## JS Woodcraft

### **WOOD FLOORS & ACCESSORIES**

### IMPORTANT FACTS TO NOTE WHEN BUYING EUROPEAN ENGINEERED OAK FLOORING

#### COLOUR VARIATION OF WOOD FLOORING

Wood is a natural material and will have variations from board to board and even within the board, not only in the visual features but also in the mineral density and fibre density.

This natural variation in the wood responds to the process reaction during any subsequent colouring process whereby the speed of the reactions (E.g. fuming reactivity) and/or stain absorption saturation point can give a rise to variation in hue and density of the observed colour. The result is a distribution or range of colours and tones around a central median colour.

Subtle variation between individual trees and different parts of the same tree can result in different ranges of colour hue and density and also a difference in the median colour of a board exposed to the same production process.

Any batch of flooring will in all probability be constituted from more than one tree. The full run of supplied flooring will not only have a wider distribution of colour hue and density than a limited selection shown in a sample panel, board or swatch, but may have multiple distributions of colour hue and density overlaid on a range of median colours.

Indeed, a sample panel, being a sample will not exhibit the extremes or full range of the variation in the colour. Examples of how this might appear could be:

Placing a board against the sample, the board may appear lighter, darker or have a different hue or density in colour. Two boards placed side by side could have a different median colour.

With a board, the colour may vary (E.g. in the vicinity of a knot)

This is the natural variation as expected from a natural material. The median colour of the sample will reside within the full colour range of the production batch.

#### INSTALLATION REOUIREMENTS

#### General

In order for your Engineered Flooring product to perform to standard expectations the following conditions must be in place: It is recommended that the engineered plank flooring should be installed by means of direct gluing to the sub floor. This product can be laid as a floating floor but this can result in some spring within the floor, reduce efficiency of under- floor heating performance and lead to the requirement of very large expansion gaps if the floor area is larger than 5 meters in width. Therefore it is expected that this flooring will be glued down when installed on under floor heating.

#### **Environmental Conditions**

All major building work including plastering, decorating and kitchen fitting must be completed prior to fitting the new flooring. The bundles of flooring should be stored in a protected dry place on site where the flooring is to be laid. The bundles should ideally be allowed to acclimatise to the room environment for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Each board should be carefully checked prior to installation, never install any damaged boards.

During installation the temperature of the subfloor should be at least 15°C During installation the ambient temperature of the room should be around 20°C During installation the relative humidity of the room should be between 45-65%, ideal is 55%. The subfloor should be clean, dry, absolutely flat and free from any cracks or movement. Irregularities on the subfloor should not exceed 3mm over 1 metre in any direction.

Subfloors should not exceed the following humidity levels:

Cement no more than 2%
Wooden no more than 10%
Anhydrite no more 0.5%

If the moisture reading is high on a cement based subfloor then you must apply a liquid DPM If you are using the floating method you must install a vapour barrier of at least 0.2mm thickness and to tape the joints.

In order for your product to perform adequately for years to come it is important that the relative humidity and temperature parameters detailed above are consistent within the property at all times. On some occasions properties with poor ventilation or very high levels of heating and insulation can have very low relative humidity levels, particularly during colder months. In this situation there is a risk of shrinkage and possibly even structural deficiencies within the product, therefore a rehumidifier would be recommended.

If you are laying the planks onto an existing floorboard subfloor then you must ensure that each of the existing floorboards are independently fixed securely to the joist below with no independent movement. If the floorboards have an uneven surface then correct levelling needs to be done prior to installation either by levelling the joists or for minor unevenness using a sheet material could be sufficient. If the engineered flooring is to be laid in the same orientation of the existing floorboards then sheet material must be fixed down first. Sheet material must be screwed down every 15cm in both directions.

An allowance of approximately 15mm around the perimeter of the room should be provided to accommodate any expansion, including under door frames, central heating pipes and connection with tiles. Bigger rooms will need bigger expansion gaps, please allow a further 2mm expansion gap for every 1 metre of floor width greater than 5 metres.

#### INSTALLATION REOUIREMENTS

For direct glue down installation flexible flooring adhesive must be used and the manufacturer's recommendations must be followed, never use a rigid or water based glue. A minimum of 30cm distance between one header joint and the other of the next row shall be applied when arranging the installation.

Any contractor fitting this engineered flooring should adhere to these guidelines, if there are any queries or concerns relating to these guidelines then please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### PROTECTION

We strongly advise your floor has the correct protection whilst being fitted, to prevent any damage to the finish. Do not stick any adhesive tape direct to the floor.

