

TIM-01

Manufacturing and Installation Guide

Manufacturing

TIM-01 Flooring Overview:

The TIM-01 flooring represents a long-term investment, with each timber board meticulously crafted from oak and multi-layered ply, engineered to last a lifetime. Our state-of-the-art production methods ensure unrivaled stability, creating boards that are unmatched in both strength and finish.

Standards and Specifications

- **Australian Standards Compliance:** All floors in the TIM-01 collection are manufactured in accordance with Australian standards, including dimensional tolerances of no more than 7% and a machining tolerance of 0.6mm.
- **Material Allowance:** It is recommended to allow approximately 10% extra material (15% for Herringbone or Chevron patterns) to account for waste and short pieces.
- **Short Boards:** 25% of boards will be short boards, with a minimum length of 600mm. For example, in a box containing 1900 x 190mm planks, there will be 8 pieces: 6 at 1900mm and 2 short boards (no shorter than 600mm).

Natural Characteristics

- **Wood Features:** Our natural wood flooring products exhibit all the expected characteristics of real wood, such as knots, tonal variation, veins, and surface cracks. Each plank is completed by hand, ensuring a unique identity and character for every batch. No pigments or artificial colors are used; instead, a natural process of oxidation from the oak's tannins develops a rich patina over time.
- **Knots and Variance:** Large open knots may come pre-filled depending on their width, depth, and location on the plank. As a distressed, natural product, variance in thickness and grooves is expected.

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- **Color Evolution:** The color of the wood will evolve with exposure to light, stabilizing within 6 to 24 months. Wood material naturally responds to environmental factors, expanding and contracting with changes in temperature and humidity. All of our engineered flooring is compatible with underfloor heating systems.

Delivery and Storage

- **Handling:** Handle all TIM-01 Solid European Oak Flooring with care and keep it in unopened packs until installation. Store the timber in dry conditions, away from direct sunlight and any water source.
- **Acclimatization:** Allow 3 to 14 days prior to installation for acclimatization by laying the packs flat in the room where they will be installed, allowing the material to adjust to the local conditions.

Prior to Installation

Preparation Steps

- **Natural Variations:** Timber is a natural product, so variations in color, grain, and knots are to be expected. Lay out your boards before installation to assess these natural variations across your floor plan.
- **Blending and Inspection:** Blend boards from all pallets delivered to ensure uniformity throughout the installation. The installer is responsible for inspecting the boards at the time of installation for any manufacturing imperfections that may affect the final result, such as issues with grade, board shape, machining, damage, coating imperfections, and moisture content. If there are concerns, do not proceed with installation and contact us immediately.

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Prior to Installation

Site Conditions

- **Environmental Conditions:** Ensure that the conditions inside the dwelling closely match those of the completed building. Use a temperature and humidity sensor to check the relative air humidity. Optimal conditions for installation are internal temperatures of 20°C and relative humidity between 40% and 60%.
- **Subfloor and Site Preparation:** Avoid laying timber in extreme weather conditions or when rain is expected. The site must be completely dry before proceeding, ideally at temperatures between 18°C and 20°C with humidity levels between 35% and 65%. Refer to the Australian Timber Flooring Association (AFTA) Engineered Flooring Industry Specifications Technical Publication for moisture content and humidity guidelines.

Subfloor Assessment

- **Moisture Test:** Use a concrete moisture meter and in-slab relative humidity test before installation. The critical moisture content for subfloors must be below 55% for concrete and between 10-12% for timber.
- **Compliance and Preparation:** All subfloors must meet relevant Australian construction standards. Any subfloor issues that could affect the flooring's performance or appearance must be addressed before installation. Ensure the subfloor is dry, clean, and level (maximum difference of 3mm in a 3000mm perimeter). For unevenness greater than 3mm, correct using leveling compounds, grinding, or other methods. Remove all contaminants from the surface that could impact adhesive effectiveness. Always apply a moisture barrier.

