



# **Product: Tongue & Groove Select Overlay Floor.**

## **Installation Instructions**



[www.stylebambooflooring.com](http://www.stylebambooflooring.com)

# Installation Guide

Please read this guide carefully to ensure the installation of your floor is to an appropriate standard. For compliance to our comprehensive warranty provisions these steps and important tips should be followed to ensure a satisfactory floor installation. If assistance is required please consult with your reseller or professional installer.

**For Warranty Compliance;**

**Sika Adhesive Systems must be used; this will include the Sika Moisture Barrier for all installations. Do not use combinations of adhesive systems. Other adhesive systems and methods are the Installers responsibility; warranty will be void if this occurs.**

**For optimum flooring installations a plywood substrate is recommended.**

**Prior to installation carefully examine the flooring for:**

- Grade.
- Colour and profile, note; all natural products will display colour variation and texture.
- Finish and quality.
- Straightness and warping.
- Ensure there is adequate lighting for a proper inspection.
- Any suspect or obvious out of grade products should be reported to your reseller immediately for assessment.

## **Pre-Installation**

- Flooring should be one of the last items installed for all commercial or domestic applications. It is expected that all plaster and painting work should be completed prior to installation.
- All work involving water eg. Plumbing in kitchen, laundry, and bathroom should be completed before bamboo flooring installation to avoid unnecessary spillage.
- Trade education on-site is required to alert other trades that the product being installed is pre-finished and care is required to avoid unnecessary damage to surface coatings etc.
- Do not store bamboo (loose boards) long term directly on concrete or near outside walls.
- Style bamboo flooring is not recommended for bathroom, laundry or wet areas.
- During installation, all bamboo cuts (sides or ends) must be sealed with sealing oil. Take special precautions and seal sides and ends near bathrooms and laundry doors, kitchen appliances windows and entries that could be subject to water ingress.
- Surface damage or water ingress during and after installation will not be covered by warranty.

## **For High Temperature and High Humidity regions including Coastal zones.**

- Special care should be taken to provide adequate acclimatisation of the flooring planks prior to installation. It is recommended that the planks should be removed from the packaging and stored in the area they are to be installed in. Industry practice suggests a minimum of approx. 5 days acclimatisation will be helpful.
- In these types of environments expansion and contraction is common and the planks need to achieve some form of balance prior to installation. Methods of installation that accommodate for these types of changes are recommended in the regions that may include, **North Queensland, Northern Territory and the coastal regions of Queensland and New South Wales.**
- **Note; housing locations situated on elevated sites with open sub-floor spaces require special precautions. In such locations, very dry winds or wind blown rain and fog can result in very extreme changes to the lower surface area of the floor. Extreme shrinkage or swelling may result. Protection to the underside of the floor is required.**

## Installation Requirements

Quality of your floor installation is dependent on quality and preparation of the sub-floor.

**Please read the following instructions carefully:**

### Acceptable sub-floor types:

- Plywood (9mm minimum on existing sub-floor)
- Existing wood floor
- Resilient tile
- Sub-floor grade T&G particleboard, 19 mm or thicker
- Plywood T&G 15 mm or thicker
- Concrete slab
- Ceramic tile

### Sub-Floor must be

- Structurally sound.
- Free of external water ingress from garden beds or sloping sites.
- Thoroughly swept or vacuumed to remove all debris. The sub-floor must be free of wax, grease, paint, sealer, old coating or adhesive, chemical sealants and any other substances.
- Level flat to 5mm per 3m radius.
- Sub-floor must be dry and remain dry year round.
- Moisture content of sub-floor must not exceed 4% for concrete. This can be tested with a commercial moisture meter. If moisture content is between 4% and 10% an approved primer and moisture barrier must be applied.
- For warranty compliance we require Sika® Primer MB and Sika® Adhesive Systems.

### Wood Sub-Floors

- Must be dry and well secured and checked for moisture content.
- Free from any contaminates and may require sanding to improve glue adhesion.
- Installing on wood covered sub-base. Bond with Sika® T55 and apply with 'V' notched adhesive trowel 1.25 x 600ml sausages per m2.
- Installing on wood covered sub-base upper floor and reduce noise to lower level. We recommend Sika® Acoubond (Acoustic Underlay). Bond with Sika®T53, 1 x 600ml sausages per m2 and apply with Sika® glue gun to each slot in underlay. **Apply weights to flooring until dry.**

### Ceramic/Resilient Tiles

- Must be well bonded to sub-floor, in good condition, clean and level.
- Free from any contaminates and may require sanding or grinding to improve glue adhesion.
- Bond with Sika® T55 and apply with 'V' notched adhesive trowel 1.25 x 600ml sausages per m2.

