

## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

**Robertodepiero** floorings must be installed only by professional and qualified personnel.

Inspections to be carried out before starting the installation process:

- the relative humidity of the air in the environment must be between 45% and 60% and the temperature must be between 10 and 25°C;
- the installation of door and window fittings and painting of the environment must have already been carried out;
- the plumbing, wiring and heating systems must have already been completed and tested.

Before installing the internal doors and the furniture while complying with the correct installation times, the parquet must be protected with corrugated cardboard, to be removed as soon as the work has been completed.

### **The screed surface**

In conformity with current legislation, the subfloor must have the appropriate thickness and mechanical strength; it must not have any progressive splits or cracks, it must be protected from sources of heat, water and humidity. It must have the right flatness, height and horizontality, it must be clean and free from substances that prevent the parquet from sticking.

Humidity must not exceed 2 CM % for normal concrete or quick drying non-heated screeds, 1.7 CM % for concrete heated screeds,

1.5 CM % for quick-drying heated concrete screeds, 0.5 CM % for non-heated anhydride screeds and 0.2 CM % for heated anhydride screeds.

It is compulsory to check the humidity rate by using the appropriate tool (carbide hygrometer), to fill in and to sign the relative control protocol, check that the installation of the screed is carried out on a vapour screen (on upper floors) or on a vapour barrier (on the ground floor or above basements).

***Before starting to install the parquet, we recommend you unwrap and choose as many slats as possible in order to create a harmonious pattern.***

The damaged or defective planks must not be laid.

### **Installation on heated screeds**

**Robertodepiero** parquet floorings are ideal to be installed on heated screeds if the specific installation regulations are complied with and if appropriate wood types and shapes are used. The ideal laying method is the glue-down installation while the installation of floating floors is recommended only in certain cases. The products used to prepare the screed such as levelling compounds, primers etc. must be specifically designed for use on heated screeds.

The heating engineer must guarantee that, when the heating is switched on, the temperature of the floor surface must not exceed 28° C.

Before starting the parquet installation procedure, the Clerk of Works must be able to guarantee the fitter the following conditions:

- the presence of the vapour barrier between the moisture-proofing layer and the thermal insulation layer;
- the minimum thickness of the screed must be 6 cm, of which at least 3 cm must be above the heating pipes.

Once the screed surface has hardened and is free from humidity, gradually turn on the heating, increasing its temperature day by day, starting with a temperature of 20° C the first day, 30° C the second day, 40° C the fourth day and 50° C the fifth day (the maximum operating temperature of the fluid). The cooling stage starts as from the sixteenth day, when the temperature of the fluid must be reduced by 10°C per day until a temperature of 20°C is reached once again.

Subsequently, the measurement with the carbide tool must be carried out again and the installation procedure can be started after 5 days from the switching off of the system, with a screed temperature between 15 and 20° C as well as a relative ambient humidity of approx. 60%. Following the installation of the parquet flooring, it is necessary to switch on the heating without covering the flooring in any way whatsoever, sheets, fabrics, cardboard, carpets). It is important to consider that during this initial stage, the parquet tends to settle and for this reason it is normal for small cracks to appear. It is of the utmost importance to maintain an ambient humidity rate between 45 and 60% by using appropriate humidifiers.

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**Failure to comply with this procedure (including the filling in and the signing of the "Parquet Installation on Heated screeds Protocol") causes the termination of all types of warranty, including that relating to any detachment of pieces of the top layer from the robertodepiero prefinished product supporting bottom layer.**

### **Glued-down installaton**

The glueing procedure must be carried out using suitable glues and this must be spread all over the surface area, avoiding glueing the sides of the parquet slats to each other. In order to obtain an installation that is up to standard, it is necessary to weight the parquet slats down for at least 3 hours. It is necessary to foresee expansion joints where necessary and to allow a space of approx. 10mm from the wall in order to achieve the correct expansion of the flooring itself.

### **Floating installation**

In order to protect the parquet from humidity, we recommend putting a polyethylene sheet directly onto the screed and to use the appropriate soundproofing mat for acoustic insulation. Allow a space of approx. 12 mm from the wall (both on the headwall and the sidewalls) so as to achieve the correct expansion of the parquet, positioning the first slat with the "groove" side facing the wall.

Glue all 4 sides of the slat by applying the glue in the slot of the "groove" joint and carry out the installation immediately after applying the glue. Always allow expansion joints on surfaces with a length exceeding 7 m in the installation direction and 6 m in the opposite direction. Once the glue has dried, remove the wedges from along the wall.

### **Maintenance treatment for oiled floors**

The first maintenance treatment following installation is compulsory. It is necessary in order to create an extra finishing layer that protects the parquet and it will have to be applied onto the clean floor, after having removed the glue and dust residues (using a vacuum cleaner). Once this treatment has been completed, allow the flooring to dry for at least 24 hours before walking on it or covering it with carpets or other floor coverings.

For the first 7 days after the treatment, the parquet must only be dry cleaned in order to allow the treatment to completely harden.

### **Instructions for use and maintenance**

Maintain an ambient humidity between 45% and 60% and a temperature of approx. 18-25° C. Avoid weighing the parquet down with heavy loads concentrated only in small areas of the flooring and to cover it with carpets or other floor coverings during the initial period, particularly if there there is underfloor heating.

### **Ordinary cleaning of varnished floors**

Remove dust with a soft cloth or by using the vacuum cleaner. For cleaning purposes, use a cloth that has been dampened with water and mild non-foaming detergent. The use of alcohol-based solutions, acid solvents and ammonia can irreparably damage the varnish.

### **Ordinary cleaning of oiled floors**

Remove dust with a soft cloth or by using the vacuum cleaner. For cleaning purposes, use a natural detergent, instead for extraordinary cleaning purposes use a more concentrated detergent that is suitable for removing old layers of maintenance products (soap, etc...).

### **Storage**

**The products must be kept in a closed, dry place (with a humidity 45-60%) and raised from the ground. Keep the product in its original packaging until it is installed.**