



FAQs: UNDERLAY

Do I need to use underlay?

Engineered and laminate flooring will need an underlay. Because these flooring types are “floating,” there will always be a slight space between the flooring and the subfloor. Underlay minimizes these gaps, as well as helps with subfloor imperfections, prevents uneven or unstable flooring, and minimizes hollow sounds when walking on the floor. Vinyl flooring that is bonded directly to the subfloor does not require an underlay.

What advantages does underlay have?

Underlay also provides protection from moisture, increases comfort under foot, mutes sound transmission and provides thermal insulation.

How should I install underlay?

Overlap edges and tape seams.

Can I reuse my existing underlay with my new floor?

We do not recommend using old underlay, as it will have the same wear patterns as your old floor. Buy new underlay with each new installation.

Which direction should I run the underlay?

In most cases, it is best to run the underlay in the same direction as the flooring planks.

Can I use nails or other fasteners with underlay?

No, do not use nails or other fasteners that drill through the underlay. This will allow moisture to pass through the underlay layer and reduce its use as a moisture barrier.