

# **FITTING METHODS**

## **NAILING**

This is the old traditional method of installing wooden flooring. The floor is nailed to a timber substructure, through the tongue, every 200-300mm. The sub-floor would be made up of existing T&G flooring or fitted battens at 200-300mm centers or sheeting usually plywood or smart ply. If the fitter is battening a concrete floor the battens would run in the opposite direction to the Canada floor. The Floor is then nailed onto the sub floor using a tool called a Porta-Nailer. It is sometimes called a secret nailer because when the floor is finished you cannot see the nails. This tool nails the floor through the tongue into the timber sub floor

As is the case with all installation methods the starting row must be very straight. The best practice to ensure this is to measure out 3 floor board widths from the starting wall, fix a batten to the sub-floor using strong fixings, this then becomes your base to fit against. When you have finished the main part of the floor, lift the batten and back fill the three boards.

If the room is rectangular always fit the Canada floor along either of the longest walls. Also, joints must be staggered

### **Key points**

1. Every Canada Floor should be “Racked” before fitting. This means selecting boards from each box to ensure a good grade and colour mix through the floor.
2. 1000 gauge plastic should be used over concrete.
3. Boards are fixed through the tongue every 200-300mm.
4. This method is suitable for domestic and commercial installation

## **GLUE FLOAT**

This method involves laying Tuplex underlay over the existing sub-floor and gluing the Canadia floor together and “floating” it over the Tuplex. The glue is applied in the groove part of each piece of the flooring

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If the room is rectangular always fit the Canadia Floor along either of the longest walls.

Also, joints must be staggered

### **Key points**

1. The sub-floor must be level and dry.
2. The Canadia floor must be glued on all 4 sides with Canadia PVA Glue
3. The maximum room width allowed when floating **Solid Flooring** is 7 meters
4. This method is suitable predominately for domestic installation

## **STICK DOWN**

This method involves using Canadia's Floor Service parquet glue. The Floor Service parquet adhesive sticks the wood directly to the concrete sub floor

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If the room is rectangular always fit the Canadia Floor along either of the longest walls.

Also, joints must be staggered

### **Key points**

1. The concrete sub floor must have a moisture content of less than 3% to allow the glue to gain adhesion
2. The glue has an open time of 5-10 minutes. This means when the glue is applied onto the concrete, the floor must be placed within 5-10 minutes

Best practice is to apply the glue one row at a time (as if building a wall). Please see opposite.

# **EXPANSION**

## **General**

All wood expands and contracts in response to Relative Humidity and moisture. What this means in terms of flooring is the installer must allow the space for the floor to expand and contract in normal conditions.

Canadia flooring is kiln dried to approximately 10% when imported. When fitted in areas up to 7 meters wide a perimeter expansion gap of 15mm will allow the floor to breath. In the case of a room width wider than 7 meters additional expansion must provided for in the form of washer gaps within the floor.

It is recommended that Mako door profiles are used between every room to allow the 15mm expansion to be maintained.

## **Moisture/Site inspection**

**NB The moisture inspection is very important especially with new build and houses 30 years or older.**

In the case of a concrete sub-floor a Canadia floor should not be installed on a floor with more than 3.5% moisture content. (3% if using Floor Service parquet glue). If nailing to an existing T&G sub floor the moisture level must be below 12%.

If the moisture levels are higher than above, the conditions are not normal and the Canadia floor **should not be fitted**

**NB It is the responsibility of the installer to inspect the site.**

# WOOD HARDNESS

**Q. What are the hardest wood species?**

**A. See the Janka scale below.**

**The Janka rating is determined by the number of pounds of pressure required, to press a stainless steel ball, with a diameter of .444 inches, halfway into the side of a board.**

3680 Brazilian Walnut (Ipe)  
3540 Brazilian Teak (Cumaru)  
3220 Ebony  
2820 Brazilian Cherry (Jatoba)  
2200 Mahogany  
2200 Santos Mahogany  
2170 Asian Rosewood  
1925 Merbau  
1910 Jarrah  
1860 Purpleheart  
1820 Hickory  
1710 Kempas  
1630 Wenge  
1500 Brazilian Maple  
**1450 Hard maple**  
**1360 White Oak**  
**1320 White Ash**  
1300 American Beech  
**1290 Red Oak (Northern)**  
**1260 Yellow Birch**  
1260 Red Oak  
**1010 North American Walnut**  
**1010 Black Walnut**  
1000 Teak  
**950 North American Cherry**  
950 Black Cherry  
660 Douglas Fir  
420 White Pine  
350 Western Red Cedar  
100 Balsa