

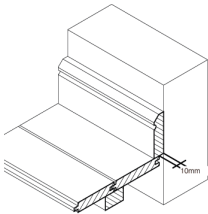
Correct selection, storage, installation & finishing is essential if the full potential of timber flooring is to be realised.

MOISTURE CONTENT AND BOARD SELECTION

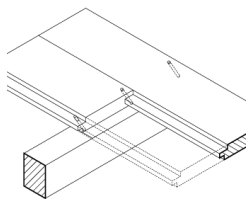
- To achieve a long-lasting beautiful result, use quality boards & products. Board requirements & grade descriptions are included in AS 2796.
- Timber is a natural product. Its dimensions vary with changes in moisture in the surrounding environment. Flooring supplied to a moisture content to AS2796 should be suitable in most locations. Large windows & other heat sources can affect this.
- Only boards up to 85 mm cover can be secret nailed. Boards over 85 cover must be top nailed with two nails per joist.

STORAGE AND PREPARATION

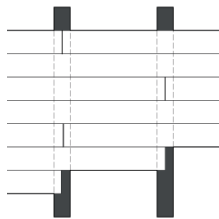
- Protect the timber from moisture & damage during cartage and construction. Avoid exposing it to rain, dew, damp ground or slabs, or excessive sunlight. Ideally, store it inside where it is to be laid.
- Only install the floor in a fully weatherproofed building.
- Platform construction is never appropriate for feature strip floors.
- The sub-floor should be dry. Ensure ventilation to BCA requirements.
- Floor framing should be solid, level, true and preferably seasoned.



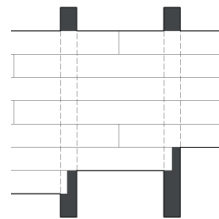
10 mm min. gaps at each wall



Secret nail to 85 mm cover only



Space butt joints a min. of 450 mm



Space end matched joints in different spans

INSTALLATION

- Leave 10 mm expansion gaps at walls & at least the equivalent every 6m across wide floors.
- Lay boards in straight & parallel lines. Ensure all end joints are tightly closed and distributed evenly throughout the floor.
- Cramp boards tight, no more than 800mm wide at a time when top nailing.
- AS 1684 sets min. nail dimensions for fixing flooring. See Table 1.
- If boards tend to split when nailing, pre-drill to 80% of nail diameter.
- Keep the nail lines straight & punch at least 3mm below the surface.
- If glue is used, it must be additional to the correct nailing.
- **Use only specialist elastomeric glues.** Do not use hard setting glues.

Table 1: Minimum Nail Sizing (to Australian Standard AS 1684)

T & G flooring to joists		T & G flooring to plywood substrate		
Nailing	Softwood joists	Hardwood & cypress joists	Flooring thickness	Rec. nailing (min. 15mm substrate)
Hand driven	65 - 2.8mm bullet head	50 - 2.8mm bullet head	19 or 20	38 x 16 gauge staples or 38 x 2.2mm nails at 300mm spacing
Machine driven	65 - 2.5mm	50 - 2.5mm	12, 19 or 20	32 x 16 gauge staples or 30 x 2.2mm nails at 200mm spacing

*Alternative fasteners can be used for substrate types not listed subject to manufacturers' recommendation.

FINISHING

- Deep scratch marks should not be present after sanding, but it's unrealistic to expect a furniture quality finish.
- Select the coating system to suit the project. Follow the manufacturer's instructions exactly.
- Don't thin the finish unnecessarily.
- Only apply polyurethane or two part coatings to tight, well-laid floors at the correct moisture content. These coatings can glue boards together, causing 'clumping', 'slabbing' or other problems later.

TASMANIAN OAK OVERLAY FLOORING *installation as overlay*

Suitable structural substrates include concrete slabs, plywood and particleboard sheet floors and existing timber strip floors.

MOISTURE CONTENT AND BOARD SELECTION

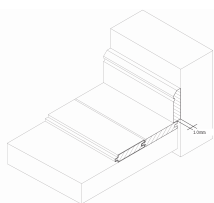
- To achieve a long-lasting beautiful result, use quality boards & products. Board requirements & grade descriptions are in AS 2796.
- 12 - 14 mm thick boards need to be regularly or continuously supported on a structural substrate. Boards fixed directly to joists need to be a min. of 19 mm thick to span 450 mm.
- Timber is a natural product. Its dimensions vary with changes in moisture in the surrounding environment. Flooring supplied to a moisture content to AS2796 should be suitable in most locations. Large windows & other heat sources can affect this.
- In nail only applications, only boards *up to 85 mm cover* can be secret nailed.

STORAGE AND PREPARATION

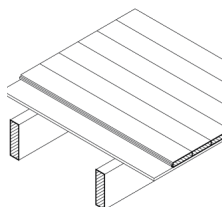
- Protect the timber from moisture & damage during cartage and construction, especially damp slabs.
- Only install the floor in a fully weatherproofed building on a solid, level and securely fastened substrate.
- Level uneven surfaces with a levelling compound. Skim sand existing board or sheet floors to provide a clean, flat gluing surface.
- The substrate must be dry, with a moisture content less than 5.5% for concrete slabs or 14% for wood substrates. Seal the slab or install a membrane if in doubt.
- Use compatible levelling, sealing and gluing products. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations exactly.
- Overlay flooring is not recommended for heated slabs or wet areas.

INSTALLATION

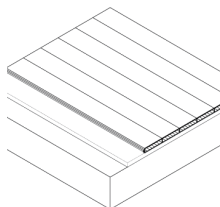
- Leave 10 mm expansion gaps at walls & at least the equivalent of every 6m across wide floors.
- **Use only specialist elastomeric glues. Do not use hard setting glues.** Apply the glue evenly at the recommended rates.
- Lay boards in straight & parallel lines. Ensure all joints are tightly closed and distributed evenly throughout the floor.
- If laying over an existing strip floor, new boards should be laid at right angles to existing ones.
- Position boards carefully so glue is not squeezed up between them.
- Cramp boards tight. If using glue, secret nail to timber substrates. For concrete substrates, use glue and restrain as needed with removable concrete nails until the glue cures.
- AS 1684 sets min. nail dimensions for nail only applications. See Table 1 on the previous page.



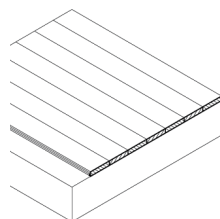
10 mm min. gaps at each wall



Nailed or nailed & glued to sheet/existing boards



Nailed or nailed & glued to ply on concrete



Glued to concrete

FINISHING

- Deep scratch marks should not be present after sanding, but it's unrealistic to expect a furniture quality finish.
- Select the coating system to suit the project. Follow the manufacturer's instructions exactly.
- Don't thin the finish unnecessarily.
- Only apply polyurethane or two part coatings to tight, well-laid floors at the correct moisture content. These coatings can glue boards together, causing 'clumping', 'slabbing' or other problems later.