

The Craftsman Collection Installation Instructions

➤ INTRODUCTION

This manual introduces the basic information to know before your installation of The Craftsman Collection flooring. Please read the entire manual carefully before proceeding with the installation.

➤ PRE-INSTALLATION WARRANTY

To ensure you are receiving the floor that you like and need, it is the installer's duty, whether a professional or a DIYer, to inspect all flooring before installation. If during the inspection, the installer or buyer feels or finds the flooring either has wrong color, wrong gloss level, finish problems, off-grade, or improperly manufactured, do NOT install the flooring. Please immediately contact the retailer from where the flooring was purchased. No claim will be accepted for visually defective flooring once it's installed. The installed flooring is deemed to be acceptable. Since wood is a product of nature, not plastic, standard industry practice allows for up to 5% of flooring shipped to have milling, handling, finish and/or grade defects. This warranty applies only to material that is in excess of this 5%.

➤ IMPORTANT

The Herringbone and Chevron pattern layout in the Craftsman Collection is only recommended to be installed with glue-down, nail-down, or nail-assisted glue-down installation. Precision is the key when installing parquet hardwood flooring. Verify measurements and frequently check for row alignments are necessary to ensure the accuracy and the outcome of the installation. Installing parquet flooring requires advanced skills and is suggested to be performed by qualified professional installers. Warranty coverage may be lost due to failure of installation and/or the use of improper materials or tools.

➤ JOBSITE REQUIREMENTS

1) All work involving water or moisture should be complete before installing hardwood flooring.

For any new construction or remodeling project, hardwood flooring should be one of the last items installed. The jobsite should be monitored for consistent, normal room temperature of 68°F (16°C) in winter and 74°F(22°C) in summer, and relative humidity of 40~60% for at least one week before installation. This flooring should be kept in the shrink-wrapped boxes until immediately before installation. DO NOT remove from packaging and acclimate like solid hardwood floors! This can make the flooring very difficult to install. Tolerances between the tongue and groove are so exact that any expansion of the tongue due to acclimation might make the T&G fit too tight for easy installation. DO NOT install in areas subject to moisture, such as bathrooms or laundry rooms. Although this flooring can be glued directly to concrete, DO NOT use a concrete sealer nor install over one. See adhesive manufacturer's instructions and follow them to ensure problem free installation and access to their glue warranty. The concrete must be high compressive strength. All concrete sub-floors should be tested for moisture content using the calcium chloride test. In case of a claim, the only acceptable, accurate test method for sub-floor moisture content is the calcium chloride test.

2) All sub-floors must be level and clean

The maximum tolerance is 3/16" per 10'. If necessary, flatten out any irregularities using #20 grit paper and fill any low spots with leveling compound recommended by adhesive manufacturer. Prepare slab according to adhesive manufacturer's recommendation.

3) Wood sub-floors must be

Dry and well secured, with moisture content under 12%. The bottom side, if facing outside (like a crawl space) must be under 15% MC and a 6-mil Polyfilm placed over the dirt in the crawl space. Adequate ventilation must exist, with clearance of 18" to 24". Nailed down or screwed down every 6 inches along the joist to avoid squeaking. Leave 1/8" gap around perimeter. Leveling by sanding or grinding down high spots and filling in low spots with an underlayment patch as necessary. Preferred subfloor: 3/4" CDX grade Plywood subfloor / underlayment (Exposure 1), 4' x 8' sheets or 3/4" OSB subfloor / underlayment grade, PS2 rated, sealed side down, with joist spacing of 19.2" on center or less.

4) Concrete sub-floor must be

Fully cured for at least 60 days. Installed properly with minimum 6-mil Polyfilm between concrete and ground.

Dry all year round. DO NOT install over concrete if you are not sure it will remain dry. Use calcium chloride test to test for moisture. Follow adhesive manufacturer's suggestions.

5) *Sheet vinyl must be*

Well bonded and fully glued to the floor. Do not install over perimeter glued floors. This warranty does not apply if not fully and securely bonded to subfloor. DO NOT install over vinyl thicker than 1/8" or more than one layer of vinyl. In good condition with cleaned and leveled surface, no debris. DO NOT install over vinyl tiles. Consult adhesive maker about suitability - adhesive is not warranted. Please follow adhesive maker's guidelines. Abrading of the vinyl surface might be necessary.

