

FLOORING GUIDELINES - 15mm and 20mm ENGINEERED OAK FLOORING

General Site Conditions

The building to which the flooring is to be installed must have all external walls, doors, windows & ceilings installed. All wet work such as brickwork, plastering and plumbing must be complete. The heating system must be operating at the required 'normal' temperature, and must have been on for at least two weeks at this level prior to the installation of hardwood flooring. The room temperature must be between 17°C and 23°C and the ambient relative humidity must be 40% to 65% RH. The Moisture content of the wood flooring must be maintained between 7 – 12%.

Product Storage

The flooring should be placed in the room to be installed 48 hours prior to its installation. The packs should be left in their original packaging, and should be stacked in such a way that air can circulate around them. Avoid storing flooring next to sources of heat and or large glass windows/doors.

Subfloor

The subfloor must be level and conform to BS8204 Part 1. ($\pm 3\text{mm}$ over a 3m straight edge). If it is not within these tolerances it must be levelled prior to the installation of wood flooring. The subfloor must be dry and tested with the correct equipment and conform to BS8201. For Concrete, Sand/Cement sub floors the Moisture content must not be higher than 4% by volume or 65% RH. Wooden subfloors should not have moisture content higher than 12%. It is recommended in all cases for glue down installation that a liquid DPM is applied prior to installing the flooring.

Installation

This product is suitable for installation in the following methods: Floating/Nailed/Glued

Floating

Boards must be laid at 90° to any existing floorboards. PVA Adhesive must be used on all joints and always installed with a suitable underlay. The correct perimeter expansion gap should be 2mm to 3mm per linear metre width of room.

Nailed Down

Boards must be laid at 90° to Floorboards, Joists or Battens. Ensure that the battens are maximum 400mm centres. The correct expansion gap should be 1.5mm per linear metre width of room.

Glued Down

It is recommended that glue down installations are fully bonded. However, it is possible to use batten and acoustic mat systems. For ALL methods the correct expansion gap must be maintained. This must be at all points that the floor comes into contact with any fixed object i.e. pipes, kitchen units, fixed wardrobes, walls, patio doors etc. The correct perimeter expansion gap should be 1.5mm per linear metre width of room. The header joint spacing should be random, however the header joints should not be any closer than 250mm on adjoining rows.

Under Floor Heating Instructions

When installing flooring over under floor heating the following must be observed:

- Heating must be operating as normal and have been operated for at least 2 weeks prior to installation of flooring.
- Maximum permissible subfloor surface temperature must not exceed 27°C.
- Maximum output must not exceed 60W/m²
- Heating must be turned off 48 hrs prior to installation and remain off for 48 hrs after installation (during this period room temperature must be maintained with portable heat).

When under floor heating is turned back on the temperature must be increased by no more than 1°C per day until the normal operating temperature is reached (Maximum 27°C Subfloor temperature)



It is not unusual to see some gapping/cupping of boards due to the varying moisture levels. DO NOT COVER the floor with any rugs or mats as this will create 'hot spots' in the flooring.

Floorboards Grading System

These grades apply to the product ranges of: Chateau, Kolonial and Pelgrim.

Elegance:

- Dot-sized knots (practically knot-free)
- No Sapwood
- No pinholes, insects or planing mistakes
- Natural colour variations allowed
- Combed grain and different grain flow occasionally permitted

Superb:

- Small open filled knots with an approx. diameter of +/- 15 mm till 20 mm (+/- 0.59" till 0.79") allowed
- Closed healthy knots till +/- 25mm till 50 mm (+/- 0.98" till 1.97")
- No Sapwood
- No pinholes, insects or planing mistakes
- Natural colour variations allowed
- Combed grain and different grain flow occasionally permitted

Classic:

- Like A Style plus circular open filled knots with an approx. diameter up to +/- 40 mm (+/- 1.57")
- Cross-shaped filled knots up to approx. +/-90 mm (+/- 3.54") allowed
- Closed healthy knots
- In principal no sapwood allowed
- Combed grain and different grain flow occasionally permitted

Original:

- Mixture of Classic, Superb and Rustic and very alive wood styles

Our wood-styles are graded by hand after planing/machining. Despite constant quality controls one wood-style might contain 5 % of another wood-style. Furthermore we are not having any influence on the growth or annual rings that are having effects on swelling or shrinking of the wood. As there is no uniform EU-regulation for producing solid wood flooring our products differ in length, width and tolerances to standard products such as parquet.

Product Definitions

Oak By Design has 5 Product ranges and each of them has its unique design, cosmetics and treatment given by the wood-style, colour, and treatment and by the natural characteristics of oak

Product ranges are: Chateau, Kolonial, Harfa Vintage, Pelgrim and Soft-Tones

Chateau

The knots are filled with harmless ecological filler and sanded afterwards to achieve a smooth finish. The original Polyx Hardwax oil adds the finishing touch. Chateau is available in many colours, widths and high-quality styles. As Oak By Design provides original ranges with special surface identities to accept in the sanded products are colour variations, surface lines and irregular surface smoothness - these features make Chateau special.

We do not advice sanded products without bevel, if a customer opts for this, Oak By Design gives no guarantee for the tolerance in thickness and differences can occur after installation.

Kolonial

Kolonial series comes with a wire-brushed structure and therefore offers a harder surface. Feel free to combine modern design with our Superb or Elegance style. Of course the floors receive the original Polyx Hardwax oil surface to ensure a high-quality product, which is ready to install. 8 colours are available. The brushing in Kolonial has a standard tolerance. Because of this treatment in combination with the Polyx Hardwax oil and Top-coating the glossiness in Kolonial is more intensive compared to sanded products.



The knots are after brushing deeper in the board, which gives the brushed products a special optic.

Pelgrim

Pelgrim with its aged look has been one of Oak By Designs specialties and popular throughout Europe for over 15 years. With our special process steps the knots are filled and oiled to achieve a 100 years old look. Damages and aging features complete the old appearance. It is also available as herringbone or pattern floor. Pelgrim is an old made distressed floor that is special filled with ecological filler. The filler will sink after oxidative drying process, which will take 2-3 weeks. After this the filled knot will look like it was 100 years old.

Colour changing of the filler is not possible on the Pelgrim range. Due to the special treatment, the floor has an old style colour variation in "spots" and the surface is irregular, rough and smooth.