



TONGUE & GROOVE NAIL-DOWN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applicable to:

Kährs Supreme 20mm
• Grande Collection Only

3/4"

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT!

Maintain your warranty:
Only use Kährs branded
underlayments,
moldings, cleaning
supplies, and
accessories.



TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

Tongue & Groove Nail-Down Installation

Notes:

- Kährs flooring is covered by a Limited Lifetime Warranty. However, Warranty coverage may be lost due to failure to strictly follow all installation instructions and recommendations or the use of improper materials or tools. **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.**
- Always begin a Kährs tongue & groove installation with the grooves facing the wall!
- Proper expansion must be left at all walls.
- As last row generally will not fit perfectly, Kährs recommends dry-fitting first two rows and scribe if necessary.

IMPORTANT!

- **Do not open packages until ready to begin installation!** Inspect boards as you go. Kährs flooring is sealed at the factory with a 7% moisture content. Opening cartons to acclimate the flooring (as with some solid strip flooring) could result in a difficult installation.
- As an installer, it is your responsibility to be aware of the grade, Relative Humidity of the room, and moisture content of the subfloor. You should check that each plank is free of damage or manufacturing defects. Any unusable boards should be set aside for later replacement.
- Flooring should be installed perpendicular to joists to prevent subfloor sagging. Subfloor must be reinforced to nail down Kährs parallel to joists.

Prior to Installation

- See Jobsite/Subfloor Preparation section and follow all requirements before installation.
- Door casings should be notched or undercut to avoid difficult scribe cuts.
- Sweep or vacuum subfloor thoroughly.
- Once subfloor has been prepared, Kährs recommends covering subfloor with 15 lb. or higher asphalt felt or rosin paper to retard moisture and help alleviate any remaining variations.

Tools & Material Required

- Tape Measure
- Chalk Line
- Last Board Puller
- Hammer
- Knocking Block
- Landobond Adhesive
- Expansion Shims
- Floor Protectors
- Adapter Plate

Approved Nailers

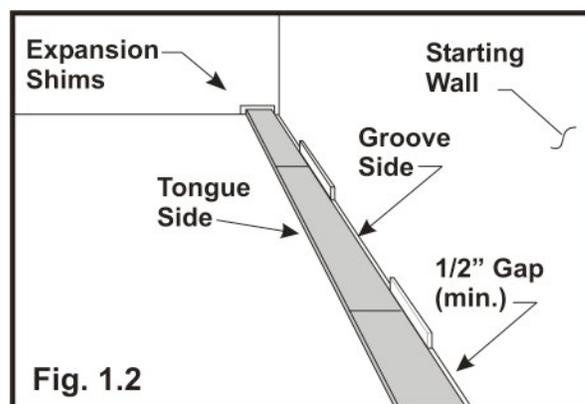
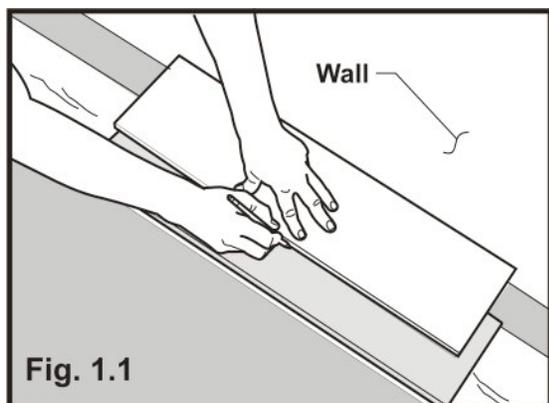
- Power Nail 445 Power Roller Flex Foot 16ga, 2" cleats

TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

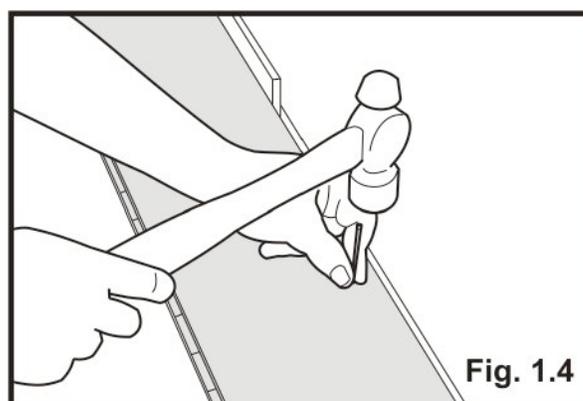
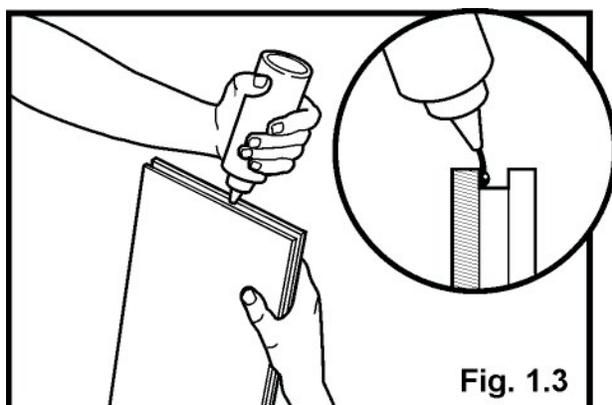
Tongue & Groove Nail-Down Installation

