A. INTRODUCTION

Palm is a natural material and some color, grain and shade variation should be expected. Always work from several boxes at the same time to allow for matching and mixing of color.

B. INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Decide what direction the flooring will be installed. Planks should be installed perpendicular to floor joists.

2. (For nail-down installation only) At a minimum of seventy-two hours prior to installation, place the flooring boxes on a flat, even surface.

3. Maintain relative humidity levels between 35%-55% for optimal floor performance. A humidifier or dehumidifier may be required in some cases to achieve and maintain these humidity levels.

4. Heating system. An In-Situ Relative Humidity test result (test method ASTM F-2170) must not exceed 75% RH. All concrete must be tested for moisture, and following the test kit manufacturer’s instructions. This test should be conducted per ASTM E-1665 prior to the installation of flooring. If the concrete contains less than 3% moisture, no additional abatement is necessary.

5. Humidification. Recommended procedures. Also, follow all National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) installation requirements as they relate to moisture and moisture abatement.

6. If recommended procedures are not followed and floor finishes are installed, Smith & Fong is not responsible for the floor finishes failure and no warranty will apply.

7. Maintain room temperature and humidity control.

8. Maintain appropriate environmental conditions, including any failures by the HVAC systems to maintain environmental conditions. No Warranty Coverage is provided for variations in color, grain or texture.

9. Do not drag or roll heavy objects across the floor. This can potentially damage the surface and finish of your floor. First lay 1/8"-1/4" plywood over your palm flooring before moving heavy objects. An installation kit will be provided with your order. Use this kit to lay the plywood layers before moving objects into place. You can then later remove the plywood protective layer.

10. Do not wet-mop your floor. Never wax or use oil-based products on your floor. Place protective mats under chairs with wheels.

11. Jamb saw

12. 6-8 mil polyethylene moisture barrier (when floating over concrete)

13. High quality carpenter’s glue (if needed)

14. Safety glasses

15. Floor damage or liability caused by poor subfloor preparation is not covered by Smith & Fong product warranty.

C. INTRODUCTION TO THE INSTALLATION OF DURAPALM® FLOORING

1. (For nail-down installation only) At a minimum of seventy-two hours prior to installation, place the flooring boxes on a flat, even surface.

2. Prior to installation, confirm and maintain the floor is stable and any potential subfloor issues have been resolved.

3. Always use the correct installation steps when installing your flooring system. Failure to follow the installation procedures set forth herein may void the warranty.

4. A minimum of thirty days prior to flooring installation, the subfloor needs to be checked for uniformity and stability.

5. Beginning the installation prior to the completion of the subfloor installation can void the warranty.

6. At the time of delivery, check the incoming order for damaged, wet, or wet-painted products. Do not install products in such conditions.

7. Prior to installation, all products need to be conditioned to the room’s temperature and humidity for a minimum of 48 hours.

8. Expansion transition piece should be installed to provide expansion space for the flooring system. Install the third row in the same manner described above. Once three rows have been installed, lay a piece of clear protective film over the final row and continue installing the planks, but do not overlap the protective film. The expansion space will be created by the protective film. Once the floor is completed, remove the protective film and discard it. Failure to do so may void the warranty.

9. If the width of the room exceeds 24’ wide and/or 30’ long an expansion transition piece should be installed to prevent buckling of the floor.
Installation Instructions For durapalm® Flooring

Flatting and Nail-Down Methods

A. INTRODUCTION

This instruction manual provides comprehensive, up-to-date guidance on the installation of Smith & Fong durapalm® flooring products. Whether you’re installing a new floor or replacing an existing one, our installation procedures have been designed to ensure a seamless and stress-free experience for both you and your project.

B. SET-UP SITE PREPARATION

1. Ensure that the installation site is prepared to accommodate the necessary tools and materials. This includes removal of any furniture or obstacles that may obstruct the installation process.

2. Check for water damage or subfloor imperfections. Repair any defects before proceeding with the installation.

C. SUBFLOOR MOISTURE REQUIREMENTS

1. Before installing your Smith & Fong flooring, it is essential to ensure that the subfloor moisture content is within the recommended range. This typically falls between 4% and 12% RH, depending on the season.

D. PRE-INSTALLATION PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

1. Consult the Smith & Fong Installation and Maintenance Guide before proceeding with the installation to ensure you have the necessary tools and information.

E. FLOATING INSTALLATION

1. To ensure that you have sufficient material on hand, calculate the total area of the space or room and add 5-10% additional material to allow for miscalculation or error.

F. NO-TAIL INSTALLATION

1. When working under doorjambs or toe kicks of cabinets, there will not be enough clearance to tail-cut the floor to fit under the cabinets. It is recommended to cut the floor to fit under the cabinet and to install the last board flush with the floor.

G. LIFETIME WARRANTEE

1. Smith & Fong offers a limited warranty on their flooring products, covering defects in material and workmanship for 25 years. This warranty is non-transferable and applies only to the original owner.

