

# Beach Bros Ltd.

Western Road, St Thomas, Exeter EX4 1EQ



## WOOD FLOORING INSTALLATION GUIDE

June 2020

[beachbros.co.uk](http://beachbros.co.uk)

# Introduction

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Thank you for purchasing a Beach Bros Ltd wood floor.

The following installation instructions have been written as a guide and must be read and followed in conjunction with BS 8201:2011 – Code of practice for installation of wood flooring and wood based panels.

Beach Bros. are not responsible for any floor failing as a result of or connected to the subfloor, subsurface, site damage, environmental deficiencies or problems identified after the flooring has been installed. It is imperative that all substrates must be dry, clean, structurally sound and level.

We therefore recommend that all our wood floors are installed by a professional wood flooring installer who has experience in subfloor preparation and moisture testing as well as the correct installation techniques.

If you require any technical information in regards to our products or installation queries, please contact our Sales Office on 01392 257891.

## Disclaimer

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Our installation guide and recommendations are based on careful testing and collected data. We are free of liability regarding the outcome of our recommendations. Specific site conditions are outside of our influence and if you have any doubts, we suggest that you test the application method on site.

## Pre Delivery

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Prior to delivery and installation a thorough inspection of the property should be carried out to ensure the site conditions are suitable for the storage and installation of wood flooring.

All outside doors and windows must be in place and all concrete, masonry, plastering and any other wet work should be completed and dry. All plumbing, washing machines and drains should be thoroughly checked and repaired if leaking.

The walls should be painted, except the final coat and where possible delay the installation of skirting until after the flooring has been laid.

The installation site and storage area should have a fully commissioned central or underfloor heating system and have a consistent room temperature of 15°C - 24°C with a relative humidity of 50-65% for a minimum of 14 days prior to installation.

All existing subfloors must be checked for moisture prior to delivery and any subfloor exceeding the maximum acceptable moisture level must be prepared with a suitable DPM or if applicable, allowed to dry – see subfloor preparation for details.

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# Delivery

On the day of delivery please ensure there is room for a large vehicle to park near the property. The driver will help, but it is imperative that other people are on site to help offload and sign off the delivery note. If your road has any access or parking restrictions please let us know beforehand.

All floors should be carefully inspected upon delivery to ensure the correct floor, finish and quantity has been delivered prior to acclimatisation and storage.

Beach Bros can not accept the return of flooring once it has been stored onsite

## Acclimatisation & Storage

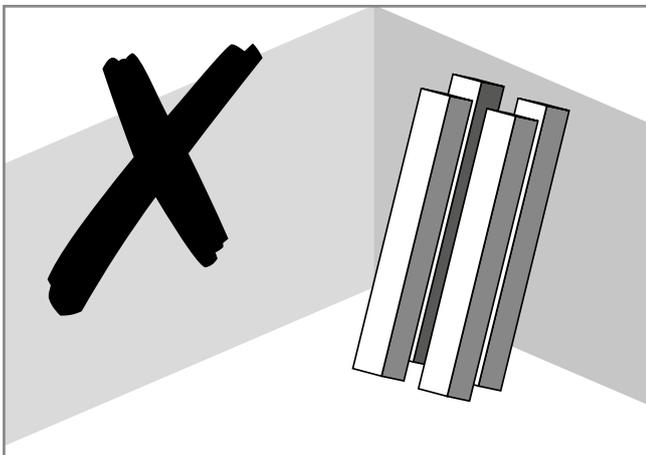
We recommend that our wood flooring is allowed to acclimatise in the room, or adjoining room, where the floor is to be laid. Acclimatisation times can vary dependent upon the environmental conditions, but we would recommend a minimum of 72 hours, or in the case of solid wood flooring a minimum of 14 days.

Wood flooring must be acclimatised in conditions as close as possible to those in which it will be installed.

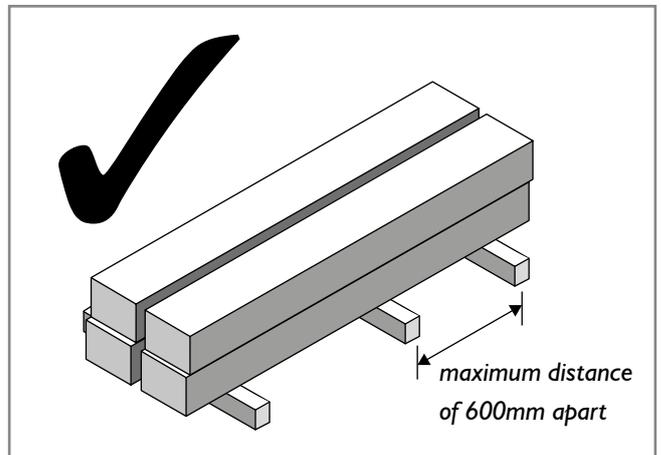
Packs of flooring should be stored in their packaging on a dry level surface with bearers separating the flooring from the subfloor.