Step 1 - First Row

- 1.1 Start with groove sides of board facing starting walls. If starting wall is not square or otherwise irregular, scribe first row (Fig. 1.1), then cut boards to match variation in wall. Important: First row must be square to ensure true, fixed base from which to build entire floor.



- 1.2 Always allow minimum 1/2" expansion gap between boards and walls (Fig. 1.2). Use expansion shims spaced every 12" along all walls to help prevent avoidable movement during remainder of installation.
- 1.3 Apply 1/8" bead of Landobond adhesive to upper inside of grooves on end joint only (and all subsequent end joints) as shown in Fig. 1.3.
Note: Failure to apply adhesive to end joints will result in gapping!
- 1.4 Lay entire first row and check for tight fit on all end joints. Place expansion shims as shown in Fig. 1.2. Now top-nail first row at 7" - 10" intervals as close to wall as possible (Fig. 1.4). Molding and trim pieces should cover nail holes. If not, set nails and fill with matching putty stick.

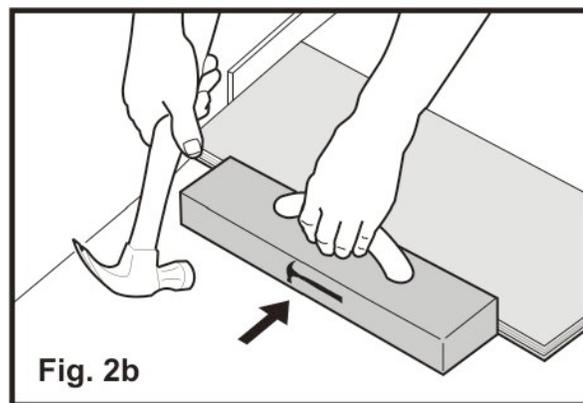
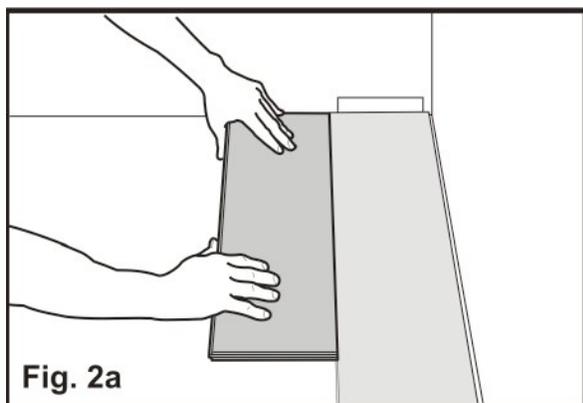


TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

Tongue & Groove Nail-Down Installation

Step 2 - Starting Second Row

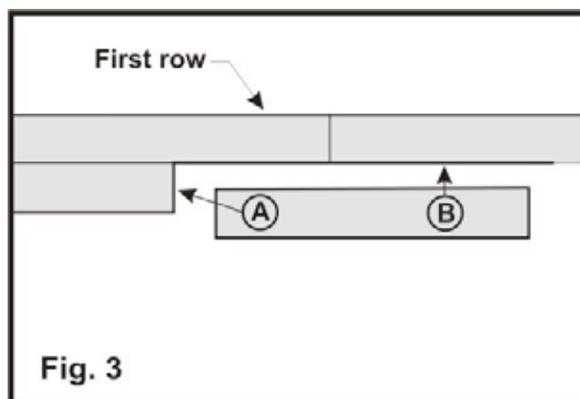
Start second row with cut off end of last board from previous row (Fig. 2a). Remember to allow for expansion gap and shim accordingly. Use Knocking Block to engage groove with tongue of board in first row (Fig. 2b). **Never** tap groove side or top surface layer!



Step 3 - Installing Second Row

Start next board (Fig. 3) by applying 1/8" bead of Landobond adhesive to upper side of grooves on end joint only (Fig. 1.3, previous page). Be sure to stagger end joints by minimum of 20" for Kährs 20mm flooring.

