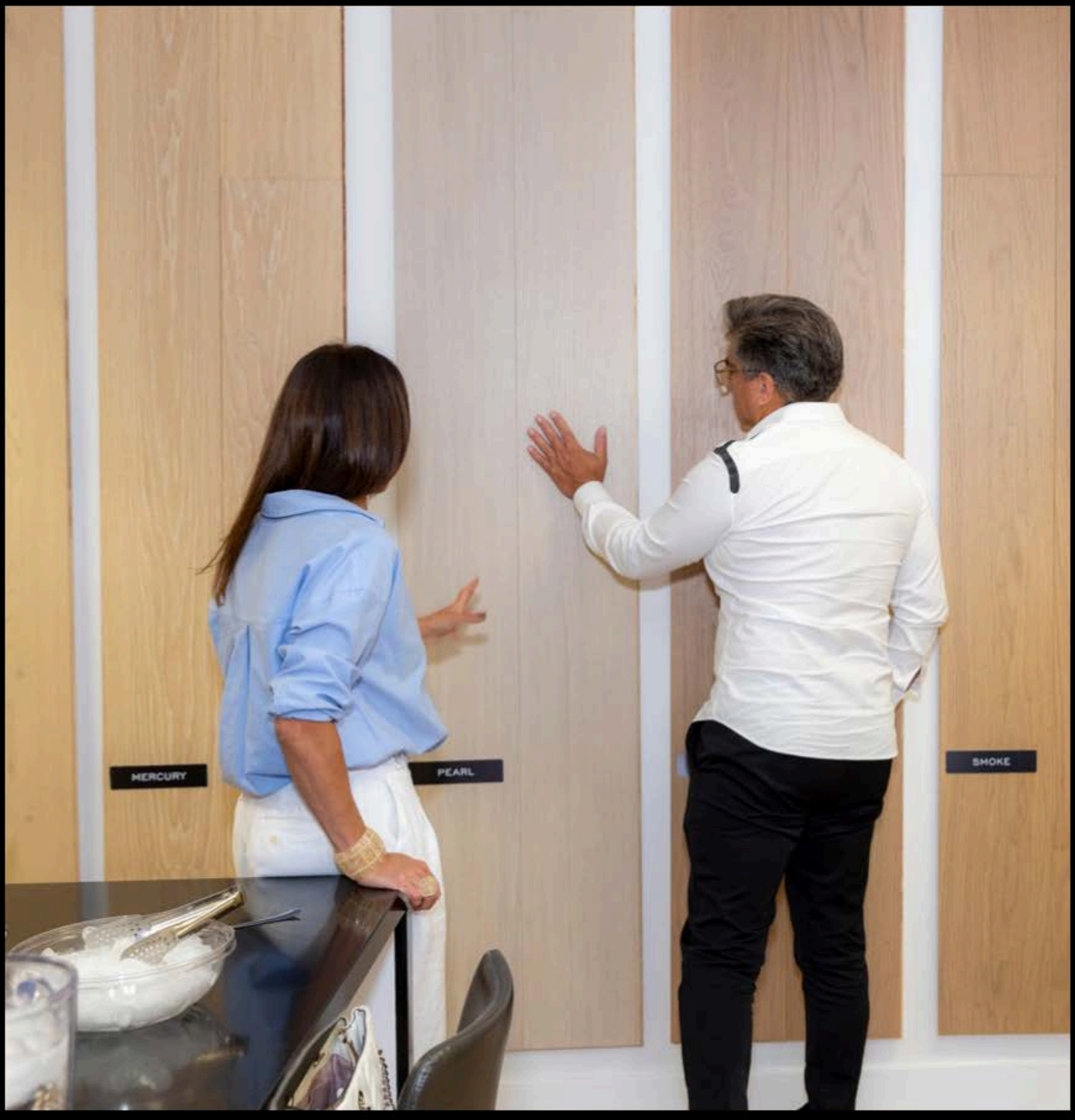
RIVA

SPAIN



INSTALLATION

INSTRUCTIONS

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The RIVA Company follow NWFA (National Wood Flooring Association) installation guidelines. Below is a general reference for RIVA engineered floor installation. For more detailed instructions, please refer to the NWFA website (www.nwfa.org)

DAMAGE

In the shipping of flooring materials, due to the fragile nature of the product, a minor damage during transit is expected. Any breakage that is less than 5% of the order is considered a "Minor breakage" industry-wide and will not qualify for refund or replacement. If the damage is in excess of 5%, our claim resolution team will step in to resolve the matter.

PRIOR TO INSTALLATION, it is the responsibility of the installer to inspect the product. If for any reason the materials do not match the order or if color, condition or quality come into question, **DO NOT INSTALL**. Please contact your flooring dealer immediately.

If during installation any planks that are deemed unacceptable should be set aside and not installed. Contact the dealer with any product related concerns. (Material installed is an indication of acceptance).

ACCLIMATION

DO NOT remove from packaging and acclimate like solid hardwood flooring. As wood is hygroscopic and responds to changes in temperature/humidity, proper acclimation is a very important step in ensuring a proper installation. Acclimation refers to the moisture content of the wood flooring and subfloor plus the conditions of the job site in terms of Temperature and Relative Humidity. Improper acclimation can cause a host of issues such as buckling, shrinking and/or cupping after installation.

