



Hardwood Flooring Installation Guide

****IMPORTANT****

CertFloor is a sustainably certified flooring installation system supplied by ITI NZ.

ITI NZ strongly advises that all timber floors are installed by qualified flooring installation specialists who are members of ATFA, the Australasian Timber Flooring Association.

Read all of these instructions thoroughly before beginning installation. In addition to these instructions, we recommend that the installer follow all installation guidelines set forth by ATFA - the Australasian Timber Flooring Association (www.atfa.com.au). Where these instructions differ from ATFA guidelines, this document takes precedence.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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1 SCOPE

1.1 INTENDED USE

The ITI NZ CERTFLOOR System has been designed for use as a flooring solution that comprises solid and engineered flooring products for residential and light commercial buildings. It is only suitable for buildings within the scope of the New Zealand Building Code.

1.2 VALIDITY

It is only valid when all products in the flooring system are CertFloor branded or ITI NZ approved and all methods and procedures outlined in this manual are followed. This is to ensure that all products meet the requirements of the ITI NZ System and are installed in the correct manner.

1.3 LIFESPAN

1.3.1 SERVICEABLE LIFE

The ITI NZ system is expected to have a serviceable life of at least 50 years.

1.3.2 MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

The appearance of the timber may degrade over time and this will be dependent on the coating system used. It is critical that the appropriate type of coating selected will suit the expected usage.

For correct maintenance of the coating system, the coating manufacturer's specification must be strictly adhered to.

Where damage or high volume wearing occurs the floor may need to be refurbished.

Most timber floor profiles are able to be re-sanded and recoated over the expected life of the floor.

2 HEALTH AND SAFETY

2.1 CUTTING OF TIMBER

Cutting of timber is to be done in a well-ventilated area and a suitable dust mask, eye protection, and ear protection must be worn. Note: Some fine wood dust can cause nasal cancer. Some species such as Spotted Gum are treated and therefore sawdust, shavings and offcuts should not be disposed of by burning. Check local Council By-Laws for disposal of treated wood.

3 SITE PREPARATION

3.1 SUBFLOOR FRAMING AND EXISTING WOOD SUBFLOORS

3.1.1 NEW ZEALAND STANDARD 3604

Generally, the timber sub framing, where used, must comply with NZS 3604 (2011) (Timber-framed buildings), however, where specific engineering design is required the framing shall be at least of equivalent stiffness as the framing provisions of NZS 3604 (2011).

3.1.2 TIMBER JOISTS

Joists must be spaced at a maximum of 400mm between centres. Joists must form a flat plane for boards to be fixed to.

3.1.3 EXISTING WOOD SUBFLOOR

Existing wood subfloors must be well fastened and structurally sound - Use screws every 150mm and replace damaged boards as necessary to eliminate all movement and squeaking. When adhesive fixing the wood subfloor must be rough sanded to provide a surface suitable for adhesive fixing.

3.1.4 MOISTURE CONTENT

The moisture content of the framing must not exceed 18% at the time of fixing the floor boards as problems may occur later due to excessive timber movement if framing is too wet.

3.2 CONCRETE SLAB SUBFLOORS

3.2.1 SUBFLOOR CONDITIONS

Subfloors must be:

CLEAN - Subfloors must be scraped clean and free of debris. Sweep and /or vacuum all debris from the subfloor. Debris on the subfloor may cause damage and uneven surfaces in the finished floor, poor fit between boards, and poor adhesive bond in glue-down installations.

FLAT - Subfloors must be flat.

Check the flatness using a straight edge, laser line or string line. Grind all high areas and fill all low areas. using a quality cementitious leveling compound with suitable tensile strength.

DRY - Check and record all moisture and temperature conditions prior to installation. Visually check the jobsite for potential moisture problems. Look for signs of water intrusion around window and doors. Check for mold or fungus on walls and all other areas. Water intrusion may necessitate structural repairs and/or create conditions unsuitable for flooring installation.

