



NEO by CLASSEN – Installation Guide

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1. PREPARATORY WORK

1.1 Before laying, leave the flooring in its packaging for approx. 48 hours in an indoor environment, so that it can acclimatise (stacked crosswise at 18 °C to 20 °C and between 40 % and max. 60 % rel. humidity).

1.2 Before starting please make sure that the planks are all from the same batch, match with the sample material and are in proper conditions. Planks showing visible defects must not be installed.

1.3 Remove existing soft floor coverings, e. g. carpets, needle feltings or vinyl.

1.4 Quality and Preparation of the Subfloor

1.4.1 The subfloor must be firm, clean, level and dry (laying conditions according to DIN 18356, DIN 18365, DIN 18202). The moisture content of mineral subfloors should be checked, and with cement screed should not exceed 1.8 CM %; with an anhydrite or floating anhydrite screed it should not exceed 0.3 CM %.

1.4.2 With floating installation on mineral subfloors, vapour barrier meeting SD-value >75 m (e.g. 0.2 mm PE-foil) has to be installed generally prior to the installation of NEO by CLASSEN floorings. As a rule, aluminium covered underlay materials are not suitable as vapour barrier. Non-mineral subfloors (e.g. wooden floors) must not be covered with a vapour barrier.

1.4.3 On a subsurface directly over soil – such as rooms with no cellar beneath, or above crawling spaces or vaulted cellars – a thicker vapour barrier with a foil of at least 1.2 mm thickness must be used (for example PVC-free EPDM-pond liner).

1.4.4 Vapour barrier foil needs to be pulled up on the walls to form a trough (approx. 2 cm). Foil ends need to overlap approximately by 20 cm. Use adhesive tape to seal the ends tight.

1.5. Installation on Hot-Water Floor Heating

NEO by CLASSEN can be installed on hot-water floor heating systems provided the temperature of the floor does not exceed 27 °C.

Before floating installation can be carried out on hot-water floor heating systems, a vapour barrier made from 0.2 mm thick PE foil has to be installed.

When using non-systemic foot step sound insulation, its thermal insulation resistance needs to be considered.

In any case, functioning and preheating to the highest temperature should be carried out (see for example expert information on “Interface coordination in heated floor constructions” www.zdb.de).

PLEASE NOTE:

It is generally not recommended to install flooring on top of electrical floor heatings.

1.6. Installation Direction

We recommend laying the head of the planks towards the direction of the main light source. With long and narrow rooms planks should be installed lengthwise to the room.

2.0 TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES

2.1 Laying Tools: folding rule, pencil, set square, utility knife. Optional: rubber mallet, metal saw for cutting the metal trims, mitre saw for trimming the edges and sliding bevel. With fully-adhered installation, you might need in addition: notched trowel.

2.2 Accessories: Spacing wedges, NEO-LAY impact sound insulation, vapour barrier (PE foil) min. 0.2 mm. CAUTION: We expressly recommend the use of the systemic NEO-LAY sound-insulation underlay – developed specially for NEO by CLASSEN. This insulation underlay fulfils the highest ergonomic standards. In addition to this, it optimally quietens footsteps and room noise and can be used in combination with hot-water floor heating.

3. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Classen wants you to enjoy your flooring for many years. For this reason it is absolutely important to select the proper installation method, taking the room situation into account.

Room Situations	Classen Recommendations
Rooms up to approx. 65 m ²	floating installation
Rooms >65 m ²	floating installation plus additional expansion gaps or fully-adhered installation
Sanitary areas	fully-adhered installation
Rooms being exposed to intensive sun radiation	fully-adhered installation

GENERAL NOTES:

- The first and last rows laid should have at least a board width of 8 cm.
- Stagger the butt joints (transverse joints) of adjacent rows by at least 40 cm.
- If a rubber mallet is used to lock the head edges into place, it should be used with care, ensuring that the elements/joints are not damaged through being knocked together.

3.1 Floating Installation

The patent installation system “CLASSEN megaloc” makes it easy to install NEO by CLASSEN.

3.1.1 Expansion Gaps with Floating Installation

NEO by CLASSEN is moisture-regulating. This means that it adapts itself over the course of time to the climatic conditions of the room and expands if necessary. For this reason, certain distances to the edges have to be kept. There must be an expansion gap of at least 15 mm around all fixed objects and at transitions to other rooms or flooring types as well as along the walls. The expansion gaps may never be filled with silicone or cables etc. Please shorten all door elements and frames so that a plank with sound insulation can be slid underneath it. When installing door elements and frames subsequently, please make sure, that there is enough space left for the floor to expand.

PLEASE NOTE:

In rooms of more than 8 metres length/width, additional expansion gaps have to be installed. Fitted furniture such as fitted kitchens and cupboards should not be mounted on the floor for this reason.

