

LAYING A LOOSE LAY FLOOR

This document is designed to give you the step by step guide to fitting a loose lay floor from Palio Express by Karndean.

This guide will help you ascertain what tools you will need, fitting around fixed objects and adding your finishing touches.

In most circumstances you will only need the following tools for successful installation:

- pencil
- utility knife
- tape measure
- ruler/straight edge

For all thresholds, openings, kick boards, areas where tight fitting is not possible and rooms larger than 16m²:

- tackifier
- paint tray & roller

ALWAYS CHECK THE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES FOR SUBFLOOR PREPARATION AND FITTING REQUIREMENTS.

STEP 1. SUBFLOOR CONSIDERATIONS

Prepare your floor to gain a smooth, flat, level surface with moisture readings less than 95% relative humidity. Before this product may be installed, all subfloors should be solid, sound, smooth and swept free of all debris.

- A. Solid subfloor: Apply an appropriate smoothing compound and allow to dry.
- B. Wooden subfloor*: Overlay with a minimum of 5.5mm flooring grade plywood or for existing floorboards, firmly fasten, fill gaps and level prior to installation.

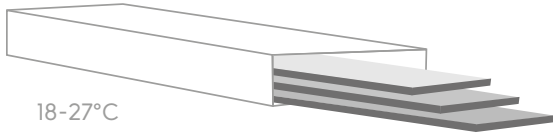
* Except for laminate which is normally recommended to be removed.

STEP 2. CALCULATING THE SIZE OF YOUR ROOM

Calculate the size of your room by multiplying the length by the width. This will determine how many packs you will need. Add 10% to allow for wastage. See page 5 for tips.

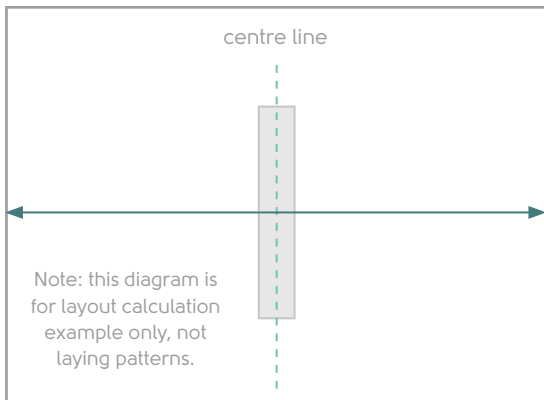
STEP 3. ACCLIMATISE YOUR FLOOR

Open and remove the planks or tiles from the packaging 48 hours prior to installation for acclimatisation. The room temperature range should be 18-27°C (65-85°F). Mixing the planks or tiles up before fitting helps with colour variation for a more natural look.



STEP 4. PLANNING YOUR LAYOUT

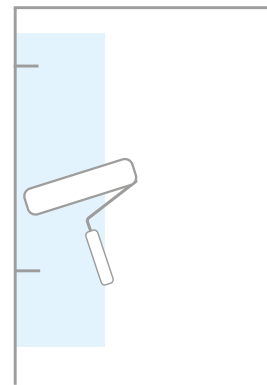
Once you have decided which way you would like to run your planks or tiles in the room, calculate the number of widths of planks or tiles that will fit across the room. This will ensure symmetry of the installation and eliminate awkward, small perimeter cuts.



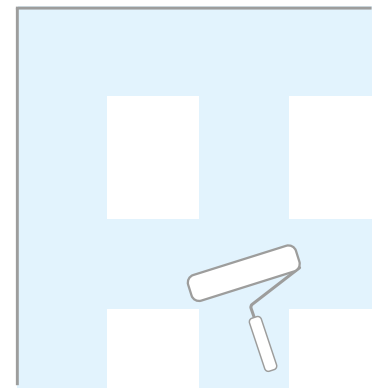
STEP 5. TACKIFIER

For all thresholds, openings, kick boards, areas where tight fitting is not possible apply a 4" (10 cm) strip of our tackifier. For rooms larger than 16m² or with rooms with any wall longer than 4m, apply a 10cm strip of tackifier to subfloor around the perimeter of the room using a paint roller. Then create a grid of tackifier by applying to the subfloor at 4m distances parallel to each perimeter wall. Allow to turn clear and tacky before laying your planks/tiles.