- Concrete subfloors must be fully cured, at least 60 days in accordance with the NZ building code and require a minimum 0.2mm thickness of polyethylene (polyfilm) between the concrete and ground. Check and record slab moisture by in-situ relative humidity testing using probes inserted in to holes drilled in to concrete. Test all areas where wood will be installed.
- Lightweight concrete can hold more moisture and may take longer to dry out to an acceptable moisture content. Therefore, they are only suitable for floating floor installations that also have a moisture vapor retarding barrier beneath or incorporated in to underlay. Gluing to lightweight

concrete (1920 kg/m³ density) is NOT WARRANTED. ITI NZ provides no guarantee that lightweight concrete or gypcrete will remain structurally sound during the life of a floor. If this is not adhered to and separation of the flooring from the subfloor caused by deterioration or fracturing of the substrate was to occur, then it will not be considered a failure of the flooring product or the ITI NZ system.

NOTE These tests give a snapshot of moisture conditions at the time of the test, but do not reflect the permanent year-round condition of the concrete. If Gluing Down on concrete that is on or below grade, it is highly recommended to use a concrete sealer approved by the manufacturer of the adhesive you have chosen, even if you believe the concrete is dry. ITI NZ is not responsible for site related moisture issues.

More stringent requirements regarding the dryness of the subfloor apply when installing over radiant heat. See below under 'Radiant Heat Systems' for details.

4 PRE-INSTALLATION

4.1 ON-SITE STORAGE AND HANDLING

Care must be taken to ensure that timber and accessories are kept clean and dry, and are not damaged whilst in storage awaiting application.

Extra care is to be taken while handling timber to ensure that it is not damaged, especially the fragile tongue and groove edges.

Timber is to be stacked on flat level bearers/dunnage that is a maximum of 900mm apart and at least 100mm off the ground. Timber must be stored inside an enclosed building and protected from moisture and adverse internal conditions.

4.2 DOCKING OUT IMPERFECTIONS

Before installing boards, check for any imperfections that may require docking out.

It is the installer's responsibility to inspect the flooring for the grade supplied, visible manufacturing imperfections, damage, or otherwise questionable appearance. Do not install damaged material. Installing a board constitutes acceptance of its appearance. After identifying a visible problem, do not open any additional packets or cartons. Contact your local retailer, distributor, or ITI NZ immediately.

4.3 PRIOR TO INSTALLATION

It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that all of the conditions outlined in section 2 to 4 are met prior to installation, and that all specific installation instructions below for the installation method you have chosen (Glue Down, Nail Down, Floating Floor plus or when applicable, Radiant Heat Systems) are followed carefully.

If installing over radiant heat, read the 'Radiant Heat Systems' section below before finalising product selection or beginning installation. Careful adherence to these guidelines is required for a successful and **warranted** floor. Certain wood species and board sizes are not warranted for installation over any type of radiant heat. ITI NZ does not offer a warranty on **any** flooring installed over electric radiant heat systems. Only hydronic (water) systems may be approved. In wood flooring installations over radiant heat, moderate surface checking, cracking (especially at the ends of boards and around knots), shrinkage, gapping between boards, and slight cupping are all to be expected and do not constitute a product defect.

NOTE When nailing down boards wider than 150mm, it is necessary to use a full spread adhesive in addition to nails in order to prevent movement and squeaking. Claims will not be accepted for movement or squeaking in floors wider than 150mm that were nailed down without a full spread adhesive. Nailing boards wider than 200mm wide without a full spread adhesive will void all warranties. (See below under 'Nail + Glue Installation Instructions' for details.)

4.4 ACCLIMATISATION

Ensure that the flooring has been properly acclimatised to the site conditions prior to installation. The flooring must be delivered to the jobsite and the packages opened and a minimum of 5 days prior to the start of the installation and exposed to the conditions that the floor will be subject to, once installed. Additional acclimatisation time may be required in dry climate areas, or where internal heating or a climate controlled environment will differ from the outside ambient conditions. Additional special requirements apply when installing over radiant heat. See below under 'Radiant Heat Systems' for details.

