

Five Reasons to Upgrade Your Home with Laminate Floors



Laminate floors are a hybrid floor covering consisting of a particleboard wood base topped by an image layer and a transparent wear layer. Simply put, laminate is a hardwood floor alternative. It's extremely popular thanks to its attractive price point and the fact that it can mimic just about every type of wood flooring you can imagine (some like stones too).

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Laminate floors are sometimes called laminate wood floors, though they are wood only in two regards. First, the laminate floor base consists of pressed chiselled wood particles. Second, the top has the manifestation of real wood due to the precise image layer

It is an amazing manufacturing process by which four layers are fused together in a single press operation at high heat at over 300 F, using direct-pressure laminate (DPL)

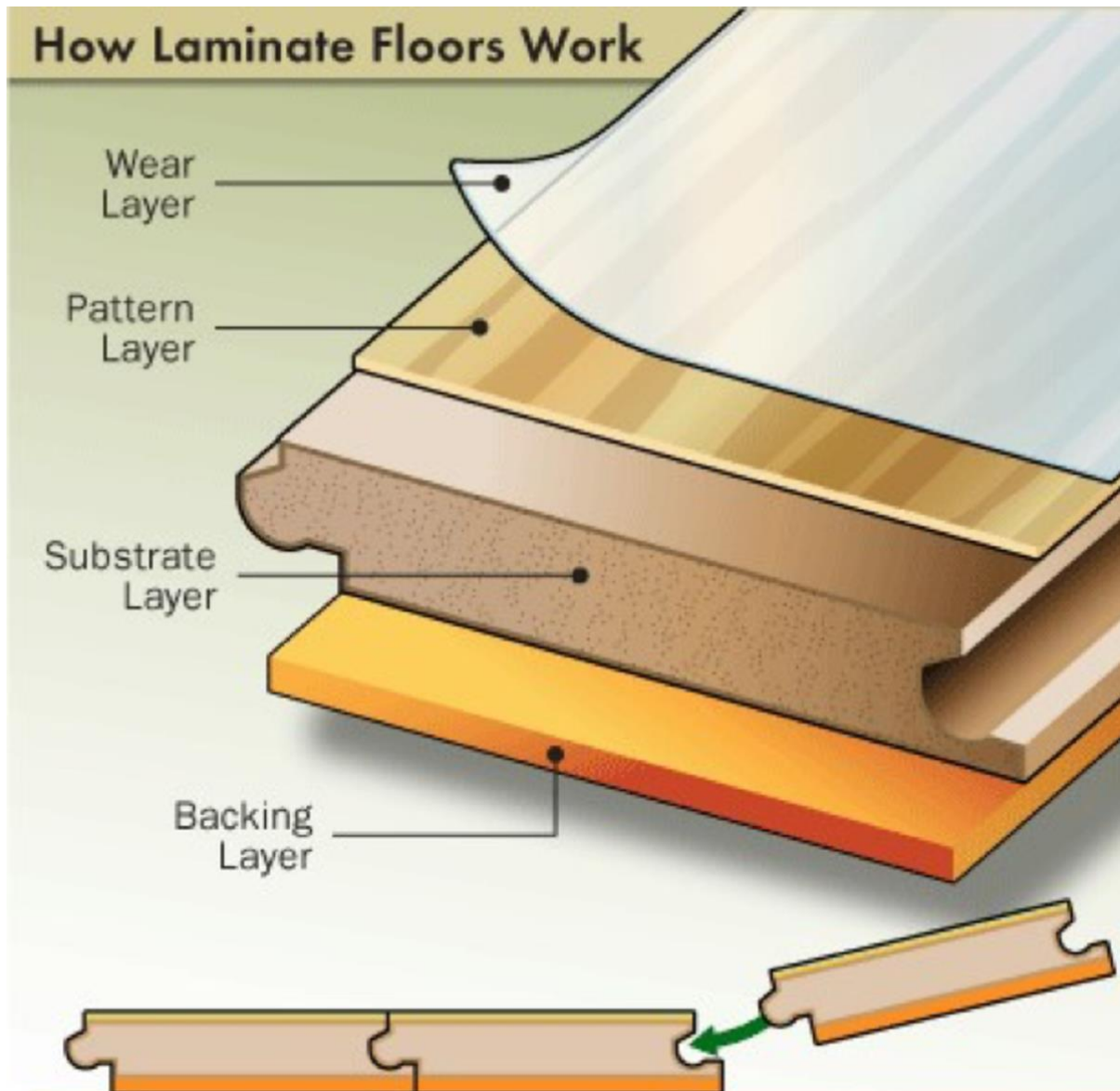
What are the layers of Laminate?

Laminate Flooring Structure



Wear Layer: [Laminate flooring](#) is a surface layer of two thin sheets of paper infused with melamine. A protective **wear layer** to provide hardness and protection. This top-most surface layer is a hard transparent type of plastic sheet that is impervious to dogs, chairs, high heels, and other common damaging elements. This layer is extremely tough, making laminate one of the most durable flooring options around.

Image Layer or Decorative Layer: A high-resolution, photo-realistic image layer. Even when viewed closely, laminate flooring can look realistic. Again, this image layer usually mimics wood. This is due to the laminate's photographic-quality image of real wood beneath the wear layer.



HDF Core Layer: Under the wood-grain photograph is about a half-inch of woodchip amalgamated. to give the material strength and stability. This base is the same one used in many of the best engineered wood flooring products

Any type of wood chip product is inherently susceptible to water damage. Laminate flooring's base is considered to be dimensionally stable, but only to a certain degree. It will stand up against some water, but only if this water is quickly removed.

Backing Paper: At the base of every laminate flooring is a bottom balancing layer that keeps the board straight. The backer seals the back of the laminate board so its dimensional stability isn't compromised in any way, for example by moisture. Some laminates have foam padding added, eliminating the need for an underlayment; underlayment or padding enhances the acoustical quality of the floors when you walk on it.

"Laminate flooring has become a trendy choice for homeowners."



It's eco-friendly: Laminate is made mostly from high-density fiberboard, which is made by pressing wood chips together with tons of force. Unlike solid hardwood, these wood chips can come from any part of a tree, so you aren't cutting down an entire tree for your floors.

It is cost effective: You can mount it on top of other flooring. Laminate is what's known as a "floating floor", meaning it can be installed on top of a clean, flat existing floor without the use of nails or other things that will damage the floor beneath it.

It has an easy installation process: It has a click locking system which keeps the pieces of laminate together. Each piece locks together with a special method that ensures your floor is flat and practically seamless. This process makes the installation very quick.



It's extremely durable: Laminate's durability is really important to take into account when choosing a floor. Laminate can often be the more durable option thanks to its wear layer.

Laminate flooring easily resists stains and scuffs:

Laminate, however, is one of the toughest floors around. Its durable wear layer is difficult to penetrate, so it's hard to stain or gouge.

For small puppies or kids, you'll love laminate flooring's high durability and easy-to-maintain surface.

It absolutely is! Laminate's fiberboard or plywood base layer gives it a great cushion feel underfoot.

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