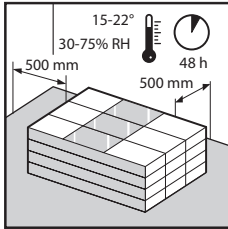


## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR QUICK-STEP LAMINATE IMPRESSIVE DESIGN HERRINGBONE

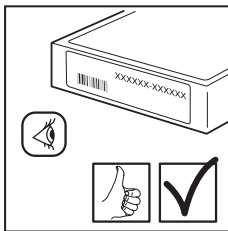
To obtain the best result, we advise all parties to follow all given instructions carefully. National regulations regarding floor applications must always be followed. Please make sure that the floor user has a copy of this document. In case the national regulations conflict with the manufacturer's recommendations, the most stringent of the two prevails.

### 1. PREPARATION



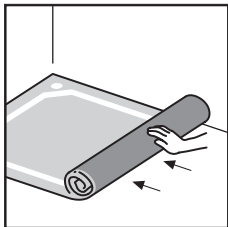
1

It is recommended to let the planks acclimatise for 48 hours in the unopened packaging at the normal room temperature, in the middle of the room where the floor is to be installed. Ensure they are stacked on pallets or similar, to keep them off the subfloor until installation. The ideal conditions are 15-22°C at a relative humidity of 30-75%. If climate conditions are outside this 30-75% range, we strongly advise to acclimatise for 1 week with opened packages.



2

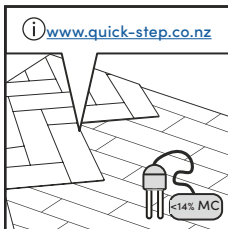
Quick-Step laminate floors can be bought in different formats, decors and qualities. Make sure you have received the correct flooring that you ordered before starting the installation. It is always a good idea to store the end labels together with your purchase receipt.



3

Remove all existing carpet or soft flooring and underlays. Quick-Step Laminate can be installed directly atop most existing hard flooring (ceramics, vinyl etc) but only when the existing flooring is well stuck and meets the criteria below for levelness, moisture content etc..

**The subfloor should be stable and firmly fixed in accordance with New Zealand Standards NZS1884:2013.**

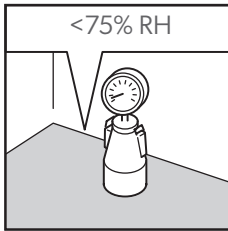


4

**TIMBER SUBFLOOR:** Remove any existing floor covering first. No signs of mould and/or insect infestations should be present. Make sure the subfloor is level. Nail or screw down any loose parts. The wooden subfloor should be flat (no unevenness greater than 2mm over the length of 1m), if the wooden subfloor is not flat and has unevenness >4mm over a length of 2m, this will need to be rectified prior to installation.

**Timber subfloors should be tested in accordance with NZS1884:2013 as below 14%MC.** In the instance that a subfloor is obviously or knowingly wet (insufficiently dry), it is imperative to remedy the cause of the excessive moisture prior to installation.

It is important that timber subfloors have sufficient cross flow ventilation in the crawl space under the subfloor with unblocked vents on all four sides of the building. Inspection of the crawl space is recommended prior to installation with damp smells or puddles of water in any area requiring further investigation and remedy.

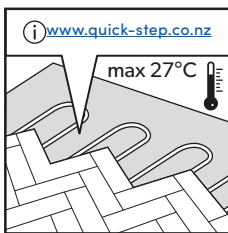


5

**CONCRETE SUBFLOOR:**

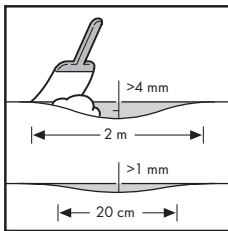
**The moisture content of any concrete sub-floor must be less than 75%RH (relative humidity) when tested in accordance with NZS1884:2013.** When testing is not performed or in the instance that a subfloor is obviously or knowingly wet (insufficiently dry), it is always best to remedy the cause of the excessive moisture first. Always measure, record and keep your test results.

