This is a general guide but whatever you do ALWAYS employ a specialist Parquet floor fitter, NOT a general flooring contractor. If the "initial "crown" line is out of true then the floor will never fit properly. This is one of the most difficult types of floor to fit, especially square edged herringbone. You can see how these should be fitted and the process from The Wood Manufacturers Association in the USA’s guide to the Installation of Herringbone and Chevron Parquet in the same section of the technical library as this PDF.

Traditional parquet in both a herringbone pattern and Chevron whatever the angle was always fitted unfinished as it would never have a bevel or micro bevel. Therefore it was always supplied square edged like our overlay 10mm thick easy fit parquet blocks.

Timber is a natural product and reacts to its local environment, details of its structure and reactions to its environment. To find out more on this, please read out End Grain and Cell Structure of Wood.

Squared edged parquet can easily be damaged when being fitted and if the Architect or designers insists that it is a pre-requisite for pre-finished square edged boards within a specification to be fitted then a cutting and waste allowance of at least 10% to 12% should be made to allow for this. In addition we always recommend an oiled finish so that after installation when all works have been completed the floor can be thoroughly cleaned and a good coat of the relevant oil applied by roller to enhance the finished floor. If it had been lacquered then any damage on the square edges would be impossible to repair.

We have a full Quality Control Procedure in place from selection of raw material all the way through the production process where all our flooring including parquet blocks are made to British Standards with the specified tolerances. These are checked throughout each batch that is produced and we have full traceability on every product we manufacture.

Wood is a natural product and will react to its local environment this is why we try and insist that all wet trades and other site works are completed prior to delivery and installation.

For engineered parquet blocks they should be fitted immediately they arrive on site unless there is underfloor heating at which point the heating should be on so that the blocks can acclimatise to the environmental conditions. This means that they will probably dry out below 7% to 8% moisture if the floor is hot and may shrink a fraction. On the other hand if there is high humidity the moisture content will increase which means the cell structure expands and could create and “out of tolerance” parquet block.

If site conditions are not conducive to wood flooring then on no account should it be delivered or stored. Bulk loading tower block apartment buildings is to be avoided at all
costs because it probably means that part of each floor is open to the elements and wood flooring will react adversely.