PACIFIC PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Assembly Instructions
Solid Teak Flooring

Wood floors are suitable for all rooms other than those that are subject to excessive moisture and high levels of humidity.

Important Note

All wood is hydroscopic (it will react to the moisture in the environment) and as a result will expand or contract accordingly. Any source of damp must be rectified prior to installation of floor and moisture levels in rooms fitted with wood should be maintained at a stable level, in line with normal living conditions. All construction dampness must be completely dry.

It is important that you check each plank for any manufacturing defects. The boards in this pack are random lengths and should be laid at random across the floor to create the best effect. It is advisable to open a few packs at a time to mix boards from each pack as they are installed.

Before You Start

- Calculate the total square meterage of the room/s and add 10% for cutting and wastage.
- The wood boards should be placed in the room in which they are to be fitted to acclimatise for 48 hours and should be stacked, in their packaging, carefully to allow air to circulate. The boards should be stored and laid in a relative humidity of between 45% - 65% and a room temperature of between 18C and 20C. Solid wood flooring is a natural product which will mature with age. Each board is unique in designs as nature intended. The boards will change shade over time as a reaction through exposure to sunlight.
- All substrates must be structurally sound, flat and dry. The surface should be free of all contaminants and loose material. All possibilities of damp e.g. walls, drains, damp proof courses, plumbing, fridges, washing machines etc. MUST be thoroughly checked and repaired if found to be leaking.
- The boards should be fitted lengthways towards the main incoming light source and, where possible, down the length of the room.

If installing onto a concrete or screed base

- In good drying conditions allow one day per 1mm of new screed / concrete to ensure it is dry. Further time may be necessary depending on site conditions.
- Existing screeds / concrete must be checked for moisture. This can easily be carried out using a moisture meter, or alternatively sheets of polythene approximately 1 meter x 1 meter square can be taped on to the screed and a heavy weight placed on top for 24 hours. Presence of moisture in the screed will be confirmed if the screed is discoloured, or moisture is apparent on the underside of the polythene. If moisture is present, i.e. over 12%, wood floors must not be fitted until the problem has been rectified. Please seek specialist advice.

If installing onto a wood subfloor

- Solid Wood can be fixed directly over sound and secure joists, or directly onto prepared floorboards. If the existing floorboards are sufficiently flat, the new boards can be laid directly on to them at 90º. If the existing floor is not suitably flat then it must be flat and level by overlaying with WBP (water and boil proof) plywood. Loose boards must be secured or the new floor may squeak. Please note: If nails/screws are being used, care must be taken not to damage pipes or electrical cables beneath.

If installing onto other subfloors

• Most other floor finishes e.g. lino, carpet etc., should be removed prior to installation of a new wood floor.

Installation Methods

Fixing on top of concrete or screed base –

Secret Nailing: Lay a suitable polythene vapour barrier onto the substrate, overlap any seams by at least 20cm and securely tape to provide a suitable seal. Lay 18-24mm WBP plywood across the floor in the opposite direction to the length of the new boards, to provide a material into which the nails can fix. The plywood sheets should be butted together allowing a 15mm perimeter gap for expansion.

Alternatively, treated timber battens 50 x 25mm, may be laid on to the floor at 300mm centres. The minimum thickness of battens should be 25mm (20mm is possible if the nailing is driven at 30 degrees). Ensure all underfloor pipework is lagged before the floor is laid. This will prevent localised shrinkage in the floor from hot adjacent pipes.

Direct Gluing: Screed floors must be flat and level with no surface lumps or depressions in their surface. If this is not the case it must be levelled to ensure even, uniform application of a liquid applied DPM. The floor can be levelled up to a maximum depth of 5mm with a good quality-levelling compound. This must be allowed to dry out completely before applying the suitable damp proofing liquid.

Fixing on top of existing wood floors –

A new wood floor should be laid at a 90º angle to the existing boards. If the new boards are to be laid in the same direction as the old, plywood sheets (minimum depth 6mm) should be nailed or screwed to cover the existing floor, allowing a 15mm perimeter gap for expansion.

