

Bamboo Fusion

SoLeed, (Tongue & Groove, Solid)

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

IMPORTANT:

Read the following instructions in their entirety before opening any packaging or starting the installation.

- It is considered the sole responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the jobsite's sub floor and environmental conditions are suitable for the installation of SoLeed and accessories.
- Check all boards fully before installation for visual or structural defects. Any defects in the products should be notified in writing to the point of purchase retailer of the flooring before installation.
- The manufacturer cannot be held responsible for site conditions

COLOUR VARIATION

Bamboo is a natural material and variations in colour and tone are to be expected. For the optimum finish, mix different colours and tones to create a blended and natural looking floor.

ACCLIMATION

- SoLeed must be moisture acclimated as with conventional hardwood flooring (moisture and temperature) for a minimum of 72 hours according to internal relative humidity levels prior to installation, (see below table).

Relative Humidity	35%	40%	45%	50%	55%
Acclimation Time	96 hrs	72 hrs	72 hrs	72 hrs	96 hrs

- Temperature and humidity of installation area should be consistent with normal, year-round living conditions for at least a week before installation of SoLeed flooring. Room temperature of 65-75°F (20-24°C) and a humidity range of 35-55% are recommended and this will need to be maintained at all times to ensure a successful installation. If the RH is not within these parameters, a humidifier / dehumidifier can be used to reach required levels.
- Store the flooring in the installation area with all the boxes open and internal plastic wrap cut. Do not store the cartons directly on concrete or against walls. When installing SoLeed, use planks from 2-3 cartons at a time to ensure a good blend of colour.
- **Warning:** Installing SoLeed in temperature / humidity conditions outside of recommended ranges may result in the floor expanding / contracting which may in turn cause warping / cupping in wet / hot conditions or splitting / cracking in dry / cold conditions.

Any sharp increases / decreases in temperature or RH can affect the stability of your product. To ensure a successful installation, please ensure temperature and humidity levels are controlled within the optimum installation conditions at all times.

- **HEATING SEASON-LOW HUMIDITY, DRY, (Drying of Floor)** All heating methods create dry, low humidity conditions. Humidifiers are recommended to prevent shrinkage or gapping in strand woven bamboo floors due to seasonal periods of low humidity outside of recommended parameters. In this environment the product may contract more than expand which is exaggerated the larger the area covered.
- **NON-HEATING SEASON AND COASTAL OR WATERFRONT AREAS - HIGH HUMIDITY, (Swelling of floor)** During the non heating season proper humidity levels should be maintained by using an air conditioner, dehumidifier or by turning on your heating system periodically during the summer months. In this environment the product may expand more than contract which is exaggerated the larger the area covered.
- **Note:** To increase reliability, moisture testing should be performed after the HVAC system has been in operation for a minimum of 14 days. Excess moisture on any flooring substrate which is not identified and corrected prior to installation will cause floor covering to fail. Warranties DO NOT cover products installed over improperly prepared subfloors, substrates or environmental related deficiencies.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

Site Conditions

- Flooring should be the last item installed for all commercial or domestic applications. All other trades must be completed before the flooring can be installed.
- Ensure site is thoroughly clean and all debris is removed.
- The subfloor must be flat (level to maximum variation of 4mm (3/16") over a 3m (10') radius) and structurally sound.
- All installations require the use of suitable moisture mitigation or moisture barrier systems dependent on installation method and subfloor - see below

For Wooden Subfloors

- Check moisture content of the wood subfloor using invasive wood moisture meter (Delmhorst RDM3 invasive moisture meter is recommended). **If moisture content is over 12%, the manufacturer recommends SoLeed should not be installed.**
- Check subfloor is level, if not level, sand down high spots and fill low spots with an underlayment patch.
- Check subfloor is dry year round has no mould, contaminants, and is well secured. Nail or screw every 15cm (5") along joists to avoid squeaking. Rectify if required.
- The manufacturer recommends 19mm (3/4") CBX plywood for 60cm (24") on center floors as a cleating substrate or a glue application, or 15mm (5/8") for 30cm (12") on center and 40cm (16") on center floors.

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- Cleat down floor installations require the use of a suitable vapour barrier to be installed directly on top of the substrate (a perm rating of greater than or equal to 0.7 should be used.) Ensure joints overlap by at least 200mm (8"), are taped securely with waterproof tape and are folded up all walls and vertical obstructions by 50mm (2").
- Glue down installation requires a moisture barrier underneath the wooden subfloor; speak to an industry professional regarding building parameters, requirements, suitability of your wooden subfloor and crawl space for your area.

For Concrete Subfloors

- Ensure concrete slab is fully cured and a minimum of 60 days old.
- Concrete density must be at a minimum of 3000 psi / 23 mpa.
- All uneven areas in the subfloor must be filled with cementitious leveling compound (refer to manufacturers instructions), and grinded to conform to minimum requirements of 4mm (3/16") deflection over a 3m (10') radius.
- Check moisture content of floor and wall concrete using a Tramex concrete moisture encounter meter 2004, Tramex CRH or Tramex CRM Expert.
- **If reading is above 4.5, the manufacturer recommends SoLead should not be installed.**
- If using a calcium chloride test, concrete must not exceed 3 lbs / 1,000 sq ft / 24 hrs.
- All glue down installations must have a moisture barrier in place. The manufacturer recommends that you only use a quality moisture barrier and adhesive system and recommends Sika MB, T-55 adhesive or Wakol PU 280 and MS 260 adhesive.
- The manufacturer DOES NOT RECOMMEND or WARRANT the use of a moisture retarder system; ONLY a moisture barrier system.

