



Herringbone Engineered Flooring Installation Guide

**Grand**[®]
OAK FLOORING

www.grandoakflooring.com.au

GrandOak installation guide for Herringbone engineered flooring

IMPORTANT:

Precision is the key when installing GrandOak Herringbone flooring. Verify measurements and check row alignment frequently to ensure the pattern is being laid accurately and evenly.

Installing GrandOak Herringbone flooring requires high-degree technical ability and should be only performed by the qualified professional and experienced installers.

GrandOak Herringbone flooring is made of European Oak which are bonded onto an engineered base to ensure stability. They are all pre-finished in an extensive range of colours. Colour variation occurs with all natural timbers; however, most of our finishes have greater tonal variation than stained finishes due to the chemical processes used to achieve the colour.

Please read the entire installation instructions carefully before proceeding with the installation. If not sure, please contact your retailer.

Proceed with a visual inspection of the boards before the installation. Once installed, the boards are considered accepted by the installer and the home owner.

GrandOak Herringbone flooring must be installed as glue down method only.

Each pack of GrandOak Herringbone contains 6 x left & 6 x right reverse tongue planks. A left-tongue plank and a right-tongue plank will be required to form a joint.

GrandOak Herringbone flooring can be installed over under-floor heating system, please refer to and follow our GrandOak heated slab installation instruction.

TOOLS REQUIRED



Spacers



Chalk



Dust Mask



Low Tack
Masking Tape



Tape Measure



Ruler



Pencil



Pull Bar



Tapping Block



Jigsaw



Jamb Saw



Mitre Saw



Safety Glasses



Hammer



Hardwood
Repair Kit
(filler, putty stick, or stain)



Square Plywood
Board



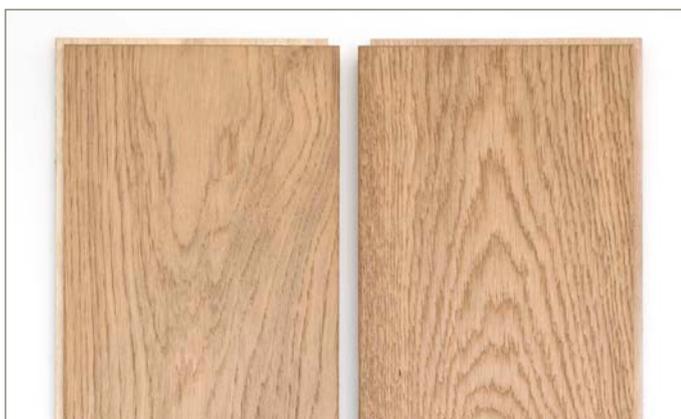
Moisture
Metre

Board references



750mm x 150mm x 14.5mm

Inspired by classic French design, our sumptuous GrandOak Herringbone Collection highlights the natural and enduring beauty of oak with European quality and sensory style.



Herringbone tongue

Herringbone packs come with 6x left tongue and 6x right tongues.



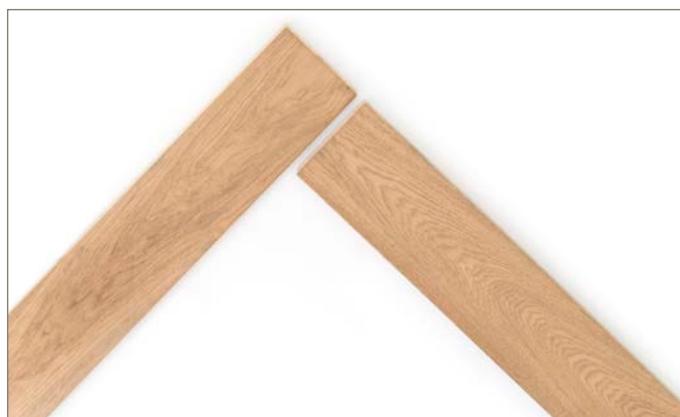
Herringbone tongue placement

A left tongue board and a right tongue board will be required to form a join.



Herringbone boards

Full length Herringbone boards come in 750mm x 150mm.



Herringbone pattern placement

Example of the board placement.

This instruction is a **GUIDE** only.
If unsure, please contact your retailer.