Installation can then be undertaken by first installing 200uM builders plastic sheeting to provide a cost effective moisture vapour barrier. If installing plastic sheeting, ensure to apply up all vertical surfaces to create a 'well' and overlap all joints by 300mm, taping all joints using a vapour-tight tape. If the moisture content of the concrete is tested to be less than 75% then an approved underlay such as Quick-Step Combi-Lay that has a built in vapour barrier will be sufficient to prevent moisture ingress.



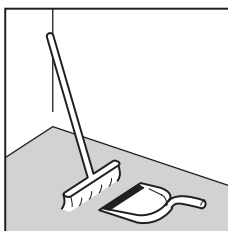
6

Additional instructions apply if there is underfloor heating or cooling. For health and safety reasons and to avoid problems with the Quick-Step laminate floor, a maximum floor surface temperature of 27°C is allowed. visit [www.quick-step.co.nz](http://www.quick-step.co.nz) for more information.



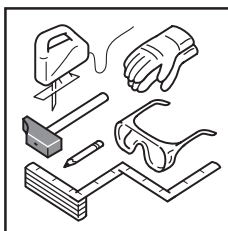
7

Make sure the subfloor is level. Any unevenness greater than 4mm over the length of 2m must be smoothed out. The same applies to any unevenness of more than 1mm over a length of 20cm.



8

After checking the subfloor for unevenness, carefully sweep, or for best results vacuum the entire surface. **Make sure that the subfloor is flat, clean, stable, and dry.** To avoid risk of squeaking, secure any loose particleboard, fibreboard, timber planks etc. with screws.

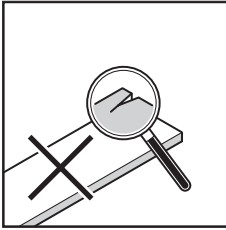


9

To install your laminate floor you need the following standard tools: Hammer, saw (a jig-saw, hand circular saw, hand saw, or cross-cut saw), relevant personal protective equipment (PPE), pencil, tape measure, string / chalk line as well as the Quick-Step installation kit, enough Quick-Step approved underlay, trims and profiles to finish the edges of your floor and a Quick-Step Maintenance Kit to ensure your floor looks its best after you've finished the installation.

It is important to note that the Quick-Step accessories have been specifically designed to provide optimal results for your Quick-Step floor and that using other products may cause damage to your floor. In such cases the relevant warranty provided by Quick-Step will be voided. We therefore advise to use only Quick-Step accessories with Quick-Step floors.

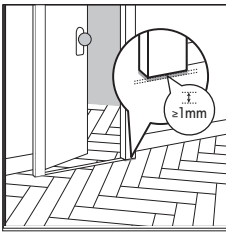
**NOTE:** The recommended underlay is Quick-Step Quiet-Step or standard Combi-Lay, minimum requirements are that the underlay is to have a SD>75m with compressive strength of >30kPa.



11

Check all panels before and during installation in optimal daylight conditions under the angle of light reflection. Check that the colours correspond to those ordered, the quantities are correct and there is no visible damage to the boxes. Do not install any panels that display any obvious visible manufactured defect. Be aware that some designs have a natural variation within them. For defects that are visible prior to installation, Quick-Step will never assume responsibility for the uplift & relay costs.

**An installed plank is considered as accepted and cannot be claimed.**

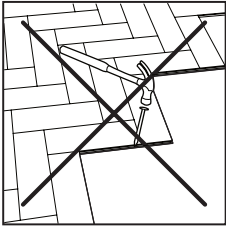
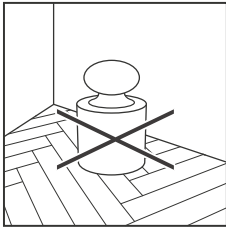


12

Check that the doors can still open and close after the floor and underlay have been installed by using an offcut of the flooring and a piece of underlay before starting the installation. Check whether the old skirting can be removed. You can leave the wall skirting boards in place and finish the floor with Quick-Step profiles.