➤ **TOOLS NEEDED FOR INSTALLATION**

- Personal protective equipment
- Moisture meter
- Thermos-hygrometer
- Vapor retarder
- Straight edge, string line, or laser
- Chalk line
- Tape measure
- Trammel points
- Speed Square and steel square
- Plywood backer board
- Flooring nailer and/or flooring adhesive
- Miter saw or table saw
- Router with proper bits
- Clean-up tools
- Other miscellaneous tools

➤ **PREPARATION**

Visually inspect the boards before installation. Once installed, the boards are considered accepted by the installer and the homeowner. Each pack of Chevron contains same amount of left and right pieces. A left piece and a right piece will be required to form each joint. Each pack of Herringbone contains a universal form of planks with grooves on both ends and a packet of slip-tongues or splines. Slip-tongue or spline is used at each end connection.

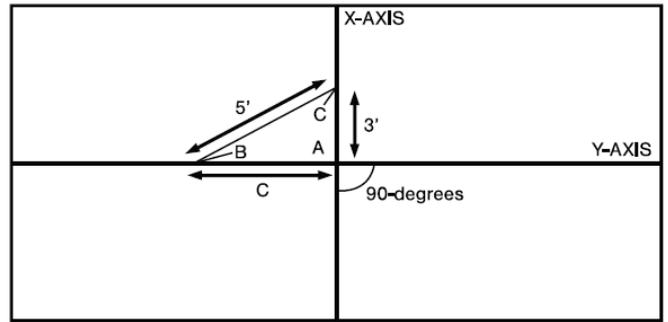
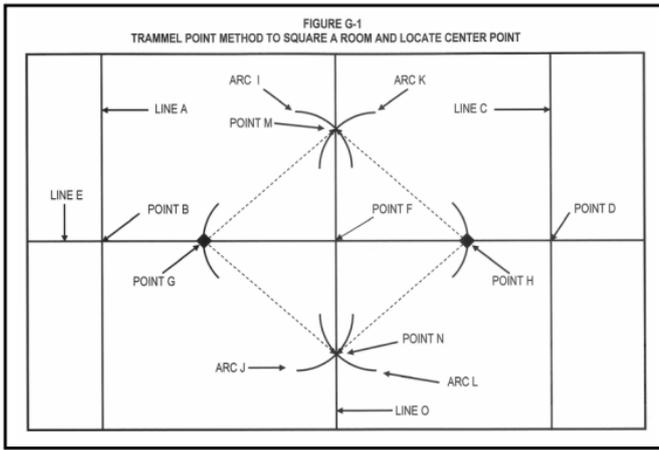
Determine the layout for the floor and the direction the pattern will run. The direction of Chevron/Herringbone can run in accordance with client's preference. Typically, the pattern will follow the length of the room. *Flatness of the subfloor is critical when dealing with any parquet type installation. Please follow Chevron/Herringbone installation guide in accordance with the selected product.

➤ **START INSTALLATION**

When working with the longest direction of the room or directed at a focal point, start by establishing **Center point of the room and Working**

Lines:

- 1) Measure the width of the room from top to bottom left of center (Line A).
- 2) Find the center of Line A and mark it (Point B).
- 3) Measure the width of the room from top to bottom right of center (Line C).
- 4) Find the center of Line C and mark it (Point D).
- 5) Adjust for any difference in center between Point B & Point D. For example, if Point B is one inch different than Point D, divide the difference by two to establish the new center point of Line A
- 6) Snap a line the length of the room from Point B through Point D. This is now Line E.
- 7) Find the center point of Line E and mark it Point F.
- 8) From Point F, use trammel point at fixed position on flat board to mark through Line E left of center, and mark it Point G.
- 9) From Point F, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board to mark through Line E right of center, and mark it Point H.
- 10) From Point G, use trammel point at a fixed position on flat board draw arc above Line E. Mark this Arc I.
- 11) From Point H, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc below Line E. Mark this Arc J.
- 12) From Point G, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc below Line E. Mark this Arc K.
- 13) From Point H, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc above Line E. Mark this Arc L.
- 14) Where Arc I and Arc K intersect, mark it Point M.
- 15) Where Arc J and Arc L intersect, mark it Point N.
- 16) Snap a line from Point M through Point N, and mark it Line O.
- 17) Where Line O intersects Line E is the center of the room. Line E and Line O also form a 90-degree angle.
- 18) Use the 3- 4- 5 method as shown in Figure 2 to check for squareness.

