

How to Install Laminate Floors

A common way to improve a home without breaking the bank is to install laminate floors in your kitchen, bedrooms, or living room. Believe it or not, this project doesn't require a professional contractor to do. In fact, many people would say that installing [laminate flooring](#) can be a fun and easy DIY job.

Grabbing some cheap laminate flooring from your local hardware store is really just the first step to getting your home to look good as new. We suggest getting some quality laminate flooring, such as [Mannington laminate](#), or if you are looking for a very easy install, [Quickstep laminate](#). It's important to look for a pattern that matches your furniture and actually meshes with your taste in flooring. Make sure that you buy extra flooring, because you will need 10% extra for the cuts.

Once you have gotten the flooring, stack them and give the tiles the chance to breathe for at least 2 days before installation. This ensures that the flooring will acclimatize to the weather conditions of the room (expand and contract), and lay flat during and after installation. Move out any and all furniture in the room where the laminate tile is going to be installed. Clean the sub floor, making sure to get rid of any dust, molding, or grit that could be left over. It's also wise to trim door jambs before you continue. The cleaner the sub floor, the easier to install.

After it's clear, install the laminate underlay soundproof material (most of the [laminate floors underlayments](#) have vapor barrier and soundproof at the same time) by laying it out one row at a time. After you have finished installing the barrier, you can lay out the first row of laminate flooring, and then continue installing the rest of it. It's worth noting that if you want to add molding to the corners of your room, it's smart to keep ½ inch of space around the edges of the wall. This helps give your flooring a cleaner look once the installation is finished.

There is a high chance that you will end up needing laminate tiles that aren't perfectly square or rectangular. Should you need to work around corners, cut a tile of the extra laminate flooring that you bought to fit it. Cutting laminate flooring tiles can be done fairly easily if you have an exacto knife. You might also need to trim laminate tiles for your last tile in a row.

Once you have finished the actual laminate install, it's best to install molding around the edges of your room, and to reinstall a door threshold. This helps put the look of a room together, and it also helps make everything just that more durable. That's how easy laminate installing happens to be!