C E

**CONTROL
ENVIRONMENT**

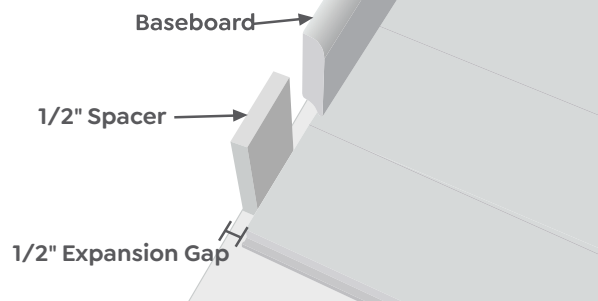


60 - 85°F

Laminate Aqua Tough Natural flooring can be used in areas ranging from 35-70% relative humidity and a temperature range of 60-85°F.

PA C E

**EXPANSION
GAPS**



Leave at least 1/2" expansion spaces between flooring and ALL vertical objects (walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.) Floor runs larger than 40' in either direction require additional expansion space. Undercut door jambs and casings to provide adequate expansion space. Do not screw or nail cabinetry or other permanent fixtures to flooring. Backer rod and silicon sealant is required.

Floating Click-Lock Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Installation

Note: Flooring not used for its intended purpose will not be covered under warranty.

Whether you're a pro or DIY homeowner, installing laminate plank flooring is fast and easy thanks to click-lock planks. Follow the guidelines below and get your space transformed!

- When ordering Laminate flooring materials, we recommend including an additional 5-8% to allow for errors and cutting waste.
- CALI flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit manufacturing, grading and natural deficiencies not to exceed 5%. If more than 5% of the material is unusable, do not install the flooring. Immediately contact the distributor/retailer from which the flooring was purchased. No claim will be accepted for materials with visible defects once they are installed. Installation of any material serves as acceptance of the material delivered.
- Installer/Owner assumes all responsibility to inspect all flooring before installation. Planks deemed unacceptable in appearance can be placed in closets, near walls or simply not used. Pieces with glaring defects that can be seen from a standing position should be cut off or not used as use constitutes acceptance.
- It is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner to determine if the job site conditions, environmental conditions and sub-floor are acceptable for the installation of Laminate Pacifica flooring. Prior to installation, the installer/owner must determine that the jobsite meets or exceeds all applicable World Floor Covering Association Installation Guidelines. CALI does NOT warrant against failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, job site damage, or environmental deficiencies after installation. CALI makes no warranty or guarantee of the quality of the chosen installer's work or of a particular installation performed by him or her. CALI disclaims all liability for any errors or improprieties in the installation of its products by an installer.
- Floor noise is normal and will vary from one installation type to the next. Occasional noise is due to structural movement and may relate to sub-floor type, flatness, deflection, and/or related to the fasteners, changes in environmental conditions, relative humidity and the amount of topside pressure applied to the flooring. For these reasons, floor noise is not considered a product or manufacturer defect.
- During installation, it is the installer's responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, site relative humidity, temperature, and subfloor moisture content. For a complete list of points to address prior to installation, refer to the NALFA Jobsite checklist.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry.
- Never nail or screw anything through a FLOATED floor.

Transport, Storage, Acclimation

- Transport and store cartons in lay down, flat position.
- Stack boxes no more than 8 cartons (4ft.) high. Keep away from direct sunlight.
- Unopened boxes should be acclimated in normal living conditions for 24 hours prior to installation.
- Room temperature and relative humidity of install area must be consistent with year-round living conditions for at least 5 days prior to installation.

Pre-Installation Preparation

Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage. Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied, do not install, and contact your supplier. CALI is not responsible for flooring that is installed with visible defects.

