

WOOD FLOOR FACTS

Concrete Subfloors

nwfa

Solid and engineered wood floors can be installed over concrete subfloors when the concrete is properly prepared for the wood. Always follow the wood flooring and adhesive manufacturer recommendations for substrate requirements, substrate preparation, moisture testing and limitation requirement, and application specifics.

1. The concrete slab must be flat. Tolerances are 1/8" within a 6' radius, or 3/16" within a 10' radius.
2. High spots must be flattened and low spots must be filled. Be sure to follow all OSHA regulations regarding Silica Dust exposure.
3. The concrete slab must be dry.
4. Appropriate moisture tests must be conducted to ensure proper MC of the slab.
5. A vapor retarding membrane with a perm rating of .13 or less, such as 6mm polyethylene film, is strongly recommended.
6. The concrete slab must be a minimum of 3,000 psi.
7. The concrete slab must be free of all contaminants, including sealers, waxes, oils, paints, drywall compounds, etc.
8. The concrete slab must be free of cracks, loose areas, and hollow spots.

More-detailed information about concrete subfloors is available in the NWFA Wood Flooring Installation Guidelines and Methods publication, or at <https://nwfa.users.membersuite.com/store/5b9f4133-00ceb44-4d2f-0b3f40ab51b2/detail>.

