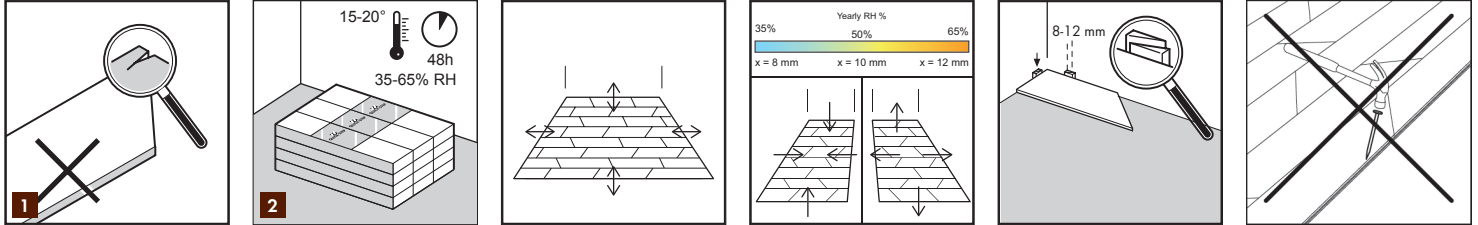


**Instructions for Floating installation of Quick-Step Intenso**

Quick-Step wood flooring materials are delivered with instructions in the form of illustrations. The text below provides an explanation for these illustrations, and is divided in 4 areas: Preparation, Installation, Finishing and Maintenance. We recommend that you read through this information carefully while studying each illustration. In case of doubts or questions please contact your Quick-Step dealer/Technical services. The use of the original Quick-Step accessories is strongly recommended to benefit from the full product warranty. **BEFORE STARTING UP**

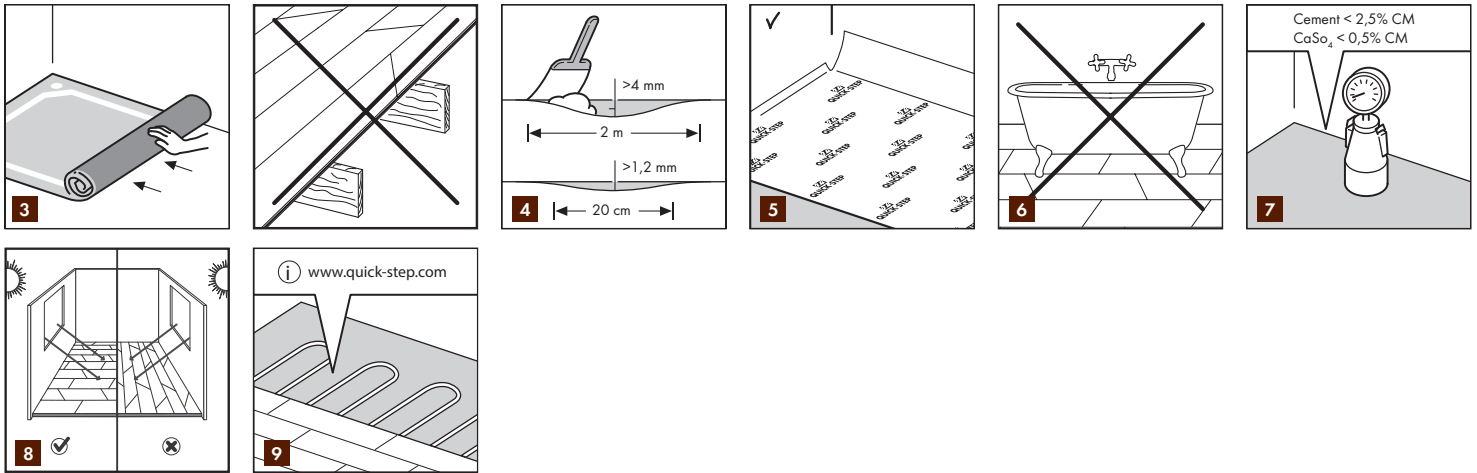
A parquet floor is to be considered as an interior product, and should be taken care of like such prior to, during and after installation. The installation should be done after eventual painting and other wet works are done and dried out. If other works are ongoing after installation, a breath-taking covering should be placed on top of the Quick-Step parquet. Don NOT tape covering material direct to the surface since the glue might harm the lacquered or oiled surface.


