Natureffect® Parquet Installation

- Natureffect Parquet planks are installed in a herringbone pattern.
- The planks are bevelled on four sides and have a 5G glueless locking system.
- The planks come in left and right boxes and you should have an equal amount of both boxes.
- Natureffect Parquet can be floated on an appropriate underlay.
- Over underfloor heating systems we recommend fully bonded installation.
- The 12 mm laminate planks can be cut with an appropriate blade.

Before Installation

Complete All Wet Trades

Wet trades should be complete and fully dried which includes floor screeds and any plastering or rendering. It is important to carry out a relative humidity test or RH test. The Relative Humidity (RH) which is a measurement of how much moisture is present in the air. The correct RH of a room's atmosphere, for wood flooring to be installed, falls between 45-65% with an ambient temperature between 18 to 24°C. If necessary employ a dehumidifier to maintain suitable conditions.

Complete Main Decorating

Ideally all other work except some secondary decoration to skirting and architraves should be completed. This will help prevent any damage to the floor. Decorating dust and paint spills are one of the most common causes of damage to freshly laid wood floors, so where possible it is a good practice to complete and clean any sanding. Paint walls and ceilings and limit the risk of any paint spills. Skirting and architrave may have to be completed after the install and tape can be used to mask the floor. Important: Beware of leaving masking tape on the floor for longer than is necessary to complete each coat, tape should be removed between each coat and not left for longer than a day, this is especially important if the floors are heated. Important: Avoid covering the floor with non-breathable 'protective' sheeting, which if left on the floor, can cause condensation which in turn will damage the floor.

Complete Kitchen Installation

Where possible any fixed furniture such as a kitchen unit should be installed prior to installing your wood floor. This is recommended for two reasons, the first being the most obvious that it will limit the risk of accidental damage to the floor caused during the kitchen installation. It is important not to cover the floor for extended periods. The second reason not to install heavy fixed units over your floor, is to avoid 'pinning' the floor down. A kitchen unit with appliances and a heavy work-top can be very heavy. A heavy load can stop the floor from expanding and contracting evenly. At best this can cause the floor to gap at walls or creak, at worst it can cause the floor to fill an expansion gap and lift off the subfloor completely, even causing structural damage. Kitchen units can be installed first with kick boards adjusted and provisional gaps made in end panels and plinths to slide the floor underneath.

Subfloor Check

Most importantly the subfloor, the floor on which your flooring is being installed should be fully prepared. It must be structurally supportive and free from any defective movement so that footfall does not cause the floor to move. Exposed joists should be covered with load bearing plywood, OSB or flooring grade chipboard. Floorboards should be fully secured. Concrete screeds and levelling compounds must be fully cured and moisture checked. If levelling is required on a wooden suspended floor or floorboards, this can be achieved by relaying a suspended wooden floor and correcting levels under the structural layer. Or in some cases a layer of flexible fibre based levelling compound may be added. If levelling is required for a screeded floor, raised areas can be removed and or levelling compound can be used. If the subfloor is a combination of screed and suspended floors then it should be equalised with the addition of a fully bonded layer of 6 – 21mm plywood. If it cannot be covered like this then a provision for expansion joints should be used where two different surfaces meet. Transition profiles can be used to separate the two areas of wood flooring.

Underfloor Heating (UFH)

If flooring is being installed over an underfloor heating system, then where possible the UFH should be within a screed or self levelling compound with direct contact to the floor via a flexible adhesive. DO NOT use the UFH system to accelerate a screed's drying time as this can lead to a weakness in the subfloor. The UFH system must be fully commissioned before installation and in use over a period of two weeks to test for any defects, leaks etc... The UFH system must be turned off 48hrs prior to the installation. The surface of the installed wood floor must not exceed 27°C so it is important to understand how to control the heat source and with discussing this with your UFH provider.