- A) Engage board at end joint only (Fig. 3, A).
- B) Starting at opposite end from locked-in end joint, begin knocking length of board to begin engaging groove with tongue of adjacent board (Fig. 3, B)
- C) Use Knocking Block or Last Board Puller to re-set end joint before completely engaging long joint with adjacent board. Once long joints are engaged, it is virtually impossible to close end joints.
- D) Finish setting board by placing Knocking Block against tongue side and gently tapping board flush to previous row. If gap exists at end joint after engaging long joint, work/wiggle board away from adjacent board to slightly open seam, then tap board end to close end joint.



TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

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Step 4 - Completing Second Row

At end of second row, cut board to appropriate length (allowing for expansion gap), and install as described above. If necessary, use Last Board Puller to gently pressure board into place as shown in Fig. 4. Check all seams for tight fit and insert shims at end joints of both walls.

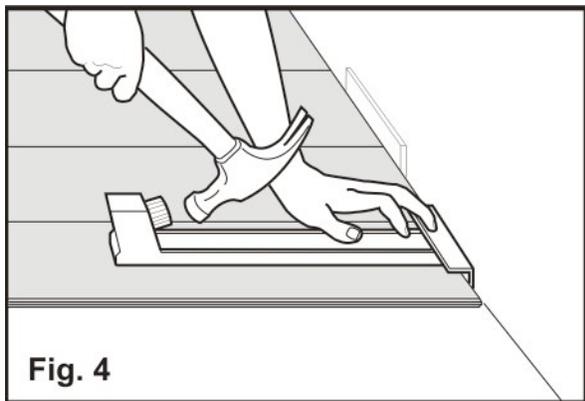


Fig. 4

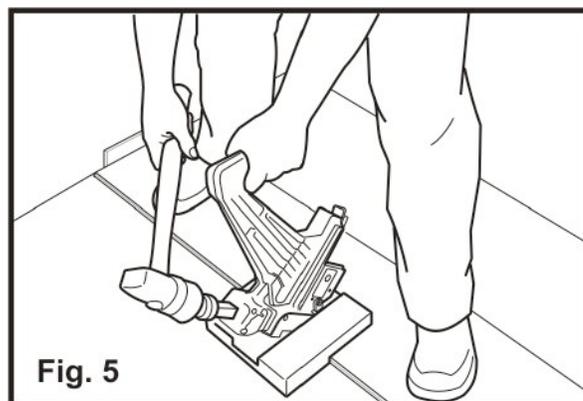


Fig. 5

Step 5 - Side-nailing Second Row

After laying entire second row, side-nail boards at 8" intervals or minimum of three nails/cleats per board. Nail/staple through tongue. Nails/staples must be set just below surface of tongue. Adjust compressor if necessary.

Important: If side-nail must be removed after setting, use extreme caution. **DO NOT** pull side-nail straight up from tongue as edge and surface of board may be damaged.

Now move on to next row, installing as described above.

Changing Directions: If necessary to continue floor in reverse direction (e.g. through doorway), or away from groove, Kährs Spline Tongue must be used. Apply glue to groove and insert spline tongue, converting groove into tongue.

Step 6 - Last Row

Since last row will generally not fit perfectly, scribe row as shown in Fig. 1.1, remembering to allow minimum 1/2" expansion gap. Interlock all seams with Last Board Puller.

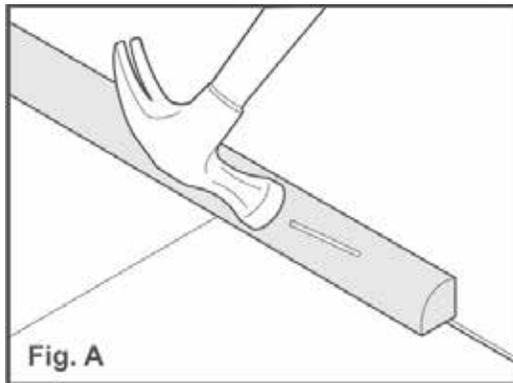
Note: It may be necessary to top-nail in other areas of room where side-nailer cannot be used (i.e., doorways, tight areas where nailer cannot fit). It may also be necessary to direct-glue areas for same reason. See Glue-Down instructions for approved adhesives.

TOOLS & TECHNIQUES

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After Installation

Remove expansion shims and use required Kährs moldings and/or trim pieces to cover expansion space (Fig. 10). **Always** nail moldings to wall, **never** to flooring!



Clean Up

Immediately clean any adhesive spilled on wood flooring during installation.

Maintenance

Clean floor using dry dust mop or damp (lightly misted or well rung out) mop or cloth. Regularly use Kährs Wood Floor Cleaner for best results. Do not use oil soap or water-emulsion, self polishing waxes. Never wet mop floor. Place Peel & Stick Floor Protectors on furniture legs to prevent damage. See Kährs Floor Care Guide & Lifetime Guarantee for details (available at www.kahrs.com).

NOTE: Oiled floors must be oiled with Kährs Satin Oil (710553) after installation and prior to use.



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