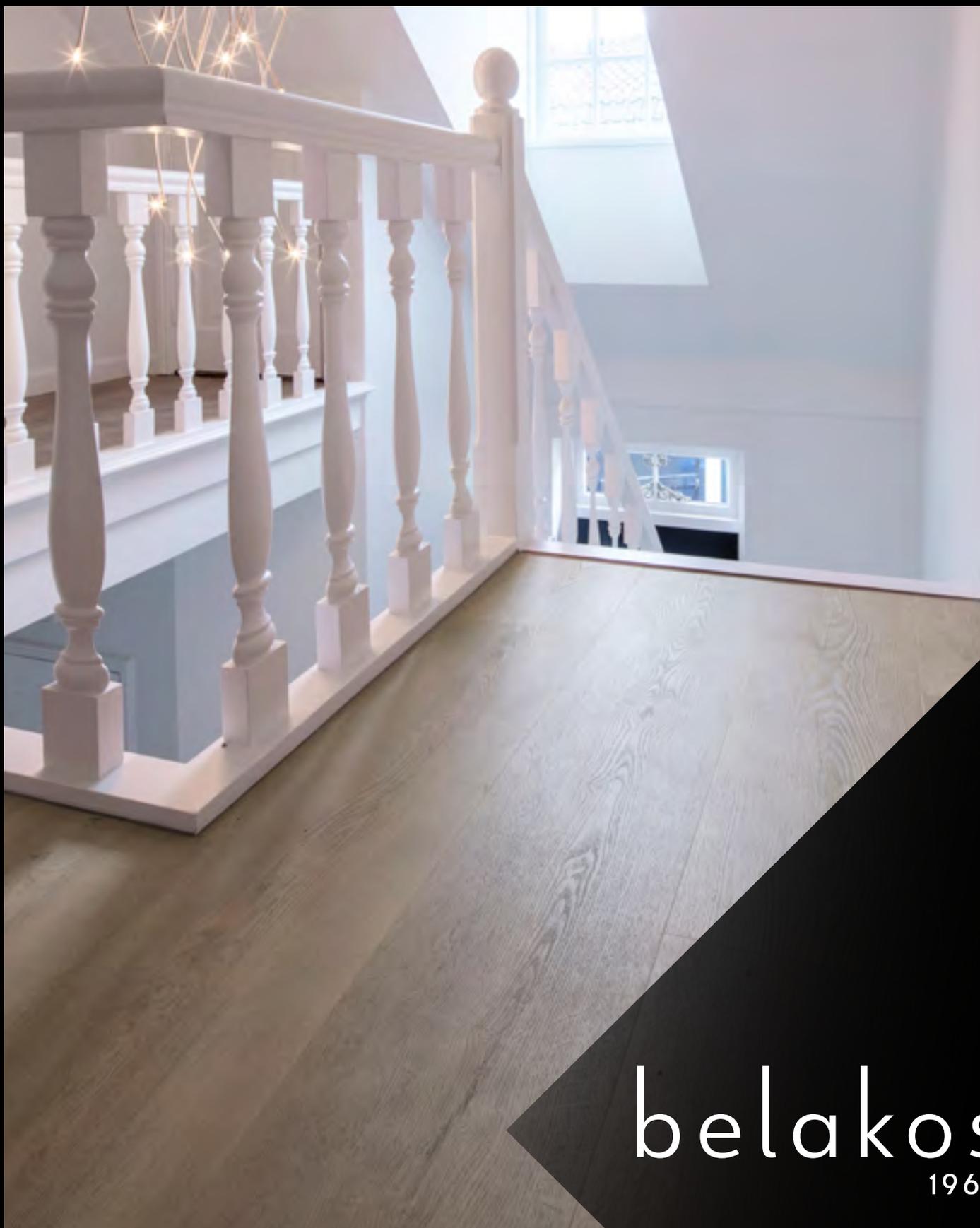


# Installation instructions

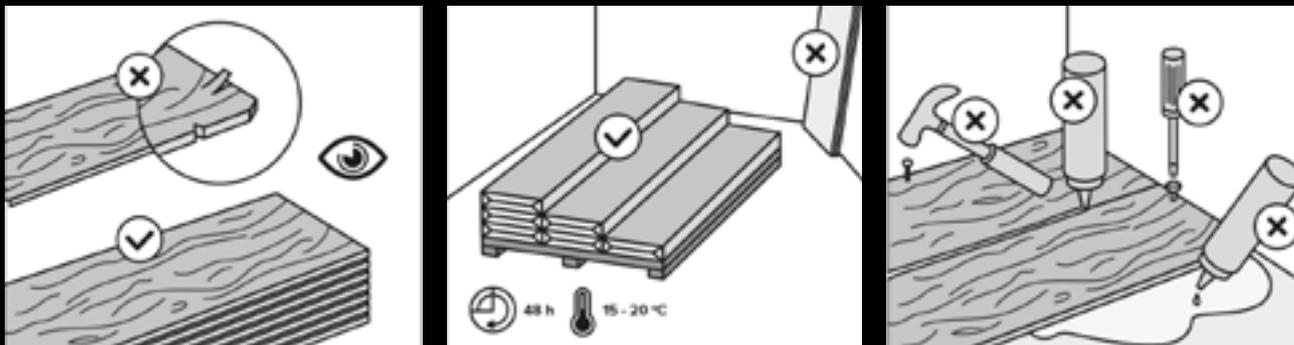
## **Rigid Click** XL planks



belakos  
1960

## 1. STORAGE AND TRANSPORTATION

Ensure that the material is stored and transported on a flat, firm surface, flat and in neat piles. Ensure that the material is not stored in a cold or humid environment.



## 2. PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

### Inspect the product

Do the colours match those ordered, are the quantities correct? Is there no visible damage to the boxes? During installation, also check for any visible defects and do not install planks or tiles that have any imperfections.

### Acclimatization

To prevent shrinkage and expansion, acclimate your LVT floor by laying the planks on the floor, at **room temperature**, for 48 hours. Stack the planks, or tiles, in low, straight stacks without packaging. Lay them in the centre of the room, away from heating, cooling, or windows with direct sunlight.

### Underfloor heating and cooling

If the current floor has underfloor heating and/or cooling, make sure the underfloor heating and/or cooling is off, for 24 hours before and up to 72 hours after installing the new floor. After installing the floor, observe the **start-up protocol**. See page 5 for more information.

**Heating protocol:** This is always carried out after the installation of underfloor heating but before the LVT floor is laid. It ensures that the subfloor and screed can cure properly, minimizing shrinkage and expansion stresses.

**Cooling protocol:** This is especially necessary when underfloor heating is used for floor cooling in the summer. The temperature must be gradually lowered to prevent condensation and stress in the floor. In winter, cooling is not required, as the underfloor heating is then kept at a comfortable temperature continuously.

***We do not recommend installing infrared or electric underfloor heating under a Belakos LVT floor.***

If electric underfloor heating is necessary, it must be covered with at least 9 mm of suitable leveling compound. Direct contact with electric underfloor heating must be avoided. The surface temperature must not exceed 27°C.

**Installation period:** Wait 72 hours after installing Dryback LVT and 48 hours after installing Click LVT before turning on the underfloor heating.

**Gradual heating:** Increase the underfloor heating temperature gradually, in steps of 5°C per day, until the standard surface temperature is reached. The maximum screed temperature must not exceed 27°C.