Final Checks

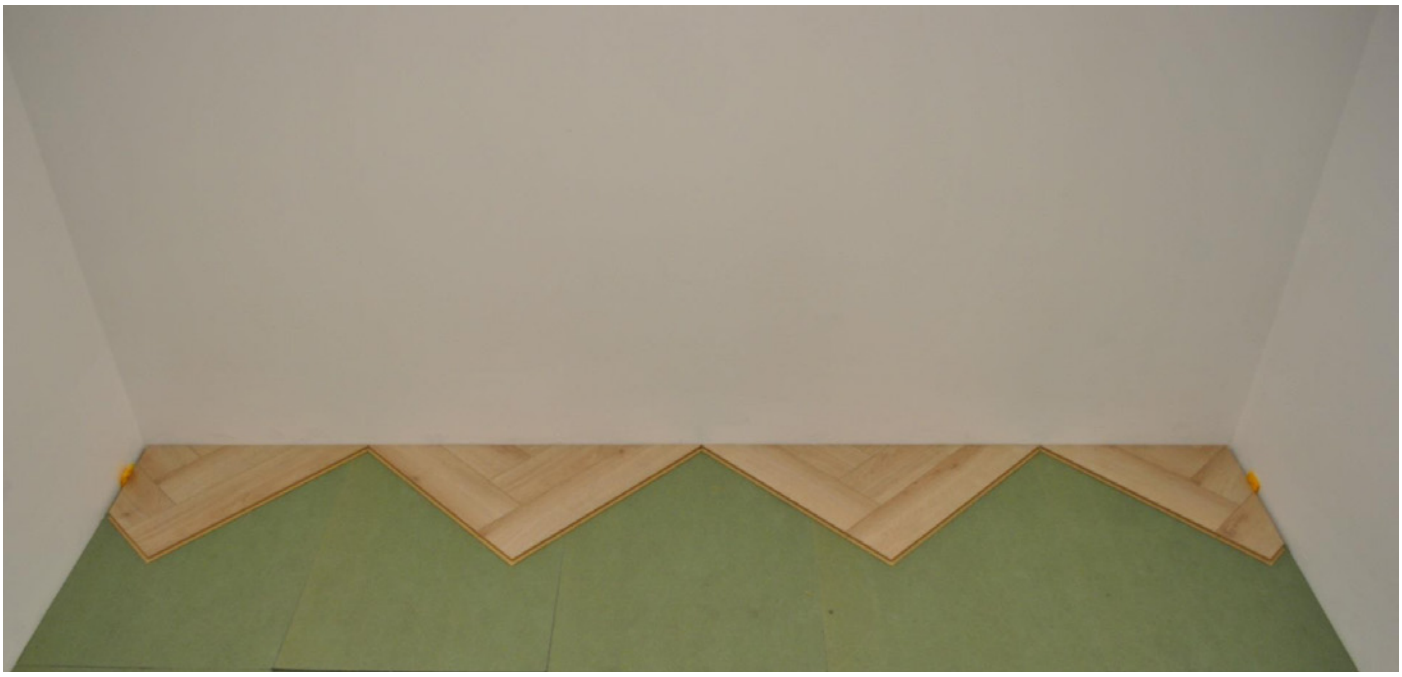
Importantly all these areas should be checked and tests should be carried out by the installer, RH reading should be taken and moisture checks made on the subfloor. Check our more detailed installation guide or ask your installer.

Once Your Flooring Arrives

Your flooring should be carefully placed in the room it is to be installed in. The packs can be very heavy and easily damaged. Stack the packs and leave in situ for at least 72 hrs. The packs are not airtight and should not be opened during this time as the wood acclimates to your home or the site conditions. Once opened you may find that the planks can bow slightly and this is fairly common but should not cause an issue once they are installed in the herringbone pattern.