Thresholds, openings, kick boards, areas where tight fitting isn't possible

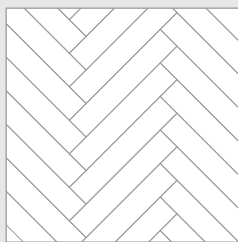


For rooms larger than 16m² or with rooms with any wall longer than 4m

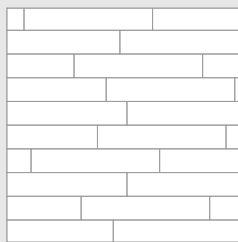


WOOD

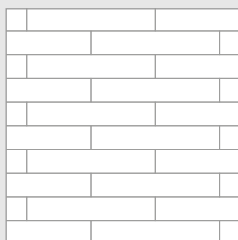
Herringbone



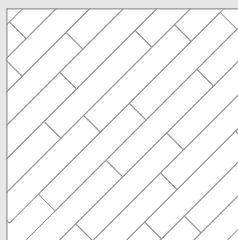
Staggered



Brickbond

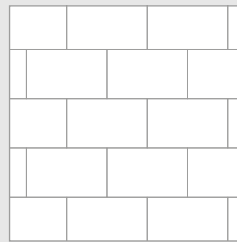


Diagonal

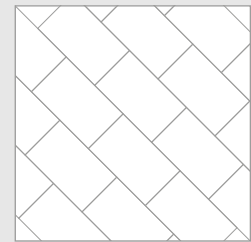


STONE

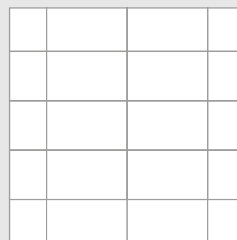
Brickbond



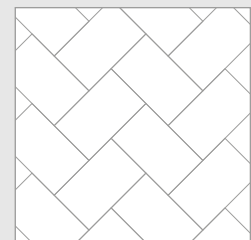
Diagonal



Stack Bond



Herringbone

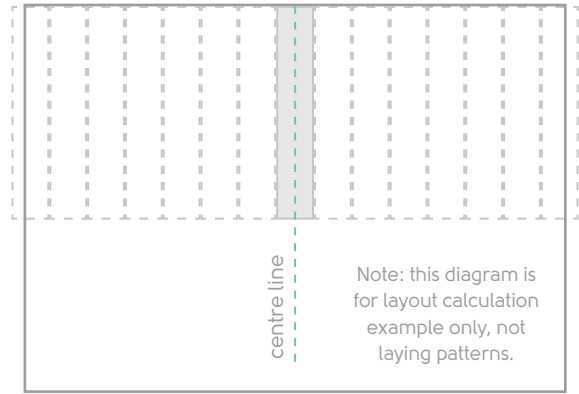


Note: this diagram is for layout calculation example only, not laying patterns.

STEP 6. LAYING YOUR FLOOR

There is no need to remove skirting boards. Palio LooseLay is designed to be fitted tight to the perimeter of the room.

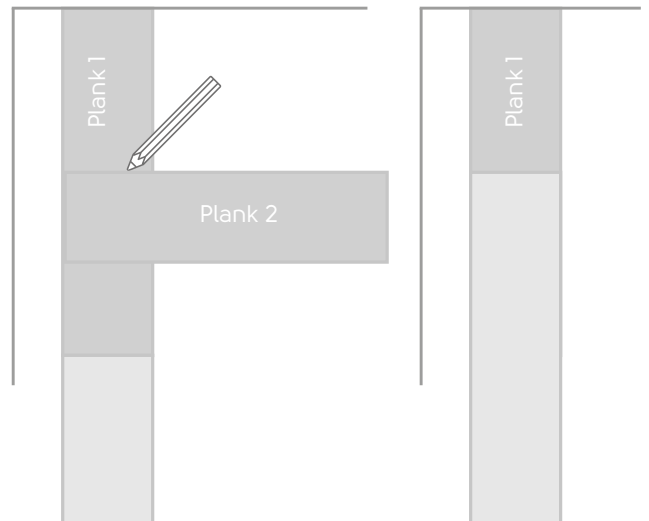
Starting in the centre of the room, will allow for a tight fit to the edge of the room, as walls are rarely straight. It will also allow you to decide your starting position of your first row of planks/tiles to balance the final rows running parallel to the wall and avoid a narrow row (not less than half the width of a plank/tile). Either start with the centre line of your room running through the centre of your first row of planks/tiles or your first row of planks/tiles meeting the centre line of the room.