Direct sources of heat or direct sunlight should also be avoided.

Never lean flooring packs against walls or store them in garages/outbuildings, near recently laid concrete slabs or any wet environment.



*Incorrect Flooring Storage*



*Correct Flooring Storage*

When using a recommended product, always read the manufactures datasheet to ensure suitability and application method.

# Coverage Guide

## F Ball Stopgap F77

STOPGAP F77 is a solvent free two part epoxy resin system which cures to provide a waterproof surface membrane. It can be used to isolate residual construction moisture where relative humidity values are up to 98%.

| COVERAGE PER UNIT (ONE-COAT APPLICATION) |  |                    |
|--|--|--------------------|
|  | Up to 98% RH or up to 90% RH with Underfloor Heating | Up to 85% RH       |
| 3kg Kit                                  | 5.5m <sup>2</sup>                                    | 7.5m <sup>2</sup>  |
| 7kg Kit                                  | 12.5m <sup>2</sup>                                   | 17.5m <sup>2</sup> |
| 14kg Kit                                 | 25m <sup>2</sup>                                     | 35m <sup>2</sup>   |

## F Ball Stopgap I200 Pro

STOPGAP I200 is a low odour, fast setting, fast drying, two component smoothing underlayment suitable for preparing sound internal subfloors prior to the installation of new floorcoverings.

| APPLIED THICKNESS | COVERAGE PER UNIT | CONSUMPTION PER 100m <sup>2</sup> AREA | GRADED AGGREGATE |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|------------------|
| 2-3mm             | 5.0m <sup>2</sup> | 20 units                               | n/a              |
| 5mm               | 2.5m <sup>2</sup> | 40 units                               | n/a              |
| 10mm              | 1.3m <sup>2</sup> | 79 units                               | n/a              |
| 30mm              | 0.6m <sup>2</sup> | 172 x powder and 86 x aggregate        |                  |

## F Ball Stopgap I100 Gypsum

STOPGAP I100 GYPSUM is a self-levelling smoothing underlayment designed specifically for application over sound calcium sulphate (e.g. anhydrite) screeds prior to the installation of new floorcoverings.

| APPLIED THICKNESS | COVERAGE PER UNIT | CONSUMPTION PER 100m <sup>2</sup> AREA | GRADED AGGREGATE |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|------------------|
| 2-3mm             | 5.0m <sup>2</sup> | 20 units                               | n/a              |
| 5mm               | 2.8m <sup>2</sup> | 36 units                               | n/a              |
| 10mm              | 1.4m <sup>2</sup> | 73 units                               | n/a              |
| 50mm              | 0.3m <sup>2</sup> | 278 x powder and 157 x aggregate       |                  |

## F Ball Stopgap 700 Superflex

STOPGAP 700 SUPERFLEX is a fast drying, fibre reinforced self-levelling smoothing underlayment designed for use on plywood, sand/cement concrete and steel subfloors prior to the installation of new floorcoverings.

| APPLIED THICKNESS | COVERAGE PER UNIT | CONSUMPTION PER 100m <sup>2</sup> AREA |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| 3mm               | 4.8m <sup>2</sup> | 21 units                               |
| 5mm               | 2.9m <sup>2</sup> | 35 units                               |
| 10mm              | 1.4m <sup>2</sup> | 70 units                               |

## F Ball Stopgap P121

STOPGAP P121 is an acrylic primer designed to promote the application characteristics of STOPGAP I100 GYPSUM to calcium sulphate screeds e.g. anhydrite.

| PACK SIZE | COVERAGE         |
|-----------|------------------|
| 5 Litre   | 50m <sup>2</sup> |

## F Ball Stopgap P131

STOPGAP P131 is a primer designed to promote the adhesion of STOPGAP smoothing underlayments to smooth non-absorbent surfaces. It can also be used as a general purpose primer for absorbent surfaces to promote adhesion and to prevent unacceptably rapid drying of adhesives and smoothing underlayments.

| PACK SIZE              | COVERAGE                |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 5 Litres neat          | 50m <sup>2</sup> (max)  |
| 5 litres diluted (4:1) | 100m <sup>2</sup> (max) |
| 5 litres diluted (7:1) | 175m <sup>2</sup> (max) |

# Subfloor Preparation for Concrete, Anhydrite or Sand/Cement Screeds

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## 1. Surface Laitance

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It is important on new screeds to remove any surface laitance which is always present on anhydrite screeds but can also be present on concrete or sand/cement screeds. Laitance comes in varying degrees of thickness, from a fine dust to several millimetres or more depending on contributing factors.

