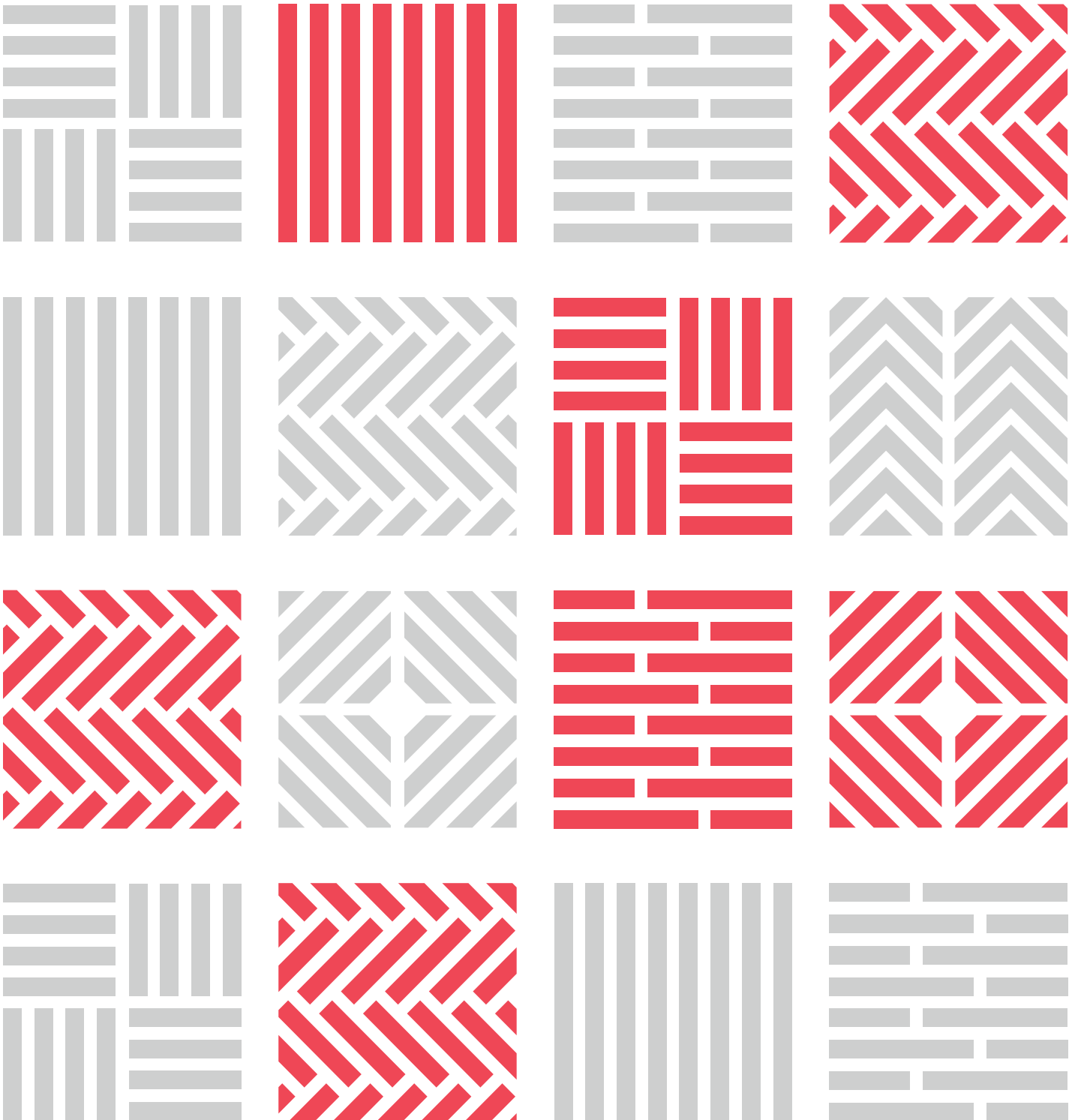


# Karta<sup>T</sup>

REMAPPING THE FUTURE OF FLOORING



# INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

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## Karta flooring

Karta is a very durable product but it is essential that normal rules for wood floor installation site conditions are followed.

Please ensure that before starting installation the site conditions are suitable.

### **In summary this includes the following:**

-Sub-floor must be flat, dry and suitable for wood floor installation.

-Site conditions must be suitable with all wet-works completed, humidity-controlled and clean.

-Karta is a very flat and stable product. The preferred and recommended method for installation is floating with glued T&G joints.