Installation Secret Nailing

Tools Required (not supplied)
• Hammer or nailing gun • Spacer wedges • Saw • Safety gear – mask, goggles • Square • Tape measure • Pencil • Utility knife

1. Mark out a straight line parallel to the chosen wall, allowing a 15mm gap for expansion. It may be necessary to scribe the first row of boards to achieve correct alignment.

2. Square the first row of boards to the pre marked line with the tongue facing into the room. Top nail* (top nail at 25- 30cm intervals or onto every joist, and where possible within 7.5cm of the end of each board and countersink through the boards as near to the wall as possible)

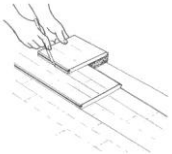
** Top nailing is nailing the board to the subfloor through the top of the board*

3. Using the same spacing, of 25 – 30 cm, secret nail at a 45º ensuring a countersink through the tongue. For ease a mechanical floor nailer can be used for this job.

4. Fit the next run of boards groove to tongue and secret nail. 

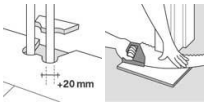
5. Continue to fit the boards from left to right. Always stagger the end joins by a minimum of 15cm and a maximum of 300mm. Measure and trim the last board to fit, allowing for the 5mm expansion gap. Where possible, use off-cuts to start the next row.

6. For the last row of boards you can use the sandwich technique to measure the width of board required, ensuring that the row is not less than 10cm in width.



7. Top nail and countersink the last run of boards to finish.

8. All pipes, pillars, frames etc must be cut around to provide suitable expansion gaps.



Installation Direct Gluing

Tools Required (not supplied)
• Hammer • Tapping Block • Square • Tape measure • Pencil • Utility knife • Spacer wedges • Fitting straps • Parquet flooring adhesive • Notched trowel

With this system use an approved adhesive for gluing solid wood to the various sub floors. The glue is applied directly to the screed sub floor / existing wood floor to fix the boards.

1. Mark out a straight line parallel to the chosen wall, allowing a 15mm gap for expansion. It may be necessary to scribe the first row of boards to achieve correct alignment. Please note that the 15mm expansion gap will still apply to floating installation and must be maintained around the entire perimeter of the floor. Also it is important to remember to stagger the joints in the floor by at least 300mm.

2. Once the first row of boards is correctly aligned and glued in place, weight them down while the glue sets. Any surplus glue that may seep out onto the surface of the wood must be removed immediately with a damp cloth. The glue should not be applied in the groove or the tongue of the flooring.

3. Flooring straps can be used to pull boards together and hold them in place whilst the glue dries.

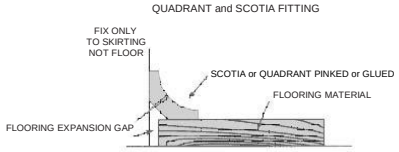
4. The expansion gap of 15mm must be maintained during installation.

Note: It is not recommended that boards with a width of over 152mm are fitted by gluing only.

Finishing off:

Once the flooring is installed, whichever method you have used, the expansion gap can be covered by re-fitting the skirting boards.

Alternatively, if the skirting has been kept in place attaching some scotia or quadrant trims to the skirting using glue or panel pins will also achieve the desired results.



At doorways a door threshold strip should be used to protect the edges of the floor and provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another.

Care and Maintenance

- It is recommended that you use felt pads under chairs and furniture (a plastic mat should be used with office chairs on wheels) Solid wood floors will mark with use which adds to its character.
- Rubber based castor cups are used for heavy load furniture such as armchairs and pianos.

- Doormats should be used inside and outside of all external doorways to prevent grit from being carried across the floor, protecting the surface from excessive wear and tear.

- For regular cleaning a damp cloth is advised. (We recommend that cloths be rung until no more drips are present before wiping the floor)

- Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool or scouring powder as this may damage the surface of your floor.

NB. Lacquered floors have a surface layer protecting the wood from damage which is durable and easily maintained. Once the lacquer has been damaged it is advisable to sand and re lacquer the entire floor to maintain an even finish rather than spot lacquering. This is a procedure which is best carried out by a professional.