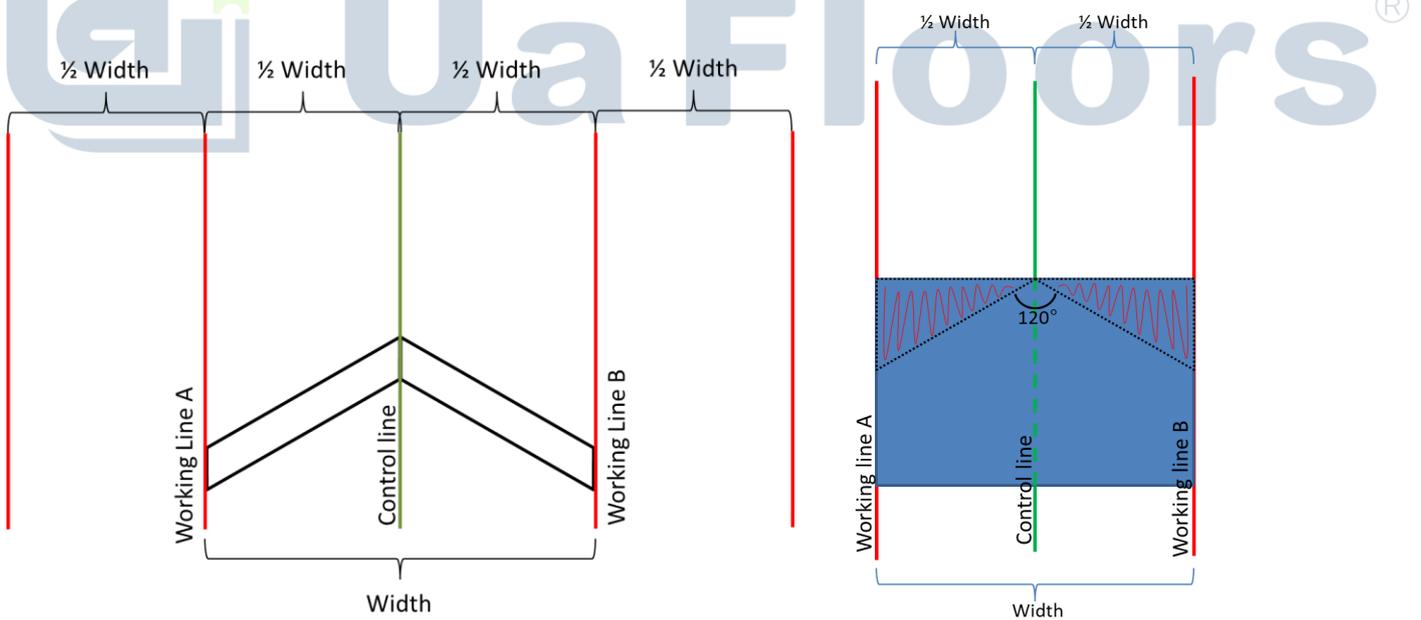


➤ **INSTALLING 60°(wide angle) CHEVRON PATTERN (Skip this part if you are installing the Herringbone pattern)**