All permanent cabinetry and joinery should be installed prior to the floorcovering. It is important such cabinetry does not impair the free expansion or contraction of the laminate floor. Kickboards can be installed last of all, "Waterfall" style bench tops set up to allow flooring to slide underneath and other techniques used for a discrete installation.

Quick-Step laminate flooring is designed to be installed as a floating floor to allow natural expansion and contraction with changes in temperature and humidity. To achieve the benefits of a floating floor and to avoid possible gaps, squeaking etc. never fasten the floor with nails, screws, silicone etc.



13

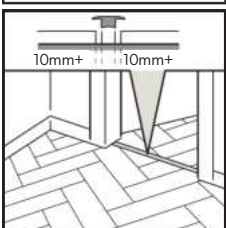
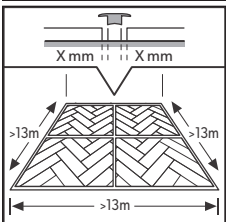
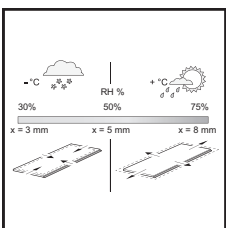
A Quick-Step laminate floor is mainly composed of natural wood and will naturally expand and contract upon changes in the relative humidity. The dimensional variation of the installed floor will almost be equal in length and width. This will create movements in the floor surface.

To secure enough clearance for the natural movements and to avoid possible open joints, squeaking etc. always keep a minimum perimeter expansion gap of 10mm average to walls, thresholds, staircases, pipes etc. during installation. Use the spacers in the installation kit to keep the right clearance. Plasterboard can be undercut to allow for additional expansion in areas of higher humidity.

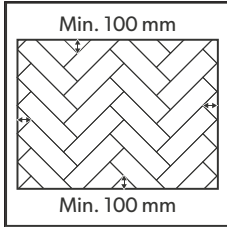
In large or multi-room installations, you will need to install intermediate expansion/control joints at door thresholds or throughout the installation area, this is known as compartmentalisation. **Installations greater than 13lm in any direction will require compartmentalisation.** Check with your place of purchase prior to installation whether the area to be installed needs to be compartmentalised and for more information on the recommended location of expansion joints.

**The expansion joint must be left open and may NOT be filled by any sealant, silicone or other adhesive. Never fasten the floor with nails, glue, screws or in any other way.**

We strongly recommend installing Herringbone with the skirting boards off, as undercutting them can make the installation process significantly harder.



## 2. INSTALLATION

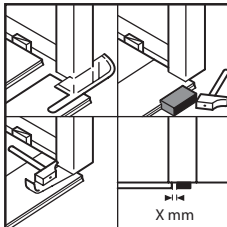


1

Before starting carefully measure the length and the width of the room to plan a precise lay-out to achieve a balanced appearance of the floor. This will also ensure you won't end up with the last row being too narrow. To assure this, you can slide the middle line of the floor.

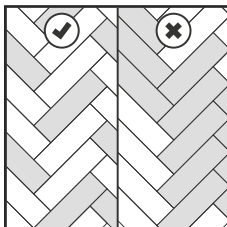
We advise to make sure that the smallest pieces are always wider than 100mm. If it is not possible to assure this, you may use a cross-linked PVA type glue in the joining system to connect the smallest pieces to the adjacent installed planks. It is important to ensure no glue comes between the plank and the subfloor/underlay as this will prevent the free movement of the floor.

Quick-Step Impressive Design flooring has a patented locking system and is intended as a floating floor; panels should not be bonded to the subfloor, but in addition to that, it is not allowed to glue the joints between the planks. Only for a plank replacement or to connect the smallest pieces, it is allowed to glue the joints between the planks locally.