4.5 PREPARING THE PERIMETER AND EXPANSION ALLOWANCE WITHIN THE FLOOR

Undercut door trim, jambs and casings to the thickness of the flooring plus any adhesives or underlayment you plan to use. If fire doors are present no cutting by those, unapproved, is permitted.

All wood flooring expands and contracts with changes in humidity. It is essential to install the floor leaving adequate expansion space between ALL sides of the flooring and ALL vertical obstructions, including door trim, jambs, studs, plumbing, cabinets, etc. This space will be covered with base molding. Failure to provide adequate expansion space in any single location can cause damage to the entire floor.

Minimum expansion space around the perimeter is 10mm

4.6 LAYOUT OVER WOODEN SUBFLOORS

On wood subfloors, if the subfloor is fastened to joists or trusses, the flooring should be installed perpendicular or at a 45° angle to the joists/trusses. If possible, use an outside wall as the starting wall. Over radiant heat, always run the flooring perpendicular to the radiant tubing.

No continuous area of installed flooring should exceed 9m across the widths of the boards or 15m along the lengths of the boards. For spaces wider or longer than these dimensions, add expansion space midway through the span and cover with a T-molding or other transition piece.

4.7 GENERAL TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES RECOMMENDED (ALL INSTALLATION METHODS)

- Pencil
- Tape Measure
- Safety Glasses
- Utility Knife
- Moisture Meter
- Hammer
- Shim Wedges
- Tapping Block
- Rubber Mallet
- Carpenter square
- Pry-bar or pull-bar
- Wood Filler
- Scraper
- Dust Mask
- Rags
- Chalk Box & Chalk
- Recommended Saws: power mitre saw, table saw, jamb saw

If tape is needed (we recommend avoiding its use if possible), use only 3M Advanced Delicate Surfaces 2080EL Tape, and be sure to remove any tape within 20 minutes of application. Never tape protective covering directly to the floor – only tape it to itself.

Following pre-installation, continue with the installation using the instructions for the type(s) of installation you have chosen (Nail Down, Nail + Glue, Glue Down, Floating Floor, and Radiant Heat Systems).

4.8 FINISHING

The use of acrylic urethane is not recommended, especially on dark coloured woods (eg. Kwila & Jarrah).

Do Not sand the floor until all work over the floor has been done.

5 GENERAL INSTALLATION CONDITIONS

APPLIES TO ALL INSTALLATION METHODS

5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

To help minimize moisture-related expansion and contraction, verify the following conditions prior to installation:

- All exterior walls, windows, and doors must be in place and the building envelope closed during acclimatisation and installation.
- All wet work such as painting, drywall, masonry, and concrete must be completed and dry.
- Basements and crawl spaces must be dry and well ventilated. Crawl spaces must be a minimum of 450mm high from the ground to the bottom of the joist. The soil beneath bearer and joist subfloor framing in crawl spaces should be covered with a 0.2mm black polyethylene builder's plastic to reduce moisture evaporation from the soil on the floor above. Seams should overlap 300mm and be sealed with waterproof tape. Perimeter crawl space cross ventilation should equal 1.5% of the house footprint area. Vents must remain clear year-round.
- Exterior grading should be complete and drainage should move water away from the building structure with a minimum incline of 2°.
- Permanent HVAC should be on and operational and maintained between 15-25°C for a minimum of 7 days prior to delivery, as well as during and after installation of the flooring. Humidity levels below 35% or above 55% may cause movement in the flooring, gapping between pieces, cupping, cracking and other problems.

6 INSTALLATION

6.1 NAIL DOWN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

IMPORTANT This method applies only to boards up to 180mm wide. If nailing down boards wider than 180mm, follow the 'Nail + Glue Installation Instructions' below.

ITI NZ Engineered Wood Flooring can be nailed to plywood, OSB and existing wood flooring meeting the requirements outlined above under 'Subfloor Conditions.'