STEP 7. CUTTING PLANKS AND TILES

It is advisable to plan your row to check the last plank/tile in the row will not be too short and if so, cut the first plank/tile in the row to accommodate. To fit the last plank/tile in a row, place a plank/tile directly on top of the last plank/ tile. This will be the plank/tile used to for the final piece.

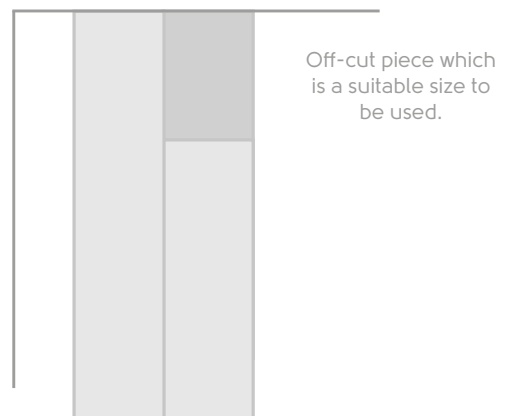
Place another plank/tile on top but move to meet the wall. The exposed plank/tile beneath will be the desired size. Using the edge of the overlaid plank/ tile as a guide, score the plank/tile underneath. Remove the top plank/tile, and undercut your scored plank/tile, placing your cut end against the wall and the factory cut end against the laid plank or tile to complete your row.



STEP 8. STAGGERING PLANKS AND TILES

If an offcut is large enough, it can be used to start the next row with the cut end against the wall. Otherwise you can cut a plank/tile in half to ensure staggered joints.

Continue to lay planks/tiles across the room until the room is complete.

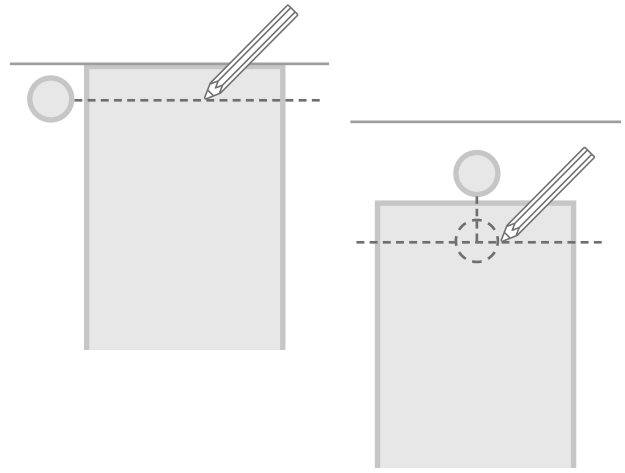


STEP 9. FITTING AROUND RADIATOR PIPES

It is likely that you'll have to cut a plank/tile to fit around radiator pipes or a fixed object in the room. To do this, lay the plank/tile in position next to the radiator pipe. Use a pencil to draw a line across the width of the plank/tile at the point where it hits the centre of the pipe.

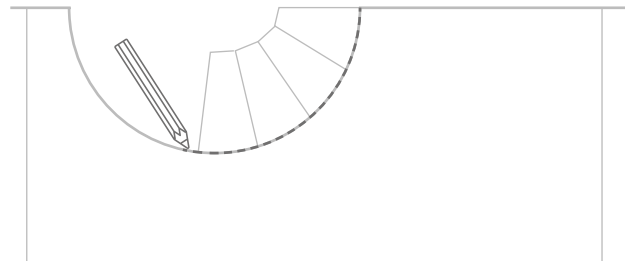
Lay the end front of the plank/tile up to the pipe and mark where the centre of the pipe intersects the line that you've drawn. This is where you need to mark a line from the centre of the pipe to the edge of the board.

As there is flex in the plank/tile which makes it possible to open the cut to slide around the pipe.



STEP 10. CUTTING AROUND A CIRCULAR OBJECT

To cut around a circular object, you need to make a template that you can overlay onto your plank or tile to then cut with your knife. Use a piece of paper that matches the size of your tile or plank. Trace around the circular object using a pencil, creating cuts in the paper to enable an accurate fit up against the circular object. Once the paper template is created, tape to your plank/tile and cut to shape.