Surface laitance can be removed in several different ways depending upon its thickness and scale of the project. For large areas shot blasting, mechanical planing, scrubbling or grinding are all suitable. Handheld grinding machines, designed for precision, are recommended for use in smaller areas and edge details. Surface laitance also hinders the drying process, therefore it is crucial that it is removed as quickly as possible to minimise any delays to the installation schedule.

## 2. Contamination

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Subfloors must be free of contamination from paint, oil, existing adhesive, grease, dirt and any previously applied sealers. Contamination can be removed by shot blasting, mechanical planing, scrubbling or grinding. As an alternative, in the case of old adhesive residues (including bitumen and carpet tile tackifiers), F Ball Stopgap I 200 PRO levelling compound on sand and cement screeds can be applied between 2-10mm to isolate the contamination. Contaminated anhydrite screeds must be mechanically cleaned to remove all contamination.

## 3. Moisture Testing & DPMs

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All existing concrete, anhydrite or sand/cement subfloors must be checked thoroughly for moisture prior to the installation of any wood floor. There are various methods for testing the moisture content of screeds: digital moisture meters, hygrometers and carbide test kits. It is the installers responsibility to take and record moisture readings across the entire floor at regular intervals to ensure a representative moisture reading is achieved.

For warranty purposes, the installer must keep these moisture readings, the location of moisture tests, the type of meter used, and the calibration date of the meter in the event of a floor failure or warranty claim. The highest moisture reading obtained must be lower than 65% RH - the maximum acceptable moisture content for screeds when installing wood flooring. If the highest moisture reading obtained is higher than 65% RH, wood flooring must not be laid.

### **For Wet Concrete or Sand/Cement Screeds**

Wet concrete or sand/cement screeds can either be left to dry naturally or F Ball Stopgap F77 DPM can be installed if the moisture content is below 98% RH for non-heated screeds or in the case of screeds containing underfloor heating if the moisture content is below 90% RH.

After the application of F Ball Stopgap F77 the floor can be levelled and the wood flooring installed after 8 hours @ 20°C

### **For Wet Anhydrite Screeds**

Wet anhydrite screeds cannot be treated with a DPM and instead must be allowed to dry.

Anhydrite screeds which contain underfloor heating can after 28 days be turned on in order to accelerate the drying process – the underfloor heating must be turned on to the minimum operating temperature for that heating system. After 24 hours this can then be increased by 1°C per day. The underfloor heating must be carefully commissioned to avoid shocking the screed.

## 4. Priming

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### **For Concrete or Sand/Cement Screeds**

Concrete or sand/cement screeds do not require priming if the floor has had F Ball Stopgap F77 DPM installed and the levelling or bonding process is occurring within 24 hours. If however the DPM is over 24 hours old or the screed is dusty, F Ball Stopgap P131 primer must be applied.

### **For Anhydrite Screeds**

All anhydrite screeds must be primed with F Ball Stopgap P121 prior to levelling and the wood flooring being installed.

## 5. Levelling

---

All existing concrete, anhydrite or sand/cement subfloors must be checked thoroughly to ensure that the surface is flat.

The maximum tolerance for the installation of wood flooring should be no more than a 3mm deviation when a 2m straightedge is laid across the subfloor.

If the subfloor has a deviation greater than the maximum tolerance, the subfloor must be levelled with a suitable levelling compound. For concrete or sand/cement screeds, F Ball Stopgap I 200 PRO should be used or in the case of anhydrite screeds, F Ball Stopgap I 100 Gypsum.

# Subfloor Preparation for Wooden Subfloors or Joists

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## 1. Ventilation

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An inspection must be carried out to check there is adequate ventilation to suspended timber floors at ground level.

Air bricks should be kept clear of any obstructions. If issues are found these must be dealt with prior to installing a wood floor.

## 2. Secure Wooden Subfloors

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Existing floorboards, chipboard or plywood floors should where possible be fixed to joists or battens with good quality countersunk screws. Nails should be avoided as these loosen over time and can lead to subfloor movement which is a common cause of squeaky floorboards.