#### SUPPLY AND FIT

JS Woodcraft can recommend fitters, who are more than happy to visit the site to determine:

#### Site conditions

Quantity of material required \* Any specific fitting detail needed \* Any trims or accessories required \* How the floor will be fitted - floated or stuck down

Depending on when the site survey takes place the site may change between this time and when the installation takes place, therefore the above may change, meaning an additional invoice for materials may be issued if required.

Prior to installation it is the customer's responsibility to check the material is in accordance to their invoice, once installation is started this is deemed as your acceptance of the product provided.

#### HNDERFLOOR HEATING

JS Woodcraft strongly recommends that any floors with underfloor heating should be fitted with a Fidbox®. By using a Fidbox® [data logger] with a Bluetooth® enabled mobile device that communicates with the Fidbox® to alert the owner that the environment is outside of the manufacturer's requirements, which could compromise the warranty.

The Fidbox® is an electronic device [data logger] that offers a professional approach to determine the consistency of the environmental conditions where a wood floor is installed. This would include every type of wood construction, i.e., solid or engineered and over all types of subfloors including radiant heat.

This device will eliminate the claims that plague the wood floor industry with a proactive approach by letting the owner know that the floor needs attention, due to an inconsistent environment, before the floor experiences irreconcilable damage.

FidBox details



# Keep your floor •• its best by following these simple Care & Maintenance guidelines.

#### MAKE SURE YOU DO......

- It is important to allow the finish on your floor to fully cure; this can take up to 10 days
  after finishing. To achieve this we advise you do not wet the floor but simply sweep or
  vacuum (You will be given a 1st clean date, along with recomendation of cleaning &
  maintenance products suitable for your finish)
- Use a damp cloth to blot spills and spots as soon as they occur. Always avoid allowing liquids to stand on your floor.
- Sweep, dust or vacuum the floor regularly with the hard floor attachment (not the beater bar) to prevent accumulation of dirt or grit that can scratch or dull the floor finish
- Weekly wipe the floor with a damp mop or cloth, micro fibre cloths and mops give the best performance. Using the recommended cleaner for your floor.
- Use protective mats- good quality entry and exit mats will help collect dirt, sand, grit
  and other substances that can damage your floor. Do not use rubber or foam backed
  plastic mats as these may discolour your floor. To prevent slippage use an approved
  vinyl rug underlay mat.
- Use floor protectors on furniture- this will minimise indentations and scratches from heavy objects. As a rule the heavier the object, the wider the floor protector should be.
- Avoid sharp or pointed objects from scratching your floor.
- Watch your pets feet- keep your pets nails trimmed to keep them from scratching the floor.
- In order for your product to perform adequately for years to come it is important that the relative humidity and temperature parameters are between 45 65% are consistent within the property at all times. On some occasions properties with poor ventilation or very high levels of heating and insulation can have very low humidity levels, particularly during colder months. In this situation there is a risk of shrinkage and possible even structural deficiencies within the product. A hygrometer is an instrument used for measuring the moisture content in the atmosphere or Fid Box which is fitted under the floor and monitors environmental conditions. If these readings are out of the parameter a dehumidifier would be recommended.

#### MAKE SURE YOU DON'T

- Use abrasive or solvent based cleaners
- Use steel wall or scouring powder
- Wash, steam or wet mop the floor as this may cause swelling, warping, delaminating and joint separation
- Stick any adhesive tape direct to the floor.

#### An effective maintenance regime should consist of:

#### Dry Cleaning

Floors should be cleaned weekly using cleaning methods, such as vacuum, scissor mop or a soft broom. It is important to remove any abrasive particles of grit and dirt which may scratch the surface when trafficked under footwear, chair legs and other items moved across the floor.

#### Damp Cleaning

Using the **Spray Mop** is the easiest and most effective way of cleaning wood floors. Simply spray and wipe the floor clean. The Mop Pack includes **full cartridge** of Multipurpose cleaner for oiled or lacquered floors and a spare refill and 2 washable **microfibre pads**.

#### On going maintenance

Floors finished with traditional oils should be maintained by buffing in the relevant care oil, this can be applied using the **applicator mop** fit with the **applicator pad**. The frequency will depend upon the environment and how often the floor is used. Our maintenance kit comes complete with all your cleaning and maintenance needs.

#### WWW.JSWOODCRAFTFLOORING/MAINTENANCE-CLEANING