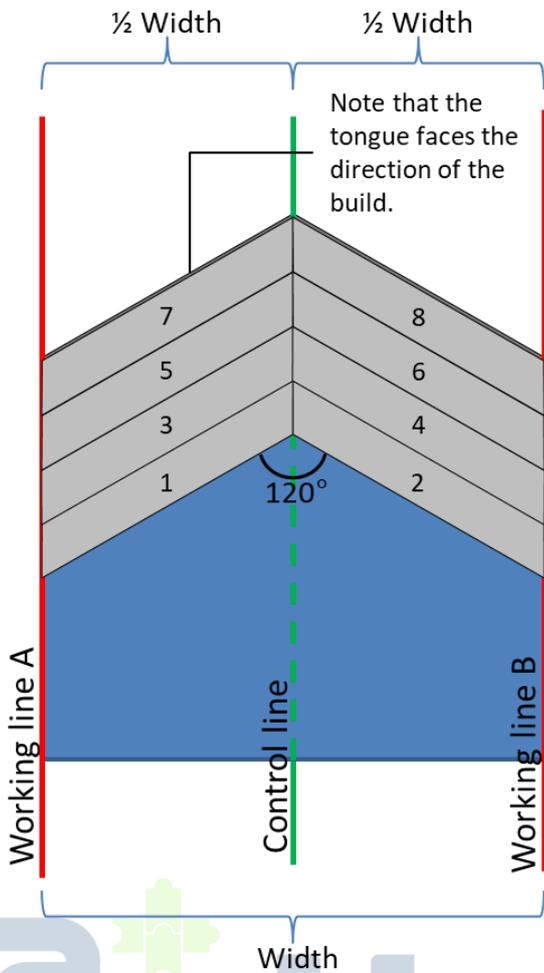
1) Set up working lines

- Be sure to work with multiple packages to ensure variation.
- Use Line O as Control line, find true center on the pattern to establish the working lines as shown in Figure a below.
- Measure the entire pattern width and divide by 2 to get the distance between control line and working line.
- Strike two working lines on either side of the control line.
- Use the same distance to repeat the working lines throughout the installation.

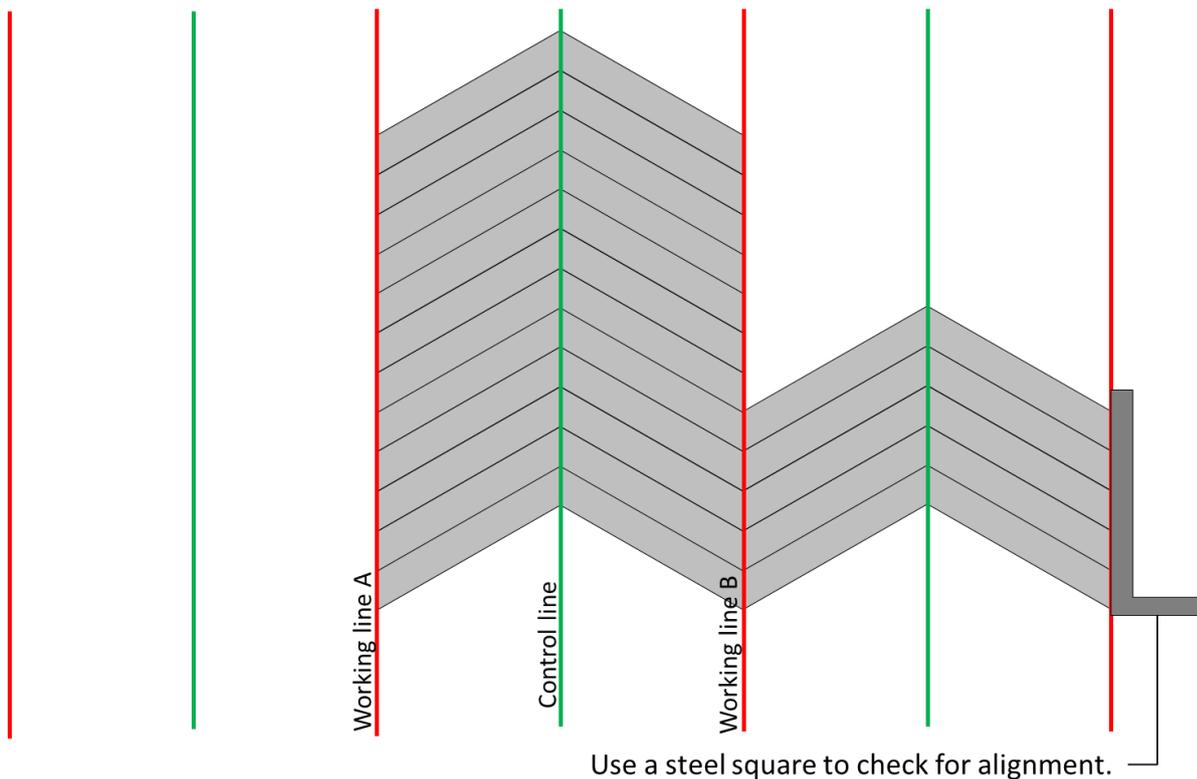
2) Once the working lines are established, the installation can begin. The starting point must include control line and working lines as described previously. To keep the installation straight, cut a piece of plywood the size of the chevron pattern with a 120° corner and anchor it at the control line as shown in Figure b below.