6.1.1 TOOLS

For nail down Installations, you will need the general tools and accessories, plus:

- Nail set
- Tack Stapler or 25mm roofing nails (for felt)
- 6-d Finish Nails or Pneumatic Finish Nailer
- Edge or Blind Stapler/Nailer (Manual or Pneumatic) with 35-50 mm Fasteners for flooring 14-15 mm thick.
- 7kg roofing felt, #15 hardwood floor underlayment felt, or Aqua Bar underlayment paper

6.1.2 NAILING DOWN THE FLOOR

- 1 After installing felt or moisture or vapour barrier system in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, measure out from the starting wall the width of one flooring board plus the appropriate expansion space for that thickness of flooring. Mark two points toward each end of the starting wall and snap a chalk line along the full length of the wall through the marks.
- 2 Lay the tongue side of the first row of flooring along the chalk line. Face nail (top nail) the first row of flooring in place. Place the fasteners approximately 15mm from the wall side (groove side) of the flooring board every 150mm. Continue the first row installation blind/edge nailing every 150mm along the tongue and every 50mm from every end joint. Note: Blind/edge nailing of the first row may require the installer to use 6-d (50mm long) finish nails or the pneumatic finish nail gun along the tongue.
- 3 Continue the installation across the room, blind/edge nailing every 150mm and 50mm from each end joint. Stagger end joints by at least 200mm. Avoid creating "H" patterns (where an end joint is adjacent to another end joint in the second to last row installed). Use cut ends to start the subsequent row, discarding any pieces shorter than 200mm.
- 4 Trim the last row of flooring to maintain the minimum expansion space at the far wall.
- 5 At the far (finish) wall, it may be necessary to face-nail the last 2-3 rows due to the angle of the stapler/nailer. The last row or two of flooring may need to be pulled together using a pulling bar.
- 6 Sand & Finish. Fill all visible nail holes with an appropriate sandable filler, and sand the entire floor smooth. Ensure all dust and debris is removed prior to coating being applied. Follow coating manufactured instructions for the correct application of the selected coating.
- 7 Avoid colour techniques that require the application of significant quantities of chemical solvents such as bleach or lye, which can soak into the floor and potentially cause delamination and other problems.
- 8 Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base mouldings or skirtings.

6.2 NAIL + GLUE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

This method is required when nailing down boards that are over 180mm wide, (but is recommended when nailing down all boards over 120mm wide).

ITI NZ Engineered Wood Flooring can be nailed + glued to plywood, OSB and existing wood flooring meeting the requirements outlined above under 'Subfloor Conditions.'

6.2.1 TOOLS:

For nail + glue Installations, you will need the general tools and accessories, **plus**:

- Premium Wood Flooring Adhesive: Selleys Direct Stick and VPS, Bostik GreenForce, BEST, or VapourLock, or Bona R851.
- Adhesive Remover recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive selected
- Adhesive Trowel recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive selected
- Nail set
- Tack Stapler or 25mm roofing nails (for felt)
- 6-d Finish Nails or Pneumatic Finish Nailer with 30-35 mm fastener
- Edge or Blind Stapler/Nailer (Manual or Pneumatic) with 35-50mm Fasteners for flooring 16-18 mm thick.

6.2.2 NAILING + GLUING THE FLOOR:

1. Measure out from the starting wall the width of one flooring board plus the appropriate expansion space for that thickness of flooring. Mark two points toward each end of the starting wall and snap a chalk line along the full length of the wall through the marks.
2. Trowel spread the adhesive on the subfloor along the chalk line wide enough to allow the first row of flooring to be installed, being careful not to cover the line. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for wet lay times before proceeding to the next step.
3. Lay the tongue side of the first row of flooring along the chalk line. Face nail (top nail) the first row of flooring in place. Place the fasteners approximately 15mm from the wall side (groove side) of the board every 150mm. Once the face nails are set, use 6-d (50mm long) finish nails or the pneumatic finish nailer to blind/edge nail along the tongue of the first row, every 150mm and every 50mm from every end joint. Check to make sure the first row is still straight along the chalk line before proceeding.
4. Trowel spread enough adhesive to install 2-3 more rows.