If fixing to joists it is important to check the spacing between the joists is no greater than 400mm and that if fixing to battens, they are kiln dried and free of undulations.

## 2. Contamination

---

Wooden subfloors must be free of contamination from paint, oil, existing adhesive, grease, dirt and sealers.

Contamination can be removed by sanding with 60 or 80 grit sandpaper or as an alternative, in the case of old adhesive residues (including bitumen and carpet tile tackifiers), 5.5mm SP101 plywood should be overlaid

## 4. Levelling

---

Wooden subfloors must be checked thoroughly to ensure that the surface is flat.

The maximum tolerance for the installation of wood flooring should be no more than a 3mm deviation when a 2m straightedge is laid across the subfloor.

If the subfloor has a deviation greater than the maximum tolerance, the subfloor must be levelled.

Existing plywood or chipboard floors can be levelled either by overlaying with SP101 plywood (min. 5.5mm) or by applying F Ball Stopgap 700 Superflex, a fibre reinforced floor smoothing underlayment. For joisted floors, these can be overlaid with SP101 plywood (minimum 18mm) or overlaying the joists with scribed battens.

## 5. Check Floorboard Direction

---

If laying directly onto existing floorboards, the new flooring must be laid at 90 degrees.

Where this isn't possible or desirable, the existing floorboards must be overlaid with 5.5mm SP101 plywood so that the new flooring can be installed in the same direction as the existing floorboards.

### **Overlaying with SP101 Plywood**

Prior to overlaying a subfloor with SP101 plywood a moisture test should be carried out to ensure that the plywood and timber subfloor are within  $\pm 2\%$  of each other – this should be carried out with a professional wood moisture meter such as a Protimeter Timbermaster or similar.

SP101 plywood can be fixed with countersunk screws or divergent flooring grade staples.

Fixing screws should be spaced at a maximum 100mm centres around the perimeter of each plywood sheet, 12mm from the edge and at a maximum 150mm apart within the sheets. It is recommended, where possible, that sheets are laid perpendicular to floor boards with the joints in the plywood staggered.

# Types of Installation

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We recommend that all our wood floors are installed by a professional wood flooring installer who will be able to recommend the most suitable method of installation for your wood floor.

## Glue Down Installation

*Suitable for Engineered & Solid Wood Flooring*

Wood flooring installed using the glue down installation method (also known as fully bonded) uses a flexible flooring adhesive which is generally applied across the subfloor using a notched trowel. The flooring planks are then laid onto the adhesive ensuring the complete back of the board is in full contact with the adhesive.

**Suitable for:** Concrete, Sand & Cement or Anhydrite screeds, F Ball Stopgap levelling compounds, F Ball Stopgap waterproof surface membranes, Fastened plywood

### ADVANTAGES

- Creates a firm floor with no vertical movement
- Minimises acoustic noise
- Minimises the natural movement of the planks
- Can be laid onto solid substrates

### DISADVANTAGES

- Adhesive is expensive
  - Slower installation than nailing or floating
- 

## Nail Down Installation

*Suitable for Engineered & Solid Wood Flooring*

Solid and engineered wood flooring with a minimum thickness of 20mm can be installed using the nail down installation method. This method utilises 50mm hardened steel portanails fixed through the wood flooring tongue at 45° or 60° into a suitable batten joist or wooden subfloor using a floor nailer.

**Suitable for:** Joists, Battens (min 50mm), Flooring grade plywood (min 18mm)

### ADVANTAGES

- Instant fixing with no drying time
- Quick installation method
- Only requires inexpensive portanails

### DISADVANTAGES

- Only suitable for 20mm thick floors
  - Not suitable for Chipboard
  - Fixings do not allow for natural movement
- 

## Floating Floor Installation

*Suitable for Engineered Wood Flooring*

Engineered wood flooring can be installed as a floating floor over most subfloor types. Subfloors must be covered with a suitable wood flooring underlay, normally between 2-6mm thick, which provides acoustic properties as well as helping to remove small height discrepancies in the subfloor.

