

Life on décor with a natural environment



Living made from the bark of the Cork trees are ever felled.

company, Mississauga, Ont.-based TORLYS Inc. (www.torlys.com).

All of these floors have a high-density fibreboard core (HDF) made from managed-forest softwood lumber and recycled wood products. Uniclic Cork floors are made from the bark of the Cork Oak tree, but the bark is carefully harvested every nine years and no trees are ever felled in the process — in fact, they live up to 200 years. Linoleum floors are actually made from wood resins, linseed oil and flax seed. STEPS Premium Laminates are also engineered from wood fibre, paper and resins. The Uniclic Hardwood engineered floating floors offered by TORLYS give you an elegant hardwood floor created with 25 times less treewood than is needed for a traditional 3/4" hardwood floor.

And talk about design options! You can easily create almost any floor for almost any interior look. A monochromatic TORLYS Cork floor in elegant deep, rich Merlot to complement dark hardwood in a traditional room; or get funky with Uniclic linoleum planks and tiles, mixing and matching colours such as vanilla and Indigo to create vibrant patterns that add zest to any room.

With Uniclic floating floors, you really don't have to compromise on your décor tastes and design style to save the planet — they are beautiful, practical floors engineered with both of these things in mind.

- News Canada

Living floors work styles

Best laminates available, STEPS Elite, even lets you get funky with a laminate floating floor. You can create up to six different patterns including traditional herringbone and parquet, by clicking planks together different ways!

Hardwood. Nothing warms a room more than an rich, natural hardwood. Its grain works well in any interior design. Narrower, 4" planks with micro-bevelled edges are very popular. Engineered Uniclic hardwood planks just click together and

Premium laminate floors mean no-worry, easy living

(NC)—Glueless laminate floating floors are the biggest trend in flooring today, and they're getting bigger. They're made better than ever. They're especially great floors for busy working families with children, and active lifestyles. The challenge is choosing the right laminate floating floor in the sea of laminates available today — remember the old adage, "you get what you pay for."

Prices can range from 99 cents per square foot, to \$5 or \$6 per square foot. If you've decided a floating laminate floor is right for your room and lifestyle, don't make your final decision based on price alone. Also consider warranties; surface finishing details that create visual appeal; the joint system of the floating floor. Start by deciding on the look you want to create, then find the laminate floor that fits your needs and tastes.

You're making an investment in your room design, your overall décor look and your home's future resale value. It's important to find the perfect floor that's going to enhance your décor and give you peace of mind for years, not fall short of your expectations and cost you more in the long run — you don't want what you thought was the perfect floor to become your worst nightmare.

As a general rule of thumb, the more the investment, the better the glueless laminate floating floor. Generally, all floating laminate floors have a high-density fibreboard (HDF) core. It's the joint system and the surface detail finishing that combined, can make all the difference.

Some laminates look like laminates instead of being almost indistinguishable from real hardwood. A premium laminate floating floor simply gives you more value and visual appeal for your investment — once it's installed, only you'll know it's not real hardwood.

STEPS Elegance, for example, is a new floating floor engineered and designed to set the new benchmark in floating

laminate floors. In fact, it's billed as "hardwood approaching perfection." This floor uses the patented Uniclic joint system, a special tongue-and-groove design. The floor simply clicks together over existing floors, and is held in place with sheer pressure. Elegance floors are guaranteed not to come apart; can be lifted and reinstalled in another room if you get the urge to redecorate; and have a 25-year warranty for peace of mind!

Elegance comes in 11 wood motifs to complement most any décor. Planks have bevelled edges on all four sides, come

With a premium laminate, all you have to do is put the floor together, put the furniture back and start living on the floor — it's ease of living that's worth paying for.

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Design Tips

Decisions, decisions — on Cork for adding charm

by Cheryl Grant

(NC)—Two years ago we sat in our 20-year-old, very tired suburban kitchen deciding whether to move or renovate. Our lifestyle had changed, our home was not working! We needed more space and our décor style needed to relax. After much discussion and many open houses the decision was made to renovate.

Our goal was more living space, so walls needed to come down and as a result the flooring needed to change.

It had been 15 years since I had seriously shopped flooring — back then broadloom or ceramic was the fashion but we were just about to tear up broadloom and ceramic. Who wants to renovate and install the same floor again!

In the spirit of "extreme" makeover we wanted a whole new look but still be practical.

We have a busy household — lots of traffic (two- and four-legged!), several

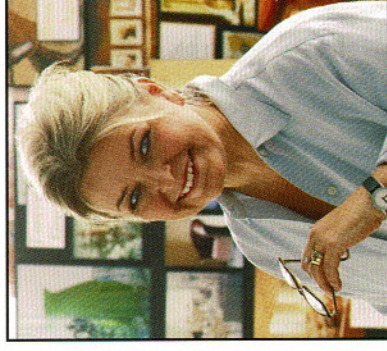
toilets), and not all the rooms had the same décor and furniture wood type.

Since a relaxed "country in the city" décor was what we were aiming for then either natural stone or wood was our first thought but after 20 years of chipped ceramic and cold feet in the morning natural stone was quickly ruled out.

Solid hardwood became our goal but with our water hazards I worried about warping. The answer was engineered floating hardwood floors — the surface is hardwood and the core is a tough, stable wood-products material called high-density fibreboard. The floor "floats" — planks simply click together, using a unique patented joint called Uniclic. The Uniclic installation method is fast (you can install floors yourself), provides an ultra-tight fit, and requires no new subfloor!

We were coming closer to our goal but

when it came time to selecting a hardwood type the decision ground to



Cheryl Grant by Cheryl Grant

types making it impossible to find the perfect hardwood finish!

The answer was a natural floor we had never even considered — Cork.