
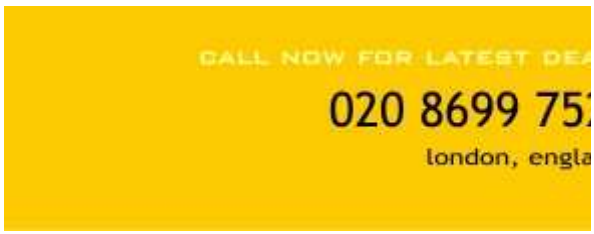








# Fitting Guide For Pre-Finished and Unfinished Solid Wood Floors

**Installer/Owner Responsibility**

As a natural product floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards which permit a grading tolerance of 5% . This should be taken into acco when estimating .The product should not be stored until all plastering , cement wo decorating and all wet work is completely dry .

Solid hardwood floors should not normally be installed below ground level or in bathrooms. Cut out pieces with glaring defects and it is normal practice to use stai or filler stick for defect correction or minor dimension differences. Unfinished floori require spot or trowel filling as required before sanding we recommend JUNCKERS PREFILL mixed with sanding flour. Pre oiled flooring should be hand sanded using or higher and a light finishing coat of oil applied with a cloth after installation. Floo should be stored within the installation area at normal expected conditions for approximately one week to acclimatise depending on your particular product and s A dimension tolerance of plus or minus 2% is allowed by manufacturers .

We only recommend, as best practice, secret nailing preferably to plywood subfloo

**Once installed products are considered accepted by owner / installer.**

**Step 1**

Before you start make sure the subfloor is in good shape .bouncy, squeaky unever should be repaired. Note 18mm plywood, solid wood or battens hold portanails bet than mdf or chipboard. Generally you will want the flooring to run the length of the for aesthetic reasons but install at right angle to floorboards, if laying over an exist floor, otherwise fit plywood so that the direction can be changed. The floor will be and less prone to joints seperating.

**Step 2**

**Timbermate excel** is recommended as a vapour and acoustic barrier between the subfloor and the finish floor . This helps to control dust and moisture from below a as dampen squeaks and reduce noise transference. . Alternatively builders paper o roofing felt works reasonably well. This can be stapled to the floor. Polythene shee should also be laid over soil areas underneath the subfloor to lessen vapour transmission.

**Step 3**

First find the centre between the two walls at each end of the room and snap a cha between the two points. This is your baseline. You do not have to start laying the f from the baseline but wherever you start , you should be parallel to this.

**Step 4 : Fitting From the Wall (easiest method)**

It is best to remove skirting boards and cut door linings and architrave with a scrap piece of floorir guide. If skirting boards are not removed scotia or quadrant will be required to cover up the expar required around all edges. If you are starting from a wall and not the centre of a room set down y parallel chalk line leaving at least 13- 20 mm expansion gap (spacers can be used). E g . you can from parallel to the longest outside wall or from the centre of the room , especially useful in large the flooring expands and contracts from the centre out instead of from one side of the room. Use

lengths when starting from the wall . the first two rows will have to be hand nailed as the portanai not have room to operate. Place the first row along the chalk line and predial holes before hand na Fix with finishing nails and punch preferably through tongues coloured putty or filler will disguise n if necessary. Always work from a minimum of 3 cartons or bundles and preferably rack out the floo of you in a suitable pattern. It is quite normal for minor width variation until the acclimatisation pe complete. For example in the UK the flooring can take on one or two percentage points of moisture can result in an increase of one or two millimetres depending on the initial dimension.

**Occasionally small tolerances in width dimensions due to milling or acclimatisation will require sorting out flooring into pieces of equal width.**

**Step 5 :**

The subsequent rows can now be fixed using a portanailer. The last two or three rows will have to installed by hand . Skirting boards and or scotia can now be fixed to cover the expansion gap , alw to the wall not the floor.

Notes

Recommended Nailing for Strip and Plank Flooring

As a general rule secret nailing should be spaced at 6 to 8 inch 240-320mm intervals narrower spa recomended for wider boards or planks . Hardwood flooring over approx. 150mm width should be additionally face nailed or plugged and screwed as well. We recommend using a portanailer.

Expansion

Wood flooring mainly expands across its width across the grain direction and very little in length w grain. THE WIDER THE BOARD THE MORE IT WILL EXPAND AND CONTRACT.

Staggering joints (headers)

Always stagger end joints by alternating with strips of different length's to avoid aligning joints. T&G flooring can be laid straight over joists although we recommend 12mm or 18mm ply as a muc platform to install hardwood flooring. Pieces which are ends matched (e.g. T&G all round) do not h finish on a joist as the floor will be stable when the surrounding lengths are nailed down . Wider bo may require additional support. Recommended space between joists or battens is 250-350mm cen

Random Lengths

The majority of hardwood flooring is supplied in random length's with pieces from approx. 300mm 1400mm in length see individual manufacturers specification where available. Unfinished is supplie in strapped bundles and pre finished in cardboard cartons depending on the country of origin.

Grading

The higher the grading of the timber will usually indicate longer lengths and less colour variation. Traditional grading will usually indicate more and larger knots and often surface defects even in pr finished flooring. Always allow 5% for grading allowance and wastage in your measurement calcula

Moisture Meter

Always use a moisture meter to measure subfloor moisture levels . Moisture levels of the new floo should be within 2 to 3% of the subfloor. On concreteyou can tape a 400mm square of polythene t subfloor after 24 hours bubbles or wetness under the polythene will indicate high levels. Further ac available. An acceptable moisture level is under 5% on a concrete floor.

Concrete Floors

Moisture in concrete slabs and screeds cannot be measured in direct relation to timber . BS 8021 : suggests that the slab should be a maximum of 75% relative humidity or 5% moisture content thi calculated using a humidity box . However we recommend that a reading of 35-40% relative humi 3% moisture content is ideal . This may be difficult to obtain in practice and it is often more practi apply a surface dpm either polythene (where 18mm ply is used) or paint on type (where the hardv flooring is directly bonded to the subfloor , make sure the two are compatible). Concrete slabs can notoriously long periods to dry and we suggest you allow approximately 1 day per millimetre of sla ( 1 month per inch)

Solid hardwood flooring can also be stuck down to existing concrete sub floors using a specialised such as Bonabond S760 (applied by trowel) or mapei elastic polyurethane flooring adhesive. Alterr battens (250-350mm centres ) or 18mm plywood sheets provide an excellent platform for secret r is important to measure the moisture content of the concrete and ensure that it is completely dry must incorporate a DPM. Another method is to use 12mm plywood cut into strips of 50 - 75mm an at 250-350 centres and this is used as a base for secret nailing using a portanailer and special sho adapter with 1 ½ inch portanails.

**Note : Keep a record of all your readings for later reference and warranty enquires.** We s recommend you keep a record of your moisture and humidity readings prior to installation to accu determine acclimatisation. These measurements will be definitely required by the manufacturer or if there are any future problems.

Wedges

Occasionally you may find warped pieces force these into position using a wedge to bring the floor line.

Further Technical Information

These instructions are for guidance only, further technical advice is available, always consult manufacturers fitting details. Always consult the latest information or take professional advice rega your particular situation. Environmental humidity should be maintained in the range 35% - 55% th optimum range or use humidifiers or dehumidifiers to limit the expansion or contraction of your flo always refer to BS 8201 the british standard for fitting hardwood floors.

Further technical guides are available and should be read in conjunction with this guide. Also refer leaflet RECORD KEEPING / TECHNICAL ASPECTS

## ENQUIRIES AND ORDERING INFORMATION

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