Natureffect Parquet Herringbone Installation

Unlike traditional herringbone installation which would start with a central spine of blocks, Natureffect Parquet fits from the edge of the room using triangle templates as a start point. The first stage is to make these templates. Cut equal sized triangles to install against the wall and use as templates so that the installation strikes off from the wall at exactly 45 degrees.

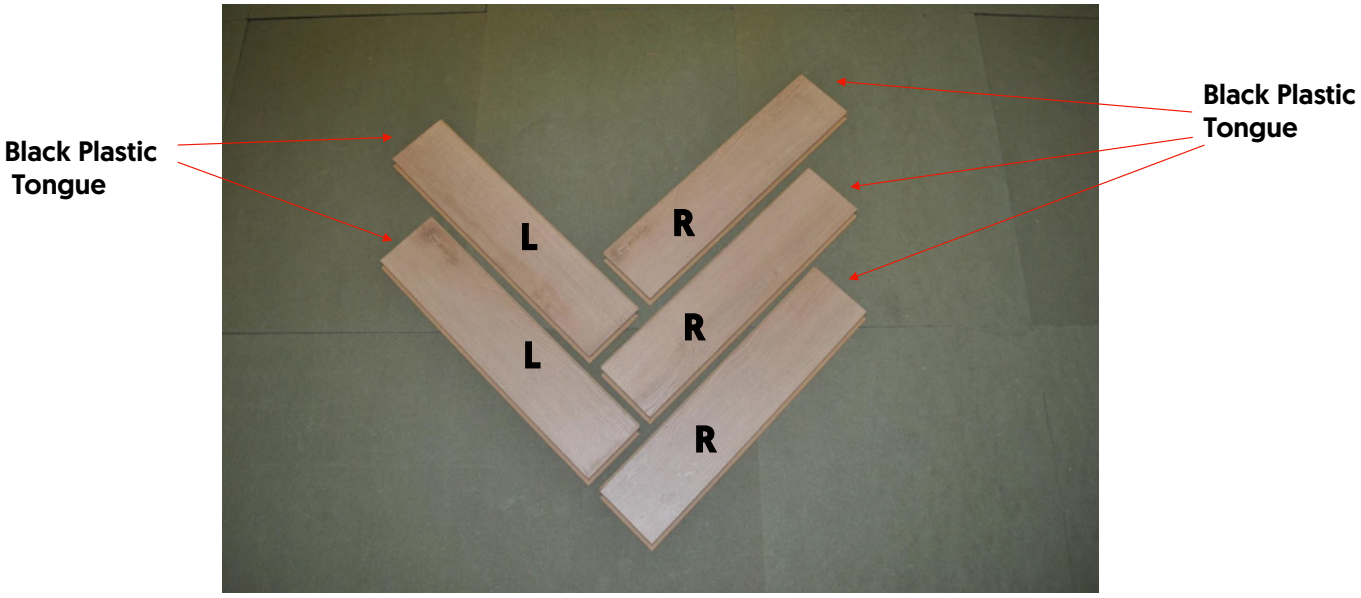


Left & Right Blocks

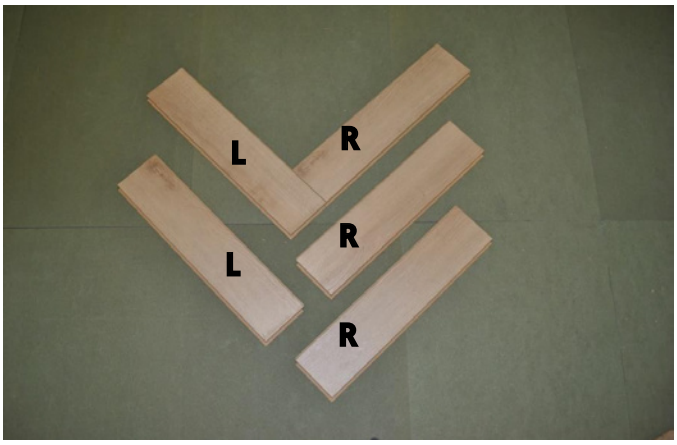
Natureffect Parquet is packed in left and right boxes so the first thing to do is identify these boxes and separate them in groups of Left and Right. Natureffect® Parquet is made in France and some boxes may have French labels so look out for **Droit** (Right) and **Gauche** (Left). Each block is also labelled on it's base in French, **Droit** (Right) and **Gauche** (Left)