3) Dry-lay a small section of the flooring as shown in Figure c below, measure to confirm a balanced layout.



- 4) Start the installation with left piece and a right piece while the tongue facing toward the build direction. Install with choice of glue-down, nail-down, or nail-assisted glue-down installation method
- 5) Install the pattern one row at a time, and periodically check for alignment by using a steel square as shown in Figure d below.

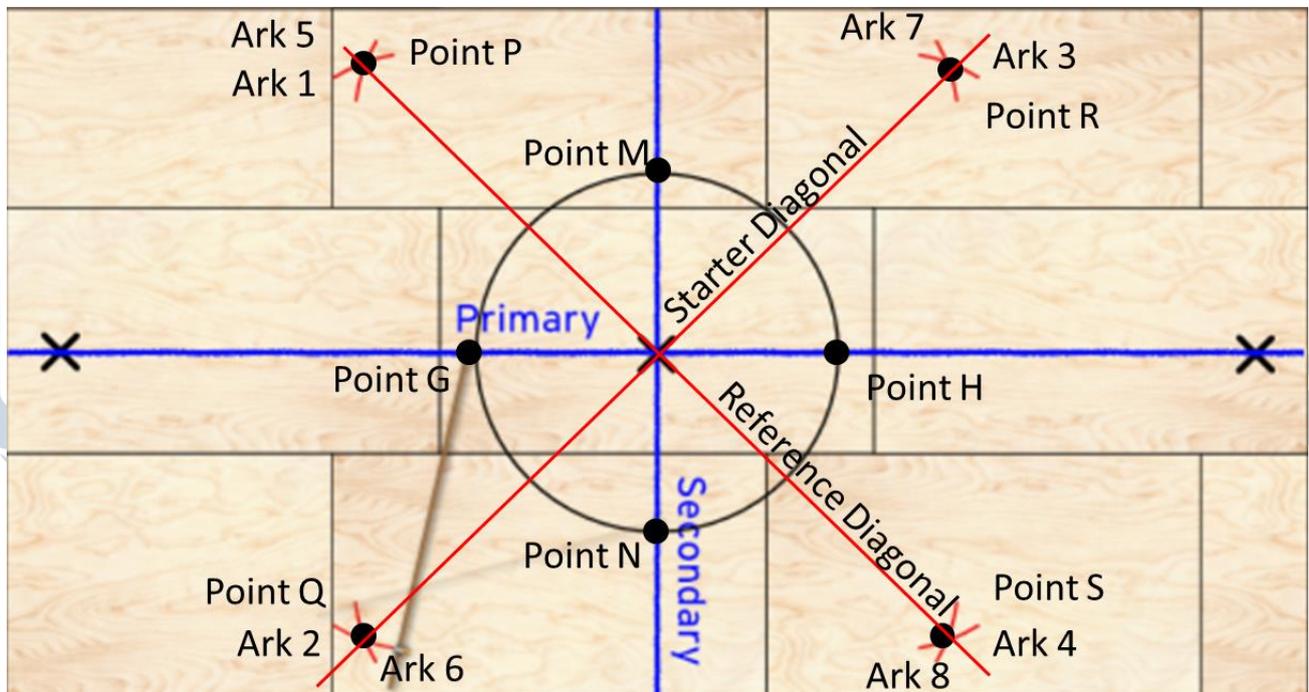


- 6) Repeat these steps to continue the pattern.