BEFORE YOU START:

- This instruction is a GUIDE only
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for any compound or material you use
- In addition to this set of instructions, we suggest installers refer to the AFTA (Australian Timber Flooring Association) Engineered Flooring industry standards technical publication (Version 1 – Feb 2012), for moisture content & humidity guidelines prior to installing the timber floors.
- All sources of moisture must be rectified prior to the installation of the floor, and moisture levels in rooms fitted with hardwood flooring should be maintained at a stable level; in line with normal living conditions. Any construction dampness (such as recently laid concrete slab, or wet paint) must be completely dry.
- Calculate the total square meters of the space you are laying the floor and add 20% for cutting and waste due to its unique special design.
- The cartons of floorboards should be stored in a protected dry place.
- The boards should be placed in the room in which they are to be placed to acclimatise for 48 hours and should be carefully stacked **in their packaging** to allow air to circulate.
- Check each plank for any manufacturing defects prior to installation. Any faults must be reported back to the store of purchase for an immediate refund or replacement prior to the flooring being installed.

PREPARATION:

Subfloors:

The below requirements apply to all subfloor options detailed throughout this document, and must be paid careful attention in order to minimise the risk of problems occurring with your flooring post-installation.

- The flooring can be installed onto concrete/ screed subfloors and existing wood provided they are dimensionally stable.
- Deviations in any subfloor level must not exceed 3mm under a 3-lineal metre straight edge. Raised points must be sanded/ground down and depressions filled using a good quality cementitious levelling compound. Please engage a professional installer's services for these matters.
- Ensure the subfloor is clean and free from all contaminants and loose material by vacuuming prior to installation. Do not wash subfloor or expose it to water prior to installation.
- It is essential that the moisture content of any subfloor complies with the relevant standard. For Australian conditions the recommended standard is a maximum of 4.8% for concrete/ screed subfloors and 12% for wood subfloors. All potential sources of moisture (e.g. walls, drains, damp proof courses, plumbing, fridges, washing machines etc.) must be thoroughly checked and rectified if found to be an issue.

The final responsibility for determining if the subfloor is dry enough for installation of the flooring lies with the installer. In almost all flooring installations, a moisture barrier will be required. What form of Moisture Barrier Membrane you should use will be dependent on the installation method and the sub-floor.

- Moisture Barrier Membrane The levelled subfloor must be allowed to dry out completely before applying a suitable liquid Moisture Barrier Membrane. Comply with all instructions provided by the manufacturer.

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- Preparation of the slab: The concrete must be structurally sound, dry (no more than 4.8% moisture content), level and cleaned of waxes, adhesives dust etc. Slabs must be level with no more than a 3mm deviation over a 3-metre radius. If deviations are greater than above, use a self-levelling compound or grind the slab to level the surface within the above tolerance. It is important to consider the possible risk of sub slab water ingress from surrounding areas. A relative humidity & moisture content reading is required prior to installation; please document readings for your records.
- The moisture vapour content of a concrete/screed subfloor must not exceed 4.8%.
- Please do not use Direct Stick method on any caulk concert slabs.
- Please always contact manufacturer prior to installation if the concert slab is tilted under some commercial environments.
- Existing concrete/screed bases' moisture content can be checked using a moisture meter, or alternatively sheets of polyethylene approximately 1m x 1m squared, taped onto the screed with a heavy weight placed on top for 24 hours. Presence of moisture in the screed will be confirmed if the screed is discoloured, or moisture is apparent on the underside of the polyethylene sheet. Your floor must not be fitted until the problem has been rectified. If installing on Wood. The moisture vapour content of a wood subfloor must not exceed 12%.
- Flooring can be fixed directly onto pre-installed wood (particle board, yellow tongue, or conventional hardwood) provided this subfloor meets all of the requirements detailed at the beginning of the Subfloors section. If the subfloor is not flat and even, then you will need to overlay it with structural grade plywood (min 20mm thick). All existing floorcoverings must be securely fixed to the subfloor, to minimise the risk of squeaking. Where poor adhesion between the subfloor and existing boards, planks or tiles exist, secure if possible, otherwise remove the existing floorcovering completely.

- On a wood subfloor, your new boards should be laid in a direction that is 90 degrees (perpendicular) to the direction of the boards below. If this is not possible, then plywood sheets (minimum depth 6mm) should be nailed, stapled or screwed to cover the existing floor, allowing a 15mm perimeter gap (against walls) for expansion. The new floor can then be laid directly onto the plywood sheet.
- For a glue down installation onto a conventional strip timber, you will first have to lay a Masonite, particle board or yellow tongue underlay before the product. Once you have ensured that the subfloor is flat/even, and provided the moisture content of the subfloor does not exceed the specified 12%, you may glue down underlay onto the Masonite.