•The bundles of flooring should be stored in a cool dry environment (30-60% relative humidity). Boxes should remain sealed prior to acclimation and install.

•Suggested acclimation for RIVA engineered flooring would be to open the packaging estimated 48 hours prior to installation within the indoor environment that the floors will be installed in.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

All work involving water or moisture should be completed before installing hardwood flooring. For any new construction or remodeling project, hardwood flooring should be one of the last items installed. HVAC systems must be operational and controlling site temperature and humidity.

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•The area to receive flooring [and adhesive] must be properly conditioned at normal occupancy temperature (60-80°F), and humidity levels (30-55% humidity). Proper RH levels must be maintained for a minimum of one week prior to installation as well as during and continuously following installation for the life of the floor.

•Excessively dry conditions over an extended period of time, or dramatic fluctuations in RH can lead to material issues such as "checking"(slight cracking of the flooring surface) gapping around the joints or cupping.

•In extremely dry climates or areas that have dramatic fluctuations in humidity, a humidifier may be necessary.

•Wood flooring has a comfort level: wood flooring will perform best when the interior environment is controlled to stay within a relative humidity range of 30-55% and a temperature range between 60 – 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

INSTALLATION

•When installing, work from several open boxes at once to ensure proper color variation of the flooring.

•RIVA Engineered hardwood floors are approved to be installed above grade, on grade or below grade.

•Subfloor should be clean, flat and free of debris prior to installation.

•For concrete subfloors with any cracks or uneven surfaces, it may be necessary to use a self-leveling compound to achieve proper subfloor conditions.

•Wood subfloor integrity; subfloor should be inspected for movement, objectionable noises, water damage, delamination or damaged areas. All such observations should be addressed prior to installation by a licensed installer.

•For more specific subfloor preparation details, please reference current NWFA guidelines.

•For the RIVA Metro collection, approved installation methods are glue, nail/staple or floating. For floating, adhesive designed for use in the tongue/groove must be used.

•For floating installation, moisture and/or sound barrier underlayment material is recommended. (Follow appropriate vendor instructions for such underlayment options)

•For RIVA Elite and RIVA MAX Collections, it is recommended glue, nail/staple installation (with glue assist).

•For glue installation, please refer to the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for trowel size, set time etc. Any bond related issues fall under the adhesive manufacturers warranty.

•RIVA engineered floors are 5/8" thick. For staple/nail installation, it is recommended
1 ½" to 2" , 16-18 gauge staples or equivalent fastener for stapler/nailer of choice.

•Staple gapping should be approximately 6"-8" and within 2" from the ends of the planks.

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•Stagger end joints of boards row to row a minimum 10" for planks wider than 6".

•Expansion gaps are recommended of 15mm around the perimeter of the room and any fixed objects. (cabinets, piping, pillars etc.) The use of spacing wedges is suggested to ensure expansion gaps remain consistent.

•When laying the flooring through hallways to adjoining rooms, it is recommended to change plank direction or allow an expansion gap at doorways. Use of coordinating trim piece can be used to cover such required gaps.

•When joining the flooring planks together, it is recommended to use tapping blocks. Never use a hammer or mallet to hit directly on the flooring or the flooring edge, as this may damage the material and would not be covered as manufacturers defect.

•During glue down installation, it is recommended to use flooring straps to pull rows together while the adhesive sets, preventing plank movement.

•NEVER use any form of adhesive tape on the surface of the flooring. Such tape can remove the finish or damage the surface of the floor.

•To cover expansion gaps, use of baseboards or coordinating trim pieces is recommended. Never attach such trims to the floor itself. Attach to the vertical surface material.

RADIANT HEAT

•Radiant Floor Heating systems: due to the numerous flooring heat systems, be sure to follow specific manufacturers installation instructions.

Regardless of RFH system used, overall temperature must not exceed 80 degrees F.
Floor temperature should not vary more than 3 degrees F throughout the entire area of the floor.

•Recommended use of a thermostat that limits flooring temperature changes of no more than 5 degrees F in a day.

•Rugs, mats or any other large items that cover the floor, should not be used in a room with Radiant Heat system as these items trap heat which can permanently damage any type of wood flooring.

•RFH system needs to be operational for minimum of 5 days prior to flooring installation. System should be off during installation. Once installation is complete, system should be turned on with the temperature increased gradually over a period of days, never increasing more than 5 degrees per day.

•Radiant Heat systems reduce the humidity within the home. Any home using radiant floor heating should also have a functional HVAC system to maintain relative humidity in the home 30-60%.

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•NOTE: In wood flooring installations over radiant heat, moderate surface checking, cracking (especially at the ends of boards and around knots), shrinkage, gapping between planks, and slight cupping are all to be expected and do not constitute a product defect.

Wood is subject to fading when exposed to direct sunlight. Whenever possible, use drapes or other systems to protect your floor from excessive light. Wood is photosensitive & will change color as they are or are exposed to UV light. This natural occurring phenomenon is NOT considered a material defect and is not covered by any material warranty.

It must be understood that wood is a natural product with inherent variations in color, grain and visual characteristics. If there are any questions regarding the material received, do not hesitate to contact the dealer where the flooring was purchased for immediate assistance.