**1**

Quick-Step floors can be bought in different formats, decors and gradings. Make sure you have received the flooring that you have ordered before starting the installation. It is always a good idea to store one end-label together with your receipt and writing down the code mentioned at the back of a panel. Do not install wood planks with damaged surfaces, edges or lock joints. Check every panel carefully before and during the installation, preferably in daylight. Bare in mind that wood is not a homogeneous material. There can be differences between the individual planks just as there are differences between individual trees. The occurrence of sap wood, knots and cracks is dependent on the selected grading and chosen range. These are natural features of wood and cannot be considered as a product fault. Therefore you should always check if you have the right impression off the floor before installation and that you have all the information. If a parquet panel has been installed it is considered as accepted and any defects or colour variation affecting this panel cannot form any ground off complaint. We recommend that the panels are mixed from several packs during installation.

**2**

After receiving the floor packs these should be acclimatized. This has to be done unopened and stored in a flat position away from the wall and flooring prior to installation. Recommended is to store them at a normal room temperature (15-20°C / 59 - 65 °F) and a relative humidity level between 35-65% for a minimum of 48 hours prior to installation. A Quick-Step floor is composed of natural wood and will naturally expand and contract upon changes in the relative humidity. For example: at 20°C and a RH between 40-60% (which is recommended during installation), the movement is limited. Quick-Step wood flooring is produced and delivered with a moisture content to cope with an RH between 35-65%. In a dry climate, for example in the Nordics during winter time, the RH might drop below 35% and in summertime rise above 65%. This will create a movement in your floor surface. To secure enough clearance for this natural movement and to avoid open joints, squeaking, etc. always keep a dilatation joint of 10 mm average to the walls, thresholds, staircases, pipes, etc. During the installation of normal residential room size. Use the spacers of the installation kit to keep the correct clearance. Installing in regions with average low RH, the clearance should be lowered to 8 mm (low RH = floor shrinks). If installing in regions with an average high RH level the clearance should be raised to 12 mm (high RH = floor expands). The clearance should be left open and must not be filled by any sealant, silicone or other adhesive. A floating installation is a floating installation so never fasten the flooring with nails, glue, screws or in any other way.


**3**

Quick-Step wood flooring must be installed on a solid, self-supporting subfloor, wood flooring or seamless undamaged vinyl. In case of other types of floor coverings these must be removed. No signs of mould and/or insect infestation should be present. Make sure the subfloor is level and nail down any loose parts. When laying a floating floor, in case of textile or other vapour-permeable floor coverings it is necessary to remove both the floorcovering and its base. Existing floors made from a vapour-tight covering do not need to be removed (PVC, linoleum, etc.) if they meet all other requirements. In a floating installation it is always necessary to use an underlay. Install the new floor at ninety degrees to the existing subfloor. The crawl space under the wooden base must be ventilated. Remove any obstacles and make sure there is sufficient ventilation ( min 4 cm<sup>2</sup> of ventilation opening/ m<sup>2</sup> of floor). The moisture content of the wood cannot exceed 10%. An installation directly on floor joists is prohibited.

**4**

The entire subfloor must be carefully checked for any type of unevenness. Use a straight edge of 2 m approximately, make sure there are no unevenness's of more than 4 mm. Peaks higher than 1 à 2 mm within a 200 mm radius are also prohibited. If needed use a levelling compound to achieve correct flatness of the base floor.

