Ask Jon Eakes

Pine floor over laminate

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Our cameras found Sean in the renovation store. He wants to know if it is a good idea to install pine flooring over existing laminate flooring in the kitchen. An interesting question. Pine is not usually used as a flooring material because it is so soft that if you push hard on a varnish that is on the pine, you could crack the varnish and dent the pine. Most pine flooring that we see is actually the old sub-floors that have been exposed and that were never intended to be finished floors. But we did search and finally found some pine tongue-and-groove flooring, so it does exist. The problem with using ordinary pine that has square edges is that it cups and warps far too easily. So the answer is "yes", you can use pine flooring in a kitchen but make sure it has tongue-and-groove connections on the edges and, to avoid warping, don't let it get soaked with water.

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