

Flooring

Pacific American Lumber

CONDO CHALLENGE:

Noise reduction and acoustics are common challenges for condo owners, notes Natascha Roblee of Pacific American Lumber. Selecting the right flooring can help, but some condo associations require specific finishes, installation or materials that meet acceptable sound transmission standards. “No one wants to hear their neighbors’ footsteps,” says Roblee, “but footfall noise is one of the easiest things to mitigate if you do it correctly.”



Top 3 Tips for Condo Flooring:

1. Check your condo association’s policies on sound mitigation and flooring before you begin. Some condos have outdated guidelines that only cover materials and practices available decades ago. It’s important to discuss current options with the board.
2. Select flooring that enhances your lifestyle. “Changing flooring from carpet [to wood] may be functional for those with allergies, and changing flooring from tile [to wood] will be softer underfoot,” explains Roblee. “Wood flooring is extremely easy to clean, which is always a plus.”
3. Install flooring finishes and materials that you truly like. “Trends mean nothing if you don’t love it,” says Roblee.

CONDO SOLUTION:

Pacific American Lumber offers a variety of exceptional hardwood and engineered wood flooring options, along with specialized installation products for optimum sound mitigation. Floor installers should use both trowel glue that emits either low or no volatile organic compounds (VOC), as well as floating underlayment such as cork or rubber. Cork is particularly popular for condo flooring underlayment – it’s eco-friendly and offers high sound absorption and added insulation.



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