**5**

To achieve optimal sound reduction, best walking comfort, avoid squeaking and to level minor unevenness we strongly recommend using a Quick-Step underlay. A floating installation on cement screed, concrete or in case of floor heating, requires the use of a damp screen. All Quick-Step underlays have a build-in vapour barrier. In case you use another underlay, which does not have a vapour barrier, the installation of a 0,2 mm PE\_film is required as a minimum damp screen. Make sure the PE-film overlaps with a minimum of 200 mm. In case of a floating installation with any other type of underlay that is not a Quick-Step underlay the same technical specifications must be met. In case of problems caused by a non-compatible underlay, no warranty will be valid.

**6**

Quick-Step wood flooring must not be installed in a typical wet rooms, in rooms with a floor drain or in extremely dry rooms like saunas.

**7**

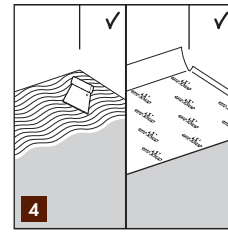
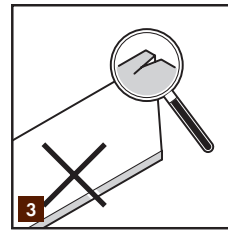
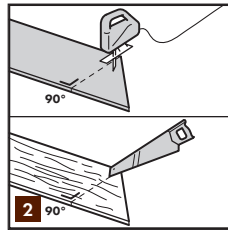
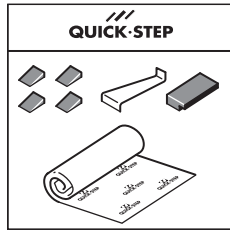
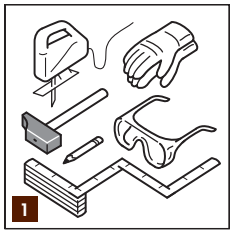
Mineral subfloors such as concrete must be sufficiently dry prior to installation. Installation on cement subfloor requires a CM < 2,5 (75 % RH). An installation on anhydriet subfloor requires a CM < 0,5 %. If the moisture content is higher or may become higher other types of damp proofing must be used. If floorheating is used, cement subfloor requires a CM < 1,5 and anhydriet subfloor requires a CM < 0,3. (see Floorheating Instructions)

**8**

Plan the installation direction of the planks carefully before start up. Normally we recommend installation parallel to the incoming light (= perpendicular to windows) . If the room is long and narrow like in a hallway we would install parallel to the long walls. Be aware of the fact natural colour will be affected by sun light (discoloration by UV light is inevitable). This might lead to natural fading and colour changes which are not a product fault.

**9**

Additional instructions apply if there is underfloor heating or cooling. Your dealer or installer of the floorheating system must guarantee that the floor surface temperature never exceeds 28 degrees °C. Visit [www.quick-step.com](http://www.quick-step.com) for more information.



**1**

Quick-Step wood floors are easy to install and require no expensive tools. In addition to a few common DIY tools (folding rule, pencil, hammer, handsaw or jigsaw, carpenters square and possible power drill and hand gloves) you only need the Quick-Step installation kit containing a tapping block, pull bar and spacers. Be sure you have all tools available before starting the installation.

**2**

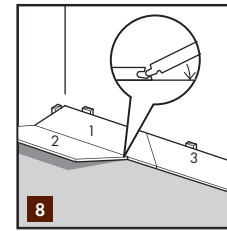
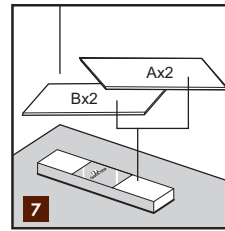
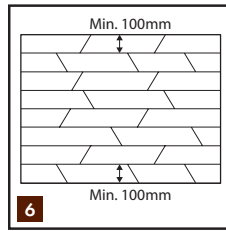
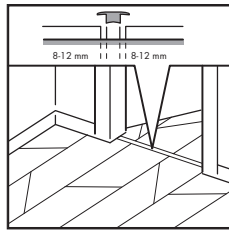
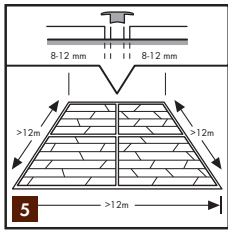
When cutting the Quick-Step wood plank be sure you are not creating splinters or chipping when cutting. If using a handsaw keep the decorative surface faced up. If using a jigsaw keep decorative surface down (except for a jigsaw with down-stroke blades).