- Karta is not recommended for use in persistently wet areas such as bathrooms.

**Do ALWAYS use the Karta T&G adhesive on all joints and exposed edges to minimize any swelling of the edges due to moisture uptake.**

## 1.0 Karta installation, general

### 1.1 Floating installation

It is recommended that Karta be installed using a Floating method over a suitable Ted Todd underlay with built-in moisture barrier. Use only Karta T&G Adhesive on all joints and any cut or exposed edges. The Karta T&G adhesive also acts as a moisture barrier to minimize any moisture damage on edges and joints.

This floating method allows for the easy recycling of Karta at the end of its life.

### 1.2 Fully bonding installation

Where noise reduction is an important factor, we recommend that a fully bonded installation be made using the Ted Todd Universal Bond, self-adhesive recycled-rubber underlay and follow the guidelines issued with the Universal Bond. Do also use the Karta T&G adhesive on all joints and exposed edges to minimize any moisture damage.

### 1.3 Glue down installation

Karta may also be installed by the glue-down method to a suitable sub floor using Ted Todd MS Flex adhesive. Please note after glue-down it will be very difficult to remove and recycle the Karta panels at the end of their life.

It is important that the Karta T&G adhesive be used on all T&G and end-matched joints too. This is to minimize any moisture damage at the edges and joints.

## 1.4 Pre-installation checks

Before installing Karta please inspect the complete perimeter of each panel for any signs of damage or wood-chips that may affect the mating of the tongue & groove. Karta is made from natural wood fibres and therefore some fraying may occur at the edges. This should not affect the structural integrity of Karta.

If necessary, please clean or repair any affected areas of the T&G before installation.

### 1.4a Batch Variation

The raw material used to manufacture Karta flooring is a natural product and so there may be slight surface effect variations between batches. For this reason it is recommended that different batches are not mixed within a single room area.

## 1.5 structural requirements

Please note that the Karta is not a structural product and must be fully supported by a suitable sub-floor.

## 2.0 Setting out

### 2.1 Pattern laying

2.1 Start in the middle of the area to be installed and work out the pattern required to suit the individual room. Please note that Karta can be installed in different arrangements that can give different impressions and very differing geometrical repeat patterns depending upon the orientation of the boards.

Please note that Karta is a graphical reproduction of classical wood in unique designs and so the exact details on individual boards will repeat in any given area. Take care not to install identical boards too close together.

Karta is dimensionally very stable but some small dimensional changes may occur with changing moisture and temperature. Maintain 10mm expansion gaps around the edges of the room and around any fixed features of the room.

### 2.2 Chevrons

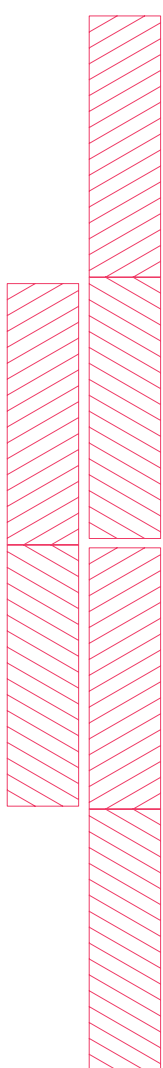
When installing the Karta Chevron planks, to maintain the chevron pattern please stagger each plank length by half a plank so that each header joint lines up with the mid-point pattern on the adjoining plank. **See Diagram Fig 1.1**

### 2.3 Basket Weave

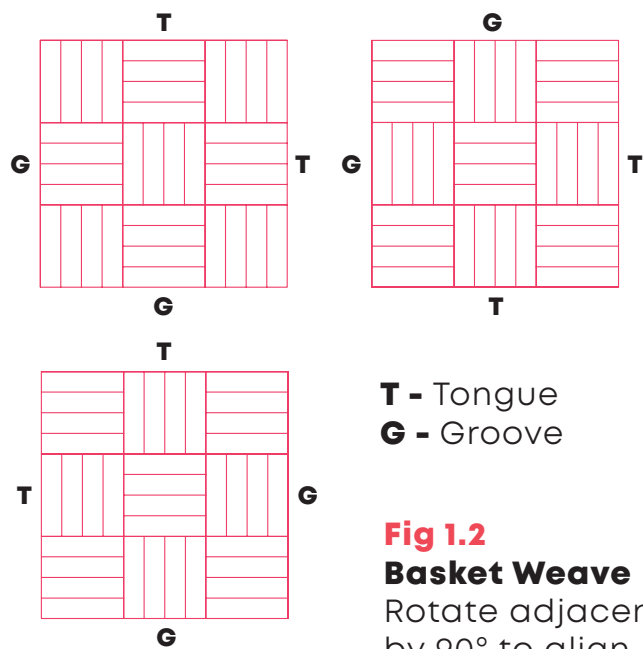
When installing the Karta Basket-Weave panels, to obtain the correct design pattern please note that the T&G on each panel is NOT supplied as a Left-Right combination. All of the panels will be of the same “hand”, i.e. the same orientation between the pattern and the T&G. So, the alignment of the tongue in adjacent panels must be rotated by 90 degrees at the point of installation. Please experiment with the setting out before gluing. **See Diagram Fig 1.2**