Recommended Tools

- Tape measure
- Chalk line
- Utility knife
- Backer rod
- Silicone sealant
- Pencil
- 1/2" spacers
- Rubber mallet
- Table or circular saw



Subfloor Requirements

General

- Floating floors can be laid on top of most hard surfaces (e.g. concrete, ceramics, wood)
- Soft subfloors (e.g. carpets) must be removed
- The subfloor must be level – Flat to 3/16" per 10-foot radius
- The subfloor must be clean – Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- The subfloor must be dry
- The subfloor must be structurally sound

Even though CALI Laminate Pacifica & Santa Cruz flooring is waterproof it is NOT considered a moisture barrier. CALI always requires the use of a moisture barrier (like 6mil plastic) on concrete.

Acceptable Subfloor Types

- CD Exposure 1 plywood (grade stamped US PS1-95)
- OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- Concrete slab
- Existing wood floors must be fastened to existing subfloors
- Ceramic plank (must fill in grout lines with a compatible patch compound)
- Resilient plank and sheet vinyl

Acceptable Subfloor Thickness Requirements:

Wood subfloors must be securely fastened. A best practice is to nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If leveling is needed, sand down high spots and fill in low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.

Quick Tip! If your plywood, OSB or particle board subfloor is reading higher than 13% MC it is advised to find and correct the source of moisture intrusion before continuing installation. CALI is not responsible for any damage caused by moisture intrusion.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured and at least 60 days old, preferably 90 days old. If leveling is needed, grind down high spots and level low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.

Ceramic plank, resilient plank and sheet vinyl must be well-bonded to subfloor, in good condition, clean and level. We do not recommend sanding existing vinyl floors, as they may contain asbestos. We do recommend filling any grout lines or embossing with a compatible patch compound. Any damage caused by skipping this step will not be covered by CALI.

Crawlspaces must have a minimum of a 6-mil polyethylene sheeting covering any exposed earth. Crawl-spaces must have adequate ventilation and a minimum of 18" of air space between the ground and the floor joist.

Moisture Barriers and Underlayments

Even though CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural is waterproof it is NOT considered a moisture barrier. CALI always requires the use of a moisture barrier such as CALI 6 Mil Plastic or CALI Complete or Titebond 531 on concrete subfloors. Titebond 531 can also be used over concrete subfloors. Test the subfloor moisture prior to installation and apply an appropriate moisture barrier based on the subfloor moisture content.

Note: Moisture barriers are not required on subfloors above habitable spaces (2nd, 3rd stories, etc).

While moisture won't damage CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural, moisture intrusions from concrete hydrostatic pressure, flooding, or plumbing leaks, along with high levels of alkalinity, can affect the floor over time. Moisture can also be trapped below the flooring and create mold or mildew, resulting in an unhealthy indoor environment. The installer, not CALI is responsible for making sure the concrete moisture and alkalinity are suitable prior to installing this floor.

If using a moisture barrier or underlayment not sold by CALI, check with the manufacturer to ensure it is approved for use with the specified floor type. Underlayments over 3mm thick should not be used.

Note: Damage caused by using a moisture barrier not provided by CALI is not covered under warranty.

Radiant Heat Systems

Note: Flooring can be installed over 1/2" (12mm) embedded radiant heat. Radiant heat systems must have a minimum of 1/2" (12mm) separation from the product.

Ensuring stable job site conditions, subfloor suitability and proper acclimation are especially important when installing over a radiant heat system. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure that the recommended environmental conditions are met for installation. Refer to your radiant heat system manufacturer to determine its compatibility with laminate flooring, and to learn the specific requirements for installation.

- Because of the wide variety of systems on the market (Hydronic, embedded in concrete, electrical wire/coil, heating film/mat) each with its own features and applications, it is recommended that the user consult with the radiant heating provider for best practices, installation methods and proper subfloors. With Laminate Aqua Tough Natural the floating installation method is the only method recommended for use with radiant heat systems.
- It is recommended that you to turn off radiant heat system 24 hours before installation and keep off 24 hours after installation.
- The system must be turned down to 65°F and maintained 24 hours prior to installation.
- Once install is complete, turn system back on and slowly bring back up to normal operating temperature over a period 4-5 days.
- Floor should never be heated over 85°F. Consult with your radiant heating system manufacturer to successfully limit the maximum temperature.
- Always remember that rugs placed over radiant heated flooring can increase the surface temperature in that area by 3°- 5°F degrees.
- Relative Humidity must be maintained between 20-80%.
- When turning off the radiant heat system it must be turned down slowly at a rate of 1.5° degrees per day. You should never just turn the system off.
- For additional information on radiant heating systems please refer to <http://www.radiantpanelassociation.org>.