**Suitable for:** Concrete, Sand & Cement or Anhydrite Screeds, F Ball Stopgap levelling compounds, F Ball Stopgap waterproof surface membranes, Flooring grade plywood, chipboard or OSB, Existing structurally sound tiles, High density flooring

### ADVANTAGES

- Quick installation method
- Can be laid onto solid substrates
- Only requires inexpensive underlay

### DISADVANTAGES

- Floors will feel soft and slightly springy
  - Not suitable for areas greater than 50m<sup>2</sup>
  - Not suitable for rooms with heavy furniture or island units
-

# Pre-Installation Checklist

- ✓ Inspect the flooring for damage and check the specification against the order. If you (the fitter) or your customer is not happy with the flooring, do not fit it, instead contact our sales office.

## An installed floor is an accepted floor

- ✓ Check that you have all of the tools required for the installation (pages 10-11)
- ✓ Check that you have prepared the subfloor as per our guidelines
- ✓ Check that you selected the correct installation method for the type of subfloor and type of flooring
- ✓ Check that you have material (such as Correx®) to cover the finished floor to avoid other trades damaging the floor after installation

**DO NOT START to fit any flooring if any wet trades are working in the same building or if there is evidence of wet plaster, concrete or recent building work such as paint etc. Conditions must be the same as when the room will be in final use.**

Beach Bros are not responsible for any floor failing as a result of or connected with sub-floor, subsurface, site damage, environmental deficiencies or problems identified after the flooring has been installed.

We therefore recommend that all our wood floors are installed by a professional wood flooring installer who has experience in subfloor preparation and moisture testing as well as the correct installation techniques.

If you require any technical information in regards to our products or installation queries please contact our Sales Office on 01392 257891.

| Moisture<br>Testing<br>Results | Contractor    |            |                  |                  |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                | Site Address  |            |                  |                  |
|                                | Customer      |            |                  |                  |
|                                | Subfloor Type |            |                  |                  |
| Date                           | Location Ref  | Meter used | Calibration Date | Moisture Reading |
|                                |               |            |                  |                  |
|                                |               |            |                  |                  |
|                                |               |            |                  |                  |
|                                |               |            |                  |                  |
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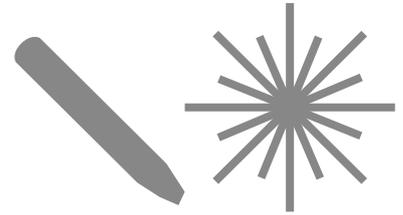
# Recommended Tools



Vacuum



Dust Mask & Eye Protection



Chalk Line or Laser



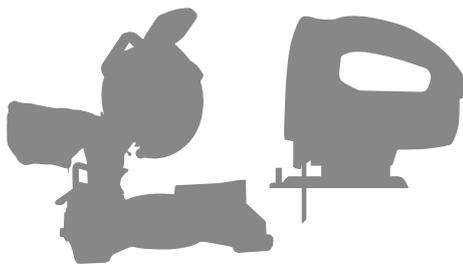
Pencil



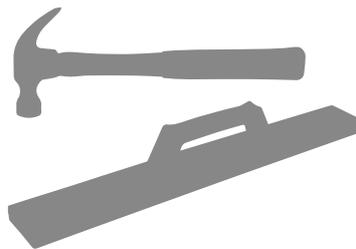
Straight Edge (2m)



