

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS – FIDDLEBACK AUSTRALIAN TIMBER PARQUETRY DIRECT FIX ONLY FOR ALL PARQUETRY PATTERNS

For Fiddleback Australian Timber Parquetry we provide guidelines that must be followed to ensure a quality install. Important considerations are noted for **Direct Fix installations**.

We encourage the use of professional contractors to ensure the flooring is correctly installed. The installation contractor must have experience in pattern set out to undertake parquetry installations. Parquetry installations are an experienced trade skill and unless you are a highly competent DIY or trade person it may become a complicated process. Numerous generic 'how to install' parquetry videos are available and provide sound visuals cues for parquetry pattern set out & installation. Parquetry installations cannot be installed by a floating method of installation.

All direct fix slab installations require an appropriate Moisture Barrier (MB) system with a compatible wood floor elastomeric adhesive (same brand for both) is required to support warranty provisions. For all types of installation substrate flatness is critical; sub-floor should not exceed 3mm over a 3m radius in all directions. Any hollows or humps need to be assessed and rectified prior to installation. Please follow manufacturer's guidelines for leveling compound application and drying times.

Before proceeding site conditions need to be inspected by the installer prior to commencing. Site specific circumstances such proximity to water, river systems and coastal regions along with other climatic extremes will require more complex installations methods and maintenance. Under floor inspections must be conducted before installation whenever possible. Ensure installers are wearing appropriate personal protective equipment and the site is well ventilated and protected from excessive heat, direct sunlight, or moisture ingress. Use temporary window coverings if nothing exists. Do not install during temperature extremes, always follow adhesive manufacturers guidelines.

Note: Fiddleback Australian Timber Parquetry cannot be installed over any form of sub-floor heating. This includes in-slab hydronic heating and any other form of heating blankets or in-screed sub-floor heating. Evaporative Cooling systems must be operated as per system guidelines to avoid a build-up of internal humidity & moisture. Ventilation flows are critical, prolonged moisture exposure will damage the surface of the planks.

PRE-INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS ALL METHODS

Importantly, a professional contractor should perform the installation. The installation process and method selected is solely the responsibility of the contractor and you must be satisfied that the contractor is qualified to conduct your site installation. Should you have any concerns make immediate contact with the retailer.

- At site, please store the product in original cartons placed on a flat, dry area away from any extreme temperatures or moisture.
- 2. Carefully inspect the parquetry prior to install to detect any imperfections, do not install pieces that contain defects.
 - FAULTY PARQUETRY SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED and will not be covered by warranty. Should a significant number of product faults be detected during installation, stop work, and immediately contact the point of purchase. Parquetry installations may require up to 20% waste factor depending on room lay outs for length cutting, pattern alignment and visual selection.
- 3. The site area must be clean and free of any contaminates, dust, or other construction / painting activity whilst the installation is in progress. Make sure you have the necessary floor covering protection material available if further construction is occurring after the floor installation. Do not use adhesive tape directly on the surface of the planks when overlaying the protective material.

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DIRECT ADHESIVE FIX INSTALLATION FULL TROWEL SPREAD OPTIMUM METHOD OF INSTALLATION FOR ALL PARQUETRY PATTERNS

As indicated, a professional contractor should perform the installation. The installation process and parquetry pattern selected is solely the responsibility of the contractor and you must be satisfied that the contractor is qualified to conduct your site installation. Installation method and workmanship is not covered by our product warranty.

An optimum install requires full trowel adhesive using a minimum 4mm square notched trowel. A recognised wood flooring elastomeric adhesive & moisture barrier such as Sika, Mapei or similar system is recommended, (same brand for both items). Refer, Pictures 1 & 2. The parquetry should be weighted to assist with high bond outcomes, avoid foot traffic during the adhesive curing time. Note: Bead Gluing is not considered full contact bonding and is not covered by our warranty. For slab installs, 3 in 1 or 4 in1 adhesives with 'claimed' moisture barrier attributes must be applied with a compatible moisture barrier to comply with our warranty. No warranty applies without proof of application for a moisture barrier on the concrete slab. Keep photographic & hard copy files to support your workmanship methods and slab testing data. Do not install during temperature extremes, always follow adhesive manufacturers guidelines.

- 1. At site, please store the product in original cartons placed on a flat, dry area away from any extreme temperatures. If blinds or window coverings do not exist cover windows & large door openings 24 hours prior to install, this will moderate the interior temperature and to block excessive direct sunlight.
- 2. The parquetry must be carefully inspected prior to install to detect any imperfections. Depending on the pattern of parquetry selected a dry run lay out & line drawing is recommended to assist with visual planning & waste minimisation.
- 3. FAULTY PARQUETRY SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED and will not be covered by warranty provisions. A waste factor of approximately 20 % could be required for cutting, sorting and visual selection. If excessive product faults are detected, please contact the point of purchase immediately for advice. If in doubt do not install.
- 4. Organise the necessary cleaning solutions and wipes to keep any adhesive or other substances away from the surface of the parquetry. Refer adhesive manufacturer's instruction. Paints and adhesives may prove difficult to remove when the installation is complete. Do not use masking tape on the coating as it may permanently damage the surface.
- 5. For wood-based substrate materials such as structural Plywood, P/Board or OSB they should be flat, dry <14% moisture content (MC) free of moisture ingress and secure. Concrete Slab must be dry approx. 2.5% MC prior to installation. Substrate flatness is critical; sub-floor should not exceed 3mm over a 3m radius in all directions. For concrete slabs, any hollows or humps must be levelled prior to installation. Please follow manufacturer's guidelines for leveling compound application and drying times. Do not install if levelling compound is not dry or if the slab has a history of moisture ingress.
- 6. All wood based sub-floor edges and surfaces must be lightly sanded to ensure flatness, particularly at the joins. Full surface area must be sanded to remove any foreign substances such as waxes or paint. This will aid the adhesion process.
- 7. For timber strip floors, the existing planks must be secure, flat, and dry <14% MC. Whenever possible inspect sub-floor bearer and joists and securely fix any damaged structural timber members. The strip floor will then need to be fully covered with Masonite, Plywood, P/Board or OSB before proceeding to achieve an optimum parquetry install.

