

WHY USE SCOTIA BEADING.

Laminate flooring absorbs and releases moisture from the room environment in response to humidity changes in the air. This process causes the flooring to both increase and decrease in size. The damper the air the bigger it gets, the dryer the air the smaller it gets. This is why you need an approximate 8mm to 10mm gap around the outer edge of the laminate, in this gap you put spacers to prevent the flooring from moving around after fitting is completed. Scotia trim is then used to cover the gap and improve the look.

INSTULATION INSTRUCTIONS.

Required materials: scotia beading, fixings, decorators caulk.

Required tools: Fine-gauge tenon saw, mitre block, tape measure.

1. Measure around the perimeter of the area where your flooring is to be installed to determine the total length of scotia trim required. Then add about 10% more to allow for wastage. This is the amount of scotia you will need for the job. Make sure the scotia will match the flooring you have chosen. If you are finding it hard to match the colour of the Laminate, then go for a colour that matches the skirting, for example white skirting and scotia will make a good compromise. Make sure you use the right size nails for fixing the scotia in place.

2. Cut your first scotia section to fit the length of the longest section of skirting. If you have one or more protruding outside corners, you will need to add the width of the scotia to the total length for each cut, for inverted corner you need add nothing.

3. To achieve a nice finished look, any end of the scotia that is up against another piece will need to be cut at a 45 degree angle. The best way to do this is to use a Fine-gauge tenon saw and a mitre block. For best results, the scotia must be gripped firmly in to the mitre block to avoid movement during cutting. It is not a bad practice to try your hand on cutting waste wood to improve your technique before cutting the scotia.

4. When fitted into position, the scotia should be nailed to the skirting at a spacing of a nail every 25 to 30cm. Do not nail the scotia to the floor this would stop the Laminate from expanding and contracting properly. You may also want to use pipe roses to hide the gap around radiator pipes and give a cleaner finish, some gaps may appear when your scotia is in position. This is often due to

unevenness in walls and skirting. To hide these imperfections and to improve the finished look, a flexible filler either, a similar colour to the scotia or a similar colour to the skirting can be used to seal the gaps and where necessary, and to hide any holes created by the nailing.