2

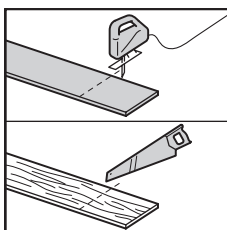
When sawing the panels make sure that the expansion gap under the door is at least 10mm, the doorjamb is to be undercut to accommodate this. If you cannot lift the panel, use the tapping block or pulling iron and hammer to tap the panels together when the planks are flat on the floor.



3

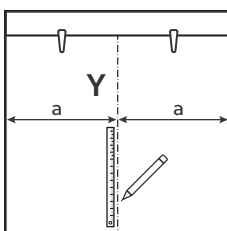
During installation, make sure that you mix the floor panels (and floor boxes) sufficiently so that there are not too many identical, lighter or darker planks next to each other.

As opposed to many other herringbone click planks, the Quick-Step Impressive Design planks do not come in "A" and "B" planks, but in a universal plank equipped with the patented Unizip profile. There is no need to sort the planks out and make separate piles.



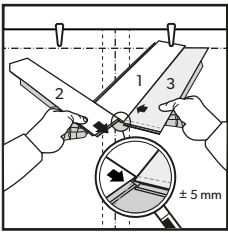
4

Of course we also need to saw the panels. Use your preferred method to create a clean cut across the board.



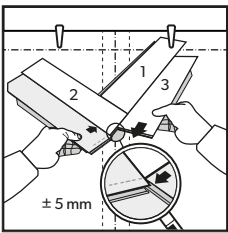
5

A herringbone design should typically be started from a central axis. Use a chalk line or straight edge to mark the centre of your room, creating the 'Y' line. Ensure to take a few wall to wall measurements at various points to gauge the best central starting point.



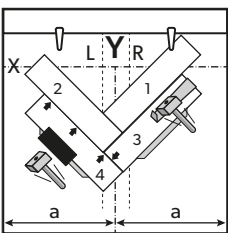
6

Place your first plank (1). Use another plank (3) and attach it to the first by inserting it into the groove at an angle of  $\pm 20^\circ$ . Do not fold it down. Use plank (3) as a guide to install plank (2). Let plank (3) extend past plank (1) with  $\pm 5\text{mm}$  at the bottom. Now insert plank (2) into the short side of plank (1) and slide it till it is stopped by plank (3). Now fold down plank (2).



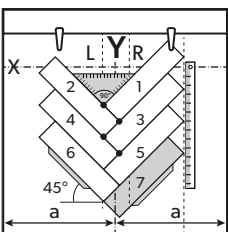
7

Now repeat the same method with plank (3) and (4). Plank (4) now serves as a stopper for plank (3). Fold down plank (3). Continue this process until you finish the center rows.



8

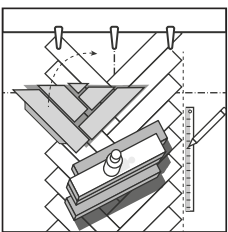
Make sure that the joint is closed tightly. Use hammer and tapping block to gently tap and ensure the locking mechanism is correctly engaged. **Take care not to damage the joining system if using a rubber mallet to engage the planks.**



9

Work your way down. Do not forget to tap gently to perfectly engage the joint. Use a straight edge or additional reference line to ensure that the rows remain straight! Repeat this line with new rows.

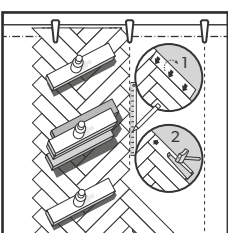
**TIP:** Take a string line and hold it alongside the installed planks to check and adjust the straightness of your installed first rows. It is recommended to make additional checks in order to confirm the straightness during the installation.



