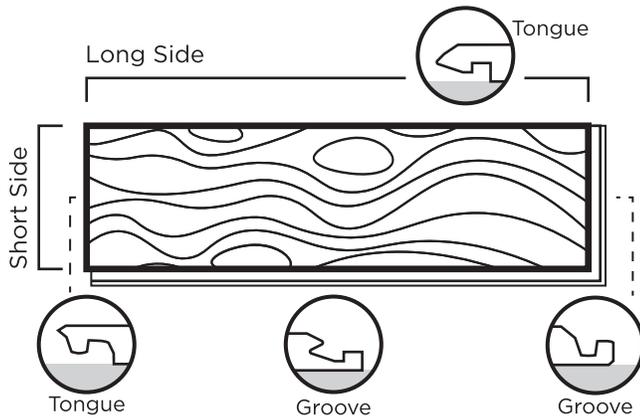


Key Points for a Successful Installation



SONO is a unique product, a first of its kind, and it has some unique handling and installation requirements. This document provides an overview, tips and best practices on how to handle and install SONO. For more comprehensive installation instructions and information on this product contact customer support at [1.888.255.3412](tel:18882553412) or visit inhausurfaces.com/support



STORAGE, HANDLING AND OTHER PRECAUTIONS

- Think of SONO more as a ceramic tile; it is robust once installed but needs to be handled carefully until it is. In addition, ensure that boxes are not treated roughly or dropped.
- Inspect cartons and planks for visible damage.
- Cartons must always be stored flat. **DO NOT** stand cartons on their ends.
- During installation, do not directly hit or press SONO with any tools as this can cause damage to the locking system.
- **DO NOT** use tools designed for the installation of other floors, such as rollers and tapping-blocks as they will damage the planks.

BEFORE INSTALLATION

SUBFLOOR

- Ensure that the subfloor is structurally sound and clean.
- Subfloor variations should not exceed 3/16 inch per 10 feet.
- Concrete subfloor must be properly cured and allowed to dry for at least 60 days prior to installation.
- Perform a moisture test on the subfloor before installing SONO.

UNDERLAY

- SONO requires an underlay that will provide the product with a stable base.
- Inhaus Dynamix Prime or an equivalent underlay is required for floating installation. Other underlays must meet or exceed a minimum compressive strength of 45 PSI and have a maximum 1.5 mm thickness. Over concrete, a 6 mil polyethylene vapor

barrier is required (commonly pre-attached to the underlay).

EXPANSION

- Leave an expansion space of 3/8 inch between SONO planks and all walls and vertical objects (eg. toe kicks and plumbing).
- Never install cabinets, islands or other objects such as moldings or railings directly onto SONO planks. Any object that needs to be fastened directly to the subfloor should be installed before laying SONO.

TEMPERATURE

- Temperature during installation should be above 60° F (15° C).
- SONO should not be installed in areas where temperature extremes will be below 14° F or greater than 150° F (-10° C to 66° C).

ACCLIMATION

- SONO needs to be acclimated for 48 hours prior to installation. To do so, cross-stack unopened cartons at room temperature in the room where the installation will take place.

TRANSITIONS

- The maximum allowable length and width of installation without transitions is 100 feet (30 m).

PLANK MIXING

- Every SONO style features 18 unique plank designs. However, each carton may contain one or more duplicates inside. Always mix planks from 3 or more cartons to optimize plank-to-plank variation.
- Regularly review installed planks to minimize design repetition.

DOOR JAMBS

- When installing under door jambs or other locations that prevent angling for insertion, you will need to carefully trim the vertical member of the groove and then use a polypropylene-appropriate adhesive to hold the plank.
- Undercut door jambs to fit SONO underneath them, ensuring the 3/8 inch expansion space is present.

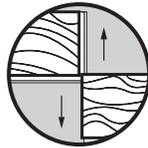


SONO planks are manufactured with Megaloc; a built-in locking mechanism that is designed to make the installation process quick and simple.

