

# Installation Instructions

## Plantation Bamboo Forest Flooring

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### Pre Installation

To allow acclimatisation of the bamboo flooring, lay the boards flat in the room in which it is to be installed for at least 48 hours, in its sealed packaging or box, at a room temperature of 18°-21°C (40-65% air humidity).

Please note that the surface to which the flooring is to be applied must have a minimum temperature of 18°C. The flooring may be installed on any sub floor which is level, without cracks, dry, clean and stable.

Excessive humidity has a detrimental effect on the flooring. Maximum permitted humidity levels for sub floors are: sand cement 1.8%, chipboard 7-9%, anhydrite floors 0.3%.

#### Please note:

- Color differences, height differences, small cracks and marks in the surface and gaps between the boards are normal for this product
- You should always mix the components from different boxes
- Before installation, we advise you to inspect the flooring for moisture content, size, colour differences and damage. We cannot accept any complaints regarding this once the material has been installed or further processed
- Installation of the flooring should always be the final job in any building project, in order to avoid damaging the flooring surface
- Felt pads must be attached to furniture and chairs to avoid damage to the flooring surface
- To protect against dust, sand and grit, a walk-off mat should be placed before and after the entrance of the room

- As with any natural product, color changes (for example due to sunlight) can occur
- Ideal room conditions - room temperature approx. 18-21°C; Air humidity 40-65%
- During the winter months, room air can become very dry. To maintain a constant air humidity, ceramic humidifiers should be mounted on radiators (or heaters) and, for larger rooms, electric air humidifiers are required. In summer and autumn when air humidity is higher, ensure that the room is well ventilated. Where these conditions are not maintained, some warping, cracks, shrinkage or excessive movement may occur. Check the air humidity using a hygrometer.

### Gluing the flooring

This flooring type should be fully glued on the sub floor.

**PLEASE NOTE: This way of installation requires specialist materials and skills. Only a recognised contractor should be used for the installation.**

Acceptable sub-floors include: Plywood (10mm minimum); Existing wood floor; Sub-floor grade particle board and dry and sealed concrete slab. Bamboo Forest can be glued directly onto concrete if it is level, without cracks, dry, clean and stable. It is often advised to place a chipboard or plywood overlay to deal with possible problems with the sub floor.

Advised adhesive: a 2-component polyurethane adhesive or Plantation approved flooring adhesive (such as Sika T55).

For porous surfaces dispersion glues (with a low water content) or synthetic resin adhesive with low solvent content can be used.

## Gluing the flooring (Cont'd...)

Elastic adhesive systems like 1-component Polyurethane or silan type of adhesives only can be used, when:

- Shear strength  $T_s > 1.4 \text{ N/mm}^2$  (3 days balanced at 23 degrees Celsius / 50% Air Humidity)
- Shear elongation  $\gamma \geq 0.5$  (3 days balanced at 23 degrees Celsius/50% Air Humidity)

Please ask your glue supplier for more information.

Floating installation is possible, but in that case the maximum width of the floor is approx. 5 metres and the maximum length is approx. 12 metres. When installing the flooring, ensure to leave an expansion gap of at least 8mm between flooring, walls and vertical objects (around perimeter of the floor).

On completion, give the floor a clean with a damp mop with warm water and methylated spirits (approximately 20-40ml in 4.5 litres of water).

At the end of the day, weights (drums of sand or water and boxes of bamboo) should be used to press down the bamboo along the walls. Ensure that all the weights are placed on carpet or cardboard to avoid scratching.

## Floor heating

This floor type can be installed – under certain conditions – on warm water floor heating.

See “Plantation Bamboo Flooring - floor heating”.

## Finish

The surface of Plantation Bamboo Forest flooring is the bark/skin of the bamboo pole and is very hard and dense. The product comes with a light wax finish. To protect it (and especially to close the gaps at the bevel) a floor wax can be further applied after installation. It is recommended that any wax applied is first tested on a small section of the flooring and applied thinly.

## Maintenance and cleaning

Cleaning and care: The useful life of your bamboo Forest floor will be considerably increased with suitable cleaning and maintenance.

Vacuum (with brush down) or sweep regularly. Do not wet-mop the floor. A damp micro-fibre mop or similar is ideal for cleaning. However, only use very limited amounts of water.

Remove spills promptly - use undiluted methylated spirits to remove any stubborn stains (red wine, coffee, etc).

Do not roll or slide heavy furniture or appliances across your floor.

## Additional note

Whilst all due care is taken to ensure the accuracy of the installation instructions, individual circumstances (location, subfloor and installation procedures) may vary and are beyond the manufacturer's control. In case of doubt, therefore, consult your installer or distributor. These instructions are subject to change.



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