### 2.4 Underlay requirements

When the floor pattern has been worked out, consider the best way to lay the underlay to ensure that the joints between the underlay sheets don't sit directly underneath the joints between the Karta boards. This can be achieved by laying the underlay at 90 degrees to the Karta long planks. If installing the Karta square panels, consider laying the underlay at 45 degrees to the panels. Always tape the joints of the underlay to ensure a good moisture barrier.



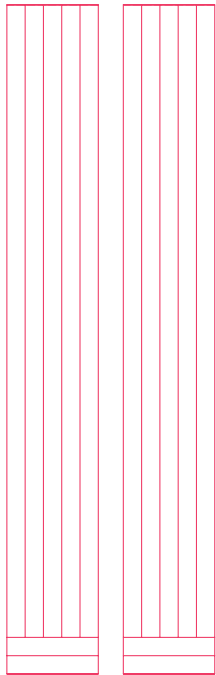
**Fig 1.1**  
**Chevron Planks**  
Stagger each row  
by half a board



**T** - Tongue  
**G** - Groove

**Fig 1.2**  
**Basket Weave**  
Rotate adjacent panels  
by 90° to align pattern  
correctly

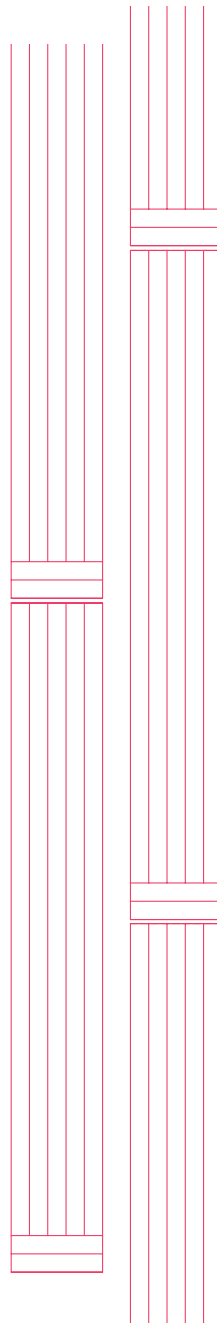
## Ladder planks for cladding



Ladder detail acts as skirting

## Ladder planks for flooring

Stagger each row by half a board



**Do ALWAYS use the Karta T&G adhesive on all joints and exposed edges to minimize any swelling of the edges due to moisture uptake.**

### 3.0 Installation

#### 3.1 Floating installation

Lay out the underlay as per 2.4 above.

If there is a suitable straight wall that can be used as a starting line that is compatible with the pattern layout then this can be used, using wedges as necessary to maintain a straight line.

Use Karta T&G adhesive and apply the adhesive into the grooves of the boards to be installed.

Please ensure that the adhesive wets the top of the tongue and the join above the tongue to help repel any moisture from the joins.

Immediately wipe off with a damp cloth, any excess adhesive that may have squeezed from the T&G onto the display surface of the floor.

Always work with the tongue facing the installer as this allows gentle tapping, using a suitable knocking-block, against the tongue to mate home the panels.

Always carefully check the T&G on every board to ensure that there are no stray wood-chips that may impede or obstruct the close fitting of adjacent boards.

The use of clamps to ensure tight fitment between the panels is recommended until the Karta T&G adhesive has fully dried. Again, wipe off any excess adhesive from the display surface of the floor.

To install the last row in a floor, use a pull bar to gently tap the joints together. Use wedges to hold the last row tight whilst the adhesive sets.

Finally, refit new skirtings around the room perimeter and trims in doorways or transitions.

### 3.2 Installation with Ted Todd Universal Bond, recycled rubber, self-adhesive underlay

This is the recommended method when noise reduction is an important factor in the installation.