### Concrete

- Must be fully cured. Do not install on concrete unless you are sure it stays dry year round.
- All concrete must be checked for moisture content.
- Must be free from any contaminates and may require sanding or grinding to improve glue adhesion. (If water is used for grinding, check moisture content in slab)
- Bond with Sika® T55 and apply with 'V' notched adhesive trowel 1.25 x 600ml sausages per m2.
- Installing on upper floor and reduce noise to lower level. Lay Sika® Acoubond (Acoustic Underlay). Bond with Sika® T53 x 600ml sausage per m2 and apply with Sika® glue gun to each slot in underlay. **Apply weights to floor until dry.**

## Procedure for Laying Direct Stick Bamboo Flooring

1. Check sub-base for moisture
2. Check floor with straight edge and mark depressions and high spots. Rectify if necessary with "level Crete" or grinder. (Recheck moisture)
3. Clean floor of paint, plaster, cement splashes, dust, oil or grease etc. Sweep or vacuum.
4. Apply moisture barrier Sika® (MB) if moisture content is above 4% and ensure it is a continuous visible film. (Refer to Sika® specifications)
5. Open a box on delivery to confirm colour and type.
6. Confirm direction of floor to be laid.
  - Please note; after moisture barrier has been applied, wipe area first with a clean cloth before commencing installation. If badly soiled it is recommended to clean with Sika® Coma Cleaner. Etching of barrier may be required if the barrier has been down for a period of time.
7. **Installer must observe the following tips:**
  - Inspect each board for defects and grade for use.
  - Acclimatise boards if installation is in a high humidity region.
  - **Stack into colour range (light, medium, dark) for blending.**
  - Check tongue & groove, for excess coating.
  - Select the straightest boards for the first few runs of floor.  
Please note: when installing a pre-finished product be careful not to damage the boards. Keep work place clean and tidy, **wipe up excess glue immediately** and cover traffic areas to protect floor. Site education for other trades is required.
8. Run string line from room entry point or longest part of room.
9. Secure the first run of boards along the 'spine' with 3 anchor points of builders bog with a coating of Sika® T55 between. Leave expansion joint of at least 5mm between flooring, walls and vertical objects.
10. To glue doorways and close to walls – open T55 sausage and insert in Sika® 'technique' glue gun.
11. Spread T55 evenly with trowel at the rate of 1.25 x 600ml sausage per m<sup>2</sup>, more glue may be required in a hollow area to avoid drummy spots. Trowel at right angles to boards, this will help to highlight low areas in slab.
12. Spread one trowel width, as this equals three board widths.
13. Gently press the boards together ensuring that the glue is adhering evenly to the board. Check for low points and apply extra glue where required.
14. Chocking or clamping must be carried out within 1 hour of spreading glue at 30° or 2 hours at 20°C at 60% humidity.
15. Ensure that chock wedges are cut at roughly 15° degrees and that tongue and grooves are matched.
16. **Be careful not to over tension the floor when chocking.** The adhesive slowly gives due to its high viscosity. Apply maximum pressure gradually to close gap in first half of laid floor. Then back off a little to avoid over tension (over tension can cause boards to cup).
17. Only lay enough flooring that can be comfortably handled before glue goes off.
18. Once floor is clamped up, check that it is thoroughly glued down by tapping the laid section for drumming and carefully apply weights to spot until drumming ceases.
19. Whilst working, regularly clean the floor with a rag dipped in methylated spirits.
20. On completion install beading around walls. Ensuring that special care is taken around wall and door jams.
21. Gap floor and beading with Fuller's water based gapping compound and wipe clean with damp rag.
22. Give the floor a final clean. Clean with a damp mop with warm water and methylated spirits (approximately 20-40ml in 4.5 litres of water).
23. **As a general rule weights (drums of sand or water and boxes of bamboo) are used to press down the bamboo along the walls at the end of the day. Ensure that all the weights are placed on carpets or cardboard to avoid scratching.**

