

Solid Tongue & Groove Flooring over Joists

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This sheet is designed to assist Architects and Designers with Timber Flooring Specifications.

Flooring to [NZS3617](#), tongue and groove profile (unless detailed or selected otherwise) with species and grade to [NZS3602](#). Moisture content: 10-12% at laying. Refer to [NZS3602](#); table 4: allowable moisture content (%) at time of installation for different requirements.

Products

1. JSC Timber Solid T&G Flooring Timber (preferably “end matched”), kiln dried to a moisture content to match the proposed installation environment, plastic wrapped and stored flat and inside until installation.
2. Adhesive for flooring timber – *Selleys* Direct Stick OR *Bostik* Ultraset DX
3. Polyurethane (moisture cured/waterborne) OR an approved hardwax oil.

NB: When installing solid Kwila flooring a solvent based polyurethane must be used.

Installation

1. Start installation only when the building is fully enclosed, when all “wet “ trades have finished and when any heating or air-conditioning systems are operating.
2. Before installation, allow flooring to acclimatise (in fillet) to the environment for at least two weeks with any air conditioning or heating running. *Consult with your installer for more information.*
3. Check the moisture content of the timber flooring and ensure it is at the desired level for the installation environment.
4. Ensure the joists are clean and dry and level as per Branz 534 Specification of maximum 3mm over a 3 metre straight edge in any direction, with a maximum spacing of 450mm centres.
5. Subfloor preparation:
 - 5.1 If necessary, sand/plane the joists flat.
6. Install JSC Timber T&G flooring over joists using the double fixing system of *Selleys* Direct Stick OR *Bostik* Ultraset DX Adhesive and secret nailing with 50mm Primatek nails using a pneumatic flooring stapler/hit up gun. Apply the adhesive directly over the joists following manufacturer’s specifications. Stagger all end joints to avoid “clustering”. No plank should span less than two joists.
7. Leave expansion spaces of 6mm at walls and flooring transitions/junctions to be covered by trim and skirting boards. On floors over 4 metres, an allowance for lineal wide expansion should be considered, bearing in mind the specie and the micro-climate of the room.
8. Limit traffic over floor for 24 hours to allow adhesive to cure.

Finishing

1. Sanding and coating – The flooring should be sanded, any gaps trowel filled (if required) and then coated with 3-4 coats of either moisture cured or waterborne polyurethane. Finishing in a hardwax oil is also an option. Please refer to the manufacturer's specifications and spread rates.
2. Protection – After the final coat, restrict all traffic for 48 hours, then allow only light, clean traffic for 7-10 days to allow to fully harden. Once fully hardened it may be covered with corrugated cardboard to protect from trade damage (vacuum carefully first). Avoid covering within the first 7 days and avoid covering with plastic at any stage.

Important Notes:

Solar heat or internal heat build up can create heat in excess of 30-40°C which will buckle any floor. Areas near glass doors or walls of glass will be even hotter and must be protected by shade glass or some form of screening – either external or internal. In some cases sensory controlled ventilation is required, particularly if a residence is left unattended for a period. This is a prime reason for cupped and shrunken floors.

Unless JSC Timber "Wooden Flooring Hand-over Certificate" details are confirmed and the wooden flooring is fully conditioned/acclimatised to the actual ambient moisture conditions of the dwelling (as specified above) prior to fixing, JSC Timber cannot be held liable for subsequent shrinkage or expansion.

This information is designed as a guide and should be read in conjunction with the relevant manufacturer's product information and installation material and in consultation with your Installer.