10

Having placed multiple planks in the centre row. Fill the open triangle close to the wall. This is where you may use a cross-linked PVA type glue in the joining system to connect the smallest pieces to the adjacent installed planks. It is important to ensure no glue comes between the plank and the subfloor/underlay as this will prevent the free movement of the floor.

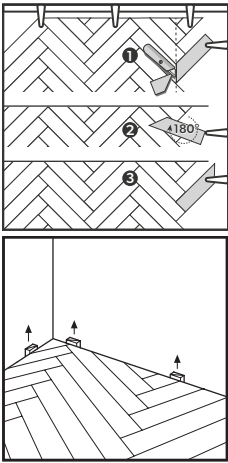
Use the spacers to maintain the correct expansion gap between the wall and the floor, plasterboard/skirting can be undercut to allow for additional expansion. It is recommended to place some unopened boxes (or other type of weight) to keep the already installed section in place.



11

Now work your way up the pattern as shown.

- a. Connect the long end first by lifting at  $\pm 20^\circ$ .
- b. Now gently tap the short end of the plank with a tapping block and a hammer while making sure the Unizip locking system is not damaged.
- c. Both ends are closed now. However it's wise to check, just to be sure, that during the manipulation no small gaps have formed.

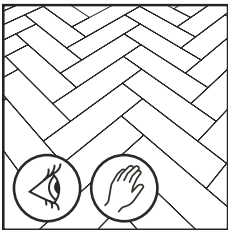


12

Place your planks in the last row in the position as you would to continue a normal row. Now turn one plank 180° and place the corner against the wall minus the distance of the spacer. You now can draw the cutting line and cut off the surplus. Turn back the plank 180° and install it. Repeat this with each individual plank.

TIPS:

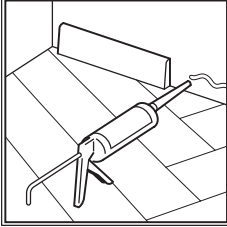
- It is advisable to sit with your knees or stand with your feet on the already installed panels, to ensure that they don't start shifting during further installation.
- In order to make the start of the installation easier, assemble the first 10 planks away from the starting position, so you can sit on the planks during the assembly. Then slide the first 10 planks to the wanted position. Take a string line and hold it alongside the installed planks to check and adjust the straightness of your installed first rows. It is recommended to make additional checks in order to confirm the straightness during the installation. Remember to use the distance spacers for a constant expansion gap of 10mm along the perimeter.



13

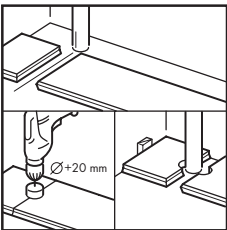
After the installation of each plank and before continuing with the next plank, check each short and long side joint to make sure there are no height differences and no openings. Continue the installation like this - row by row - towards the end of the room. Once finished, remove the spacers. Your floor can now expand and contract freely.

### 3. FINISHING



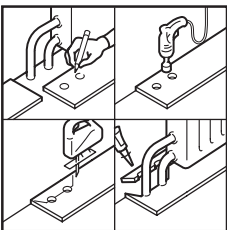
1

Install the skirting-board or selected scotia against the wall. Never attach directly to the floor. This method allows the floor to expand and contract under the skirting-board or finishing profile.



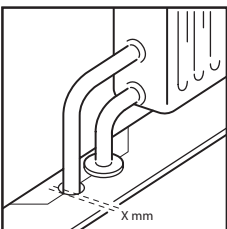
2

In rows where there is a pipe or obstacle, make sure it falls exactly in line with the short side of two panels. Take a drill bit with the same diameter as the pipe plus 20mm. Click the panels together on the short side and drill a hole centered on the joint between the two panels. Now you can install the panels on the floor.



