

Staple-Down Installation

Mannington Hardwood Floors

Staple-Down Installation Requirements and Procedures

This fast and easy method uses our own Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Pneumatic Stapler and exclusive Mannington Spotnails nylon-coated precision staples. The staple-down technique is compatible for all Mannington Hardwood products for use over plywood and structural OSB. The steps outlined in this section are also suitable for the nail-down method provided that a specifically designed tongue-and-groove engineered flooring nailer is used.



The Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Pneumatic Stapler comes complete with two adapters, allen wrenches, and oil. For a successful installation you will need the tools listed below.

Special Tools

- Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Pneumatic Stapler SKU# FS4825W2
- ½", ⅜", and ⅜" Stapler Attachment (included with stapler)
- Mannington Spotnails Nylon-Coated Staples SKU# 4811PN-30M (5,000/box)
- Safety Glasses
- Compressor (with regulator)
- Tapping Block SKU# TPBK009X
- Power Drill



Setup and Use of Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Pneumatic Stapler

Inspect Equipment Prior To Use

- Become familiar with the tools and their operation, especially the pneumatic stapler. When used improperly, staples can damage wood flooring. Test the tools on scrap material first.
- Parts that engage the planks must have no sharp burrs that can scratch or damage the flooring, especially pre-finished surfaces.

- Make sure the tool's adapter seats properly in the tongue-and-groove of the flooring.
- Use the retaining feet of the adapter to make adjustments so that the plank is held securely against the subfloor.



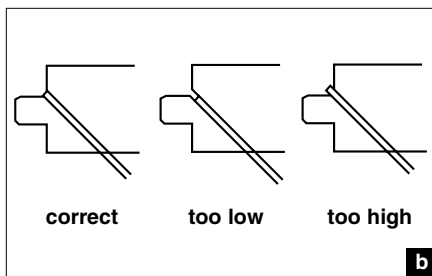
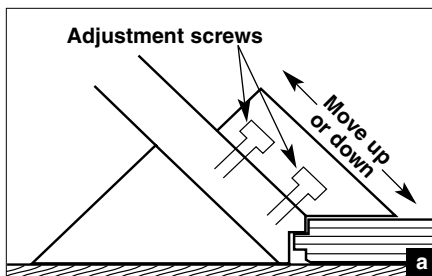
CAUTION: Make certain the adapter size for the Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Pneumatic Stapler correlates directly with the size of the product being installed. For instance, if you are installing $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick wood flooring, use the $\frac{1}{2}$ "- $\frac{9}{16}$ " adapter.



CAUTION: Only use Mannington Spotnails 4811PN nylon-coated staples during staple-down installation with the Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster Stapler.

Floor Monster Setup

- Loosen screws on retaining feet.
- Using a scrap piece of flooring, test tool on subfloor and engage the adapter into tongue-and-groove.
- Slide retaining feet down until they make contact with plank.
- Tighten screws. (See illustration a.)
- Calibrate the compressor so staples are properly set in the nail pocket to avoid damaging the floor or squeaking.



NOTE: If stapler is improperly set up, staples will not position correctly and may cause squeaking, crackling, and dimpling of the floor.

Compressor Setup

- With the correct adapter fastened, attach tool to compressor.
- Set the regulator at 80 psi and start the compressor.



NOTE: Pressure must never exceed 100 psi, since it can damage the stapler or cause harm to you or others.

- On a scrap piece of flooring, set stapler flush on the substrate and fully engage the stapler into the tongue-and-groove joint. Install staple.
- When the top of the staple's crown is flush with the nail pocket, the tool is properly positioned. (See illustration b.)
- Should the staple penetrate too deeply or not deeply enough, reduce or increase the pressure until the staple is flush.

Job Preparation & Installation

For the staple-down and nail-down methods, cover the subfloor with red rosin paper or any other suitable lining material. This will help keep dust away from the wood floor, retard moisture from below, and may help prevent squeaks from occurring. There is no complete moisture barrier system, however, for nail-down and staple-down applications. Maximum subfloor moisture should never exceed 7%.



Before installation, do a calculation to determine the width of the last row of planks. If it is less than 1½" wide, split the difference between the starter row and the last row. In any case, you will most likely be required to cut the last row of planks to width with a table saw equipped with a plywood cutting blade.



Select a starter wall. An outside wall is best because it's most likely to be straight and square with the room. Measure out from this wall, at each end, the width of the plank plus ¼".



Snap a chalk line from these points, parallel to that wall and perpendicular to the adjacent walls. Since most walls are not straight, the edge of some planks may have to be trimmed along the wall or cut to fit. It is not necessary to leave an expansion space for Mannington ¼", ½", and ¾" thick planks.



“Racking” the Floor

This process is essential to achieve a random appearance. Start by either using random length planks found in the carton or by cutting four to five planks in random lengths, differing by at least 6". When starting these first few rows or courses, make certain to always measure from the tongue end of the plank for cutting. As you continue working across the floor be sure to maintain the 6" minimum between end joints on all adjacent rows. Randomly install different lengths to avoid a patterned appearance. Never waste materials; the ends cut from starter rows should be used at the opposite side of the room to complete rows or may also be used to start the next row.



NOTE: As stated earlier, it is extremely important to blend planks from several cartons to ensure a good balance of color and graining, and plank

Install the first row of planks by laying the tongue edges on the chalk line. **Proper alignment is critical.** Misaligned starter rows can ruin the entire installation. Drill pilot holes through the face of each plank (in dark grain) and secure to subfloor with finishing nails or use a pneumatic brad tacker.



After the first row is complete, adjacent rows should also be predrilled in the nail pocket and secured with finishing nails set at 45°. Rows of flooring will need to be installed in this manner until flooring planks are a sufficient distance away from the wall to accommodate the stapler. Stapling schedule is every 6" to 8" on center.



NOTE: Proper alignment of planks is critical. Misaligned starter rows can ruin the entire installation.

The precise engineering of our UltraFit™ tongue-and-groove system delivers a very stable floor. But you **MUST** make a good connection. Use a tapping block to tap the planks until the tongue-and-groove “snaps” into place.



CAUTION: Never use a rubber mallet to tap planks, since this can mar or damage the flooring.

Using the Mannington Spotnails Floor Monster stapler, with the proper adapter attached (see stapler instructions for proper setup), continue to staple new planks every 6” to 8” on center, fastening the ends of the planks approximately 2” from each end.



NOTE: Avoid clustering end joints and stagger random lengths so that the end joints are no closer than 6”.

Using a pry bar, position the final filler planks.



Face nail or tack each final plank into place with the pneumatic stapler. Install the molding and retain a few leftover planks in case a repair is ever required.





Do not use manual nailers on any Mannington Hardwood Floors maple flooring.

Sweep floor to remove all dust and dirt. Take care not to scratch the finish. Follow up with Mannington UltraClean® spray cleanser.



Final Inspection

After the floor is cleaned, inspect the floor for nicks, scratches, or any other imperfections that need attention. Touch up nicks and scratches with Mannington Hardwood Floors touch-up products. The newly installed floor can accept foot traffic immediately.

Floor Protection During Construction

Always protect the surface of installed flooring during construction by laying a quality felt paper over the floor and taping it to the baseboards. Never use plastic or polyethylene sheeting to cover the floor since they will trap moisture. The covering material must allow the floor to breathe.