GETTING STARTED:

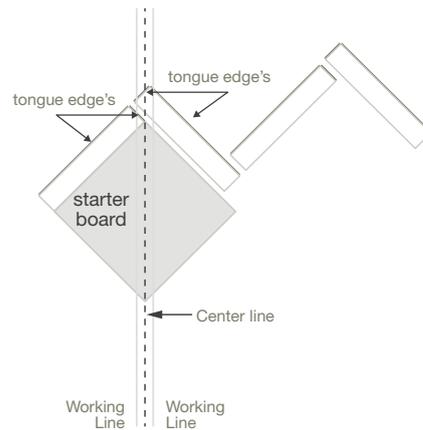
- Determine the layout for the floor and the direction the pattern will run. Typically, the pattern will follow the length of the room.
- Determine the centre line for the pattern, snap a chalk line along the entire length of the installation area as centre line. Then, snap a parallel chalk line 530mm to the left of the centre line and another 530mm to the right. These will serve as guides for the outer edges of the first two rows and the corner of each board should be checked once installed to ensure it is parallel to the chalk guideline. You may need to snap additional lines as guides for the outer rows as you proceed with the installation.
- Prepare a perfectly square piece of plywood as starter board, 750mm x 750mm size.
- Select your starting area in the middle of the room and screw the starter board on the subfloor in a diamond position with the top and bottom points aligned with the centre line, starting at the nearest wall and following the central line.
- It is recommended to open a few cartons to sort the chevron planks into left and right tongues piles before installation.
- Suggest using Bostick Ultraset SF or other similar type of adhesives specially formulated for wood flooring, strictly comply with all the instructions provided by the adhesive manufacturer.

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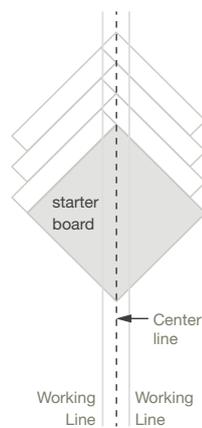
If unsure, please contact your retailer.

INSTALLATION - DIRECT STICK / GLUE DOWN

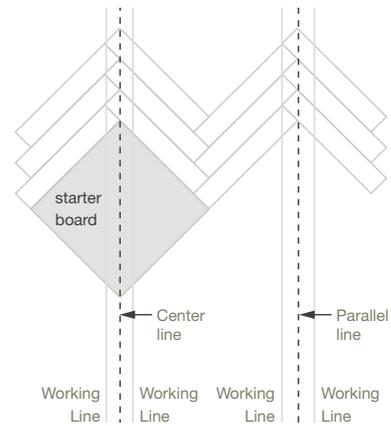
- Begin installation in the area, spread the adhesive out from the edges of the starter board and over a reasonable area, use a 3-6mm notch trowel.
- Set the first left-tongue plank to the left-hand side of the starter board with the grooved side snug to the starter board and the tongue side facing out towards the room, make sure the upper butt ends aligned with the centre line, press the left-tongue plank down with to the sub-floor over the moisture barrier membrane.



- Set the right-tongue plank to the right-hand side of the starter board with the grooved side snug to the starter board and the tongue side facing out to towards the room, make sure the upper end butt is engaged with that of the left-tongue plank and the tongue end of the right-tongue plank lines up with the tongue side of the left-tongue plank, press the right-tongue board down with to the sub-floor over the moisture barrier membrane.

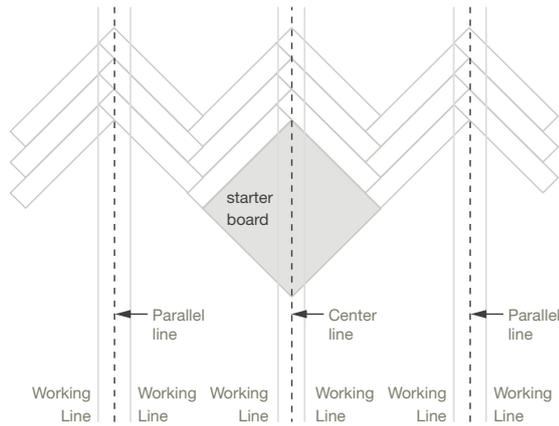


- Avoid pushing the board into place across the sub-floor as this may unevenly redistribute the adhesive. Instead, hold the new board above the sub-floor at an angle and engage the tongue and groove joint, then press the board directly down on the sub-floor.
- Start the second left-tongue plank, place the new plank with the groove side snug to the tongue side of the first board, make sure the upper butt ends aligned with the centre line, press the board down on sub-floor.
- Continue the second right-tongue plank, place the new plank with the groove side snug to the tongue side of the first board, make sure the upper end butt is engaged with that of the second left-tongue board and the tongue end of the right-tongue plank lines up with the tongue side of the left-tongue plank, press the right-tongue board down with to the sub-floor over the moisture barrier membrane.