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Installation

Direct Stick Method

- **Adhesive Selection:** Use only Polyurethane (PU) based adhesives. Do not use water-based glues, as doing so will void your warranty. Always apply a proper moisture seal between the subfloor and the timber floor.
- **Starting Point and Adhesive Application:** Choose a starting wall for the installation and snap a chalk line to check that the wall is straight. Using a notched trowel, spread the adhesive along the starting wall, following the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for trowel type and technique.
- **First Row Installation:** Spread adhesive in sections as per the manufacturer's instructions, ensuring even coverage. Install the first row parallel to the wall, keeping it straight and tight. Use wedges to maintain an expansion gap. Apply glue to the inside edge of the groove in a continuous line of gluing the tongue and groove (T&G). Wipe away any excess adhesive immediately with a damp cloth.
- **Subsequent Rows and Adhesive Transfer:** For the next row, engage the side tongue and press it into the adhesive. Slide it into position, ensuring a tight fit, using a tapping block and hammer if needed. Ensure proper adhesive transfer by using a roller or stepping on the planks.
- **Weighting and Clean-up:** Avoid using a "brick-laying" pattern and instead use weights to hold the planks firmly on the subfloor while the adhesive bonds (approximately 24 hours). Once the adhesive sets, clean excess adhesive with mineral spirits or acetone. Test any cleaning products on a scrap plank to ensure compatibility.
- **Final Steps:** Remove wedges once the adhesive has dried. Fill any visible gaps with a filler that matches the timber color. Install skirting boards or scotia by nailing, screwing, or gluing them to the perimeter walls, but not directly to the installed floor.

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Post-Installation Considerations

- **Glue Residue and Protection:** Remove all glue residues immediately after installing each board. Use a suitable solvent, testing it first on an off-cut board. Protect the floor with 2mm foam underlay and 3-4mm MDF sheeting, securely taped together. Avoid plaster dust on the floor—vacuum any dust immediately.
- **Cleaning and Curing:** Mop the floor thoroughly and touch up any chips or splinters for a polished finish. Refer to the Care and Maintenance Guide for cleaning instructions. Do not wash the floor with water for 15 days after installation.
- **Temperature and Covering:** Avoid rapid changes in room temperature. Ideally, maintain temperatures between 15°C and 25°C and relative humidity between 35% and 65%. It's recommended to wait several months before covering large sections of the floor (e.g., with rugs) to allow the wood to adjust evenly to the light.

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Care and Maintenance Guidelines

Important notice:

Incorrect cleaning methods or products can cause permanent damage to your TIM-01 timber flooring. Never apply masking tape or other adhesives directly onto the floor's surface—removing them may strip or damage the protective coating.

Prohibited Cleaning Products:

Avoid using the following substances on your timber flooring:

- Ammonia-based cleaners
- Wax products or polishes
- Household detergents or bleach
- Abrasive soaps or scouring pads
- Steel wool or abrasive cloths
- Steam mops
- Turpentine, vinegar, methylated spirits, or kerosene

Ongoing Care & Maintenance

1. Doorway Mats

- Install quality mats both outside and inside all external doors. These trap dust and grit that would otherwise scratch the surface. Shake or vacuum mats regularly. Do not use rubber-backed mats, as they can stain the timber.

2. Dust and Debris Removal

- Use a soft-bristle broom or a vacuum with a felt or brush head. Check vacuum tools regularly to avoid exposed metal parts that may scratch the floor.

Care and Maintenance Guidelines

3. Furniture Protection

- Attach felt pads to the feet of all furniture. Always lift furniture when moving it—never drag. Use protective mats under chairs with castors.

4. Footwear

- Avoid wearing stiletto heels or any sharp, narrow footwear on the flooring to prevent dents and scratches.

5. High-Wear Zones

- Place rugs or runners in areas with heavy foot traffic, especially near kitchens and hallways. Again, avoid using rubber or latex-backed mats.