STEP 11. FITTING THE FINAL ROW OF PLANKS

Place a full plank over the top of the last row, make sure it is lined up exactly with the plank underneath with the groove side facing the wall, and the tongue side facing away from the wall (which will click into the last laid row).

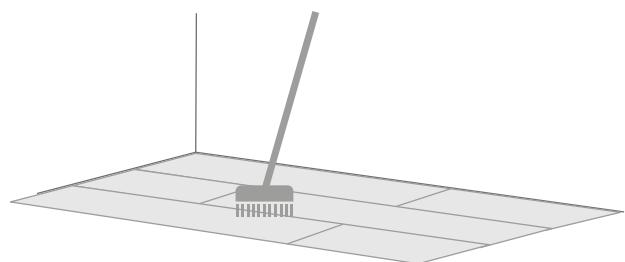
Then using a full width off-cut, which has the tongue still attached, place the groove side against the wall and using a pen/pencil mark along the full plank to get a perfect cutting line for the final row. The width of the tongue will account for the 5mm expansion gap required around the edge of the room. Score and snap along this line to cut the plank or use a jigsaw. Insert the tongue into the groove of the previous row, you may need to use a pull bar and hammer to help ensure a tight fit. Repeat this process until the final row is complete.

Note: when cutting Korlok planks/tiles along the length you may find it easier to use a jigsaw to cut.



STEP 12. FINISHING TOUCHES

Once the floor is installed, sweep the floor with a soft brush.



AFTER CARE

Regular cleaning with Karndean Clean (or a pH neutral cleaner) will help keep your floor looking its best. Using Karndean Clean on your floor helps to break up and safely remove any germs that are on the surface, in the same way as using soap for washing your hands.

1. With a soft sweeping brush, remove any loose dirt or dust.
2. Add 50ml of Karndean Clean (1 notch represents 50ml) to approximately 8-10 litres of clean water.
3. Mop the mixed solution over the entire floor, removing any excess liquid.
4. Allow your floor to dry.

To maintain the look and feel of your floor, make sure to use our 'remove and refresh' cleaning system every 6 to 12 months:

- Karndean Remove helps to prepare your floor before applying Karndean Refresh.
- Karndean Refresh creates a satin finish to your floor and helps protect it from marks and fine scratches.

Palio Express by Karndean

Crab Apple Way
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 1GP

T: 01386 820210 ROI +353(0)1760 4681

palioexpress.com

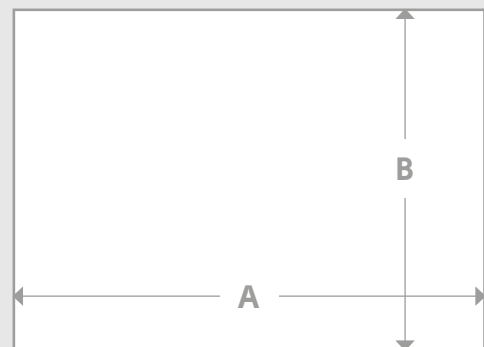
HOW DO I CALCULATE THE AMOUNT OF FLOOR I NEED?

Rectangular rooms can be calculated easily by multiplying the length by the width (see example 1).

If your room isn't a standard shape, try splitting the room into separate rectangles. Calculate the area of each rectangle, then simply add these values together to reach your total room dimensions (see example 2).

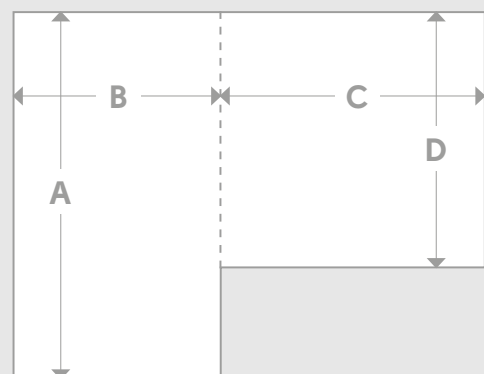
Example 1:

$A \times B = \text{total area}$



Example 2:

$(A \times B) + (C \times D) = \text{total area}$



Palio LooseLay is supplied in pack sizes of 3.150m² plank and 3.050m² tile

Divide the overall measurement by the pack size to gain the number of packs required.

Tip: add 10% for wastage by multiplying your final figure by 1.10