

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

For laminate, engineered hardwood and tiles

WASTE: To better prevent losses, the industry's rule of thumb is to **order 7% to 10% more than the surface to be covered.**

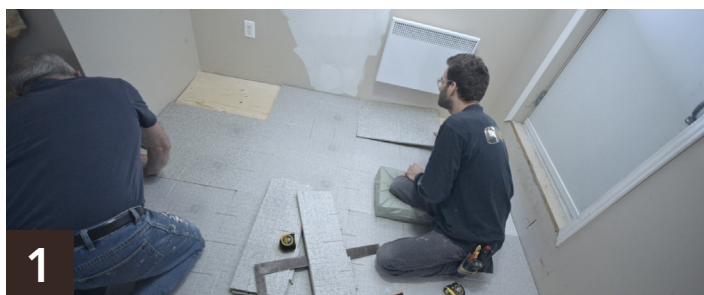
INSTALLATION: FOR LAMINATE FLOOR: It is recommended to lay a 6 mil (0.15 mm) vapour barrier first **if there is not one already.** All seams of the vapour barrier must be overlapped by at least 8 in (20 cm) and should be sealed with vapour barrier tape. **FOR CERAMIC TILES:** You must fix the *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles to the substract (concrete slab, plywood, etc.) with cement glue.

SUB-FLOOR CONDITION: Before installing the *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles, ensure that the sub-floor is **flat, dry, clean,** and **firm.** Fixed carpets and sub-carpets must be removed. Any difference must be reduced if the floor level is $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3 mm) or more per 24 in of width (*width of one Ekösteps® insulating tile*).

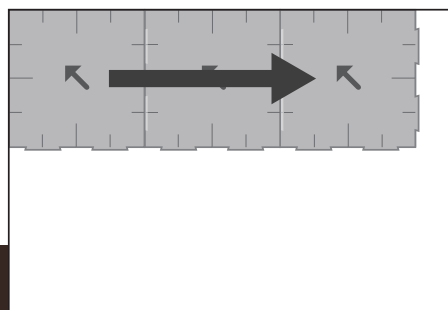
TOOLS REQUIRED: To install your *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles, you will need a **tape measure** and a **utility knife.**

Please **refer to and follow your flooring instructions** (how to install over underlayments), in order to respect the manufacturer's requirements and not to void your flooring warranty.

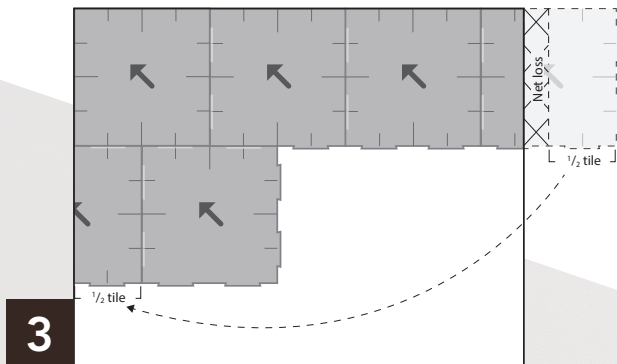
INSTALLATION STEPS



Before beginning the installation, **measure the dimensions of your flooring project in inches** because the *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles are squared to inches. Divide length and width of the room by 24 in (*width of each Ekösteps® insulating tile*) in order to determine the number of tiles required per axis. It is frequent that each row's last tile and the ones of the last row will need to be cut.



Starting from a corner, place the *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles with the *Ekösteps®* logo facing up. To assemble your first row of *Ekösteps®* insulating tiles, simply lock the tongues into the grooves of the previous tile.



To install your last tile, you may need to cut it with a utility knife. The tiles are embossed with 1 in squares to simplify this task. **Make sure the arrows of all tiles are pointing in the same direction.** If the off-cut of your last *Ekösteps®* insulating tile is **at least 12 in**, you can reduce losses by starting the next row with a half-tile (12 in) and install them in a staggered pattern (*like a brick wall*). Otherwise, the layout of the tiles will be the same for each row.

... MANDATORY STEP FOR CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION ...



Number your tiles if you have to remove them in order to apply cement glue on the floor to fix them.

IMPORTANT

Limit traffic on your **Ekösteps®** insulating tiles until they are covered by your finished floor to avoid damaging them. The **Ekösteps®** insulating tiles are not to be used as a finished flooring solution or for regular room traffic and should not stay uncovered.

If you install laminate or engineered wood floors, you can install the floor boards as you complete each row of **Ekösteps®** insulating tiles. In every other situation or if you choose to finish first your underlayment of **Ekösteps®** insulating tiles, it is recommended to wear flat and flexible bottomed shoes (*running shoes usually do the job*) to offer a better weight distribution and reduce the risks of damaging the tiles.

Avoid to walk barefoot. To work on your knees on the **Ekösteps®** insulating tiles, use a scrap piece of tile or a cushion to kneel.



It is highly recommended to install a rigid disc with a minimum diameter of 4 in (10 cm) under each leg to better spread the load of any object weighing over 500 lbs (227 kg) per leg, such as a pool table, on 7 mm laminate flooring.