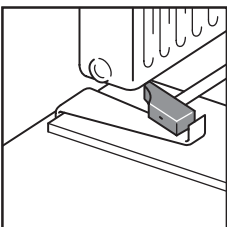
3

In rows where there is a double pipe, proceed as follows: 1. Measure where the pipe will come through the plank. Don't forget to allow for the expansion joint 2. Take a drill bit measuring the diameter of the pipe plus +20mm for the expansion. Drill through the panel where the pipe will come through 3. Extend the hole to the edge of the panel 4. Lay the panel around the pipe 5. Take another panel and saw a piece that fits exactly in the remaining hole, and glue this piece with wood glue.



4

For a perfect finish around pipes, use an appropriate pipe cover or flexible skirting.

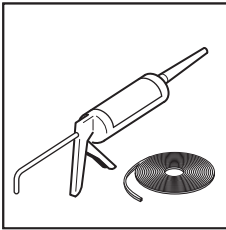


5

In places where it is difficult to install the planks with the tapping block (e.g. underneath radiators), you can tap them together with the pulling iron and a hammer.

### 3. FINISHING IN ROOMS LIKE KITCHENS, LAUNDRY ROOMS AND POWDER ROOMS

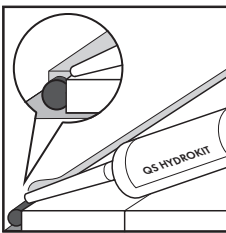
This installation instruction can prevent water infiltration around the perimeter of your laminate flooring. The water-resistant panels are not suitable for use in damp spaces like pool areas, saunas, and rooms with built-in drains like showers. **Despite their waterproof surface, these floors may not comply with some regulations for waterproofing in wet rooms, please always refer to local building regulations.**



For a water resistant finishing, use the elastic waterproof transparent Quick-Step Hydrokit and the foamstrip (NEFOAMSTRIP).

**Entrances to wet areas (bathrooms, laundries etc.) should always be separated at the entrance with a control joint, the expansion can be covered using a Quick-Step incizo profile sealed following the below instructions.**

**NOTE:** To comply with NZ Building Code E3, and to maintain your warranty, in wet areas such as bathrooms, laundries, or other areas within 1.5m of a sanitary appliance, **MUST** be sealed around the entire perimeter using a PE foam rod and HydroKit. In open plan areas, HydroKit silicone **MUST** be applied at a minimum of 1.5m from any sanitary fixtures or appliances to prevent water from entering beneath the floor perimeter.

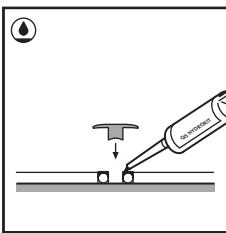


1

Sealing the perimeter expansion joints combines a compressible PE foam with diameter of 8 to 10mm and the flexible and waterproof Quick-Step® HydroKit. Push the PE foam in the expansion joints and apply the flexible Quick-Step® HydroKit over the foam rod so that it seals both the wall side and the laminate edge.

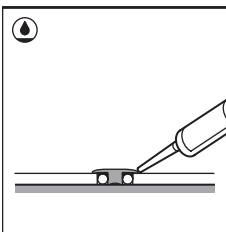
In addition to the floor perimeter, we recommend that the underside of the trim/profile and door jambs, or other floor penetrations, and around kitchen/bathroom cabinetry be sealed using the flexible Hydrokit in these wet areas.

Install the skirting-board or scotia to cover the hydrokit. In places where profiles or skirting-boards cannot be utilised use a thin bead of the flexible Hydrokit.



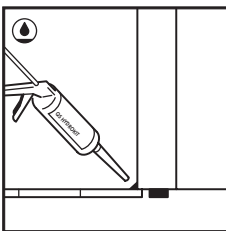
2

If using Quick-Step incizo, apply the flexible HydroKit on the flexible PE foam that is in the expansion joint.



3

Push the Incizo profile in the base profile and the wet HydroKit.



4

To secure extra water protection around the perimeter of the floor and avoid water ingress underneath the panels, apply the flexible Quick-Step HydroKit up to the wall base, thresholds, door frames, pipe covers etc.