➤ **INSTALLING HERRINGBONE PATTERN (Skip this part if you are installing the Chevron pattern)**

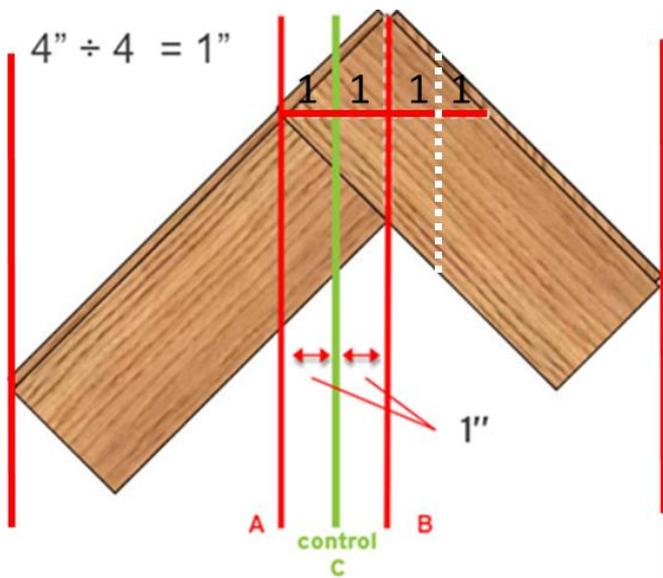
1) Find the 45° angles

- From point G, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc above/below Line E. Mark it Arc 1, Ark 2.
- From point H, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc above/below Line E. Mark it Arc 3, Ark 4.
- From point M, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc to the left/right of Line D. Mark it Arc 5, Ark 6.
- From point N, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board draw arc to the left/right of Line D. Mark it Arc 7, Ark 8.
- Where Arc 1 and Arc 5 intersect, mark it Point P.
- Where Arc 2 and Arc 6 intersect, mark it Point Q.
- Where Arc 3 and Arc 7 intersect, mark it Point R.
- Where Arc 4 and Arc 8 intersect, mark it Point S.
- Snap a line from Point P through Point S, and mark it Reference Diagonal.
- Snap a line from Point Q through Point R, and mark it Starter Diagonal.
- Reference Diagonal/ Starter Diagonal should intersect Line E and Line O and form a 45-degree angle.



2) Set up working lines

- Use Line O as Control line.
- Measure for true center on the herringbone pattern to establish working lines as shown in Figure 4.
- Divide the measurement by four; this will be the distance between Control line and working lines.
- Using the measurement derived above, strike two working lines on either side of the main control line as shown.



- 3) Once the working lines are established, the installation can begin. The starting point must include working lines and diagonal lines as described previously. To keep the installation square, cut a square piece of plywood the size of the herringbone pattern and anchor it at the intersection of the working lines and diagonal lines as shown in Figure 5 below.

FIGURE (5)

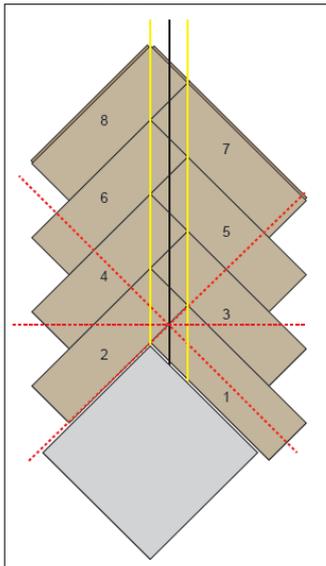
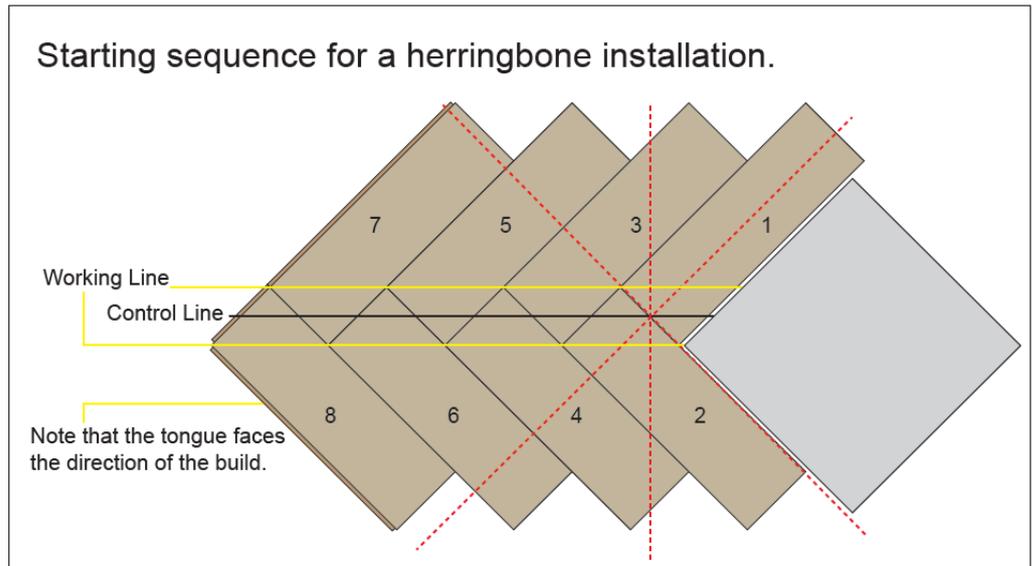
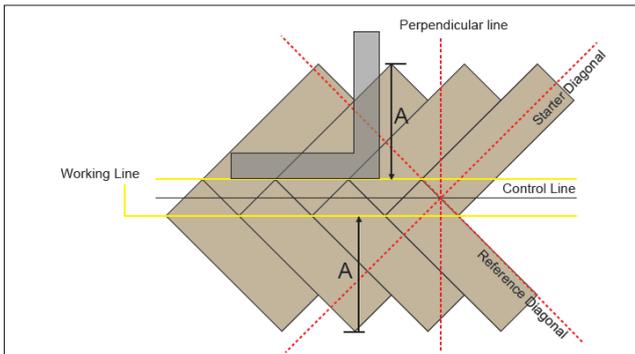