RADIANT HEATING

Radiant Heating (if applicable)

- SoLead can only be installed over hydronic radiant heating systems.
- The temperature of the floor must be controlled to a maximum of 25°C (77°F).
- The radiant heating system shall be in operating at recommended temperature for at least 7 days prior to installation and then returned to operation once installation is complete.
- As radiant heating systems create dry heat, it is essential that the ambient relative humidity in the installation environment be maintained between a range of 35-55% (a humidifier / dehumidifier may assist in maintaining humidity levels).

- Please follow radiant heating system manufacturer's instructions. The owner / installer is responsible for ensuring all the required environmental conditions are met before installation of SoLead.

CLEAT DOWN INSTALLATION

- The manufacturer recommends the Primattech Q-550 pneumatic tongue and groove gun combined with the 18 gauge, 1 1/4 inch cleat. The correct pressure may vary, but will work best at about 90 PSI. Bamboo is a natural material subject to various factors; installers should always conduct a pre-installation test to ensure the correct pressure and visual appearance before proceeding with the actual flooring work.
- Flooring should be square with the space and perpendicular to the joists. Leave a 12 to 15mm (1/2" to 5/8") expansion space from base plate or wall.
- Starter rows shall be held firmly in place by gluing or blind nailing. Once starter rows are secure, additional rows shall be cleated directly above the tongue at a 45-50 degree angle to the face.
- Ensure cleat head rests cleanly in the 'nail' pocket. Cleats shall be placed no closer than 3 inches from the ends of each plank and placed at 6-8 inch intervals.
- **For best results it is recommended by the manufacturer that stained colors be glued instead of cleating, as per instructions below.**

GLUE DOWN INSTALLATION

- Glue down installations must have a moisture barrier in place. The manufacturer recommends that you only use a quality moisture barrier and adhesive system and recommends Sika MB and T-55 adhesive or Wakol PU 280 and MS 260 adhesive. Follow adhesive manufacturer's application requirements.
- Leave a 12 to 15mm (1/2" to 5/8") expansion space from base plate or wall. Starter rows shall be held firmly in place by wedging. Once starter rows are secure, install SoLead flooring per the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.
- Weigh down floor if necessary.
- Allow the completed floor to rest undisturbed. Do not allow foot traffic or heavy furniture on floor for minimum of 24 hours before removing the webdges.
- **For commercial applications, Tongue & Groove (Natural Collection & Antique only) must be glued to the substrate. Any other installation methods must be approved by the manufacturer to ensure warranty applies.**

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INSTALLATION TIPS

- Allow for extra clearance underneath doorways and cupboards. Check that doors can be opened later with increased height levels after installing the floor with a clearance of 8mm (3/16").
- Install from a minimum of 3 boxes and blend different shades together for a natural finish.
- Ensure starting line is straight and fixed.
- Stagger end joints of boards from row to row at a minimum of 250mm (10"), to strengthen the entire floor and create a random pattern finish.
- Do not fix, install cabinets or walls on top of the installed floor.
- Fix baseboards over the moisture barrier. Never fix baseboards to the floor itself, but allow the floor to expand and contract underneath the baseboard.
- Because the humidity of a room can vary due to differences between the seasons, the floor must be able to expand and contract in all directions. To facilitate this, an expansion and contraction allowance of 12 to 15mm (1/2" to 5/8") should be provided at all walls and fixed vertical obstructions. I.e. Kitchen islands etc. It may be necessary to add a quarter round to conceal possible gapping.
- For commercial and higher traffic applications, it is recommended that the Natural Collection & Antique be used only.

FLOORS WIDER THAN 20ft (6m)

On floors wider than 20 ft (6m), to minimize expansion, more or less spacing may be required depending on geographical area (see Acclimation section), interior climate control and the time of year. In some areas, additional spacing may not be necessary. For more information contact your local flooring agent or representative.

POST INSTALLATION PRECAUTIONS

- Never steam mop or wet mop floor surface area EVER
- Protect floor from scratches arising from furniture and chair feet by means of felt or plastic protector pads.
- Avoid bringing dirt, water and sand from outside by use of a walkoff doormat
- Make sure there is a minimum humidity of 35-55% in the room, if necessary use a humidifier/dehumidifier.
- Keep nails trimmed on animals.
- Periodically rearrange rugs and furniture to allow even aging of the floor.

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- Periodically rearrange rugs and furniture to allow even aging of the floor
- Use area rugs in high traffic areas
- Never use wax, oil, soap or other household cleaners on your floor
- If you decide to cover the floor, (to allow other construction trades to continue working), use rosin paper to cover the floors and only use 3M blue tape (low tack) to hold the paper to the floor. Do not use plastic films or other non-breathing type coverings as this can cause the floor to become damaged from humidity build ups.
- Due to the unforeseen happening it is suggested that the owner keeps a spare carton of floor sealed and dry in a storage area.

MAINTENANCE

- Vacuum or sweep to remove dust and dirt prior to cleaning
- Use hardwood floor cleaner and maintenance products to keep flooring clean
- Any mirror scratches or damage can be repaired using a natural almond stick or orange oil.

PRODUCT WARRANTY

- The manufacturer offers a Lifetime Limited Structural Warranty (25 Yrs) on residential and commercial application from the date of purchase.
- The manufacturer offers a 25 Year Residential Limited Wear Warranty and a 5 Year Commercial Limited Wear Warranty from date of purchase.
- The manufacturer will replace defective products only. This warranty excludes all other costs associated with installation of product.
- Flooring warranties DO NOT cover materials with visible defects once they are installed.
- This warranty applies only if SoLeed flooring has been installed according to specific manufacturer's installation guidelines. Any deviations from the guidelines (particularly with regards to subfloor preparation and moisture barrier) will result in a claim being rejected.

For full warranty details including exclusions and claims procedures, please refer to your reseller.

For any revisions, please check at www.danskhardwood.com