### Subfloor

The type of subfloor, its quality and any pre-treatment will have a major impact on the final result. To avoid unevenness in the LVT floor, the subfloor must be clean, level, free of dust, permanently dry and normally porous. Unevenness on the subfloor should not exceed 3 to 4 mm measured over a width of 200 cm. Each type of subfloor requires special treatment in order to make the floor flat, smooth and stable for installing the LVT floor. **Make sure that the subfloor has a minimum value of 300 kPa.**

**UNEVENNESS ON THE SUBFLOOR SHOULD NOT EXCEED 3 TO 4 MM MEASURED OVER A WIDTH OF 200 CM.**

### 3. INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

Keep in mind the climatic conditions and the temperature in the processing room. It should not be lower than 18°C and have a humidity between 50-65%. The floor temperature should not be lower than 15°C or higher than 23°C. The climate conditions should be constant: at least 48 hours before laying, during and 72 hours after laying. Larger changes in room temperature, as part of normal temperature control, should take place gradually.

**DUE TO TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS, THE FLOOR SHOULD NOT BE LAID TIGHTLY AGAINST THE WALL. LEAVE 5 - 10 MM SPACE BETWEEN THE WALL AND THE FLOOR TO ALLOW SHRINKING OR SWELLING OF THE FLOOR. THE FLOOR SHOULD THEREFORE BE FREE ALL ROUND.**

During installation, check for any visible defects and do not install boards or tiles with any imperfections. In larger rooms, the floor should be laid in smaller sections with expansion joints. Never place very heavy pieces of furniture, such as kitchen islands/cabinets, on top of the floor.

#### Damp rooms

The installation of Belakos LVT is subject to strict rules when installed in damp rooms. For example, the floor is not suitable for installation near a rainfall shower.

**Please observe the following rules for installation:**

- Use an underfloor suitable for LVT and damp rooms;
- Keep the required distance from the wall;
- Do not seal the floor with sealant. This may cause the floor to work insufficiently, with an increased risk of shrinkage and expansion joints.

### 4. INSTALLATION AND PROCESSING

Measure the room where the floor is to be laid and calculate the best way how to lay the planks. Rigid Click flooring should always be laid from a longitudinal wall. First check that the wall is straight so that the design floor can be laid aligned/straight. The floor is then laid row by row. Make sure that the elements are jointed tightly together so that the mechanical lock closes cleanly and tightly. Also ensure that there are no unnecessary small boards in the main routes and areas near the doors.