H. RECYCLING

1. When disposing of your Smith & Fong flooring, follow local recycling guidelines to ensure that the materials are disposed of properly and responsibly.
Figure 1. First plank, first row.
Tongue side against the wall, groove side facing out. Later, after the third row is installed, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with a distance of approximately 1/2”.

Figure 2. Second plank, first row.
Place this plank tight to the short end of the first one.

Figure 3. Fold down with a single movement.

Figure 4. At the end of the first row, cut the board to fit the remaining length. If the leftover piece is 12” or longer, use it to start the next row. Otherwise, use a pre-cut bitboard, packaged with the flooring, to start the next row. Insert 1/2” spacers.

Figure 5. Cut with a jigsaw face-down, or cut with a hand saw face-up.

Figure 6. Second row.
Stagger end joints of adjacent rows a minimum of 12”. Once these rows have been installed, re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. Adjust, if necessary, to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 7. General; distances between short ends. Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows should be 12”.

Figure 8. Second plank, second row.
Place the panel tight to the short end of the previous panel and fold down in a single movement.

Figure 9. After 3 rows.
Re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. If necessary, adjust the floor to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 10. Last and/or first row.
Allow for proper expansion against the wall or any vertical surface. The last row will need to be cut to the necessary width (2’ or wider). Cut the panels length-wise and glue the narrow boards to the adjoining full row.

Figure 11. Join panels at their ends by gluing the joint with floating floor adhesive.

Figure 12. For panels narrower than 2” Last and/or first row.

Figure 13. Cut off the locking element with a chisel and use floating floor adhesive on the adjusted strip; push the planks horizontally together. If necessary, put some distance between the last panel and the wall in order to keep the planks together during the curing time of the glue.
Figure 1.
First plank, first row.
Tongue side against the wall, groove side facing out. Later, after the third row is installed, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with a distance of approximately 1/2".

Figure 2.
First plank, first row.
Place this plank tight to the short end of the first one.

Figure 3.
Fold down with a single movement.

Figure 4.
At the end of the first row, cut the board to fit the remaining length. If the leftover piece is 12" or longer, use it to start the next row. Otherwise, use a pre-cut bitboard, packaged with the flooring, to start the next row. Insert 1/2" spacers.

Figure 5.
Cut with a jigsaw face-down, or cut with a hand saw face-up.

Figure 6.
Second row.
Stagger end joints of adjacent rows a minimum of 12". Once three rows have been installed, re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. Adjust, if necessary, to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 7.
General, distances between short ends. Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows should be 12".

Figure 8.
Second plank, second row.
Place the panel tight to the short end of the previous panel and fold down in a single movement.

Figure 9.
After 3 rows.
Re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. If necessary, adjust the floor to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 10.
General, distances between short ends. Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows should be 12".

Figure 11.
Join panels at their ends by gluing the joint with floating floor adhesive.

Figure 12.
Cut off the locking element with a chisel and use floating floor adhesive on the adjusted strip; push the planks horizontally together. If necessary, put some distance between the last panel and the wall in order to keep the planks together during the curing time of the glue.

Figure 13.
For panels narrower than 2". Last and/or first row.

Figure 14.
General, distances between short ends. Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows should be 12".
Figure 1. First plank, first row.
Tongue side against the wall, groove side facing out.
Later, after the third row is installed, you can easily position the flooring against the front wall with a distance of approximately 1/2".

Figure 2. Second plank, first row.
Place this plank tight to the short end of the first one.

Figure 3. Fold down with a single movement.

Figure 4. At the end of the first row, cut the board to fit the remaining length. If the leftover piece is 12" or longer, use it to start the next row. Otherwise, use a pre-cut bi-board, packaged with the flooring, to start the next row. Insert 1/2" spacers.

Figure 5. Cut with a jigsaw face-down, or cut with a hand saw face-up.

Figure 6. Second row.
Stagger end joints of adjacent rows a minimum of 12". Once these rows have been installed, re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. Adjust, if necessary, to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 7. General: distances between short ends.
Minimum distance between short ends of planks in parallel rows should be 12".

Figure 8. Second plank, second row.
Place the panel tight to the short end of the previous panel and fold down in a single movement.

Figure 9. After 3 rows.
Re-check the spacers to ensure that they are tight against the wall. If necessary, adjust the floor to ensure the installation is square.

Figure 10. Last and/or first row.
Allow for proper expansion against the wall or any vertical surface. The last row will need to be cut to the necessary width (2' or wider). Cut the panels length-wise and glue the narrow boards to the adjoining full row.

For panels narrower than 2’ Last and/or first row.

Figure 11. Join panels at their ends by gluing the joint with floating floor adhesive.

Last row or under cabinets

Figure 12. Cut off the locking element with a chisel and use floating floor adhesive on the adjusted strip; push the planks horizontally together. If necessary, put some distance between the last panel and the wall in order to keep the planks together during the curing time of the glue.

Figure 13.