**3**

Every Quick-Step wood plank is methodically checked for any imperfections before being packed. Still, packs can be damaged during transportation or when the packs are opened. Do not install a plank with a damaged surface, edge or click joint. Carefully inspect each plank before installing. Be aware of the fact wood is not a homogeneous material. There will be differences from plank to plank as there are differences from tree to tree. These aspect provides you with the warm and natural look and feel a parquet floor has to offer. knots and cracks will also appear depending on the grading and the chosen range. This is natural and will not be considered as a product fault. Therefore always be sure you have got the right impression of the floor and information from the dealer before installation. An installed plank is considered as accepted and cannot be claimed. We recommend to mix the boards, taking planks out of different boxes at the same time when installing.

**4**

If you choose to install a floating floor you must lay the first section of underlay parallel to the length of the planks to be installed. Gradually add the next sections of underlay as you lay the parquet panels. It is vital that you use a levelling underlay to smooth away any unevenness in the floor base. In most cases a vapour-tight foil should be used to protect the floor against rising damp or condensation. A glued installation is also possible. Therefore we refer to our specific instructions for glue down installation.



**5**

With room lengths of more than 12 m and widths of more than 12 m an intermediate expansion joint should be fitted. Expansion and contraction are linear so the greater the surface the larger the expansion joint needs to be. An expansion joint must be put in typical doorways and room angles. Parquet floors are not suitable for use in damp areas like bathrooms and saunas.

**6**

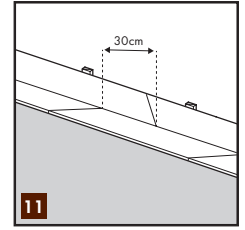
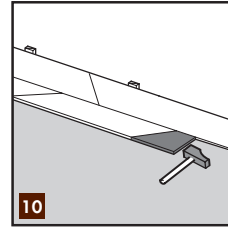
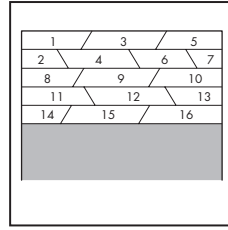
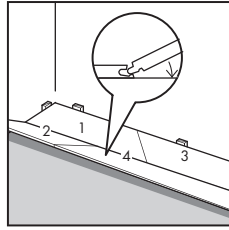
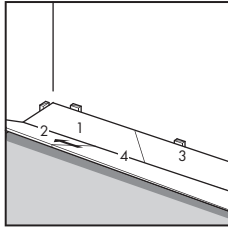
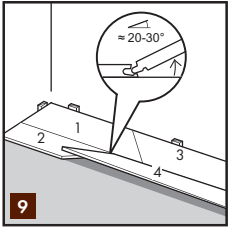
Before starting carefully measure the length and the width of the room to plan a precise lay-out to achieve a balanced appearance of the floor. This will ensure also you won't end up with the last row being too narrow. If the last row would be less than 100 mm the installation will be easier if you cut down the planks of the first row in the length.

**7**

Our Intenso floor range consists out of planks that are left oriented and right oriented. This means that in 1 pack of Intenso flooring you should have 2 left sided planks and 2 right sided planks, please check before installation. All planks have, next to the production code, a red marking at the back. Left sided planks are marked with an "A" and right sided planks are marked with a "B". Before start, separate the left from the right planks and "shuffle" the boards to ensure an even distribution of colour and character.

**8**

Start the installation with 2 planks labelled as "1" and "2". With the wall in front of you lay the floor from left to right. Cut of the end of both planks creating a 90° angle so they are flushed against the wall. Connect both planks (1 and 2) in the long side connection (At a slight angle of 20 to 30 ° insert the tongue of plank 2 into the groove of plank 1). To determine the correct expansion gap we would like to refer you to the preparation part of this instruction. The expansion gap is needed to allow the floor to move natural after installation (natural movement of the floor depends on the RH level of the site of installation). At the end of the installation this expansion gap is concealed by our skirting's or mouldings. Press downward until the joint locks. If the joint remains slightly open tap it in with the palm of your hand or use a rubber hammer and tapping block.