6. Mopping

- Clean the floor using a lightly damp (not wet) microfiber mop. Excess moisture can cause swelling and long-term damage.

7. Sunlight and UV Protection

- Timber floors are sensitive to direct sunlight, which can cause fading, gapping, and cupping. Use blinds, curtains, or UV window films to manage light exposure.

8. Even Aging

- Timber naturally darkens over time. Shift rugs and furniture periodically to allow the floor to age evenly.

9. Pet Care

- Keep pets' nails trimmed to avoid scratches or gouges in the surface.

10. Spill Response

- Clean spills immediately—especially acidic or oily liquids. Prolonged contact with moisture or hot oils may cause staining or surface damage

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Care and Maintenance Guidelines

11. Moisture Management

- Place trays or mats under indoor plants, pet bowls, and any area prone to water exposure. Prevent leaks and wipe dry immediately if spills occur.

12. Climate Control

- Maintain consistent indoor humidity between 40%–60%. Use a humidifier or dehumidifier as needed. Proper ventilation helps prevent damage from extreme temperature swings.

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Recommended Maintenance Programme

Daily

- Use an antistatic mop or soft-head vacuum cleaner to remove dirt, grit, and dust.
- Immediately wipe up any spills to prevent staining or moisture damage.
- Shake outdoor mats (both external and internal) to keep abrasive debris off the floor.

Weekly

- Vacuum or mop the floor using an antistatic mop and soft-bristle vacuum head.
- Lightly damp mop the floor using SAICOS Ecoline Wash Care—never use excess water.

Every 6 Months

- Perform the regular weekly clean.
- Apply a protective treatment using: – SAICOS Ecoline WaxCare for UV-oiled timber floors, or SAICOS Ecoline Refresher for UV-lacquered timber floors.
- If wear and tear is visible, apply a maintenance coat. Contact TIM-01 for product recommendations and guidance.

Annually

- Carry out your standard cleaning routine.
- Rejuvenate the floor's finish using the appropriate SAICOS product based on your coating type.
- If required, apply a full maintenance coat. For best results, consult TIM-01 for expert advice.

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Fifteen-Year Limited Structural Warranty

A 15-year limited structural residential warranty is provided with the purchase of TIM-01 Timber Flooring. This warranty is extended to the original purchaser and covers delaminating, expansion, or contraction, subject to the conditions outlined below.

Conditions of Warranty:

1. Timber should be inspected before installation. TIM-01 does not warrant timber deemed faulty or unsuitable.
2. Slight bows and twists in planks are not considered defects unless they prevent assembly.
3. Filling and patching of natural characteristics is not considered a defect.
4. The warranty is non-transferable and applies to the original purchaser with proof of purchase.
5. This warranty applies only to interior residential installations.
6. Natural characteristics such as knots, face checking, blemishes, and indentations are not defects.
7. Slight coating variations in gloss or sheen are considered normal.
8. Slight gapping and movement of planks due to seasonal changes are not structural defects.
9. This warranty does not cover installation practices that are inconsistent with TIM-01 Installation Guidelines.
10. Incidental damage during installation or life cycle is not covered.
11. Damage from moisture, improper heating/cooling systems, or accidental damage is not covered.
12. Flooring damaged by pets, heavy furniture, or stiletto heels is not covered.
13. TIM-01 is not liable for damage caused by improper storage, cleaning, or maintenance.

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Fifteen-Year Limited Structural Warranty

Warranty Exclusions:

This limited warranty does not cover:

- Installation outside of TIM-01 guidelines.
- Damage caused by improper cleaning products, accidents, pets, or environmental disasters.
- Color variation, natural knots, or checking (small cracks).
- Installation in wet areas, such as bathrooms or laundries.
- Any alterations or improper installations after purchase.
- Squeaks or noises not caused by the flooring itself.

For further information, please contact TIM-01.