# Steps for Softwood Floors





After pre-drilling a 1/8 inch hole down 2 1/4 inches, drive a screw through the taller opening in the fixture.

Drive the screw down as far as the fixture will allow.





Rock the fixture back and forth until the head of the screw snaps at the score.



The score is now set 1/5 of an inch below the wood. Fill the hole with putty to finish.

# Steps for Linoleum Floors

In most linoleum floors you can find the floor joist with an electric stud sensor. The indications from the stud sensor may be weaker although you should be able to get a good idea where the joists are. Using a strong new battery may make the stud finder have a more consistent reading. In general, floor joists are 16 inches apart. Having a heat vent can help because the vent will be between two joists.



Once you find the joists, focus on the spot on the joist where the movement and squeaks are coming from. Then drive the screw through the shorter opening in the fixture.



The head of the screw will hit the top of the fixture. The screw will then pull and snap at the score.



The screw is now set 1/5 of an inch below the floor. Take a hammer and tap the small bump that is left to smooth out the hole and force the hole to fill over.



- PATENTED -THE FLOOR SQUEAK **ELIMINATION SYSTEM FOR** CARPETED, HARDWOOD, AND LINOLEUM FLOORS.

**WARNING:** This is engineered to work with the components provided. Any attempt to substitute parts can cause damage to the floor and may cause injury to the user.

WARNING: Always use safety glasses.

**WARNING:** Use in well lighted areas, use work lights if necessary.

**WARNING:** Keep out of reach of children, and store in a secure place.

## THIS KIT CONTAINS:

- An alignment and depth control fixture part 3240.
- 50 special scored screws, part #3251.
- Square head driver bit with a stop, part #3261.
- Taped screw example for berber carpet.
- Joist finding screw #3255.
- Hardwood Floor Adaptor
- Instructions

\* When working on a berber or loop carpet cover the short section of thread with transparent tape similar to the taped example screw provided in the kit. This will prevent the screw thread from touching the carpet fiber and possibly pulling a strand. Pile carpet this is not necessary.

#### **Tools Needed**

- 3. Power Drill

and tighten.



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#### **Tips on Squeaks:**

Most squeaks in floors are caused by nails used in constructing the floor working loose and rubbing on the floorboard when you step on the area. Because of this the sooner you can eliminate the squeak the better. Young squeaks are much easier to correct than old timers, which have been allowed to grow.

Mechanical squeaks are caused by the floor rubbing on the cold air return or the floor flexing and rubbing on a pipe or electrical line. These are identified by a mechanical noise when you step on the area. Squeeeeek No More<sup>®</sup> can correct these in many cases by tightening the floor and by eliminating movement in the floor members.

### Squeeeeek No More<sup>®</sup> Joist Finding Screw

The Squeeeeek No More® Joist Finding Screw is an easy to use tool that will find the exact location of your floor joists from above the floor. The screw is designed to work on carpeted plywood or chipboard floors.

The screw is not designed to find the joist under hardwood floors. Each plank in a hardwood floor has nails in it. The nails, in general, cause the squeaks. With hardwood floors, you need to drive the screws down into the plank that is visibly moving or where the noise is coming from, not necessarily into the joist.

On plywood or chipboard floors, the nails are driven into the joist to hold the floor down. Over time, the nails loosen and allow the wood to move back and forth on the smooth shank portion of the nail. On this type of floor we use the Joist Finder, find the joist, and fasten the floor to the joist.

1. 41/2" Joist Finder Screw (provided)

2. Tape Measure

## **Step 1.** Insert hex portion of the Joist Finding Screw into drill chuck



**Step 2.** Determine the direction of the floor joists. The joists almost always parallel the narrow dimension of the house.

Joist run the narrow dimensions



**Step 3.** Measure 9 inches from a wall that is parallel to the direction of the joist. This is a good starting point that should be very close to the joist. Or if you have a heat vent in the floor you can use that to find the joist. The vent is always between two joists. If you were to start next to the vent you will probably find the joist on the first or second attempt. Drive the Joist Finding Screw down into the floor 2 inches.



**Step 4.** Shift the drill into reverse. If the screw doesn't back out, the threads of the screw aren't in the joist. Lift the drill while you slowly reverse the drill, this will back the screw out. Move over an inch, moving away from the wall or the vent if you are using that, and drive it down again.



**Step 5.** Continue these steps until the screw comes up on its own indicating that you have gone into the joist. At this point you can measure across the room to the other joists. Floor joist are normally set on 16 inch centers.

#### Instructions for using Squeeeeek No More®

- 1. The Squeeeeek No More® system will eliminate most squeaks under carpet, hardwood, vinyl and linoleum floors. There can be cases where all squeaks cannot be completely eliminated. This points to floor damage due to misapplication of the sub floor, water damage, structural damage, mechanical damage and other causes. These cases should be referred to a carpenter or floor professional to prevent further damage.
- 2. Normally more than one screw is needed. It is best add additional screws along the joist, spaced approximately 4 inches.
- 3. Always use safety glasses and use in well lighted areas.
- 4. Snap off the screw heads at the end of the project, and thoroughly inspect the area to insure all of the screw heads are removed.