**9**

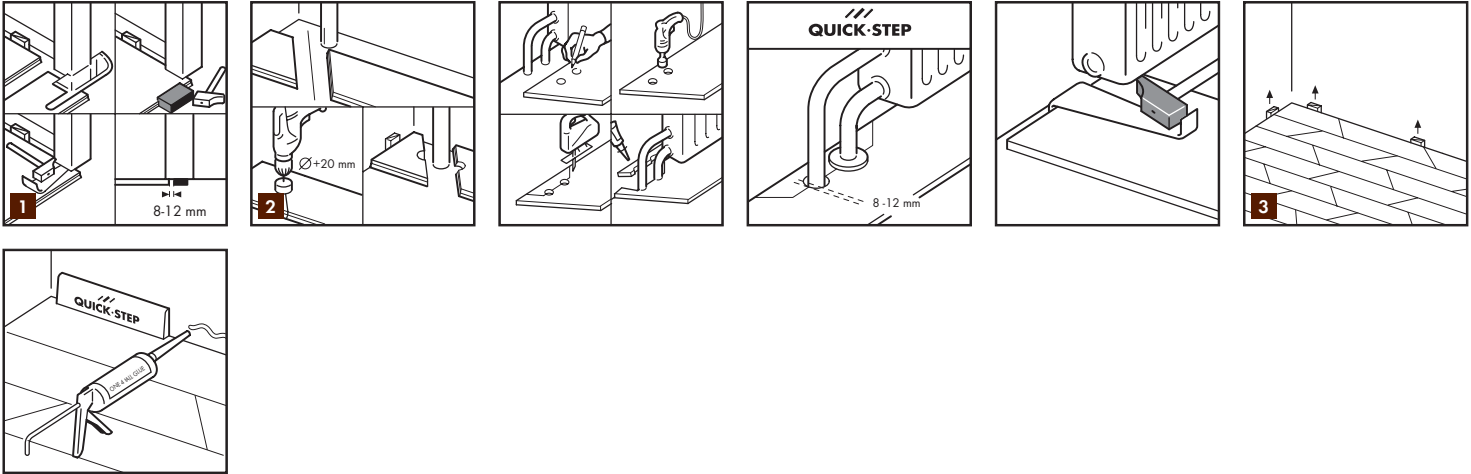
Take plank 3 and 4 and tap them separately into the previous plank, For plank 3 this will be plank 1 and for plank 4 this will be plank 2. If the joint remains slightly open tap it in with a rubber hammer and tapping block. Proceed this way until the entire row has been completed. We advise the to consider a connection between a left and right plank as 1 row, This to maintain a straight line at the beginning of the installation. When the first row has been installed you can continue plank by plank as you would with a traditional parket floor.

**10**

With the Uniclic system you can also tap the panels into each other without lifting. For this method you can create your own tapping block by using the angled off cuts of the first 2 planks. Remove the long side locking system to prevent it from engaging when in use.

**11**

We always recommend an overlap/staggering between end joints to be about 1/3 of the plank length but never less than 300 mm.