CONNECTING THE PLANKS

1. FIRST ROW

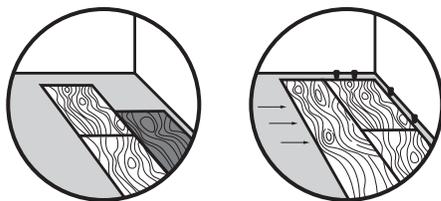
- There are two methods for connecting planks on the first row:
 - Lay the first plank on the floor; lay the second plank on the floor ensuring the short edges are next to each other, then horizontally slide the planks to engage the locking mechanism.
 - Overlap the short ends ensuring they are perfectly aligned; apply downward pressure to engage the locking mechanism.



NOTE: Thumb pressure should be enough to engage the locking mechanism.

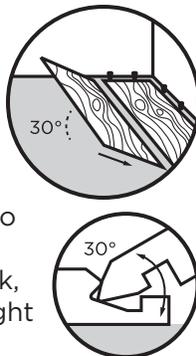
ALIGNING LONG EDGES

- It is very important to ensure that the long edges of the first row of planks are perfectly aligned. To help with this, use a few extra planks as guides. Once you've installed two rows, you can remove the guide planks and slide the connected planks against the wall being sure to leave the recommended expansion space.

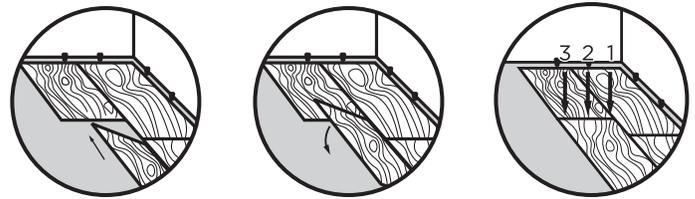


2. ALL OTHER ROWS

- To connect the first plank of the next row, raise its long edge groove to approximately 30 degrees and place its long edge tongue into the previous row's long edge groove. Slowly lower it while applying force towards the previous row to lock it into place. There will be a small amount of tension while you're lowering the plank, which can be overcome by using a slight oscillating (up and down) motion.
- To connect the rest of the planks in a row, first connect the plank's long edge in the manner described above. Before you lower the plank, slide it towards the previous plank in the row so that the short edges overlap. Lower the plank and apply



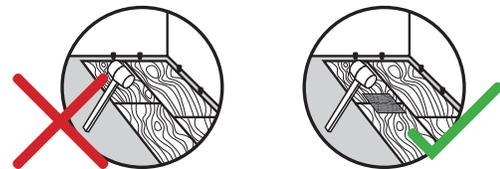
forward and downward pressure (beginning at the newly connected joint moving outwards) to lock the planks together.



- DO NOT** use excessive force to lock planks together. If the planks are not fitting together simply check the joint alignment or inspect joints for debris.

TIPS FOR FASTER INSTALLATION

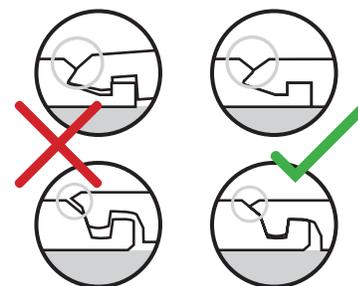
- You can use a rubber mallet instead of thumb pressure to install the short ends. However, you should **NOT** directly hit SONO with the mallet. To protect your SONO planks, place a scrap piece of SONO on top of the planks you are connecting and tap on the scrap piece.



NOTE: Hitting or tapping the planks you are installing directly can damage the product.

CHECKS FOR GOOD INSTALLATION

- There are two easy ways to tell if you've connected the planks properly:
 - Inspect planks for height differences by running your hands across the joint. Planks should be exactly the same height.
 - Inspect that the planks' bevels are the same size and shape. If they are not the same size and shape the planks have not been connected properly.



UNINSTALLATION

- To remove planks, uninstall the complete last row at one time by lifting its long edge to 30 degrees. Once the row is free from the rest of the installation, slide planks horizontally to separate the short ends.