WHAT TOOLS DO I NEED
TO INSTALL FLOORING?

At right, find the type of flooring you're installing, and use the checklist to make sure you have the tools you need to get the job done.

You should also always have proper safety protection, including glasses, gloves and kneepads.

Don't forget:

Before any floor is installed, proper flooring prep must be done to ensure a good-looking and long-lasting result.

Getting the old flooring up, whatever it is / was, is an important part of the prep. Whether carpeting, linoleum or someting else, get the lumps, bumps, adhesive, tack strips, etc. up and smooth before you start to lay anything. This includes fixing floor creaks (often loose floorboard nails) and ensuring your subfloor is level.

If your home is built on a slab, cracks need to be filled and stabilized, lumps removed, divots filled, etc.

Baseboard and / or shoe molding is often a part of adding a finished look to new flooring. Listed tools do not include those needed for prep work or baseboard / shoe molding. You'll also need equipment to clean up your mess – a dust pan, shop vacuum and a broom should do the job.

Tools Needed by Flooring Type

Vinyl & Linoleum

☐ Adhesive trowel
☐ Flat bar
☐ Straight edge
☐ Floor roller
☐ Floor scraper
☐ Level
☐ Chalk line
☐ Utility knife / linoleum knife
☐ Tape measure

Floating Wood

☐ Chop / miter saw
☐ Floor scraper or flat bar
☐ Tapping block
☐ Chalk line
☐ Tape measure
☐ Pull bar
☐ Level
☐ Rubber mallet
☐ Jig saw
☐ Spacers

Ceramic Tile

☐ Level
☐ Sponges
☐ Notched trowel
☐ Buckets
☐ Wet saw
☐ Spacers
☐ Nippers
☐ Tile saw / score n snap cutter
☐ Grout float
☐ Chalk line
☐ Tape measure

Traditional Wood

☐ Pneumatic flooring nailer
☐ Air compressor
☐ Nail set
☐ Drill
☐ Drill bits
☐ Chop / miter saw
☐ Chalk line
☐ Table saw

If you need professional help or are re-thinking the upfront cost of tools, Mr. Handyman can help. Our experts have all the tools and expertise needed to install all types of flooring in your home. Just call 877.685.1377 or visit us at mrhandyman.com to learn more.

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