

Floating floors a big trend

Spring. Time for getting that long-planned kitchen redesign started...or laying an inspiring new floor to give your living space new vibrance.

What kind of floor to choose? There are a lot of options today. Hard surface, click-together floating floors — cork, laminates, hardwood, even linoleum — are the big trend. They're durable; they're "healthy" because they don't trap dust and allergens; easy to clean; they're environmentally friendly; they're easy to install; and they all can help you create the perfect room if you know the look you want.

Maybe you're thinking of redoing a room but have never heard of a "floating floor."

Glueless floating floors just click together over existing floors or subfloors, and are held in place by constant pretension on the joint between tiles or planks. They're easy to install, and maintain. They have a finish layer— such as Cork, Linoleum or Hardwood— on top of an industrial-strength, high-density fibre-board (HDF) core and a backing layer, and they're very durable.

When it comes to glueless floating floors, the patented Uniclic® joint system is generally considered the best. It's a unique tongue-and-groove style joint, and joints are ultra-tight. These premi-

um floating floors are marketed by TORLYS (www.torlys.com, 1-800-461-2573), a Canadian-based flooring company specializing in 100 per cent Uniclic® floating floors.

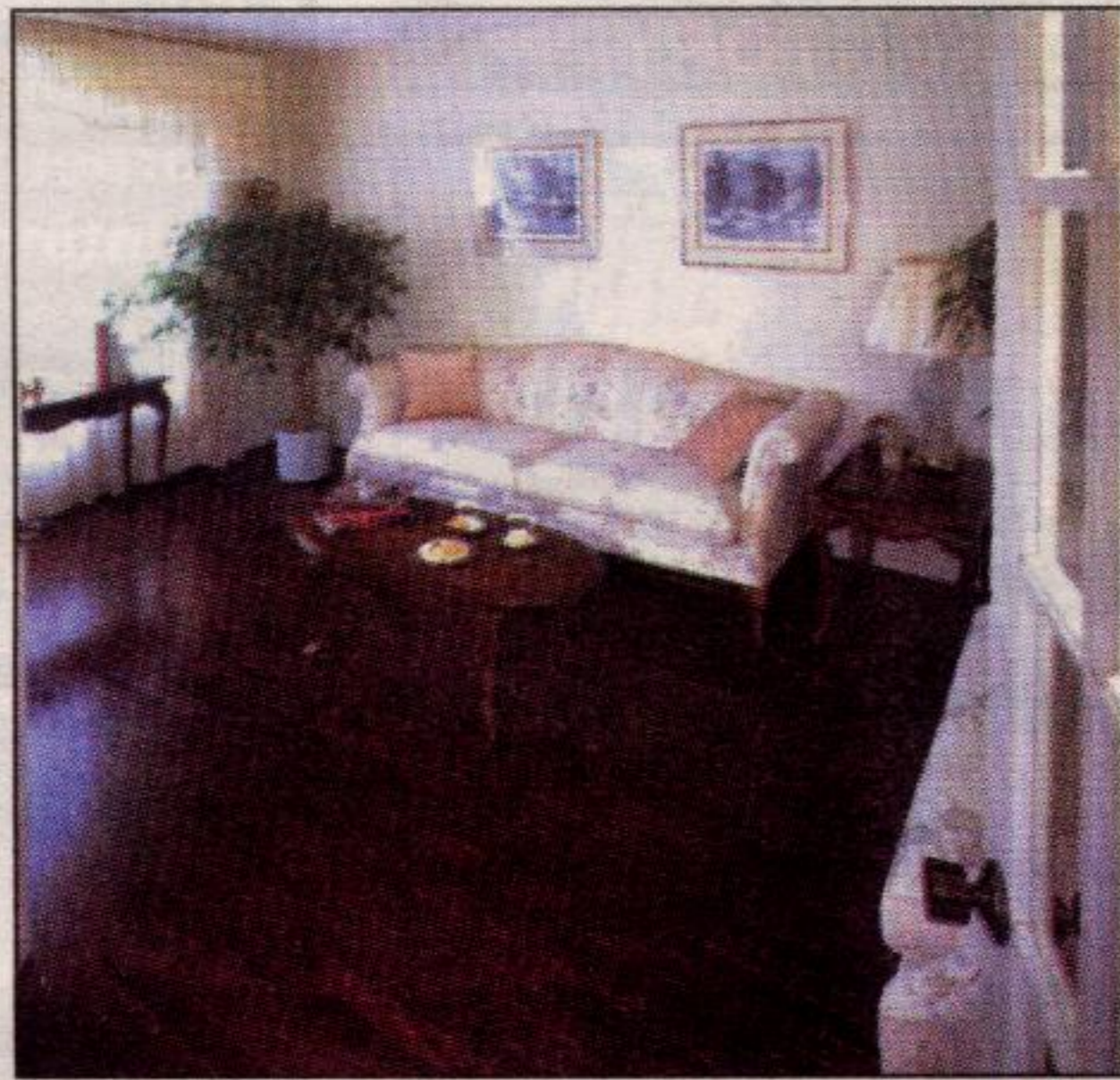
If you decide a hard-surface floating floor is right for your living space and lifestyle, then all you have to do is choose which surface you think will work best for you.

Linoleum is making a big comeback because of its design possibilities. It comes in vibrant colours, and is a whole lot different from those ugly red-and-white tiles in your grandmother's kitchen. Wood-look laminates are a huge seller, because they're very durable and look great. The technology and quality

of laminates has increased exponentially, even over a year ago. The latest innovation in floating Laminate floors is called STEPSTM Elegance®. These varying-length laminate planks have micro-beveled edges all around, and a highly detailed wood-look surface, to create a floor that to the naked eye is as close to real wood planks as laminates can get.

Floating floors look great, and can be installed quickly and easily — which means you'll still have plenty of time to relax...on that new deck you're building, too.

—News Canada



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