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- Install the first 3 boards allow time for adhesive to cure before continuing with the installation in that section.
- Start the next row, place the new left-tongue plank against the previous row, make sure its engaged with the previous right-tongue plank and press down, continue the second row with the right-tongue plank, make sure the upper butt is engaged with that of the left-tongue plank and line up the tongues, press the right-tongue plank down. Snap a new parallel chalk line through the upper end, this is the centre line of new row of flooring.



- Continue working forward until the first two rows flooring are complete to the far wall, cut the final row to fit, allowing 3-5mm expansion space to the wall. Remove the plywood starter board and work back to complete the first two rows.
- Start the new rows as repeating the above instructions until the installation is completed. Measure and cut the final row planks to fit, allowing 3-5mm expansion space to the wall.
- Check measurements and row alignment frequently to ensure that the rows are staying true and square. If necessary, you can strap the boards by using the low tack masking tape.

DO NOT USE ANY REGULAR MASKING TAPE AS IT MAY DAMAGE THE SURFACE.

- Always snap a new chalk centre line with every row to server as guide line.
- Spot weight across the floor plus weight any hollow areas to ensure floorboard and subfloor contact.
- When installation is complete, remove all the masking tape from the floor. (Do not leave the masking tape on the floor more than 24 hours). Wait at least 24 hours before moving furniture or appliances onto floor.
- Ensure no adhesive is forced into tongue & groove joints during installation. Avoid getting adhesive on the flooring surface, make sure clean up any seepage or spills immediately according to the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

***** If GrandOak Herringbone Flooring was installed by direct sticking to concert slab with acoustic matting, the acoustic underlayment system is required in multi-residential developments to reduce noise transfer. Over a prepared slab—see above subfloor preparation, the qualified acoustic matting will need to be applied to the slab with Bostick Ultraset SF or other similar type of adhesives, using a 3mm notched trowel and allowed to dry according to the manufacturers' specifications, then follow the above instructions to finish the installation.

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FINISHING

Removal of Glue Residue: It is vital that all glue residues are removed immediately after laying each prefinished board. If using "Bostik Ultraset SF" (recommended) to glue down, use the "Bostik Wipes" or a solvent suitable to the glue being used. Always test solvents first on an off-cut to establish that the solvent does not affect the colour or finish. Use a damp cloth to wipe away any solvent residue. Always follow the compound manufacturer's usage instructions.

Once installation is complete, any spacing wedges used can be removed. The expansion gap around the perimeter of the floor can be covered by re-fitting the skirting boards, either by nailing, screwing or gluing directly to the perimeter walls. Never fix them directly to the installed floor. If the skirting boards were not removed for installation, you can cover the expansion gap using moulding trims that attach to the skirting with glue or panel pins. At doorways or where boards meet tiles or carpet, a door threshold strip should be used to protect the edges of the floor and provide a decorative transition from one floor type to another. Any visible joints or gaps should be filled with a non-silicon based filler (e.g. fuller caulk in colours) to match the colour of the timber.

Australian Select Timbers Warranty

GrandOak® flooring comes with a lifetime structural warranty, 20 Year Residential Wear Warranty and 10 Year Commercial Warranty from the date of purchase. The original purchaser is covered by this warranty and may not be assigned or transferred.

Lifetime Structural Warranty

GrandOak® by Australian Select Timbers P/L provides with a Limited Lifetime Structural Warranty to cover the performance and appearance of the plank from structural defects, delamination, cracking, warping, twisting, splitting and geometry that would affect the planks assembly and in-service performance.

GrandOak® flooring installation instructions must be followed strictly when installing your floors and Australian Select Timbers® Care & Maintenance Guidelines should be followed at all times after your floor is installed.