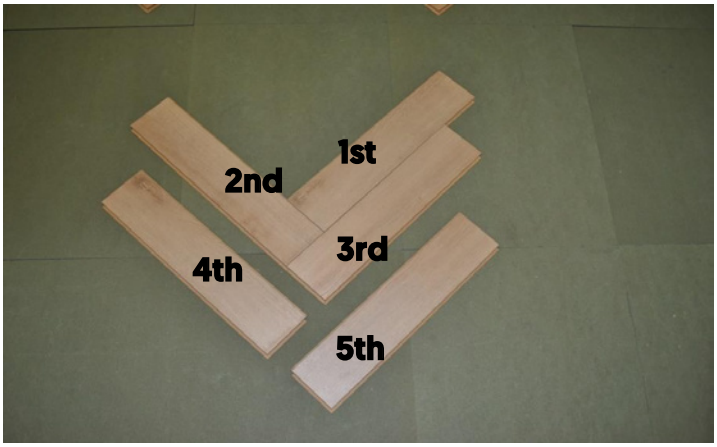
1. Making the Template Triangles

Use 2 Left planks and 3 Right planks. The planks are identified on the cartons and the rear of each plank with “Gauge” = Left and “Droit” = Right. The planks are positioned with the black plastic tongue pointing to the Left for Left Planks and to the Right for Right Planks.

