



## **Preparation for Installation Procedures**

Solid wood floors are a natural product and are subject to a waste factor tolerance of at least 5%. Due to the nature of reclaimed wood, we recommend a waste factor of at least 8% for reclaimed flooring products. Remember to order extra material to allow for wastage accordingly.

The installer/owner assumes all responsibility for final inspection of product quality prior to installation.

Prior to installation the installer or owner must determine that the job site environment and the sub-surfaces involved meet or exceed all requirements. All flooring should be stored in the correct conditions prior to installing.

The owner has final responsibility to ensure purchase of the correct grade, species, manufacture and finish that is required.

The installer/owner should reasonably assess all wood flooring pieces from the packaging before installation. Always work from 3 to 4 bundles to achieve the appearance you require.

The aim of acclimatizing wood flooring is to allow the moisture content of the flooring boards to adjust to the normal expected day to day conditions expected within the occupied building. The moisture content of the flooring should be within 2-3% of any wooden subfloor. Normally solid wood flooring supplied from our warehouse will have moisture content less than 10%.

All wet work should be completed before installing a solid wood floor to prevent moisture transfer from surrounding walls, floors and ceilings.

The building should be fully enclosed with all doors and windows installed and in place. Heating or cooling should be operational. Generally, humidity should be in the range of 35-50% (change from 55 to 50 to match info in Site Survey) and room temperature between 15-25 degrees Celsius.

Flooring can remain in bundles on delivery, but any polyethylene wrapping should be removed in order to accommodate the acclimatization process. Opening the packaging and racking the flooring helps the process but is often not practical. The wood flooring should be stacked or distributed throughout the building so that it receives good air circulation, away from any standing or flowing water and off the floor, especially if it is concrete. Preferably it should not be stacked more than 2 to 3 bundles high or wide to increase air circulation. Do not store wood flooring next to radiators.

Pre-finished flooring should be left to acclimatize for 3-7 days while unfinished flooring will take longer. Of course it is advisable to take moisture readings for an accurate measurement.

A new job site needs to dry out before wood flooring is delivered. There is almost always excessive moisture on new construction sites and major refurbishment contracts. The wood will absorb the moisture and expand and may later contract after installation. De-humidification equipment is advised on new development projects.