Installation of CALI® Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Flooring

Before laying: Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks. Planks in the final row should be at least 3" in width. Due to this rule, planks in the first row may need to be cut to smaller size. Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades. Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboard. You should never nail or screw planks to the subfloor.

- Floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure varied color, shade and appearance. CALI Laminate will have multiple planks variations.

Expansion gaps: Even though CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural will have very minimal expansion and contraction, it is still required to leave 1/2" expansion space around the perimeter as well as all fixed objects (plank, fireplace, cabinets).

- If the installation area exceeds 40 feet in either direction, a greater expansion is required; approximately 1/16" for every additional ten (10) feet. After 60 feet transition pieces are needed. A larger backer rod will be required to account for any additional expansion space.
- To cover your expansion space, CALI carries matching laminate flooring moldings that include reducers, T-moldings, and thresholds.
- Baseboards and quarter round can have a silicone caulking placed between planks and trim to provide additional moisture protection.

Quick Tip! When installing around pipes, drill the hole 3/4" larger than the diameter of the pipes.

Installing the First Row:

1. Starting from the left, place the first plank with the tongue side facing the wall. Throughout the entire installation process, remember to check that your spacers are maintaining the 1/2" expansion space along room perimeter or next to any fixed objects.
2. Install the second piece by aligning the butt end with the end of the first piece at a 45 degree angle. Softly push the second piece down until the tongue and groove lock together to secure the joint on the ends. The planks should lay flat. Continue in this manner until reaching the final board in the first row.

Quick Tip! The first row serves as the building blocks for your installation. Ensure the seams are perfectly aligned to prevent any gapping on the following rows. You may use guiding planks to ensure proper alignment of the first two rows.

3. Cut the final board piece to length and install it in the same manner as the previous piece. Use the extra cut piece to start your next row if it is longer than 6".

Quick Tip! Place a carton of planks across the end of the row being installed to keep planks in place throughout installation.

Next Steps:

1. Install the first board in the next row by angling it up slightly, pushing forward and interlocking the long side. The long side of the plank should fit snug with no gapping. If the cut plank is at least 6" in length, it can be used as a starter piece in your next row. When laying the next row and future rows, make sure that there is at least 8" between the plank end joints on adjacent rows.
2. Insert the butt end of the second plank into the butt end of the first plank. Offset the planks by about 1/2".
3. Slightly lift the second plank and push in slightly along the length of the butt seam until the long side is fully engaged. The adjacent plank will also lift. The butt end seam should stay engaged during this action.
4. Make sure both planks lay flat afterwards and that all seams are tight. Use of a tapping block along the long side of the planks may help to ensure secure engagement. Continue installing the rest of the planks of this row.
5. Use a pull bar and a mallet if needed, to assist with engaging the final plank in the row. Insert a spacer to ensure proper expansion space is left. Continue installing the rest of the rows in the same manner.
6. After installation is complete remove all 1/2" spacers and insert 3/8" compressible PE foam backer rod. Seal expansion space with 100% flexible silicon sealant. DO NOT use acrylicbased sealant.

Disassembling

Separate the whole row by lifting up delicately at an angle to separate the planks, leave them flat on the ground and gently lift the plank on the right hand side to disengage the butt seams.

After Install/Floor Care Maintenance:

- For general cleaning, steam mop or dry/damp mop as needed using Bona PRO Stone Plank & Laminate Floor Cleaner or something similar.
- Never flood-mop or wet-mop, as standing water may cause permanent damage. The moisture from the dampened mop should evaporate off the floor quickly.
- Although CALI Laminate Flooring is waterproof, it is still a best practice to avoid excess moisture on the floor. Therefore, we recommend soaking up spills immediately using a dry towel.