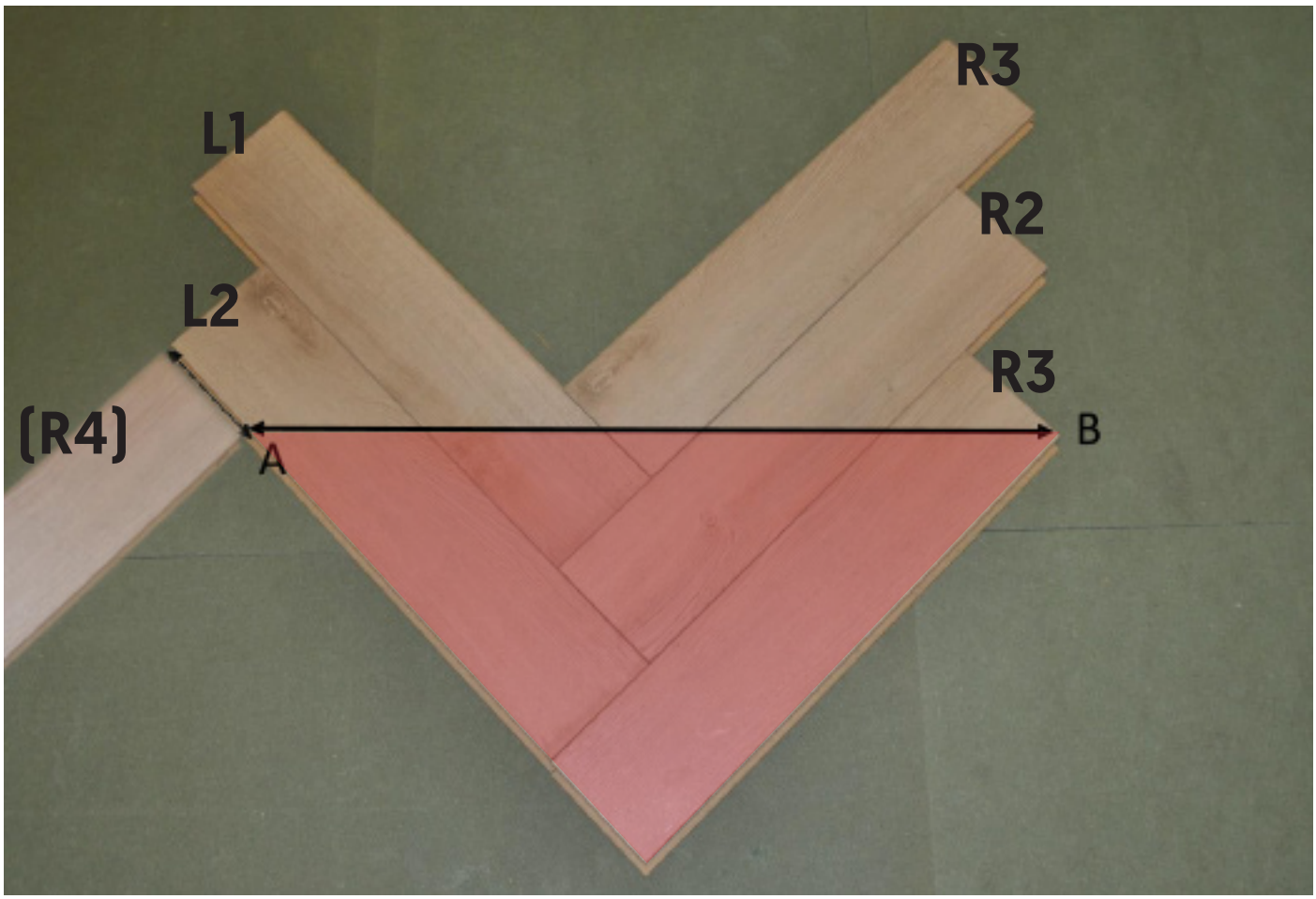


Place the left and right planks in the order shown below. Place the 1st plank (Right) then fit the 2nd plank (Left) connecting the long edge to the short edge of the 1st Plank. Now place the 3rd plank (Right) connecting the long edge to both the short and long edge of the second and first planks. Repeat this process with the 4th and 3rd planks.

