



A quick guide to Installation

Dependent on the substrate (whatever the bamboo flooring is to be laid upon) there are 4 different methods of Installation.

1) Floating Floor Method. This is the most common method of installation. This is gluing the tongue and grooves together with Bona D700 (a PVA Wood Glue) over an underlay (our Acousti-Cork is recommended particularly over plywood and existing wood floors) and can be used over a variety of different substrates. Use the glue liberally on the tongue and grooves.

2) Direct Glue Down. This is gluing the flooring to the substrate using Bona R850. Typically used in large areas (say over 35 sqm in any one room or where a room has a width of greater than 6m) or those where the floor is relatively uneven. Underlay is not used when installing with this method

3) Secret Nailing. Used when the substrate is plywood or wood. This is typically installed using a machine known as a compressor, air gun or brad gun. 18 gauge, 25mm brads are recommended.

4) Simply Click. Our patented Uniclic system needs no glue and can be fitted over any surface including Under-floor Heating. Always used in conjunction with an underlay.

This is just a brief guide. More detailed information can be found on our website and we can be called anytime to give advice on 0845 222 0408. Simplybamboo Flooring prefinished flooring is best applied by nailing, or gluing the planks to a wood subfloor. It can also be floated. Simplybamboo Flooring can be glued directly to a dry concrete slab. It may also be applied over radiant floor heating systems. Bamboo flooring is very stable (it has very low expansion and contraction) but like virtually any flooring material, wood or otherwise, must not be installed in anything other than dry conditions. Do not install Simplybamboo Flooring in damp basements.

Flooring should be allowed to acclimatize on site a minimum of three (3) days. Open each box, remove shrink-wrap and foam. The acclimation period should also be at expected normal room temperature and humidity levels before and after installation. Damp or cold conditions before installation should be avoided.

Because bamboo is a natural fibre, variations in colour naturally occur. Each box should be inspected for differences in colour and staggered throughout the floor. It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to determine if the job site subfloor and job site conditions are environmentally acceptable for the installation of the bamboo. Simplybamboo Flooring declines any responsibility for failure resulting from or connected with sub floor, sub-surface, or job site damage, or deficiencies after flooring has been installed.

Note: Simplybamboo Flooring makes no warranty or guarantee of the quality of the chosen installer's work or of a particular installation performed by them. Simplybamboo Flooring disclaims all liability for any errors or improprieties in the installation of its products by an installer.

Sub Floors

Wood sub-flooring surfaces must be clean, dry, and if gluing the flooring, free of contaminants that would interfere with an adhesive bond. Sub-floor must also be level and smooth prior to installation of flooring. We recommend plywood as a nailing substrate when installing on an uneven concrete floor. When this type of installation is performed on a concrete subfloor, it is recommended that a polythene membrane is placed beneath the plywood as a precaution against dampness. Damp or cold conditions before installation should be avoided.

A moisture meter should be used to check the subfloor and the bamboo flooring before installation begins. Do not install the floor until the moisture level of the subfloor is 1.8% or below.

Concrete should be checked for flatness prior to installation and low spots and voids filled. Surface must be smooth and free of debris, oils, grease and solvents. Slabs younger than 60 days are generally too wet for flooring installations.

Floating

This is where the flooring is glued directly over an underlay with a PVA wood glue. Tongue and grooves are glued liberally with Bona D700. This is the most common method of installing our floors. The substrate must be flat and dry.

Nail Down

Flooring should be square with the space and parallel to its longest dimension. Always leave a 10 mm expansion gap from the wall. Starter rows should be held firmly in place by wedging or blind nailing. Once starter rows are secure, additional rows should be blind nailed directly above the tongue at a 45-50 degree angle to the face. Fasteners should be spaced at 10 to 12 inch intervals per plank. Nails or Brads should not be placed closer than 6 inches from the end of planks to prevent splitting.

Glue Down

If the glue down application is the method chosen, we recommend using a premium wood flooring adhesive such as Bona R844. Always use Bona R844 when installing Under Floor Heating. Flooring should be square with the space and parallel to its longest dimension. Starter rows should be held firmly in place by wedging or blind nailing. Always leave a 10 mm expansion gap from the wall.

Refinish or Repair

Simplybamboo Flooring can be finished or repaired with any polyurethane or compatible coating. It is not necessary to re-stain the dark colored flooring because the carbonized or coffee colour is impregnated all the way through the wear surface. If the floor has not been waxed, it may not be necessary to remove the original finish. Degrease, lightly sand and apply fresh polyurethane. If heavy sanding is necessary, the wear surface on our flooring is thick enough to withstand a professional refinishing operation using a belt sander.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Prevent dirt, grit and sand from getting inside your building by using dirt-trapping walk-off mats in all entryways. Keep the door mats clean. Put fabric-faced glides on the legs of your furniture. They allow furniture to be moved easily without scuffing the floor. Vacuum regularly, as often as you vacuum carpets. Keep high heels in good repair. Worn heels that have exposed metal will dent any floor surface, even concrete.

To remove loose dirt and grit, dust mop, broom sweep, electric broom or vacuum. Wipe up liquid or food spills promptly with dry cloth or paper towels. Remove sticky residue (like jelly) with slightly dampened cloth. For general cleaning, add 1/4 cup vinegar to 1 quart of warm water. Dip a clean cloth or sponge mop and wring nearly dry. Clean the floor and wipe dry with a towel as you go. To restore luster you may buff with an electric buffer.