#### Instructions for Berber Carpet

In general there are two types of carpeting Pile and Berber. Berber is made with a series of loops from one continuous strand of fiber. When working with Berber carpet use a screw that has its tip and thread covered with a transparenthousehold tape, like the one provided in the kit. It is important touse a taped screw on Berber carpet because it shields the screw threads from grabbing the carpet fiber. After you tape the screws follow the instructions below.

### **Instructions for Carpeted Floors over Plywood or Chipboard**



Locate the floor joist using the Joist Finding Screw. Then pushtheAlignment and Depth control fixture firmly into the carpet.

Place your weight around the fixture and drive the scored screw down as far as the fixture will allow it to go.





Place the screw gripper, on the alignmentfixture, over the screwhead. Then rock the fixture left to right snapping the head off. The screw breaks at the weak spot that is consistently set below the surface of the floor. Squeaks are gone and no damage is done the carpet.

#### How to Find the Joist in Hardwood Floors

If you have a stud sensor use that to see if you can get an indication of the joist. If that works, pre-drill a hole at the joist through the hardwood with a 1/8 drill bit. Then drive the screw through the fixture, having the flat wide base against the floor. The screw will snap, 3/8 inch below the surface. Then fill with a matching wood filler.

If the stud sensor doesn't work, then near the wall on the floor pre-drill a small hole, 3/32 or smaller, down an inch and a half. Then taking a paper clip that is straightened out to 2 inches in length, push that through the hole. If the paper clip goes down more than 1 ½ inches you have missed the joist. Move over an inch and do it again until the paper clip stops at 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches indicating the joist.

The holes that are made are very small. Because they are close to the wall they will be very hard to see when concealed with filler.

### **Squeaks in Stairs**

Stairshavethreecomponents:thestringerorcarriage, the tread, and the riser. The stringer is the notched board to which the tread and riser are attached. The squeak is usually caused by the nails used to hold the tread to the stringer or riser becoming loose. To fix the squeak, place the alignment fixture over the connectionbetweenthestringerandthetreadorthetreadand the riser. Then drive the scored screw down as far as the fixture will allow it to go. Use the screw gripper to snap off the top of the screw.

### **Replacement Parts Available**

Package of 50 screws, Part 3251 Package of 250 screws, Part 3252 Package of 500 screws, Part 3253 Driver Bit, Part 3261	For replacement parts see your local hardware/ building supply retailer or call <b>845-649-3802</b>
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Squeeeek No More<sup>®</sup> is assembled and manufactured in the U.S.A.

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## Squeeeeek No More<sup>®</sup> Hardwood Floor Adaptor

Squeaks can happen both at the joist and between the When working with the hardwood portion of the fixture, joist. If you are working on a floor over 50 years old, the *Squeeeek No More*® screw snaps at the score they generally are at the joist. because of a combination of torque and the pull of the screw. If the screw does not snap immediately **Fixture** upon hitting the top of the fixture, stop your drill. The amount of torgue and pull from the screw is not The Fixture Has Two Sides: high enough to snap the screw. For this screw, back it 1. The hardwood side where the screw snaps off when out and use the softwood portion of the fixture to drive it hits the top of the fixture. it in and then snap it off manually. If the screw does 2. The softwood side where the screw is driven down not snap off consistently, use the softwood part of and then broken off manually. the fixture, or you can use a smaller drill bit to pre-drill the pilot hole.



#### Screw

The specially scored screw has a variable pitch. It starts at the tip with 8 threads per inch. One inch up it switches to 9 threads per inch. This change draws the wood together.







Pre-drill a hole in the floor with a 1/8 inch drill bit down 2 1/4 inches.

Drive a screw through the shorter opening in the fixture.

#### **Dealing with Hollow Spots**

A Hollow Spot is where the hardwood or laminate flooring lifts off from the sub-floor making a "Hollow Sound" on the floor. The Squeeeeek No More<sup>®</sup> Hardwood tool can hold these spots down tight to the sub-floor.

The fixture sets the score 1/5 of an inch below the surface of the flooring. For 3/4 inch flooring down to 3/8 inch flooring the fixture will set the screw so there is enough thread to hold the flooring tight to the sub floor and joist. For flooring less than 3/8 inch thick it is best to drive the screw down without using the fixture. Pre-drill through the flooring then drive the screw down until the score is no longer visible. Then snap the head off and fill the hole.

# Steps for Hardwood Floors



The head of the screw will hit the top of the fixture. The screw will then pull and snap at the score.



The score is now set 1/5of an inch below the wood. Fill the hole with putty to finish.