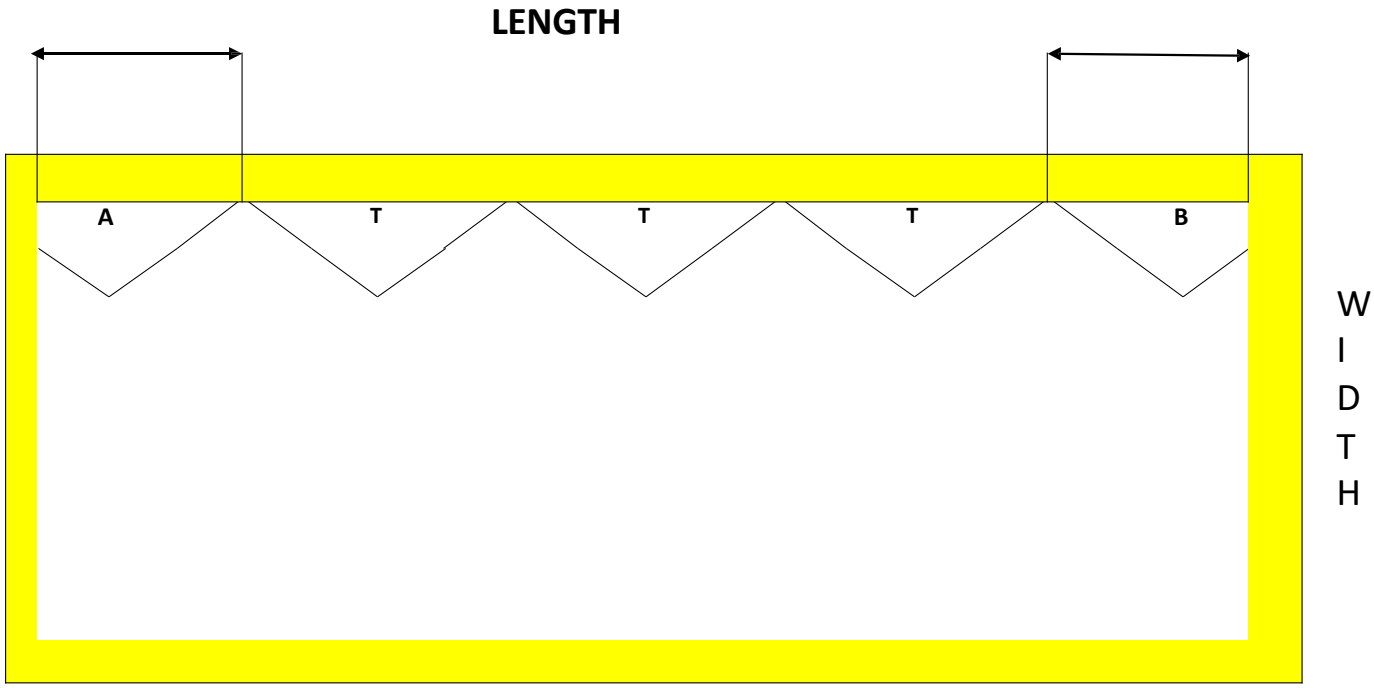




2. Before cutting the planks make the first triangle using R4 as as a guide to draw a cutting line from point A (which is 143 mm from the corner of plank L2) to point B the corner of plank R3. Use a hand saw or jigsaw to cut the pieces of the triangle. Keep the offcuts which can be used to finish the floor.

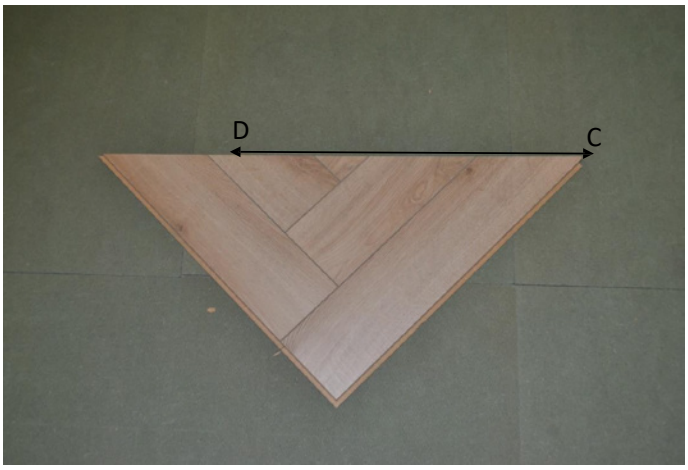


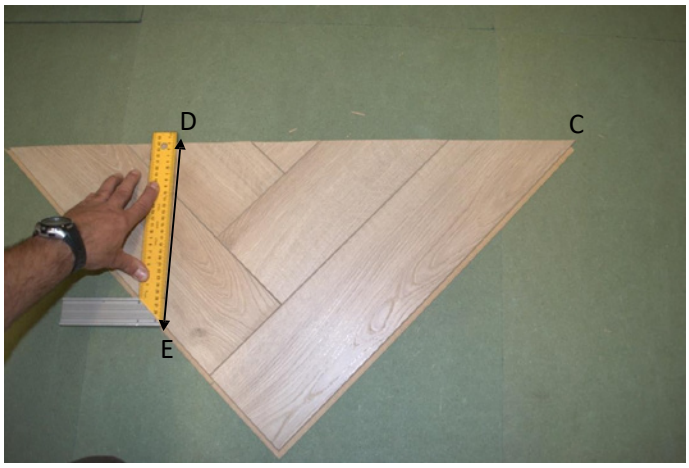
3. Measuring the length of your starting wall work out how many full triangles (T) can fit in the space then having cut them place side by side against the back wall using spacers to create an 8 mm expansion gap. The triangles A and B on both sides will need to be cut to size to fit the corners of the room.