3.1.2 Laying the First Row

The first plank – always lay the tongue side facing the wall. Lay the head end of the next plank over the foot end of the plank already laid and press the ends together along the connecting edge through pressing with your thumbs or through careful tapping with a rubber mallet until it clicks into place. Alternatively, the elements of the first row can also be connected together by sliding them horizontally into each other. Align the lengthwise edges of the elements by adjusting the horizontal slide into the head end and proceed in the same way with the further planks. Mark the required length of the last plank of a laid row with the aid of a set square. Use the utility knife and score deeply along the marking on the upper side twice. Break along the score line over a straight edge (e.g. the edge of a table).

3.1.3 Laying the Next Rows

To begin the next row, simply set the plank into the longitudinal groove of the already laid row at an angle of approx. 30° and lower it into place. The head side is then locked into place as already described above.

3.1.4 Removing Individual Elements

To remove the flooring, first lift the whole row up out of its joints and only then remove the individual planks simply by sliding them horizontally out of the head connections. Do not raise the head connections when doing this! This causes irreparable damage. Only the correct snapping in of the profile elements and the correct removal ensures that the flooring is able to be laid several times.

3.2 Fully-Adhered Installation

3.2.1 Expansion Gaps with Fully-Adhered Installation

Existing expansion gaps in the floor must be accepted. Make sure that permanent expansion gaps of at least 10 mm are provided all around the room, as well as to all other fixed components within it. Those expansion gaps may in no ways be filled with silicone, cables etc.

3.2.2 Laying the Floor in Wet Rooms and Sanitary Areas

NEO by CLASSEN is not waterproof. It should thus be ensured that no water gets in UNDER the flooring through the seams or expansion gaps. In any case it must be ensured that the subfloor is suitable for wet and sanitary rooms and that it prevents the penetration of moisture. Alternatively, skirting with sealing plastic lips can be used.

3.2.3 Way of Installation

We recommend to pre-cut and to pre-fit the planks needed for the first three rows without gluing. After this process, spread adhesive on the subfloor. The fitted elements can be placed afterwards into the fresh adhesive bed. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Make sure to cover only that much of subfloor space with adhesive, you are able to install planks on within a certain time (recommended are three to four rows). Now follow the installation instructions for floating installation (see above), lay element by element i.e. row by row. Make sure to press down the elements properly, to guarantee that the lower side of the plank is covered completely with adhesive.

3.2.4 Recommended/Released Adhesives by Classen

Please stick to all instructions of the adhesive manufacturer i.e. setting times. The adhesive has to be spread all over; spots without adhesive must be avoided. Basically, preparatory work as well as materials eventually needed like primers, fillers or adhesive compounds need to be set up and applied in a system-oriented way. Only materials matching to each other guarantee proper installation and ideal results. In case of need, please feel free to contact the adhesive manufacturer or our offices.

Manufacturer	Name/Denomination
Ardex	ARDEX AF 2510, ARDEX AF 460 MS, ARDEX AF 480 MS
Bostik	Parfix Eco Plus
Schönox	SCHÖNOX MSP CLASSIC, SCHÖNOX PU 950, SikaBond-54 Parquet
Thomsit	Thomsit P 625, Thomsit P 695, Thomsit R 710
Uzin	Uzin MK 92 S, Uzin MK 250

4. GENERAL NOTES

- Avoid excessive climatic change. A room temperature of 20 °C and 40–60 % rel. humidity is ideal (normal indoor environment).
- Avoid direct sunlight and the possible associated overheating of the surface which is a risk for deformation of the flooring.
- NEO by CLASSEN is not suitable for outdoor use or for use in shower cubicles and sanitary areas with floor drainage, nor for saunas and conservatories.
- Fireplaces and stoves should not be placed on the floor directly. Make arrangements for a fire protection area of approximately 40 cm around the fire place. (Cover it e.g. with ceramics). In case of doubt please contact your local chimney sweeper.
- Do not place any damp flowerpots etc. directly on the floor but always use suitable coasters.
- Avoid permanent contact with liquids. Mop up any spilt liquids as soon as possible.
- Traces of use are part of the characteristic look. You can lessen these by using felt gliders under the feet of chairs, tables and other furniture, by providing suitable dirt-catching and wipe-off areas (textile mat etc.) as well as suitable protective surfaces (e.g. PE mats under desk chairs).
- NEO by CLASSEN is delivered ready for installation and its surface is sealed. It should thus never be sanded down or treated with varnish or solvents. For cleaning and care of the flooring follow the instructions in the cleaning and care recommendations.

5. AFTER THE INSTALLATION

- After floating installation, the design flooring can be fully used immediately afterwards.
- Remove the spacing wedges after installation.
- The skirting board should always be fixed to the wall, never to the floor.
- Sweep and wipe the flooring with a slightly damp cloth after completion.
- Replace furniture or desk chair castors with castors of type „W“.

6. GUARANTEE/WARRANTY

To maintain your guarantee and warranty claims, please make sure you retain a copy of these installation instructions together with the proof of purchase of your flooring.

Subject to technical changes at any time, status July 2015