



## **SIMSBURY**

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## **WINDSOR**

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## **Laminate**

If you love the look of real hardwood, but are concerned with maintaining its appearance, there is an alternative. Laminate floors are beautiful, extremely durable, and easy to clean. It's well suited for high-traffic areas, busy family kitchens, and homes with children and pets. Like hardwood, laminate is available in various widths and lengths and is less expensive than real wood.

Most laminates have a four-ply construction:

- 1) Backing or balancing layer,
- 2) Moisture-resistant wood-based core of high- or medium-density fiberboard,
- 3) Decorative layer, and
- 4) Wear-resistant layer of melamine resins.

Laminate flooring manufacturers use sophisticated, computerized technology to create realistic designs.

Laminate floors are well protected by a tough outer coating that resists most stains, spills, burns and are extremely scratch-resistant. These floors come in both planks and tiles and can be floated over most substrates which include concrete slabs and existing floor coverings.

Laminate is easy and quick to install because of its glue-less installation. Laminate comes with a type of tongue and grooved locking system which "clicks" into position. All laminate floors require an under-layment that is installed directly underneath the laminate planks or tiles. This helps the floor float freely over the sub-floor, adds a vapor barrier and aids in noise reduction.

The flooring experts at your local showroom can show you a wide variety of laminate flooring. Let us help you find the right floor for your lifestyle.



## **Laminate Flooring Care**

Although Laminate floors are tough, you should follow these directions to keep them in good shape.

Remove loose dirt by using a non-beater bar vacuum or a dust mop.

With a damp mop or cloth, clean your laminate flooring once a week with a vinegar solution (1/4 cup of white vinegar to 2 gallons of clean tap water) or a nonabrasive household cleaner, such as ammonia and water solution. Do not saturate the flooring. Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool, soap-based detergents, waxes, polishes, or scouring powder as they may scratch or dull the flooring surface.

Wipe up spills immediately. Avoid allowing liquids to stand on your flooring. A more frequent dust mopping or vacuuming schedule may be required in high traffic or sandy areas. For tough spots, such as candle wax or chewing gum, harden the spot with ice and then gently scrape the spot with a plastic scraper. Even a credit card will do. Be careful not to scratch the flooring surface. Wipe clean with a damp cloth.

Do not use any type of buffing machine. Use protective mats at the entry and exits to help collect the dirt and moisture that could damage the laminate floor. Use floor protectors or glides under furniture legs. Frequent vacuuming using a non-beater bar will pick up dirt and grime.

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