



## ARTISAN MILLS HOME®

### COVE & ENCLAVE COLLECTIONS INSTALLATION GUIDE

#### **Please read all instructions carefully before installation.**

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in improper installation and may void the Artisan Mills Home Limited Warranty.

This guide applies to **Artisan Mills Home® Cove and Enclave Flooring** for **indoor use only**.

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## PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

### Storage & Handling

- Store cartons **horizontally** on a clean, flat, solid surface
- Do **not** store cartons directly on concrete; allow air circulation
- Do **not** stack cartons more than **10 high**
- Do **not** place heavy objects on uninstalled flooring
- Maintain room temperature between **55°F–85°F** before, during, and after installation

### Pre-Installation Checklist

- Inspect all planks or tiles for color, finish, and visible defects
- Do **not** install damaged or defective material
- Install all **base cabinets and island cabinets** prior to flooring installation
- Do **not** install cabinets on top of the flooring
- Remove furniture, appliances, baseboards, and quarter round
- Undercut door jambs to accommodate flooring thickness
- Subfloor must be flat within **3/16" over a 10' x 10' area**
- Do **not** install over carpet or soft subfloors
- Flooring is intended for **indoor installations only**
- Do **not** install over non-embedded radiant heat systems



## IMPORTANT WARRANTY NOTICE

Examine flooring for color, finish, and quality **before installation**.  
Installed material with visible defects is **not covered** under warranty.

The installer or homeowner is responsible for final inspection.  
Store unused flooring in a climate-controlled area for future repairs.

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## ASBESTOS WARNING

Existing resilient flooring may contain asbestos or crystalline silica.  
Do **not** sand, scrape, saw, or mechanically disturb existing flooring materials unless confirmed asbestos-free. Follow all local and federal regulations.

*Cove and Enclave flooring does not contain asbestos or crystalline silica.*

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## SUITABLE SUBFLOORS & SURFACES

### Concrete Subfloors

- May be installed **on, above, or below grade**
- **6 mil polyethylene moisture barrier is required**
- Concrete must be clean, dry, smooth, and free of contaminants
- Must meet **ASTM F1869 & ASTM F2170** moisture standards
  - Max moisture vapor emission: **8 lbs / 1000 sq ft / 24 hrs**
  - Max internal relative humidity: **85%**
- Minimum compressive strength: **3500 PSI**
- pH level must be **9 or lower**
- Do **not** install over concrete with known hydrostatic moisture issues

### Existing Hard Surface Floors

- Tile, ceramic, marble, terrazzo (single-layer only)
- Must be well bonded, smooth, and moisture-free
- Remove all adhesive residue



- Grout lines must be skim-coated to create a flat surface

### **Wood Subfloors**

- Double-layer construction with minimum **1" total thickness**
  - Underlayment-grade plywood required ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " minimum)
  - Moisture content must be **13% or less**
  - Joist spacing must not exceed **19"**
  - Do **not** install over sleeper construction or wood directly over concrete
  - Do **not** install directly over fire-retardant or treated plywood
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### **RADIANT HEAT INSTALLATIONS**

Cove and Enclave may be installed over **embedded radiant heat systems only**.

#### **Radiant Heat Requirements**

- Maximum subfloor temperature: **80°F**
- Flooring must not contact heating elements directly
- In-floor temperature sensors are recommended

#### **Radiant Heat Installation Steps**

1. Radiant system must operate for **2 weeks prior**
  2. Turn system **off 72 hours before installation**
  3. Leave system off for **72 hours after installation**
  4. Gradually increase temperature in **5°F increments**
  5. Never exceed **80°F**
  6. All standard installation rules apply
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### **SPECIAL INSTALLATION AREAS**

#### **Bathrooms**

- Flooring may run under toilet **only if isolated by doorway threshold**



- Otherwise, leave **1/8" expansion gap** around toilet
- Seal all wet areas with high-quality silicone caulk

### Stairs

- Must be **fully adhered** using a pressure-sensitive LVT adhesive
- Use flush stair nose molding on all steps
- Follow adhesive manufacturer instructions

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### PRODUCT RUN VARIATION NOTICE

Color variations may occur between production runs.

Before installation:

- Check run numbers on carton labels
- Mix planks from **3–4 cartons** during installation for a natural appearance

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### GETTING STARTED

- Install parallel to the longest wall or primary light source
- Measure room for squareness
- If final row is under **2" wide**, adjust the first row accordingly
- Maintain **1/4" expansion gap** at all walls and vertical objects
- Inspect planks continuously during installation

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### INSTALLATION STEPS (UNICLIC® FLOATING METHOD)

1. Begin from left to right along starting wall
2. Remove tongue from first row planks facing wall
3. Use spacers to maintain **1/4" expansion gap**
4. Engage end joints at a **20–30° angle**, lower to lock
5. Stagger end joints **minimum 8"**



6. Keep first two rows perfectly straight and square
7. Install long side first, then end joint
8. Use tapping block and rubber mallet as needed
9. Use pull bar for last row and tight areas
10. Never strike planks directly with mallet

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## FINISHING THE INSTALLATION

- Remove spacers
- Install moldings or transition strips (do **not** fasten through flooring)
- Pre-drill baseboards and quarter round
- Use silicone caulk where trim is not used
- Protect flooring when moving heavy objects
- Maintain temperature **55°–85°F**
- Maintain relative humidity **40%–70%**
- Protect from prolonged direct sunlight

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## FLOOR CARE & MAINTENANCE

- Use felt pads on furniture
- Use non-rubber walk-off mats
- Sweep or vacuum regularly (no beater bars)
- Clean spills immediately
- Damp mop with approved vinyl floor cleaner
- Do **not** use vinegar, harsh chemicals, steam cleaners, or industrial machines

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## PLANK OR TILE REPLACEMENT

Damaged planks may be replaced by:



- Cutting out the affected piece
- Removing the tongue from the replacement plank
- Using seam sealer on the edge only
- Seating replacement securely into place