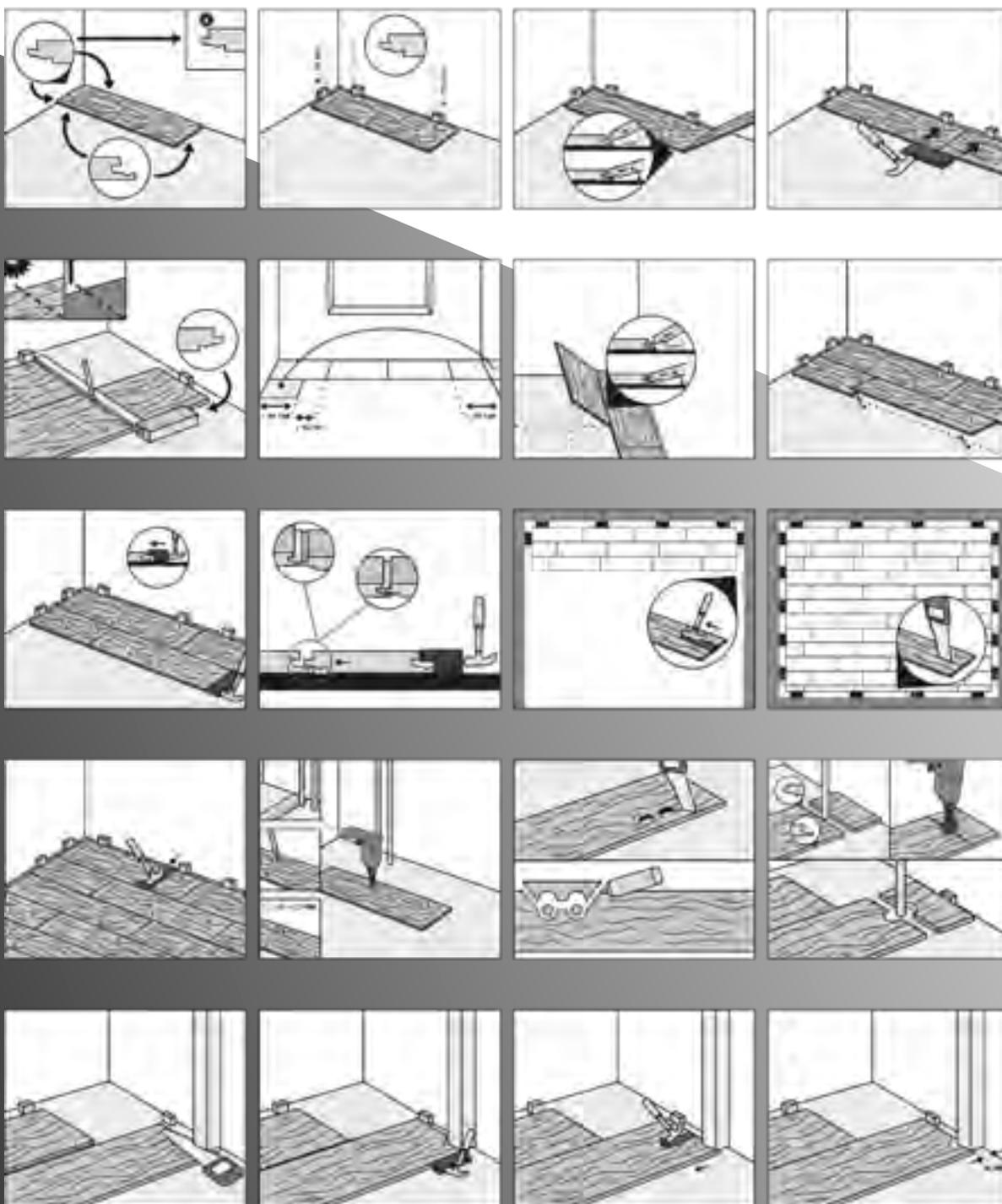
The cut edges of the floor should not be placed under pressure against walls, upstands and profiles. LVT flooring can be laid continuously up to an area of 400 m<sup>2</sup>.

To cut Rigid Click LVT to size, we recommend using a Stanley knife to cut the boards from the top layer. Cutting the long side to size is a bit trickier with a Stanley knife, small corners such as at doorposts and heating pipes can also be cut to size with a jigsaw. In that case, use a plastic or tile saw.

When laying, ensure an edge distance to the wall of 5-10 mm. Spacers are available for this purpose.

**Start laying from the wall**

1. Place the plank at an angle of 20 to 30° against the already laid plank. Move the planks slightly up and down while applying forward pressure. The planks will click together automatically.
2. Once enough rows have been placed, the installation can easily be finished as follows: place an unopened package of panels on the rows already laid. Change position and click the short side of the plank into the previous plank.
3. Now put BOTH hands close to the joint and pull the long side of the plank towards you. The panels will now click together automatically.



Make sure the planks are staggered correctly. When laying the last row cut to size in relation to the wall. On the long side, a crowbar can be used as a laying aid. This is not suitable for the short side.

## New! 2G Click System

**The LVT quality Borgo is equipped with a 2G rigid-click system and, in addition to the standard installation method, can also be installed using an alternative method.**

The Unidrop **fold-down 2G click** system is a mechanical locking system in which the long side of the plank is engaged at an angle, and the short side is locked into place with a downward fold-down movement.

### Preparation and Points of Attention

For subfloor preparation, levelling, acclimatisation and climatic conditions, the same guidelines apply as for the standard Rigid Click installation instructions, as described earlier in this document.

Ensure that the subfloor is level, clean and dry. Maintain an expansion gap of 5 to 10 mm around the perimeter of the floor. Only use suitable tools, such as a tapping block, hammer and, if necessary, a pull bar. The click connection must never be forced; carefully check each joint during installation.