Spirit Level & Set Square



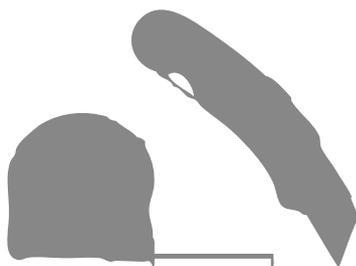
Compound/Chop Saw or Jigsaw



Knocking Block & Hammer



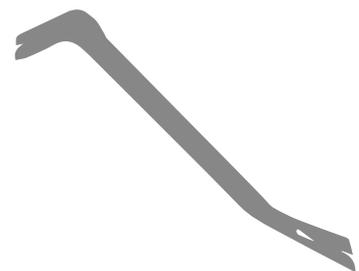
Moisture Meter



Tape Measure & Utility Knife



Wood or Plastic Wedges

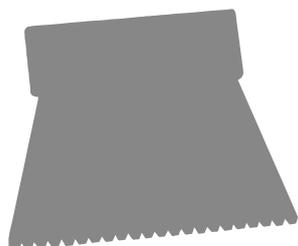


Jemmy Bar

# Recommended Tools

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For glue down installations



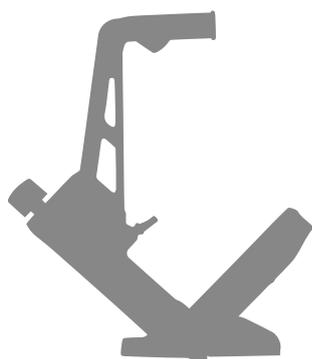
B3 Notch Trowel



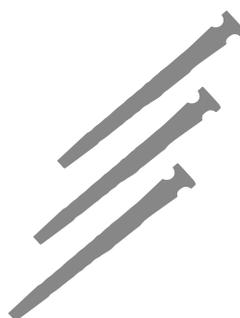
Gloves

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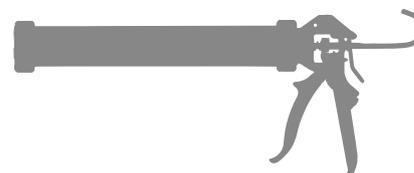
For nail down installations



Portanailer



50mm T-Nails



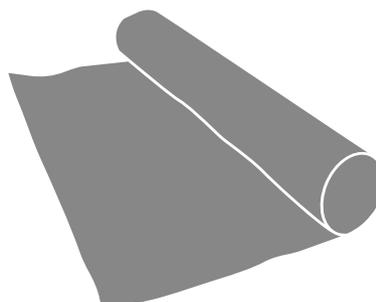
Bulk Gun

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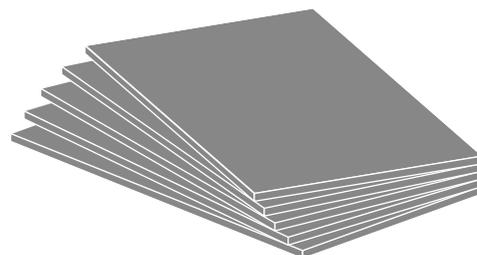
For floating installations



PVA Glue



1000 Gauge Visqueen



Wood Flooring Underlay

# General Guidance

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## Setting Out

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It is important to ensure that the first row of boards are installed in a straight line as this sets the board direction for the rest of the floor.

It is recommended to start laying out boards by using a chalk line to create a straight line against the straightest wall.

The first row of boards should then be cut, leaving the groove or tongue in the case of click flooring against the wall. For walls which aren't straight it will be necessary to scribe the board to the shape of the wall whilst ensuring that the first and last row of boards have similar width.

Once cut the first row of boards should be packed off the wall using stackable wedges or spacers such as Bessey AV2 adjustable floor spacers to ensure the correct expansion gap is maintained.

## Expansion Gap

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An expansion gap of at least 5mm per metre width of flooring should be left between the flooring and any walls or any other fixed object.

This means that if a room is 5 metres wide there must be 25mm expansion gap, which is 12.5mm against each wall.

The necessary expansion gap must be evenly spaced around the perimeter of the floor – an expansion gap cannot be left on one side of the floor only.

When a room has a width greater than 5m, the use of shims between each board should be considered. This will allow for a greater expansion gap to be created than would be practical around the perimeter of the floor. Shims are available from our sales office on 0.5mm or 0.75mm

## Joint Distribution

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Joints also known as head joints should be evenly distributed throughout the floor to achieve a random staggered design.

For tongue and groove floors a minimum gap of 300mm between joints in adjoining boards and a minimum distance of 150mm from any walls should be maintained.

For click floors a minimum gap of 400mm between joints in adjoining boards and a minimum distance of 500mm from any walls should be maintained.

## Site Cleanliness

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It is imperative when laying any wood floor that the area is clean, tidy and that any dust from cutting is kept to an absolute minimum.

Ideally all cutting should be carried out using sharp tools with good extraction minimising any dust in the environment. Any dust which falls on the subfloor must be vacuumed up prior to installing wood flooring.

## Floor Protection

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We recommend that after a wood floor is installed and where other building works are ongoing such as kitchen installations or skirting board installation, the floor should be immediately protected with Correx®.

Correx® is a fluted polypropylene board which is designed to provide a waterproof surface as well as impact resistance. Joints should be taped to retain the waterproof properties and avoid fluids leaking onto the finished wood floor.

Correx® will prevent damaged caused by buliding works dust and painting as well as scuffing and scratching caused by step ladders, site footwear and general debris.

If you require Correx® floor protection please contact our sales team for pricing.

# Installation

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## Method 1 - Glue Down Installation

*Suitable for Engineered & Solid Wood Flooring*

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Prior to commencing with the installation it is crucial to ensure that all of the requirements outlined in the subfloor preparation section have been met, before cutting the starter row as per the setting out guidelines.

Once the starter row has been scribed and the wedges have been adjusted, two further rows of boards should be dry laid and cut to length ensuring the correct joint spacing.

