

Warranty

Cork Flooring

FORNA floors are covered by a 10-Year Residential Wear Warranty, and a Lifetime Structural and Joint Integrity Warranty.

1. Wear-through Warranty

This is restricted to wear on the surface of the boards. The wear must be readily visible and cover a minimum of approximately 10% of the installed floor. Gloss reduction

is not considered wear.

2. Lifetime Structural Warranty

FORNA products are carefully inspected prior to packaging during the manufacturing process and are warranted to be free from manufacturing defects.

3. Lifetime Joint Integrity Warranty

The joints will remain secure and the planks will not come apart. NOTE: All FORNA floors are engineered to minimize gapping that may occur in natural floors with seasonal fluctuations. Minor gapping (up to 0.2mm or 0.01 inches), without the unlocking of the pieces, may occur and is not considered a defect.

FORNA Residential Wear Warranty is made subject to the following conditions:

- 1) This warranty is valid from the date of purchase, applies only to the flooring products in their original installation location; it is non-transferable and applies only to the original purchaser (whose name is written in the invoice); shall expire if the product or installation location is transferred or re-sold.
- 2) This warranty applies to FORNA cork floor products and exclusively to the use in interior residential applications that are subject to normal traffic, excluding wet or dump areas such as bathrooms or saunas.
- 3) The floor must be applied properly, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. A moisture test must be performed to determine if excessive moisture exists in the subfloor.
 - b. When installing over concrete, a calcium chloride moisture test must be performed. Readings greater than 5 lbs./1000 sq. ft./24 hours are unacceptable for installation. If a moisture meter is used, a reading greater than 4.5% is unacceptable.
 - c. A polyethylene film vapor barrier must not be used over wood subfloors. Moisture readings of wood subfloors must not exceed 14% throughout the entire installation.

d. If glue is used, glue entire floor with glue that meets or exceeds PVAC dispersion with a viscosity of 8000 +/- 1000 cps spindle 6/20 at 20 degrees centigrade – density of 1.11 +/- 0.02 g/cm on a dry content of 48 +/- 1% (weight). Upon completion of glued installation, the floor must be allowed to set overnight for 12 hours before resuming normal usage of the room.

4) The flooring must be used only indoors in a dry, climate controlled area.

5) This limited warranty does not apply to water damage of any kind.

6) This limited warranty does not apply to damage caused by water or moisture in the subfloor or underneath the flooring, including but not limited to damage from subfloor hydrostatic pressure (water or moisture under the floor that is transmitted to the surface through exerted pressure) or other conditions that result in water or moisture being under the floor.

7) Proper installation - Please read laying instructions carefully from beginning to end before installing the floor and strictly follow their directions. In particular, please comply exactly with the notes on checking the subfloor for moisture and on laying the floor over under floor heating. Improper installation will invalidate the Warranty.

8) Proper Cleaning and Care - These warranties will only apply if FORNA Cork floors have been properly cleaned and cared for. Wet maintenance is entirely forbidden.

9) Proper Maintenance - The surface finish (Water based finish or hard wax finish) is a protective coat which covers the top layer. If the surface finish shows signs of wear, it must be refinished wholly or in part in good time to ensure that it can fulfill its protective functions again. A timely maintenance of the surface finish guarantees the long-term durability of FORNA floors. Improper maintenance of the surface finish will invalidate this warranty.

10) FORNA products are carefully inspected prior to packaging during the manufacturing process. Final inspection and approval is the customer's responsibility.

11) Cork is a natural material. We do not warrant any difference in shade or color between samples/photographs and the actual flooring 1) from batch to batch; 2) due to exposure to sunlight; 3) resulting from replacement of a portion of your floor; 4) resulting from the different age and history of the same product reference/batch. Some variation in color and pattern is to be expected and is not considered defect.

12) FORNA is not responsible and will not accept claims for the installation of incorrect material, visually defective material or material that does not meet customer expectations in terms of shade consistency or variation. Installation of material should be deemed confirmation of pattern, color, appearance and all other visual factors including but not limited to squareness and thickness.

Exclusions

1. Problems due to moisture, mildew, alkaline substances, hydrostatic pressure, expansion and contraction between planks/tiles.
2. Damage due to exposure to excessive heat, cold or dryness. (It is recommended that relative humidity in a home remain in the healthy range of 30-60% throughout the year. Keeping humidity within this range may require the use of a dehumidifier or humidifier depending on the climate conditions).
3. Damage due to irregularities in the sub-floor, improper sub-floor preparation or improper use of sub-floor materials.
4. Damage due to stains, scratches, gouges, scuffs, punctures, tears, cuts, indentation, fading, burns, accidents, lack of proper furniture rests; improper storage and handling or incident such as a fire, flood (also plumbing leaks such as overflowing of sinks or similar water damage) or abuse.

Note: Sliding heavy furniture or appliances may permanently damage your FORNA Cork Floor.

5. Loss of gloss over time is consistent with normal wear and tear and is not a flaw.
6. It is normal and expected for there to be color variations due to use of natural components, exposure to UV light and/or sunlight, and age of material. Therefore, color inconsistency between samples, replacement product or illustrations and actual product is not a manufacturing flaw.
7. FORNA makes no guarantee that the cork products will match or coordinate with customer furnishing, trim, cabinetry, railings, etc.
8. Inherent variations that are consistent with those of a natural cork product to include pattern, color, and grain do not indicate defected material.
9. Dissatisfaction, problems or damage due to use of improper installation tools and/or materials.
10. Non-compliance with installation instructions and maintenance guidelines as recommended by FORNA. FORNA cannot assume responsibility for the suitability of flooring material and accompanying products for each individual installation as FORNA has no control over the installer's proper application. Should an individual piece be doubtful as to appearance or dimension the installer should not use this piece. **Failure to apply protective coating in accordance with FORNA's guidelines may result in irreparable damage to cork. Such damage is not covered.**
11. Cracking, warping, soiling, fading, improper maintenance or abuse caused by items such as roller skates, inline skates, stiletto heels, golf shoes, animal claws/nails; abrasive materials including but not limited to gravel, pebbles, sand.
12. Floor covering installed in inappropriate locations is excluded from this warranty.
13. Insect infestation after shipment from our warehouse.
14. Falling or dropped objects that indent or fracture the flooring or finish.

15. Non-factory applied finishes (by the owner or installer) including, but not limited to, refinishing or recoating.

16. The normal wearing of the finish in high traffic areas and seating areas.

How to make a claim:

If a defect is detected on a FORNA cork floor, notify the retailer who sold you the material within maximum 15 days, in writing. You must supply proof of purchase. Include the product name, quantity involved and installation costs (if applicable). Once the retailer verifies the claim, he will notify FORNA and if necessary, an inspection will be arranged.

If a defect is verified, FORNA will arrange for the repair or replacement of the defective floor. If the floor needs to be replaced, the replacement material will be the same design and coloration as the original. If the original flooring is no longer available, then other FORNA cork flooring product of equal value will be supplied. Repair or replacement of all or any of the cork flooring is at FORNA discretion and all labor costs will not be covered.

Any other costs associated with the installation, repair or replacement will not be covered under this warranty. Any attempt to repair, refinish or replace the defected product prior to inspection by FORNA retailer will invalidate this warranty.

FORNA will replace a floor one time during life of its warranty.