Preventative Care:

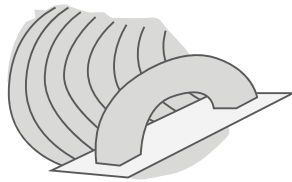
- Vacuum or sweep the floor with a broom or dust mop on a regular basis or as needed to remove dirt, sand, or grit to protect the floor from scratches. Be careful of other debris such as small rocks and pebbles being dragged across the floor.
- Do not use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off; brush or felt vacuum heads are recommended as opposed to hard heads.
- Keep pet nails trimmed to avoid excessive scratching.
- To prevent indentations and scratches, remove small diameter buttons/ends from furniture legs and replace with felt tipped non-staining floor protectors with a surface no less than 1" in diameter. Heavier objects may require wider floor protectors. Periodically check the felt tips for wear or buildup of grit/debris and replace as needed.
- Fit rolling furniture with soft rubber casters with a diameter of at least 2".
- When moving large appliances or furniture, use proper dollies, glides, or 1/8" Masonite with the shiny side down – do not slide or drag across the floor. Rolling appliances across the floor or using heavy load bearing carts with small wheels may damage the laminate floor.
- Use interior and exterior doormats at entrances to prevent dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the floor. Area rugs are also recommended in front of kitchen sinks and in high traffic areas. Rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment. We recommend using a breathable rug underlay; mesh or grid patterns are best. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings as this may damage the finish.
- Limit direct sunlight on the floor by using curtains and blinds in areas that are exposed to high UV rays.
- Abrasive or harsh chemicals should not be used to clean the floor. Never use any of the following products on the floor: mineral spirits, paint thinner, ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, detergents, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials. Never apply wax treatments to the floor.
- Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause "hot spots" which must be eliminated prior to installation.
- Heavy furniture (500+ lbs.) may obstruct the free, natural movement of a floated floor.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry and never nail or screw anything through a floated floor.
- Lighter colors and darker colors naturally show more dirt, flaws, and marks and are considered higher maintenance

GLUE DOWN INSTALL GUIDE

Glue Down Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Planks Installation

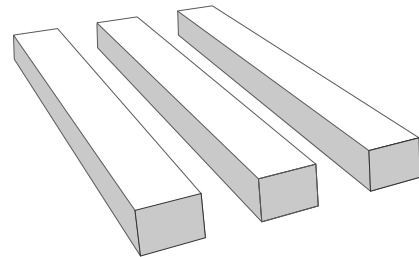
Before you begin installation, remember to P.A.C.E. yourself with the checklist below. Full installation instructions and maintenance guidelines can also be found online at CALifloors.com

PACE PREPARE THE SUBFLOOR PACE ACCLIMATE FLOORING



Required Adhesive will act as Moisture Barrier

Make sure the subfloor is flat, level, clean and free of debris. New concrete must be cured for at least 60 days. Test the subfloor moisture prior to installation and apply an appropriate moisture barrier on concrete subfloors or a vapor barrier on plywood. (Required adhesive will act as moisture/vapor barrier.)



Acclimate your flooring for 24 hours

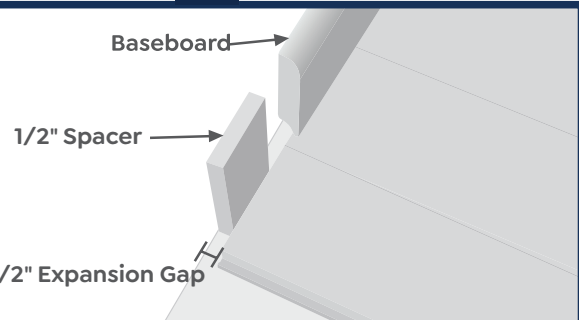
Prior to installation, store planks at room temperature, unopened and in their original packaging. Acclimate the boxes of flooring as close to the installation area as possible, for 24 hours in normal living conditions.

PACE CONTROL ENVIRONMENT PACE EXPANSION GAPS



60 - 85°F

Laminate Aqua Tough Natural flooring can be used in areas ranging from 35-70% relative humidity and a temperature range of 60-85°F.



