MOISTURE CONTENT AND BOARD SELECTION

- To achieve a long-lasting beautiful result, use quality boards & products. Board requirements & grade descriptions are included in AS 2796.
- Timber is a natural product. Its dimensions vary with changes in moisture in the surrounding environment. Flooring supplied to a moisture content to AS2796 should be suitable in most locations. Large windows & other heat sources can affect this.
- Only boards up to 85 mm cover can be secret nailed. Boards over 85 cover must be top nailed with two nails per joist.

STORAGE AND PREPARATION

- Protect the timber from moisture & damage during cartage and construction. Avoid exposing it to rain, dew, damp ground or slabs, or excessive sunlight. Ideally, store it inside where it is to be laid.
- Only install the floor in a fully weatherproofed building.
- Platform construction is never appropriate for feature strip floors.
- The sub-floor should be dry. Ensure ventilation to BCA requirements.
- Floor framing should be solid, level, true and preferably seasoned.

INSTALLATION

- Leave 10 mm expansion gaps at walls & at least the equivalent every 6m across wide floors.
- Lay boards in straight & parallel lines. Ensure all end joints are tightly closed and distributed evenly throughout the floor.
- Cramp boards tight, no more than 800mm wide at a time when top nailing.
- AS 1684 sets min. nail dimensions for fixing flooring. See Table 1.
- If boards tend to split when nailing, pre-drill to 80% of nail diameter.
- Keep the nail lines straight & punch at least 3mm below the surface.
- If glue is used, it must be additional to the correct nailing.
- Use only specialist elastomeric glues. Do not use hard setting glues.

FINISHING

- Deep scratch marks should not be present after sanding, but it’s unrealistic to expect a furniture quality finish.
- Select the coating system to suit the project. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions exactly.
- Don’t thin the finish unnecessarily.
- Only apply polyurethane or two part coatings to tight, well-laid floors at the correct moisture content. These coatings can glue boards together, causing ‘clumping’, ‘slabbing’ or other problems later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T &amp; G flooring to joists</th>
<th>T &amp; G flooring to plywood substrate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nailing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Flooring thickness</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand driven</td>
<td>19 or 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machine driven</td>
<td>12,19 or 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Alternative fasteners can be used for substrate types not listed subject to manufacturers’ recommendation.
MOISTURE CONTENT AND BOARD SELECTION

- To achieve a long-lasting beautiful result, use quality boards & products. Board requirements & grade descriptions are in AS 2796.
- 12 - 14 mm thick boards need to be regularly or continuously supported on a structural substrate. Boards fixed directly to joists need to be a min. of 19 mm thick to span 450 mm.
- Timber is a natural product. Its dimensions vary with changes in moisture in the surrounding environment. Flooring supplied to a moisture content to AS2796 should be suitable in most locations. Large windows & other heat sources can affect this.
- In nail only applications, only boards up to 85 mm cover can be secret nailed.

STORAGE AND PREPARATION

- Protect the timber from moisture & damage during cartage and construction, especially damp slabs.
- Only install the floor in a fully weatherproofed building on a solid, level and securely fastened substrate.
- Level uneven surfaces with a levelling compound. Skim sand existing board or sheet floors to provide a clean, flat gluing surface.
- The substrate must be dry, with a moisture content less than 5.5% for concrete slabs or 14% for wood substrates. Seal the slab or install a membrane if in doubt.
- Use compatible levelling, sealing and gluing products. Follow the manufacturer’s recommendations exactly.
- Overlay flooring is not recommended for heated slabs or wet areas.

INSTALLATION

- Leave 10 mm expansion gaps at walls & at least the equivalent of every 6m across wide floors.
- Use only specialist elastomeric glues. Do not use hard setting glues. Apply the glue evenly at the recommended rates.
- Lay boards in straight & parallel lines. Ensure all joints are tightly closed and distributed evenly throughout the floor.
- If laying over an existing strip floor, new boards should be laid at right angles to existing ones.
- Position boards carefully so glue is not squeezed up between them.
- Cramp boards tight. If using glue, secret nail to timber substrates. For concrete substrates, use glue and restrain as needed with removable concrete nails until the glue cures.
- AS 1684 sets min. nail dimensions for nail only applications. See Table 1 on the previous page.

FINISHING

- Deep scratch marks should not be present after sanding, but it’s unrealistic to expect a furniture quality finish.
- Select the coating system to suit the project. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions exactly.
- Don’t thin the finish unnecessarily.
- Only apply polyurethane or two part coatings to tight, well-laid floors at the correct moisture content. These coatings can glue boards together, causing ‘clumping’, ‘slabbing’ or other problems later.