

# ChipDeck Installation

**It is your responsibility to carry out the correct Health & Safety procedures and use the correct PPE for each task carried out**

1. The ChipDeck system has two methods in which it should be installed, depending on whether access to the floor from below is available.

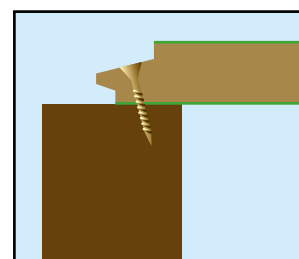
If access is available then stages 2-7 can be completed for the entire floor.

If access is not available stages 2-7 should be completed room by room.

The chipboard flooring and plywood sheets should be stored flat in the room for a couple of days before laying them to allow them to acclimatise to differences in temperature and humidity. Whilst chipboard flooring can be nailed, it is notorious for working loose and squeaking so screwing them down is the preferred method of fixing and really doesn't take long using a decent cordless driver.

Expansion gaps should be left around the perimeter of the flooring to allow for temperature and humidity changes. With suspended timber ground floors, expanding foam can be used around the edges to stop any draughts. The surface of chipboard is very smooth and this can make them slippery when handling. A useful tip is to wear decent work gloves which give better grip.

2. Lay the first panel in a room into a corner, screwing and gluing the panel along each joist, spacing the screws 150 mm on the intermediate supports central to each routed channel. At the tongued end of the panels, the screws should be positioned, as shown in diagram 1, drilling pilot holes and screwing these screws by hand to prevent damage to the tongue. To prevent the floor from cracking, the tongue and groove joints should be glued with PVAc adhesive. Gluing the panels on the support beams contributes significantly to improving the overall resistance to vibrations of the whole flooring.

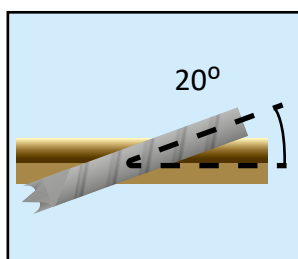


3. Lay the panels in a run, ensuring the end of each panel falls on a centre line of a joist. Once at the end of the first run the off cut should be used to start the next run.

**SHORT PANELS SHOULD ALWAYS BE SUPPORTED BY AT LEAST THREE BEAMS.**

**IF ANY LESS THAN THREE BEAMS NOGGINS SHOULD BE USED TO SUPPORT THE PANEL.**

Ensure that each end of the run has return loops in for the pipework.



4. Pipe access points should be drilled at a 20° angle with a 12.5mm drill bit.

Joists will need to be notched or drilled for the connecting pipework to be able to return to the manifold position.

Where flow and return pipework runs through the joists, there must be a notch or hole.

Notching and drilling in solid wood joists must be done in accordance with Building Regulations Part A such that:

A) Holes should be drilled through the neutral axis and should be positioned between 0.25 and 0.4 times the joist span length.

B) Must not be less than 3 diameters (of the hole) apart.

C) Notches must not deeper than 0.125 times the joist depth, and they should not be closer to a support than 0.07 times the span, not further away than 0.25 times the span.

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5. Before installing the pipe work, it is advised to sweep or vacuum the floor area as debris may have fallen into the channels.
6. Referring to the HydroHeat CAD design, insert the pipe into the ChipDeck panels.

**NOTE:**

- The minimum temperature for laying the pipe should be +5°C.
- If the pipework is kinked during the installation, the coil must be replaced or the pipe repaired with an HydroHeat connector and then pressure tested. No connections should be made unless fully accessible following the completion of the finished floor.
- All exposed pipework within the joist spaces must be insulated.

## Access Panels

If there are any access panels, drill a 12.5mm hole at a 20 degree angle through the ChipDeck panel at the point at which the flow pipe needs to drop into the batten space.

7. Feed one end of the pipe through the hole from above through to the manifold, notching or drilling as required. Where there is limited access, a plain access panel can be created and/or 12mm interconnecting fittings used.

Once the pipe work has been installed into the room, the access panel can then be glued and screwed.

## Continue laying the panels and pipe until all circuits are complete.

Once the panels and pipe have been installed, the circuits should be hydraulically pressure tested. It is preferable for the pipe to be kept under pressure while the covering deck is laid. If this is not possible, the pressure test must be carried out for a second time once the covering deck has been installed.

8. The 6mm flooring grade plywood (supplied by other) should be laid perpendicular to the ChipDeck panels, avoiding the ChipDeck panel joints lining up with the Plywood joints. Apply a PVA glue to the ChipDeck panels between the foil tape. Lay the Plywood fixing down with screws at every 150mm keeping clear of any pipework.

**IT IS ADVISED TO MARK WHERE THE PIPEWORK IS ON TOP OF THE PLYWOOD, NOT ONLY FOR YOUR OWN BENEFIT BUT ALSO FUTURE TRADES.**