Follow the instructions issued with the Universal Bond.

Specifically for Karta, please note the guidelines in section 3.4 above regarding the placement of the underlay.

Always carefully check the T&G on every board to ensure that there are no stray wood-chips that may impede or obstruct the close fitting of adjacent boards.

We recommend the use of Karta T&G adhesive in the T&G to help repel any moisture from the joins. Please ensure that the adhesive wets the top of the tongue and the join above the tongue to help this.

Immediately wipe off with a damp cloth, any excess adhesive that may have squeezed from the T&G onto the display surface of the floor.

### 3.3 Installation, glue-down method

Please note that in general Karta is a very flat and stable product that is best installed in the floating method as per 3.1 above.

But where site conditions dictate, a glue-down installation is possible.

Please note that if using a fully-bonded glue-down method it will be very difficult to remove for recycling the Karta boards at the end of their life.

The only adhesive recommended for a glue-down installation is Ted Todd MS Flex adhesive.

Adhesive may be applied to the back of the Karta boards with the recommended notched trowel (3mm or 5mm notch depth, depending upon the sub-floor)

Always work with the tongue facing the installer as this allows gentle tapping, using a suitable knocking-block, against the tongue to mate home the panels.

Always carefully check the T&G on every board to ensure that there are no stray wood-chips that may impede or obstruct the close fitting of adjacent boards.

It is also important to use Karta T&G adhesive for all joins and cut or exposed edges to help repel any moisture from the joins. Please ensure that the adhesive wets the top of the tongue and the join above the tongue to help this.

Immediately wipe off with a damp cloth, any excess adhesive that may have squeezed from the T&G onto the display surface of the floor.

### 3.4. Underfloor Heating (UFH)

Karta is suitable for properly controlled hot-water type and electric underfloor heating systems.

Before installing Karta above any UFH for installation it is essential that basic guidelines are followed. This includes:

- Sub-floors must be flat and level and be fully dried out by bringing up the temperature of the UFH system before the Karta is introduced.
- A maximum temperature of 27deg C must not be exceeded on any part of the Karta floor and that the temperature must be brought up slowly.
- The temperature must be carefully controlled individually in each room and a separate control system for each 50m<sup>2</sup> in very large areas.
- Do follow any specific instructions supplied by the heating system manufacturer and installer.
- Generally Karta can be floated over the UFH for the best results.
- As an extra barrier to moisture ingress, Karta T&G adhesive should also be used in the joints and any cut or exposed edges.

Damage to the floor and installation may occur if these parameters are exceeded.

## 4.0 Karta for Wall-Cladding

### 4.1 Karta is suitable for decorative internal wall-cladding in dry areas

Please check the fire rating requirements for the premises being installed with Karta when used as decorative wall cladding.

The nominal EN13501 fire rating for Karta is D-S2, d0.

The fire rating may be improved by the application of FR coatings, either post-installation or by special manufacture at the point of order.

It is recommended that Karta be attached to the wall with no air gaps behind the Karta panels.

#### 4.2 General guidelines for wall cladding

Please follow section 2.1 to 2.3 above regarding setting out prior to starting work.

Always carefully check the T&G on every board to ensure that there are no stray wood-chips that may impede or obstruct the close fitting of adjacent boards.

Ted Todd MS Flex adhesive may be used to bond the Karta boards to the wall structure.

Please be aware that if the Karta boards are fully bonded to the wall using adhesive, it may be difficult to recycle the Karta boards at the end of their life.

The adhesive may be applied either to the wall, or to the back of the Karta boards depending upon installation preferences.

If necessary, 1mm panel pins may be used through the face of the boards to assist location and fixing.

It is not recommended to use nails or pins through the T&G for fixing to the wall structure.

External corners must always have a suitable Karta metal profile to protect the corner.

#### 5.0 Finishing off

The use of Karta profiles is recommended for use in thresholds and borders in any flooring installation, and for the external corners in any wall installation.

#### 6.0 Caring for Karta floors

Use the Karta Care System for regular cleaning and maintenance.

Do not allow the floor to be exposed to persistently wet conditions.

Mop-up any spills of liquids immediately.

Slight swelling of the floor may occur if the panels are immersed in water or liquids for any extended period. This is especially true around the perimeter of the floor or any cut edges.

## **Design Copyright and Trademarks**

All Karta designs, geometric patterns, individual panels and features contained therein are protected by copyright internationally.

The name Karta and associated logos and graphics are all registered trademarks.



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**[kartafloors.com](https://kartafloors.com)**