Leave at least 1/2" expansion spaces between flooring and ALL vertical objects (walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.) Floor runs larger than 40' in either direction require additional expansion space. Undercut door jambs and casings to provide adequate expansion space. Do not screw or nail cabinetry or other permanent fixtures to flooring. Backer rod and silicon sealant is required.

Glue Down Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Planks Installation

Note: Flooring not used for its intended purpose will not be covered under warranty.

Whether you're a pro or DIY homeowner, installing laminate plank flooring is fast and easy thanks to the click-lock planks. Follow the guidelines below and get your space transformed!

- Upon ordering of laminate floor materials consider adding an additional 5% - 8% to allow for cutting waste and grading allowance.
- CALI® flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit manufacturing, grading and natural deficiencies not to exceed 5%. If more than 5% of the material is unusable, do not install the flooring. Immediately contact the distributor/retailer from which the flooring was purchased. No claim will be accepted for materials with visible defects once they are installed. Installation of any material serves as acceptance of the material delivered.
- Installer/Owner assumes all responsibility to inspect all flooring before installation. Planks deemed unacceptable in appearance can be placed in closets, near walls or simply not be used. Pieces with glaring defects that can be seen from a standing position should be cut off or not be used as use constitutes acceptance.
- It is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner to determine if the job site conditions, environmental conditions and sub-floor are acceptable for the installation of CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural flooring. Prior to installation, the installer/owner must determine that the jobsite meets or exceeds all applicable World Floor Covering Association Installation Guidelines. CALI® does NOT warrant against failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, job site damage, or environmental deficiencies after installation. CALI® makes no warranty or guarantee of the quality of the chosen installer's work or of a particular installation performed by him or her. CALI® disclaims all liability for any errors or improprieties in the installation of its products by an installer.
- Floor noise is normal and will vary from one installation type to the next. Occasional noise is due to structural movement and may relate to sub-floor type, flatness, deflection, and/or related to the fasteners, changes in environmental conditions, relative humidity and the amount of topside pressure applied to the flooring. For these reasons floor noise is not considered a product or manufacturer defect.
- During installation, it is the installer's responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, site relative humidity, temperature, and subfloor moisture content. .For a complete list of points to address prior to installation, refer to the NALFA Jobsite checklist.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry.

Transport, Storage, Acclimation

- Transport and store cartons in lay down, flat position.
- Stack boxes no more than 8 cartons (4ft.) high. Keep away from direct sunlight
- Room temperature and relative humidity must be consistent with year-round living conditions for at least 5 days prior to installation.
- Due to the nature of CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural, acclimation is not needed. Installation can start immediately.

Pre-Installation Preparation

Prior to installation, inspect planks in daylight for visible faults/damage and color/print. Check if subfloor/site conditions comply with the specifications described in these instructions. If you are not satisfied do not install, and contact your supplier. CALI® is not responsible for flooring that is installed with visible defects or incorrect color/print.

Recommended Tools

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| • Tape measure | • Pencil |
| • Chalk line | • Tapping block |
| • Utility knife | • Table or circular saw |
| • Rubber mallet | • 3/8" Back Rod |
| • Silicone Sealant | • 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" square notch trowel |

Subfloor Requirements

General

- Floating floors can be laid on top of most hard surfaces (e.g. concrete, ceramics, wood)
- Soft subfloors (e.g. carpets) must be removed
- The subfloor must be level – Flat to 3/16" per 10-foot radius
- The subfloor must be clean – Thoroughly swept and free of all debris
- The subfloor must be dry
- The subfloor must be structurally sound

Even though CALI Floors vinyl plank flooring is waterproof it is NOT considered a moisture barrier. Hence we always require the use of a moisture barrier on concrete. When using the glue down method for install, it is required to seal your concrete subfloor or use an appropriate adhesive with moisture protection.

Acceptable Subfloor Types

- CD Exposure 1 plywood (grade stamped US PS1-95)
- OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels
- Underlayment grade particleboard
- Existing wood (must be sanded to its raw state)
- Concrete
- Light weight concrete (may require a primer – see Titebond manufacturer for details)
- Ceramic plank (check with Titebond manufacture to see what prep will be needed: patch, self-lever, primer, etc.)