FIGURE (6)

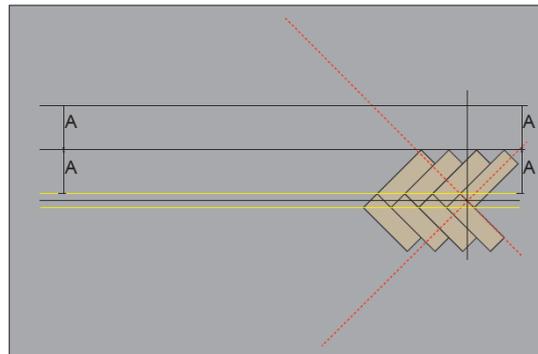


- 4) Once you have dry lay up to eight boards as shown in Figure 6 above, record measurement A (shown in Figure 7), this becomes your working line for the next course. Measurement A is the distance between two working lines and can be repeated throughout the installation as shown below Figure 8.

FIGURE (7)



FIGURE(8)



- 5) Start the installation with the tongue facing toward the build direction, use the Slip-tongue or spline at the end facing toward the build



direction to connect the next piece. Install with choice of glue-down, nail-down, or nail-assisted glue-down installation method.

- 6) Install the pattern one row at a time, and periodically check for alignment and squareness by using a carpenter square.
- 7) Repeat these steps to continue the pattern.

➤ **AFTER INSTALLATION**

If nailed, the newly installed floor is complete and can be walked on immediately.

If glued, allow the newly installed floor to fully cure based on adhesive recommendations before allowing foot traffic or moving furniture on the floor.

Remove any adhesive from the surface of the flooring (smudges, fingerprints, etc.) before it dries.

Use wood filler or putty to correct minor flooring damage that might occur during installation.

Retain excess planks for future repairs.

➤ **General Installation Instructions (see NWFA at www.nwfa.org for more details)**

Flooring should be laid at right angles to the floor joists and, if possible, in the direction of the longest dimension of the room.

All products have a UV-cured factory finish. It is important to make sure that the nail gun face plate will not damage the surface finish.

Keep face plate clean - scratching caused by abrasive material on nailer face is not warranted.

End joints of plank : These should be staggered to achieve the best appearance in the finished floor. (Minimum 6")

Nailing schedule for flooring: Nail on 6" to 8" centers in the tongue, also nail within 2" of each end joint. The last few rows might require hand nailing and/or face nailing, countersinking, and filling with putty.

➤ **Important Notes**

Baseboards should be installed so that their lower edge is slightly above the level of the finished floor but not nailed into the floor.

DO NOT install any product with visible defects.

To avoid movement in hardwood floor, relative humidity should be maintained year round at 40%~60% Relative Humidity.