**1**

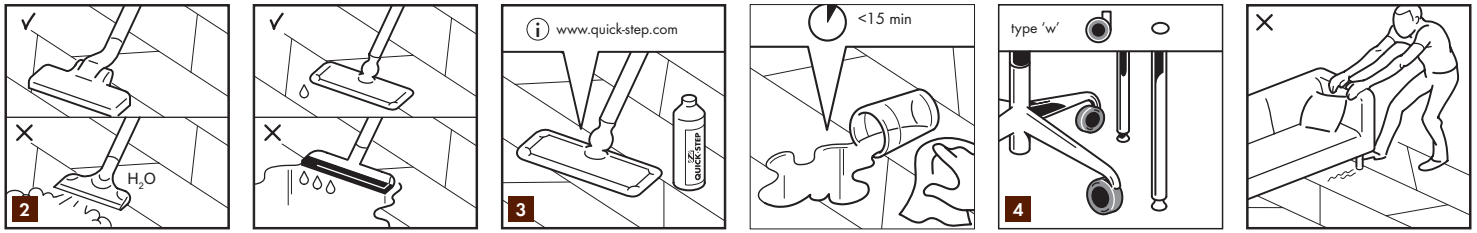
For a nice finish where the next flooring meets a threshold we recommend undercutting the mouldings of the door. To secure the correct cut off turn a plank upside down and place it on the floor up to the frame. Then place the hand saw flat against the plank and simply cut through the frame/moulding as shown. Remove the cut out and vacuum away dust. Then you can simply slide the floor underneath the frame/moulding and make a perfect finish.

**2**

To install Quick-Step wood flooring around pipes, carefully measure and mark the planks with the exact centre point for each pipe. Drill a hole at each of the marked points that is equivalent to the diameter of the pipe + 16 mm in dry climate and 24 mm in wet climate. If located on the long side of the plank make a 45 degree cut from each hole to the edge of the plank and then cut between the holes as shown. If located on the end of a plank make a straight cut across the plank. Install the plank. Then using some regular wood glue along the cut edges of the piece you've cut out and glue the piece in place where it belongs. Be sure no glue comes between the cut out piece and the subfloor. Use spacers to secure a tight glue point and remove any glue on the floor surface directly with a damp cloth. The gap you have created between the pipes are to ensure the floor can move as expected from season to season. These cannot be filled with any sealant, silicone or other adhesive. Use the Quick-Step radiator caps to conceal gaps around radiator pipes.

**3**

Inspect the final surface of the installed floor, remove all spacers and install the Quick-Step wood wallbases according to the instructions following the wallbases.



**1**

When laying a floating floor you can walk on it during installation and immediately afterwards. After installation it is recommended to have circumstances of 15 - 22°C and a RH level between 35-65%. During winter time the air in the rooms is usually extremely dry, for this reason it is strongly recommended to use humidifiers in order to obtain a constant humidity level. In the summer and autumn, when there is a high relative humidity the room should be well ventilated. Too low RH may cause irreversible damage to the floor (ie. Cracks)

**2**

To remove dirt and dust from the floor use a slightly moist mop, a brush or a vacuum cleaner. Make sure the vacuum cleaner is equipped with soft wheels and a special parquet brush to avoid scratching your floor. Never use a steam cleaner to clean your wooden floor. For the first cleaning of the floor make sure to first remove ALL dust and dirt before using a cloth. Too wet maintenance of a wooden floor is absolutely forbidden.

**3**

Only use the recommended cleaning products for floor maintenance. Remember that using other cleaning products may damage your floor. Always wipe the floor dry immediately so that no more moisture or liquid is visible on the floor.

**4**

Castor chairs must have castors of the so called type "soft wheels" and a plastic protector mat should be placed under the area where the chair is placed/used. All furniture legs should be protected by felt pads to avoid scratching the lacquered/oiled surface. Avoid sliding/dragging furniture over the wooden surface to avoid possible scratching. Lifting the furniture is recommended. Always place a quality door mat at any entrance door to avoid introduction of sand, dirt or water which might be harmful.

**5**

Special cleaning instructions are at hand with your Quick-Step dealer or on the website of these products. Please read them with care before maintaining your lacquered/oiled surface.

**6**

The manufacturer bears no responsibility for problems or damage which arises through inexpert preparation of the subfloor, the floor installation itself or the exposition of the floor to unsuitable climatic conditions/maintenance. The right for compensation for damaged or differently coloured panels does not extend to parquets which already have been installed. In non-standard cases we recommend you to inform yourself sufficiently with regards to the specific requirements of our construction project. In the event of further questions please contact your retailer.