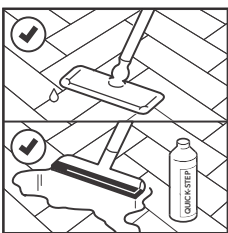
**TIP:** To make work cleaner, apply tape on the floor before applying the flexible HydroKit or using a caulking tool. The tape can be removed immediately after applying the HydroKit. Excess HydroKit can be removed easily when it is dry.

## 4. MAINTENANCE



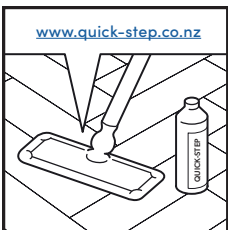
1

You can walk on the floor during and immediately after installation. Ensure that the relative humidity in the room is always between 30-70%. Use a climate control device if required. It is important to read through the Quick-Step Maintenance Instructions as following these instructions will help to keep your new floor looking better for much longer.



2

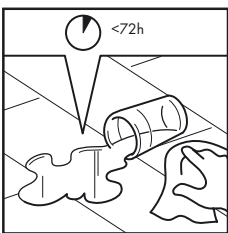
- a. For dry maintenance, we advise a Quick-Step mop or vacuum cleaner. Make sure the vacuum cleaner is equipped with soft wheels and used brush-down to avoid damage to your floor.
- b. You can use a steam cleaner provided it is always operated with an appropriate cloth covering the steam jets, which ensures an even homogeneous heat and steam distribution. It is important to keep the steam cleaner continuously moving along the length direction of the planks on the lowest setting.
- c. Robotic/mechanical vacuum mop usage is permitted with soft bristles if moisture is not pushed into the joints of the flooring and any excess moisture is removed immediately. We only recommend using Quick-Step Floor Cleaner as use of other cleaning solutions may damage the flooring.



3

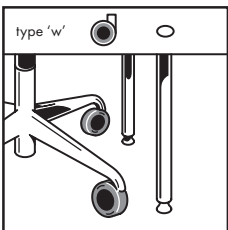
For slightly damp and wet maintenance, we advise the Quick-Step maintenance kit (see instructions). Be aware that the use of other cleaning products might damage your floor. For further information on how to clean and maintain your floor, please visit [www.quick-step.co.nz](http://www.quick-step.co.nz). For specific cleaning instructions in commercial applications or projects, you can contact the Quick-Step technical department.

**NOTE:** Never use fabric softener in the wash when cleaning your microfibre mop head, as this can leave a residue on your flooring that is sometimes impossible to remove.



4

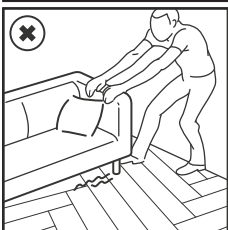
**All spills should be wiped up immediately upon discovery (no later than 72 hours).** In the case that your floor is exposed to potential stains, remove the staining agent as quickly as possible. If light rubbing with Quick-Step Spot Cleaner is insufficient, a small amount of acetone can be used with a white cloth to assist stain removal. Never use scouring products. Never use wax or varnish coating on the floor.



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Protect furniture and chair legs. Avoid bringing dirt, water and sand indoors by providing a suitable dirt trapping floor mat at all external entrances. Use (office) chairs and seats with soft wheels (type W) that are suitable for a laminate floor and/or use a suitable desk mat. When moving heavy furniture back onto your floor or at any other time, ensure items are not dragged. If items are too heavy to be lifted, roll them carefully over a sheet of plywood that will protect the floor from damage.

For further information on preparation, installation, care and maintenance of your new Quick-Step Laminate floor please refer to [www.quick-step.co.nz](http://www.quick-step.co.nz).



More information and E3-AS1 documentation are available from your retailer or [www.floorscape.co.nz](http://www.floorscape.co.nz).