Cutting Triangle A

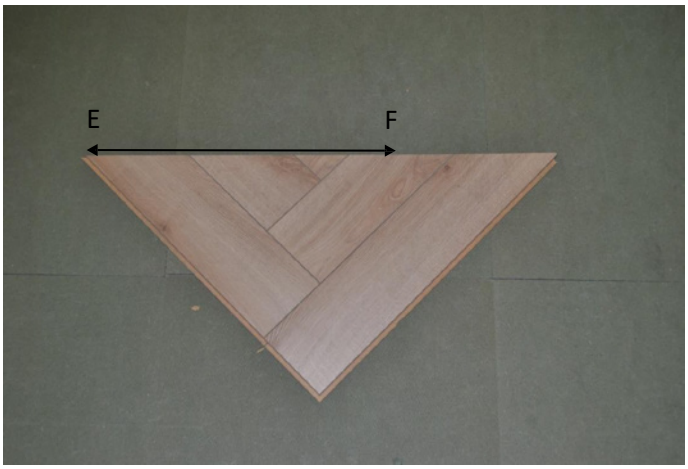
Measure the dimension CD and cut the triangle to size along DE to fit against the left side wall

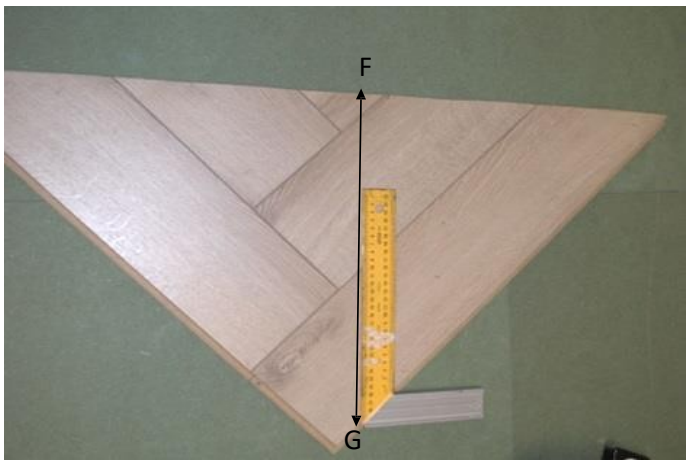


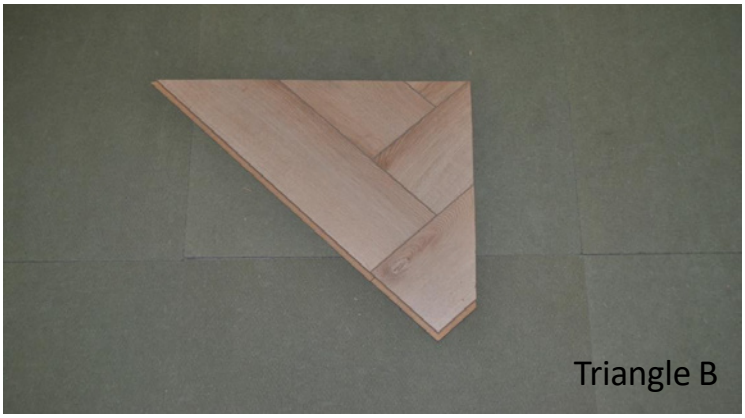


Cutting Triangle B

Measure the dimension EF and cut the triangle to size along FG to fit against the right side wall.