Install the second row by sliding the groove side on to the tongue of the first row. Blind/edge nail it in to place, with fasteners every 150mm and 50mm from each end joint. Stagger end joints by at least 200mm.

5. Continue nailing and gluing 2-3 rows at a time in this manner across the room. Avoid creating "H" patterns (where an end joint is adjacent to another end joint in the second to last row installed). Use cut ends to start the subsequent row, discarding any pieces shorter than 200mm.
6. Most adhesives require that the installer clean the adhesive off the flooring boards during the installation. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for this procedure.
7. Trim the last row of flooring to maintain the minimum expansion space at the far wall.
8. At the far (finish) wall, it may be necessary to face-nail the last 2-3 rows due to the angle of the stapler/nailer. The last row or two of flooring may need to be pulled together using a pulling bar.
9. Do not allow foot traffic on the floor for 24 hours after installation is complete.

10. Sand & Finish. Fill all visible nail holes with an appropriate sandable filler, and sand the entire floor smooth. Ensure all dust and debris is removed prior to coating being applied. Follow coating manufactured instructions for the correct application of the selected coating.
11. Avoid colour techniques that require the application of significant quantities of chemical solvents such as bleach or lye, which can soak into the floor and potentially cause delamination and other problems.
12. Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base mouldings.

6.3 GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

For all board widths.

ITI NZ Engineered Flooring can be glued down to concrete, plywood, OSB, underlayment grade particleboard, and existing wood floors meeting the requirements outlined above under General Conditions/Subfloor Conditions. ITI NZ Engineered Flooring can also be glued to other surfaces such as well-adhered sheet vinyl, vinyl tile, ceramic, etc., but ensure that the adhesive manufacturer includes these subfloor types and careful adherence to the adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions for that particular subfloor surface is crucial. It is the responsibility of the adhesive manufacturer to warrant the adhesive bond between the subfloor and the wood flooring.

6.3.1 TOOLS

For glue down Installations, you will need the general tools and accessories, plus:

- Premium Wood Flooring Adhesive: Selleys Direct Stick and VPS, Bostik GreenForce, BEST, or VapourLock, or Bona R851.
- Adhesive Remover recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive selected
- Adhesive Trowel recommended by the manufacturer of the adhesive selected
- Masking Tape: 3M Advanced Delicate Surfaces 2080EL Tape

6.3.2 GLUING DOWN THE FLOOR

1. Measure out from the starting wall the width of one flooring board plus the appropriate expansion space for that thickness of flooring. Mark two points toward each end of the starting wall and snap a chalk line along the full length of the wall through the marks. Install backer boards as guides along the wall side of the chalk line. Anchor the backer boards in place with screws or finish nails. Over concrete subfloors, anchor the backer boards with concrete screws or concrete nails. These boards will be removed later.
2. Lay the first row of flooring, but do not glue into place. Align the tongue side of the flooring boards against the backer board. Dry lay the next two rows of flooring in place, sliding the tongue into the groove. End joints should be staggered by at least 200mm. Pull the rows of flooring boards out away from the backer board approximately 600mm to allow for the glue to be spread.
3. Trowel spread the adhesive on the subfloor along the backer board wide enough to allow the first three rows of flooring to be installed. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for wet lay times before proceeding to the next step.
4. Install the first row of flooring, pressing the tongue to the backer board. Slide the tongue of the next row of flooring into the groove of the first row and continue until the first three rows are done.
5. If tape is needed to hold boards together, use ONLY 3M Advanced Delicate Surfaces 2080EL Tape, and be sure to remove any tape within 20 minutes of application.
6. Trowel spread adhesive and continue the installation across the room. Trim the last row of flooring to maintain the minimum expansion space at the far wall. Be careful not to move the installed

flooring out of position. Using knee-boards can help prevent movement. Some flooring boards may need to be tapped or pulled into place with a tapping block or pull bar.