These first three rows should then be carefully removed and F Ball Styccobond B95 should be applied to the subfloor using a B3 notched trowel held at an angle of 60°. Enough adhesive should be applied to lay the three rows of pre-cut boards only.

With the grooves of the boards facing the wall, the boards should be placed systematically into the adhesive, with each board being firmly pressed down to ensure the complete underside of the board is in good contact to produce a permanent bond. A knocking block and hammer may be needed to ensure that the joints are tight.

Do not apply adhesive to any of the tongues or grooves.

If necessary specialist wood flooring ratchet straps can be used to hold joints tight whilst the next three rows of boards are dry laid and the adhesive is spread.

Continue laying boards three rows at a time using the same process.

Clean any adhesive that appears on the surface of the planks by wiping away with a damp cloth, do not use any chemicals, builder wipes or baby wipes as these will damage the finish.

It is recommended to occasionally test for proper bonding by lifting a board which has been laid and checking that a minimum of 90% of the board is in contact with the adhesive – if the bond is satisfactory, the board can then be replaced back into the adhesive.

The last row of boards should be scribed using the same technique as the first row taking into account the required expansion gap – use a jemmy bar to ensure a tight joint is achieved and insert wedges whilst the glue dries. Wedges should be removed after 24 hours before the expansion gap is covered with skirting or beading.

## Method 2 - Nail Down Installation

*Suitable for Engineered & Solid Wood Flooring*

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Prior to commencing with the installation it is crucial to ensure that all of the requirements outlined in the subfloor preparation section have been met, before cutting the starter row as per the setting out guidelines.

Once the starter row has been scribed and the wedges have been adjusted, two further rows of boards should be dry laid and cut to length ensuring the correct joint spacing.

A 10mm wide bead of F Ball Styccobond B95 from a bulk gun (using adhesive sausages) should be applied to the centre of each joist or batten, allowing sufficient adhesive for the first three pre-cut rows only.

If installing on a plywood subfloor beads of adhesive should be gunned out at 250mm centres, ensuring a minimum of three beads are in contact with each board.

With the groove of the board facing the wall and the required expansion gap in place, fix the first row of boards through the face using nails - the adhesive should spread across the complete width of the joist due to the pressure of the fixing. These fixings should be punched down below the surface and filled with a suitable wood filler.

The second row of boards should then be laid using a knocking block and hammer to ensure that the joints are tight.

The boards should then be nailed using a Portanailer which uses specialist serrated 50mm T nails. The use of a Portanailer ensures the nails are driven in at a 45° or 60° angle to the correct depth as well as avoiding damaging the tongue.

When nailing to joists a nail must be driven into every joist but when nailing into a wooden subfloor fixings should be every 150mm along the length of the plank. A final fixing should be made between 30-50mm from each end of the plank.

Do not apply adhesive to any of the tongue or groove.

The last row of boards should be scribed using the same technique as the first row taking into account the required expansion gap – use a jemmy bar to ensure a tight joint is achieved and fix the last board through the face in a similar way to the first row of boards.

The expansion gap should be covered with skirting or beading.

# Installation

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## Method 3 - Floating Floor Installation

*Suitable for Engineered Wood Flooring only*

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Prior to commencing with the installation it is crucial to ensure that all of the requirements outlined in the subfloor preparation section have been met.

A 1000 gauge visqueen sheet or 0.2mm thick polythene membrane must be laid on the concrete to insulate against any remaining damp. Joints must be overlapped by a minimum of 250mm and taped with a suitable jointing tape.

On top of the visqueen or membrane, a suitable wood flooring underlay must be laid with 50mm wide tape holding the joints together to avoid overlapping.

Alternatively a wood flooring underlay with a built in vapour barrier such as Sonic Gold or Tuplex can be used to combine the visqueen and underlay.

### **For Tongue & Groove Boards**

With the groove of the boards facing the wall, scribe the first row of boards to the shape of the wall and insert wedges to ensure the correct expansion gap is maintained as per the setting out guidelines.

For engineered boards with a tongue and groove joint, a bead of flooring grade PVA glue should be applied to the bottom of the groove at the end of the planks. The boards should then be laid ensuring the boards are installed in a straight line with a wedge bridging the head joint against the wall.

The next row of boards should then be cut to length, with PVA glue applied to the bottom of the grooves both on the end and side of the boards.

Assemble the complete row by locating the tongue in the groove of the previously laid joint and pushing up tight. Where required, use a knocking block with a hammer or mallet to tap the joints up tight.

