

For Instant Support visit: <u>https://floorsbysteller.com/knowledge</u> For Human Support during Business Hours: <u>support@floorsbysteller.com</u> or 1-800-955-7671 Included in your shipment: Steller Floors Prefinished & Sealed Solid Hardwood Planks(A) & Clips(B), Butt-End Steller Clips(C), Expanded-Foam Gasket, Additional Waxy Sealant, Suction Cup, PVC Shears, 6-mil Polyethylene Underlayment (Optional)

What You'll Need	Site Preparation
48" Straight-edge Std Table Saw Std Chop Saw Utility Knife	Subfloor Flatness - Steller Floors are compatible with plywood, concrete, subfloor heat, raised panel subfloors and more. Subfloors must be flat and sturdy within industry-standard ¹ / ₈ " over 8-10' subfloor flatness.
Pencil Foam Brush (or similar)	To check subfloor flatness, use a 48" straight edge and see if a quarter fits underneath the straight edge in the project area. If remediation is needed, liquid leveling compound or similar is an easy and cost-effective solution.
<u>For angles</u> Speed Square Angle finder Jig saw	Indoor Humidity & Acclimation - Steller Floors are designed for use in environments between 35-50%RH in 65-80 degrees F. If your space is within this range, there is no need to acclimate.
<u>For revisions</u> Shims	If your space is drier, acclimate your floor for 2 weeks for every 5% drier than 35% RH your space is before installation. Please call us for more ideas & recommendations - 1-800-955-7671.

Steps for Installing Your Steller Floor

- 1. **Site Prep:** Ensure that your site meets basic subfloor and humidity recommendations. If you have decided to use a moisture barrier, install it at this time.
- 2. **Expansion Space**: Install the provided Expanded-Foam Gasket under baseboards in 6" sections every 12 to 16 inches. A slightly compressed gasket reserves space for plank expansion during high humidity events. In rooms wider than 20', consult our team for more information.
- 3. **Getting Started**: Begin assembly in the middle of the room with a section of four rows, and once it is sturdy enough, push the assembled section against the previously-installed gasket.
- 4. **Overlapping & Gapping:** Ideally, clips overhang butt-ends of planks by 4"; there is a ½" gap between clips to allow thermal expansion; and you avoid "plus joints" in plank butt-ends within 4".
- 5. **Sealants**: When you trim a plank, re-seal the fresh cut using the sealant with a brush or similar.

Pro-Tips

- 1. **Moving Fast:** Make new rows "all-at-once" by joining several planks by butt end clips first, and fit long clips along the outside edge of the new row. Then, push the whole row against the already assembled floor, and tap the whole row in. Going "one plank at a time" is the slowest way.
- 2. **Finishing Rooms**: When you reach the opposite side of the room, stop several rows short of the wall. Knowing our planks are *exact widths*, measure the partial plank and rip it to fit. Pre-assemble the ripped plank and the row next to it first. Snap in the third or fourth-to-last row in last.
- 3. **Pre-assemble:** Where it is inconvenient to assemble flooring, carry it in (e.g. hallways, overhangs).
- 4. **Separate Rooms**: If humidity may vary in different rooms, place one plank perpendicular to traffic in the doorway regardless of plank direction. That way, flooring in the rooms is unlinked at doorways.
- 5. **Cabinets:** Trapping a Steller Floor under cabinets reduces its functional value; instead raise cabinets on ³/₄ or ⁵/₈" plywood and run the floor to under the lip with expansion space for gasket.
- 6. **Transitions:** It is difficult for us to predict the size or location of your transitions. However, we provide guidance about creating your own, or shopping for transitions in our knowledge hub.
- 7. **Matching Stains**: Finding locally available stains for trim & treads to match your Steller Floor is easy Sherwin Williams can easily match a sample of your Steller Floor for free.

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