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DIRECT ADHESIVE FIX INSTALLATION CONTINUED

- 8. Concrete Slab must be dry approx. 2.5% MC prior to installation. Slab must be fully sealed with a roll-on moisture barrier compatible with the adhesive brand being used (same brand for both is required). Substrate flatness is critical; sub-floor should not exceed 3mm over a 3m radius in all directions. For concrete slabs, any hollows or humps need to be rectified prior to installation. Follow guidelines for leveling compound application and drying times, do not install on wet levelling compound.
- **9.** Ensure humidity and temperature levels are comfortable. Avoid installation during excessive weather conditions. Adhesive manufacturer's guidelines provide suitable reference for adhesive application use during high or low climatic conditions.
- 10. An optimum install requires full trowel adhesive using a minimum 4 6 mm square notched trowel. A recognised wood flooring adhesive such as Sika, Mapei, or similar is recommended. Use same brand as moisture barrier for warranty support. Refer, Pictures 1 & 2. Make sure full bond contact occurs to avoid poor adhesion. Weighting parquetry as you go helps curing efficiency.
- 11. To optimise visual performance, use laser or chalk center line guidelines from dry run set up to avoid small unsightly pattern disruptions. Always run pattern to follow longest wall direction. Installer will need to carefully plan the layout for meeting adjoining rooms & hallways. Avoid using pieces less than 100mm. This will provide a balanced visual for grade, colour and joint alignment. Heavily featured planks or colour oddities can always be used under cabinetry or similar less obvious locations.
- 12. Large static objects such as Kitchen Island benches can be installed onto a Direct Fixed parquetry floor. Ensure the installed floor is well protected if other cabinetry trades are still to complete their fit outs.
- 13. Perimeter expansion will vary from site to site. The installer will need to assess perimeter expansion opportunities to maximise the natural movement of the floor for expansion and contraction especially around door thresholds, service ducts and heating pipes.

 Transitions to alternate floor surface materials will require solid brass or alloy trims to define the parquetry installation. If required, a flexible caulking compound to a maximum of 5mm on perimeter or island benches is suitable with direct fix installations.
- 14. Please cover flooring with adequate protection if construction or painting is still occurring at the site. Floor protection such as compressed cardboard, thin MDF panels or similar are worthwhile but cannot be left in place for an extended period. Do not use adhesive tape directly on the surface of the pre-finished planks, the coating surface may get damaged when removed. Incidental scratching, chipping and indentations from external sources are site related and therefore will not be covered by our warranty.
- 15. Window and door openings must be covered by screens, blinds, or tinting treatments to inhibit direct UV heat and light. Avoid placing rugs and mats until the floor surface has acclimatised in its environment; allow 8 weeks.
- 16. Do not fix wall skirting directly to the floor surface, it must be fixed to the vertical wall surface.
- 17. For all natural timber flooring products, do not wet mop or use a steam mop to clean the floor. Static or absorbent towelling mops should be used for all natural floor surfaces. When incidental spills occur simply wipe dry as soon as possible with an absorbent cloth and use a light bristle broom for daily cleaning. Refer Picture 3. Do not use generic supermarket floor cleaning solutions on the floor, we recommend professional floor care products such as Bona or Loba. Spray Mop Kits and refill floor cleaning products are readily available online or through popular retail outlets in Australia & New Zealand.
- 18. A comprehensive floor care guide is available on our website for easy reading or download.

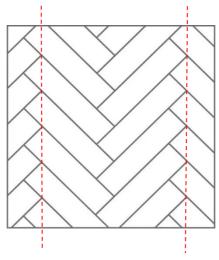
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DIRECT ADHESIVE FIX INSTALLATION CONTINUED

Single Herringbone Pattern

Parallel laser or chalk line set out, start in the middle of the room/space, typically install will run to suit the longest wall. As you work the installation continue with parallel laser or chalk lines to keep pattern alignment straight, keep parquetry tight & tap if necessary. Work small areas at a time to avoid adhesive curing, clean up any excess adhesive squeeze out as you go, have clean up wipes ready. Note; Single Herringbone as illustrated is just one of a number of pattern options possible for Herringbone parquetry.



Picture 1. Full Trowel



Picture 2. Plank Bonding



Picture 3. Clean Spills



Fiddleback Australian Timber parquetry is a natural material that will expand and contract in shape if moisture or humidity is elevated. It may also shrink if moisture or humidity becomes extremely low. As a natural product damage from these circumstances may lead to irreversible damage if the interior temperature and humidity is constantly exposed to extremes. Please review the floor care guide to familiarise yourself with the requirements on how best to live and maintain your timber floor. By following our simple floor care and install guidelines a wellmaintained timber floor can last a lifetime. Follow the steps and enjoy a lifetime of nature at its finest.

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