Subfloor irregularities must not exceed 1 mm measured over a width of 200 cm.

### Installation of a 2G Click Floor

1. Start installation along a straight lengthwise wall. Check in advance that the wall runs straight to ensure proper alignment of the floor.
2. Position the plank at an angle of approximately 20° to 30° against the previously installed plank and engage the long side first.
3. Move the plank slightly up and down while simultaneously applying forward pressure until the long side is fully and correctly locked.
4. Then carefully lower the plank, allowing the short side to automatically lock into the click connection.
5. Check that the short side is completely closed. If necessary, gently tap it into place from the T joint towards the edge using a tapping block and hammer.
6. After installing each plank, check that all joints are tight and fully closed, and that there are no height differences.
7. In hard to reach areas, such as along walls, at door frames or around other vertical elements, use a pull bar to ensure the plank is properly fitted without tension.

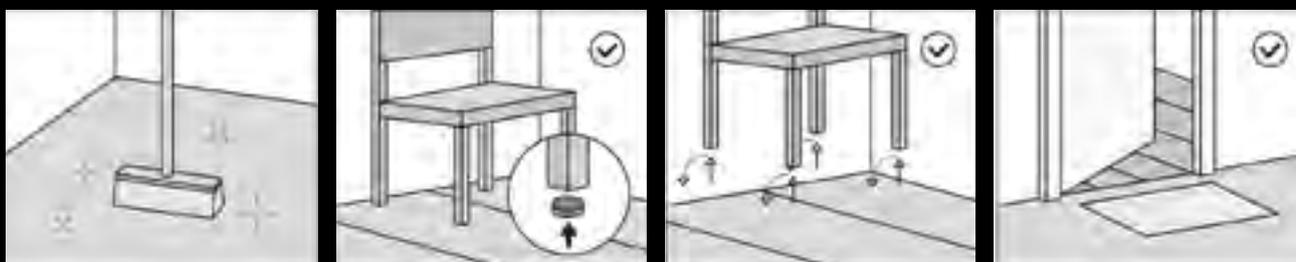
There are different laying patterns for Rigid Click floors, below are the most common ones:

**Wild bond:** In the wild bond method, the plank is not laid in bond, but rather criss-crossed. For a stable floor, the planks should have a minimum overlap when laying to get a good bond. The plank in the next row should be staggered by at least 20-25 cm. This method is often used and gives a nice look!

**Half-brick bond:** In a half-brick bond, the planks or tiles are laid horizontally in rows with a skip of 'half a stone'. The tiles are therefore staggered by half a tile compared to the next rows. Ultimately, this creates a half-brick bond in the floor.

## 5. USING THE FLOOR

Once the floor has been installed, it can be cleaned and used immediately.



### Cleaning

The floor can be cleaned by sweeping, vacuuming or damp wiping with James products ([www.james.eu](http://www.james.eu)). Aggressive and staining substances should be removed from the floor immediately.

### Underfloor heating and cooling

Guidelines for floor heating and cooling and a heating and cooling protocol are described by UZIN (Dutch); [click here to download this information sheet](#) or scan the QR code at the bottom of this page for more information.

### Scratch no More

Apply appropriate protection under furniture. Consider soft caps. Do not use felt. Dirt can build-up under felt and scratch the floor. More information is available at [www.scratchnomore.nl](http://www.scratchnomore.nl).

### Walk-in mat

Provide a good-sized walk-in mat, both indoors and outdoors. This will prevent a lot of dirt on the floor.



Scan the QR code to read the  
UZIN information sheet (Dutch)



## 6. MAINTENANCE

Belakos floors are known for their high quality, durability, and beautiful appearance. To maintain this appearance, it is advisable to treat the floor properly. For best results, we recommend the products of James, [www.james.eu](http://www.james.eu).

Download the maintenance guide from our website to learn how to maintain your Belakos floor and which products to use: [www.belakos.nl](http://www.belakos.nl).

Scan the QR code for more  
information on keeping the  
floor looking great!



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