Glue Down Details

CALI Laminate Pacifica are constructed with a 2mm XPS (Extruded Polystyrene) foam pad.

This high-performance pad is compatible with the CALI recommended adhesive noted below. Use of adhesives outside of our recommendation is the sole responsibility of the installer and/or homeowner.

CALI® recommends the use of Titebond 675 when gluing CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural. Make sure to follow all Titebond 675 guidelines which include but are not limited to:

- Plywood/OSB/Particle board subfloor moisture must not be over 13%
- Concrete Moisture should not read over 8lbs when using a Calcium Chloride test or 90% RH when using an in-situ probe or Lignomat SDM
- Concrete alkaline levels should not be more than 9.0 pH
- Use a 1/16" Square notch trowel
- For more details please see Titebond 675 product page below:
<http://www.titebond.com/product/flooring/62a57e94-6380-4de4-aa0e-45158d58160d>

Wood subfloors must be securely fastened. A best practice is to nail or screw every 6" along joists to avoid squeaking. If leveling is needed, sand down high spots and fill in low spots with a Portland based leveling compound.

Tip: If your plywood, OSB or particle board subfloor is reading higher than 13% MC it is advised to find and correct the source of moisture intrusion before continuing installation. CALI® is not responsible for any damage caused by moisture intrusion.

Concrete subfloors must be fully cured and at least 60 days old, preferably 90 days old. If leveling is needed, grind down high spots and level low spots with a Portland based leveling compound. Slabs on or below grade must be free of hydrostatic pressure.

Important: CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural flooring is waterproof, however moisture intrusions from concrete hydrostatic pressure, flooding, or plumbing leaks, along with high levels of alkalinity, can affect the floor over time. Moisture can also be trapped below the flooring and create mold or mildew. The installer, not CALI® is responsible for making sure the concrete moisture and alkalinity are suitable prior to installing this floor.

Crawlspaces must have a minimum of a 6-mil polyethylene sheeting covering any exposed earth. Crawl spaces must have adequate ventilation and a minimum of 18" of air space between the ground and the floor joist.

Radiant Heat Systems

When glued down, CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural is not compatible for use with radiant heat systems.

Installation of CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural Flooring

Before laying: Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks. Planks in the final row should be at least 1/3 the width of a planks. Due to this rule, planks in the first row can be cut to smaller size. Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades. Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboard. You should never nail or screw planks to the subfloor.

- Floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure good color, shade and appearance. CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural will have multiple patterns for each product.

Expansion gaps: Even though CALI Laminate Aqua Tough Natural will have very minimal expansion and contraction it is still required to leave 1/2" expansion space around the perimeter as well as all fixed objects (plank, fireplace, cabinets).

- To cover your expansion space, CALI carries matching flooring moldings that include reducers, t-moldings, baseboards, quarter rounds, and thresholds. Please visit CALI's Flooring Accessories webpage.

Quick Tip! When installing around pipes, drill the hole 3/4" larger than the diameter of the pipes.

Installing the first row:

Measure the room at right angle to the direction of the planks. Planks in the final row should be at least 3" in width. Due to this rule, planks in the first row can be cut to smaller size. Shuffle planks in order to obtain a pleasant blend of shades. Lay planks preferably following the direction of the main source of light. We recommend laying on wooden floors crossways to the existing floorboard. You should never nail or screw planks to the subfloor.

1. Start out by pouring adhesive on to the subfloor. Make sure you do not pour out too much at one time. CALI® does not recommend spreading more than an arm's length (6 to 8 feet) worth of adhesive at a time. This will help to ensure the glue does not flash over before you can adhere the planks.
2. Use tapping block as necessary to fit planks together, but be careful not to let installed floor move on the wet adhesive while you are working. Repeat these steps as you move along with the installation.
3. Starting from the left with the tongue-side facing the wall, carefully place the first board in place, using spacers to leave a 1/2" expansion gap between wall and edges of the plank.
4. Install the second piece by aligning the butt end with the end of the first piece at a 45 degree angle. Softly push the second piece down until the tongue and groove lock together to secure the joint on the ends. Continue in this manner until reaching the final board in the first row.
5. Cut the final board piece to length and install in the same manner as the previous piece. Use the extra cut piece to start your next row if it is longer than 6".