Clean any adhesive that appears on the surface of the planks by wiping away with a damp cloth, do not use any chemicals, builder wipes or baby wipes as these will damage the finish.

Continue laying the rest of the floor with the same procedure.

The last row of boards should be scribed using the same technique as the first row taking into account the required expansion gap – use a jemmy bar to ensure a tight joint is achieved and insert wedges whilst the glue dries.

Wedges should be removed after 24 hours before the expansion gap is covered with skirting or beading.

### **For Click Boards**

With the tongue of the boards facing the wall, prepare the first row by cutting the boards to length and scribing the boards to the shape of the wall and set wedges to ensure the correct expansion gap is maintained.

Starting on the left hand side of the row, place the first board against the wedges and then carefully place the second board into position so that the head joint lines up.

By hand apply solid vertical pressure over the head joint so that the tongue yields and locks the boards together – there should be an audible click once the joint has fully engaged.

Place a wedge directly behind the joint and then proceed to complete the first row repeating this process ensuring the expansion gap is maintained at all times.

The second row of boards should then be dry laid if possible utilising the offcut from the previous row, which must be a minimum of 500mm whilst ensuring that all overlaps are a minimum of 400mm.

Once cut, the boards should be individually laid by placing the tongue into the groove of the board in previous row at 30° and gently pushing in and down to engage the click joint. Afterwards starting at the open end, a knocking block should be used by hand, to gently knock the back of the groove to ensure they are fully clicked together.

Continue laying the rest of the floor with the same procedure.

The last row of boards should be scribed using the same technique as the first row taking into account the required expansion gap – use a jemmy bar to ensure a tight joint is achieved and insert wedges whilst the glue dries.

Wedges should be removed after 24 hours before the expansion gap is covered with skirting or beading.

# Initial After Care

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## Bespoke Coloured Floors

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Our bespoke coloured floors are supplied fully finished with a clear top coat of industrial Saicos Hardwax Oil and can be used immediately after installation. In high wear areas or in kitchens and bathrooms it is important that an additional coat of Saicos Premium Hardwax Oil is applied over the floor after installation to seal the joints and prevent the ingress of water.

## Natural Oiled Floors

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Our natural oiled floors are supplied pre-finished with two coats of an open pore natural oil, which penetrates and hardens deep inside the pores of the wood. This finish requires a final coat of Saicos Premium Hardwax Oil to be applied as part of the installation process to ensure long lasting resistance to dirt, dust and spills.

## How to use Saicos Premium Hardwax Oil

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1. Vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove loose dust and dirt. If the floor is dirty, wash the floor thoroughly with Saicos Ecoline Magic Cleaner and allow the floor to dry before proceeding
2. Stir the oil thoroughly and add any additives being used whilst continuing to stir for another 2 minutes
3. Pour the oil into a paint tray - do not thin or pour directly onto the surface of the floor
4. Apply a thin even coat of oil to the floor working in the direction of the grain using a Saicos Oil/Wax Roller and a paint brush for the edges
5. Work towards the entrance of the room, making sure any lines or overly wet area are rolled out leaving a uniform wet surface
6. The floor can now be left to dry, which normally takes approx. 5 hours @ 20°C

### **IMPORTANT:**

Applying the oil using the roller will leave a lightly textured surface - this is by design and provides a more durable longer lasting surface. If you prefer a smoother finish, work in small areas (less than 5m) rolling the oil onto the floor and then immediately ragging off the excess oil. Continue stepwise until the floor is completely oiled. This method may require a second coat of oil to provide additional protection.

Oiled floors are not fully hardened until 3-5 days after oiling, dependent upon the air temperature and humidity. During this time the floor should not be exposed to water or high traffic.



## Beach Bros 25 Year Residential Limited Warranty

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A Beach Bros floor is designed to last a lifetime

Beach Bros guarantees to direct purchasers that all products shall be of quantity, kind and grade as invoiced to the purchaser at the time the products leave our factory. If any of these products are proven to the satisfaction of Beach Bros to be defective in materials or workmanship, we will (at our discretion) make a replacement in kind or refund the price of the goods.

All other liability in respect to our products and their use, and all statutory and implied warranties (except as stated herein) are excluded from this limited warranty. No representative of Beach Bros is authorised to change or enlarge the foregoing provisions which apply to all sales and to all goods delivered whether sold, delivered as samples or otherwise.

See [beachbros.co.uk](http://beachbros.co.uk) for full details

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