7. Most adhesives require that the installer clean the adhesive off the flooring boards during the installation. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations for this procedure.
8. Once the room is finished, remove the backer boards at the starter row.
9. Dry lay the first row of flooring to replace the backer board. Trowel spread the adhesive on the back of the flooring boards (not on the subfloor) and install the flooring, sliding the groove onto the tongue of the already installed starter row. Doorways and other openings may require installation of the flooring the same way. Slide the flooring boards under the previously cut door trims and casings.
10. Do not allow foot traffic on the floor for 24 hours after installation is complete.
11. Sand & Finish. Fill all visible nail holes with an appropriate sandable filler, and sand the entire floor smooth. Ensure all dust and debris is removed prior to coating being applied. Follow coating manufactured instructions for the correct application of the selected coating.
12. Avoid colour techniques that require the application of significant quantities of chemical solvents such as bleach or lye, which can soak into the floor and potentially cause delamination and other problems.
13. Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base moldings.

6.4 FLOATING FLOOR INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

ITI NZ Engineered Wood Flooring can be installed as a floating floor system over almost all types of subfloors including Plywood, OSB, Existing Wood Floor, Vinyl, Vinyl Tile, and Ceramic Tile provided they are clean, flat, dry and structurally sound, meeting the requirements outlined above under 'Subfloor Conditions.' Note: ITI NZ Engineered Wood flooring boards must be at least 150mm wide to be installed as a floating floor system.

6.4.1 TOOLS

For floating floors, you will need the general tools and accessories, plus:

- Tongue and Groove Glue: Franklin Titebond III or Equivalent PVA adhesive
- Underlayment Pad: ~3mm thick Two-in-One pad (pad plus vapor barrier) or ~3mm thick pad with 6 mil polyfilm sheeting
- Masking Tape: 3M Advanced Delicate Surfaces 2080EL Tape

6.4.2 FLOATING THE FLOOR

1. If installing over underlayment pad plus a separate layer of polyfilm, install the polyfilm first, taping all seams with waterproof tape, and then install the pad. Roll out the first run of pad from wall to wall parallel to the starter wall. On the installed pad mark two points toward each end of the starting wall and chalk a line the full length of the wall through the marks. This is the starter line.
2. Lay the first row of flooring using only long boards. The first flooring board and the last flooring board in this row should be a minimum of 300mm long and cut to provide the appropriate expansion space on each end. Apply a 5mm continuous bead of T&G glue on the bottom side of the groove of each end joint. Align the tongue side of the starter row along the chalk line and engage the end joints together. Use shims along the long wall and at both ends of the row to keep the floor in place and maintain the right expansion space.
3. Lay the second and third row of flooring boards. End joints should be separated by a minimum of 200mm from the adjacent row. Spread a 5mm bead of T&G glue along the bottom side of the long groove and each end joint groove on the second row of flooring. Engage the groove side of the second row with the tongue of the starter row. Engage the end joints at the same time, aligning

them and cutting at the end of each row to allow for appropriate expansion space. Continue this procedure for the third row. These three rows must be aligned straight to ensure that the rest of the installation remains straight.

4. Continue using the same procedure. If boards do not easily engage together, use a tapping block or pull-bar. Use masking tape as needed to keep the boards together and rows straight. Remove all tape within 20 minutes of application. Use only the 3M Advanced Delicate Surfaces 2080EL Tape.
5. Avoid working on top of the installed flooring to prevent breakage of the glue joint.
6. Do not allow foot traffic on the floor for 24 hours after installation is complete.
7. Sand & Finish. Fill all visible nail holes with an appropriate sandable filler, and sand the entire floor smooth. Ensure all dust and debris is removed prior to coating being applied. Follow coating manufactured instructions for the correct application of the selected coating.
8. Avoid colour techniques that require the application of significant quantities of chemical solvents such as bleach or lye, which can soak into the floor and potentially cause delamination and other problems.
9. Complete the installation by reinstalling or installing new base moldings.