Next steps

1. Confirm the first row is straight. If the cut plank is at least 6" in length, it can be used as a starter piece in your next row. When laying the next row and future rows, make sure that there is at least 1/3rd the length of the plank end joints on adjacent rows. For a natural look rows and patterns should be staggered.
2. Position the first board in place by angling it up slightly, pushing forward and interlocking the side tongue. The long side of the plank should fit snug with no gapping.
3. Insert the butt end of the second plank into the butt end of the first plank. Offset the planks by about 1/2".
4. Slightly lift the second plank and push in slightly along the length of the butt seam until the long side is fully engaged. The adjacent plank will also lift. The butt end seam should stay engaged during this action.
5. Make sure both planks lay flat afterwards and that all seams are tight. Use of a tapping block along the long side of the planks may help to ensure secure engagement. Continue installing the rest of the planks of this row.
6. Use a pull bar and a hammer to engage the final plank in the row. Insert a spacer to ensure proper expansion space is left. Continue installing the rest of the rows in the same manner.

Quick Tip! Carefully inspect the long edge and short ends of the planks for any gapping before moving onto the next row. If you notice any gaps, STOP, and reinstall the boards to ensure a snug fit.

Disassembling

Separate the whole row by lifting up delicately at an angle to separate the planks, leave them flat on the ground and gently lift the plank on the right hand side to disengage the butt seams.

After Install/Floor Care Maintenance:

- For general cleaning, steam mop or dry/damp mop as needed using Bona PRO Stone Plank & Laminate Floor Cleaner or something similar.
- Never flood-mop or wet-mop, as standing water may cause permanent damage. The moisture from the dampened mop should evaporate off the floor quickly.
- Although CALI Laminate Flooring is waterproof, it is still a best practice to avoid excess moisture on the floor. Therefore, we recommend soaking up spills immediately using a dry towel or dry mop.

Preventative Care:

- Vacuum or sweep the floor with a broom or dust mop on a regular basis or as needed to remove dirt, sand, or grit to protect the floor from scratches. Be careful of other debris such as small rocks and pebbles being dragged across the floor.
- Do not use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off; brush or felt vacuum heads are recommended as opposed to hard heads.
- Keep pet nails trimmed to avoid excessive scratching.
- To prevent indentations and scratches, remove small diameter buttons/ends from furniture legs and replace with felt tipped non-staining floor protectors with a surface no less than 1" in diameter. Heavier objects may require wider floor protectors. Periodically check the felt tips for wear or buildup of grit/debris and replace as needed.
- Fit rolling furniture with soft rubber casters with a diameter of at least 2".
- When moving large appliances or furniture, use proper dollies, glides, or 1/8" Masonite with the shiny side down – do not slide or drag across the floor. Rolling appliances across the floor or using heavy load bearing carts with small wheels may damage the laminate floor.
- Use interior and exterior doormats at entrances to prevent dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the floor. Area rugs are also recommended in front of kitchen sinks and in high traffic areas. Rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment. We recommend using a breathable rug underlay; mesh or grid patterns are best. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings as this may damage the finish.
- Limit direct sunlight on the floor by using curtains and blinds in areas that are exposed to high UV rays.
- Abrasive or harsh chemicals should not be used to clean the floor. Never use any of the following products on the floor: mineral spirits, paint thinner, ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, detergents, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials. Never apply wax treatments to the floor.
- Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause "hot spots" which must be eliminated prior to installation.
- Heavy furniture (500+ lbs.) may obstruct the free, natural movement of a floated floor.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry and never nail or screw anything through a floated floor.
- Lighter colors and darker colors naturally show more dirt, flaws, and marks and are considered higher maintenance