8 COMMON SUB-FLOOR INSTALLATION MISTAKES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

FROM TIGHT SPACING TO IMPROPER FASTENERS, SIMPLE ERRORS CAN LEAD TO CALLBACKS. HERE'S A BEST-PRACTICE REFRESHER.

IMPROPER SPACING BETWEEN PANELS

Except for tongue and groove (T&G) joints, panel ends should be spaced 1/8 in. T&G joints are selfspacing to 1/16—do NOT force together.



2 UPSIDE-DOWN INSTALLATION

In all cases, the detailed panel trademark stamp should be installed downward so it can be examined during inspections.



3 IMPROPER FASTENER PLACEMENT



4 NOT GLUING PROPERLY

For best results, don't glue too far ahead. Work no more than one panel ahead. Also, applying a small bead of glue in the tongue-and-groove can significantly help reduce any movement and noise.

6 DELAYING FASTENING

Fasten each panel fully as you go to ensure full adhesion and to avoid movement and noise down the road.

10 USING IMPROPER FASTENERS

Use code approved fasteners, such as ring-shank and screw-shank nails, to help prevent movement.



1 LETTING WATER SIT

If the floor system is exposed to the elements and bulk water is present, sweep it off or drill drainage holes.



8 IMPROPER STORAGE

Always store panels in a clean, dry area and off the ground. If stored outside: cover panels with plastic sheets or tarps. Keep cover open and away from the sides and bottom of the panels to allow for air circulation.



A well-installed sub-floor is one that homeowners don't have to think about after they move in. Avoiding these common errors can help ensure your flooring system is stable, quiet and reliable for years to come.



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WARNING: Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products can expose you to wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/wood.