## How to Care For Your Bamboo Floor

- Vacuum or sweep floor regularly to prevent build-up of grit and dirt on the surface. Clean more frequently in high traffic areas.
- Remove spills promptly.
- Place mats at exterior/interior doors to trap sand and grit from incoming traffic.
- Use rugs on high traffic areas.
- Stick soft pads to the base of all furnishings in contact with the floor.
- When moving heavy furniture or appliances always pick them up rather than sliding across the floor.
- Keep pet's claws properly trimmed to avoid excess scratches and gouges.
- Clean with a damp mop with warm water and methylated spirits (approximately 20-40ml in 4.5 litres of water).
- To remove glue deposits use undiluted methylated spirits immediately. Notify your installer should you find any glue deposits on the surface.

## What not to do

- **Do not wet mop flooring. Too much water may cause it to swell or warp.**
- Do not let sand, dirt or grit build up.
- Avoid walking in narrow point or stiletto heel shoes.
- Do not use waxes, oil soap, or other house hold cleaners on the floor. The use of these products can dull today's floor finishes and make refurbishing difficult.
- Do not roll or slide heavy furniture or appliances across flooring.
- Do not clean the floor with scrubbing machinery or power scrubbers.

## Product Warranty

### Structural Warranty

1. Style Limited warrants the product in the original manufactured state from structural defects for **20 years in residential applications** and **10 years for use in commercial applications** from the date of purchase.
2. Style Limited will replace defective products only. This warranty excludes all other costs associated with installation of the product.

### Finish Wear Layer Warranty

1. Style Limited warrants to the original purchaser that the surface finish wear layer of aluminum oxide will not peel or separate from the flooring plank for **10 years residential use and 5 years in commercial use from the date of purchase.**
2. This warranty covers normal residential traffic, provided that all preventative maintenance and care operations are maintained.
3. Style Limited and the recommended adhesive companies will only warrant floating, glue down or direct stick installations with the recommended adhesive series.

### Warranty Exclusion

1. This warranty does not cover indentations, impact damage or scratches caused by sharp or heavy objects, grit, sand or other abrasive materials, stains arising from negligence, accidents or abuse, fire, excessive heat, water damage, erosion, infestation, normal wear, damages caused by pets, damage from spiked heel shoes, insufficient protection, misuse or improper alterations to the original manufacturers product.
2. Failure to follow all manufacturers' specific installation instructions voids this warranty.
3. Improper maintenance which includes the use of detergents, furniture dustings, sprays or other cleaning maintenance products voids this warranty.
4. Gloss reduction is not considered a finish defect. Defects to the finish must be readily visible and at least 10% of the product surface affected.

5. This warranty does not cover colour variations.
6. Gapping, cupping and crowning due to moisture ingress will not be warranted. Bamboo flooring will have a slight shrinkage and expansion under extreme atmospheric conditions.
7. This warranty does not cover fading due to sunlight.
8. This warranty does not cover damage as a result of spillage of water or any other liquid. It is recommended that spillages be cleaned immediately to preserve your floor.
9. Final inspection of product quality is the installer and/or the owner's responsibility. All flooring products should be inspected prior to installation. Careful examination should be made for colour, grade, finish and general quality before installing. If any material is not acceptable, immediately contact your supplier. Once the product has been installed it is deemed to have been accepted by the purchaser. This warranty does not cover installed material.
10. This warranty does not cover any incidental expenses such as labour costs, installation, transport, travel and any other cost associated with the installation of the product.
11. Installation is the responsibility of the client and is not covered under this warranty.
12. No warranty applies to any product that has not been paid in full.
13. This warranty will be void once the original finish has been altered or refinished.

### **Claim Procedures**

1. The original purchaser must notify Style Limited or their agents in writing within 30 days of discovering the problem – claims must be within the warranty coverage period – a copy of the original invoice and receipt is required.
2. Claims must include the description of the problem, a copy of the invoice to establish the date and cost and any additional information that can verify the claim.
3. Rectification by Style Limited or their representative solely is for pre-finished products available to the customer. No attempt shall be made by the customer to refinish, repair or replace any material prior to inspection for this will void the warranty.
4. Any claim is limited to the extent of the replacement of the floor on defective materials only. Any other incidental or additional expenses are not liable to Style Limited.