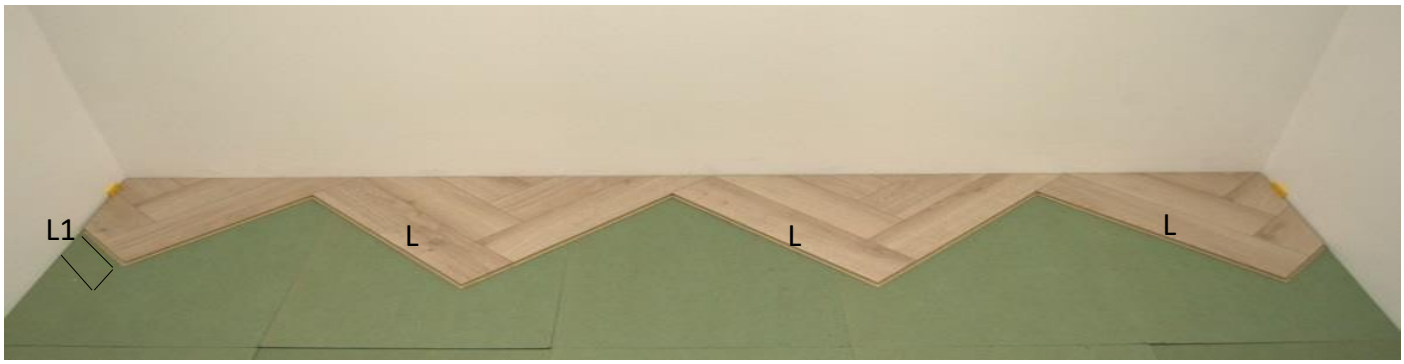




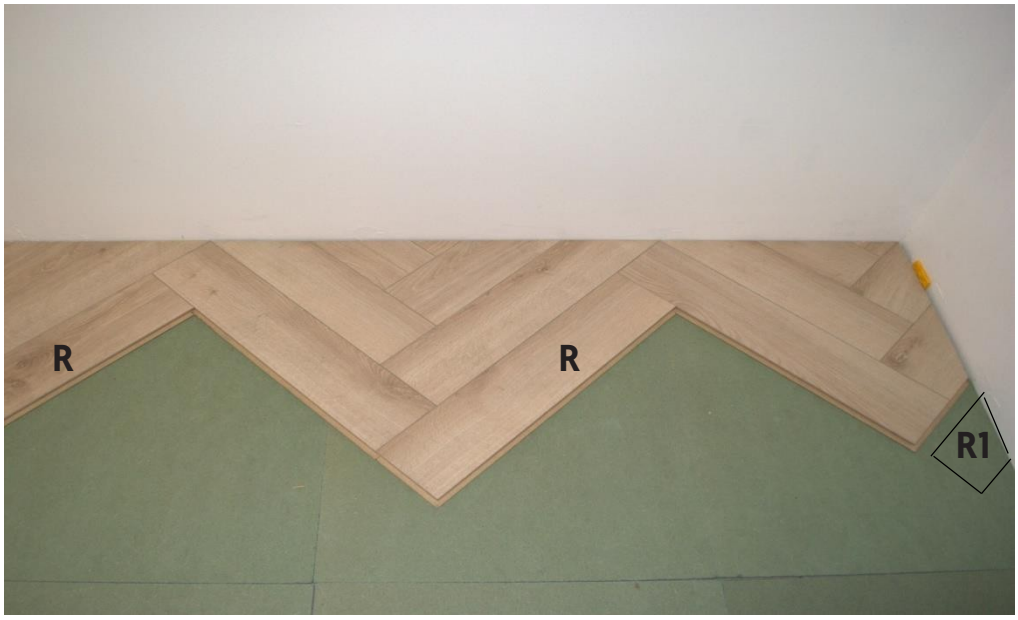


Position the Triangles starting with Triangle A on the Left

Install the first Left Planks (marked “Gauche”) with the Black Plastic tongue pointing to the left. Next install the missing Left Plank piece **L1**.



Now fit the right planks (marked “Droit”) with the black plastic header joint to the right and measure the missing right plank piece, **R1** to fit against the wall.



Repeat this process to complete the floor

For more information email enquiries@v4woodflooring.co.ukor call 01276 488099