6.5 RADIANT HEAT SYSTEMS

NOTE: the following ITI NZ products are NOT WARRANTED in installations over radiant heat:

- All Hickory products, regardless of board dimensions
- All products with board widths greater than 150mm

The following products ARE WARRANTED for use over hydronic radiant heat as long as the following conditions below are met

- European Oak, White Oak, Red Oak, Ash or Walnut with boards not wider than 150mm

If the product you plan to install is not described above, please contact ITI NZ for clarification before finalising product selection.

In all installations over radiant heat, the warranty will be void if any of the following requirements and instructions are not adhered to:

- The radiant heat system must be hydronic (using warm water). ITI NZ Engineered Flooring is not warranted over electric radiant floor heat systems.
- The flooring must be installed running perpendicular to the radiant tubing.
- The floor must be installed over 7mm plywood cut into 300mm x 300mm squares to dissipate heat evenly.
- The heat system must be designed for wood flooring and have an outside temperature sensor and in-floor direct contact temperature sensors.
- The system controller must be designed for wood flooring and have a temperature control mechanism that will not allow the surface temperature of the subfloor to exceed 26°C.
- The radiant heat system must be on and operating at normal output a minimum of 14 days prior to the start of the installation.
- Wood flooring must be delivered to the jobsite and acclimatized to the installation environment a minimum of 7 days prior to the start of the installation.
- Temperature in the installation area must be controlled between 15°C and 25°C at all times.
- Maximum surface temperature of the wood flooring can never exceed 26°C.
- Excessive heat, rapid heating, and/or failure to maintain humidity levels between 35% and 55% may cause cracking, cupping and other forms of failure and will void the warranty.

NOTE in wood flooring installations over radiant heat, it is strongly recommended that the floor is installed by a qualified or ATFA endorsed flooring installer, as numerous issues may arise if the correct method is not used. Radiant underfloor heating systems will cause movement in timber and this needs to be carefully considered prior to installation.

Once these instructions and requirements are met, continue the installation by following the instructions for your specific installation method as outlined above.

7 CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. In order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final clean-up and turnover to the owner, use a breathable protective covering such as Ram Board or Buffalo Board. Do not use polyfilm or other non-breathing coverings as they can cause the floor to sweat and become damaged from humidity build-up. Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the covering to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. Tape pieces of protective covering together but do not tape them to the wood flooring.

Place walk-off mats at all entrances to help collect dirt and debris.

Install felt floor protectors underneath all furniture.

Do not allow people to wear spiked heels on the floor, which will damage even the hardest wood floors and finishes.

Pet claws should be properly trimmed at all times.

Work boots and shoes that may have pebbles lodged in the soles should be removed prior to entering.

Sweep or vacuum frequently noting that worn brushes can damage floors. Most damage to wood flooring is caused by debris that is walked on.

All mats or rugs should be cleaned on a regular basis. They should be avoided for the first few months and then be moved occasionally to allow natural colour changes caused by light to occur evenly in all areas.

Never wet-mop your floor, and always clean up spills and standing water as soon as possible. With water or any other cleaning agent, be sure to thoroughly ring out the applicator or mop prior to applying it to the floor. A damp mop is fine as long as the moisture is limited to an amount that will evaporate almost immediately. Moisture that is allowed to seep into the seams between the boards may cause damage to your flooring. Do not allow soiled mats or rugs to stay on the floor as they can trap moisture on the surface.

After finishing your floor, care for it in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the manufacturer of the coating you've chosen.

ITI NZ wants every customer to be happy and satisfied with their purchase. If there are claims or questions, or in the event that you are not totally satisfied with your hardwood floor, contact your local retailer first. If the retailer is unable to answer your questions you may contact ITI NZ in writing at the following address: technical@iti.net.nz

8 SITE CLEAN-UP

After completion, the installer is to leave the site in a clean and tidy manner, including:

1. Replacing or repairing any damaged or marked items; and
2. Removing all rubbish, debris and unused items from the building site.

Any treated and/or coated timber off-cuts or rubbish are to be disposed of in accordance with local council requirements.

CONTACT

AUCKLAND

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