IMPORTANT: The floorboards must be inspected prior to use and any planks deemed not fit for service, should not be installed and will not be covered by warranty provisions.

All installation instructions can be found inside each pack of GrandOak® flooring and Australian Select Timbers® Care & Maintenance Guidelines can be obtained by contacting your retailer or our online website www.asttimbers.com.au at any time. Please make sure you fully understand our care & maintenance guidelines before commencing any cleaning and maintenance schedules.

Due to the variable climate conditions within Australia, planks may display slight bow or twist once removed from the cartons. This is not considered a structural defect unless the planks cannot be assembled after an adequate period of acclimatisation. (Note: planks should not be unpacked overnight and or left loose prior to install).

Grading programmes provide for patching and filling of natural characteristics with appropriate filler, this forms an acceptable look for the natural planks.

After installation certain cupping and gapping issues could be considered site related installation or performance issues and may not be covered by the warranty and other consumer related product purchase laws.

20 Year Residential & 10 Year Commercial Wear Warranty

GrandOak® flooring by Australian Select Timbers P/L provides for a 20 Year Limited Residential and 10 Year Limited Commercial Wear Warranty that guarantees the surface will not wear through during the period warranted. Australian Select Timbers® Care & Maintenance guidelines should be followed at all times after your floor is installed. Scratches, dents, reduction of gloss level (appearance reduction), colour fading, damage caused by negligence, liquid, animals or high heeled shoes are not covered by the warranty.

All furniture requires felt pads to be adhered to the underneath to protect the surface of your floor. From time to time, this will need to be maintained and checked for wear. Areas less than 8% of the surface area that could be related to high traffic wear or incidental damage will not be covered by the warranty.

GrandOak® flooring 10 Year Commercial Warranty does not apply to:

- all industrial food areas, such as, but not limited to, intensively frequented restaurants and cafeterias, pubs, dance halls.
- all institutional applications, such as, but not limited to hospitals and government buildings.
- heavy commercial areas, such as, but not limited to airports, lobbies, schools and barber shops.
- other areas that have heavy traffic and immediate access to street traffic.

Acceptable Quality and User Guidelines

GrandOak® flooring is designed for use in internal environments including floors, walls etc and should not be used externally. GrandOak® flooring should be installed in a "timber flooring friendly environment" in which the area is occupied, protected from direct heat and sunlight and where heating and cooling systems are in place and used to control the internal temperatures and humidity. Keep the floor area environment relative humidity level between 40-60% range through out of the year, using humidifiers or dehumidifiers if necessary.

GrandOak® flooring should not be installed in wet areas including bathrooms, toilets, areas or rooms where a floor waste (water drain) is present or required. Residential kitchens are not considered as wet areas. In areas where spills may occur often such as kitchens and living areas, make sure spills are wiped up and dried as soon as possible to avoid moisture ingress and possible planks deformity.

Warranty Exclusions

- GrandOak® flooring is made of European Oak Timber. As a natural product, colour variation will occur from batch to batch and between samples and the actual stock delivered and installed. Samples displayed or provided are indicative only and within normal industry standards and no warranty is given that such samples will match the floor installed. Other variations will naturally occur such as small knots and grain variation. These variations normally present in GrandOak® flooring and are not considered defects and will not form the basis of any claims under the warranty.
- Wear that may be directly associated with water or liquid damage from any source, moisture ingress from any source into the floorboards.
- The instance of surface checking (fine surface splits), gloss variation between boards, colour variation between boards or natural features including gum veins, knots, insect trails etc are considered a natural part of timber flooring and are therefore excluded from this warranty.
- Scratches, stains or indentations of any type are also not covered by this warranty.
- Boards that are visibly faulty or deemed visually or structurally inappropriate prior to installation should not be installed and are therefore also not covered by this warranty.
- Surface coating damage caused by using duct tape and/or other industry tapes.
- Damage, intentional or accidental, caused by water, abuse, misuse, stiletto heels, dragged objects, heavy furniture, sand, stones, castor wheels dropped items etc.
- Floor performance issues that may arise as a direct or indirect result of moisture ingress along with the incorrect use of heating and cooling systems will not be covered by warranty provisions. Please note Evaporative cooling systems need to be operated as per the manufacturers guidelines. Please consult with the manufacturer to better understand operating methods.
- Labour charges associated with any rectification work may apply. In some cases, reasonable labour costs may be considered, at the sole discretion of the distributor's authorised representative.
- Any costs associated with any rectification work required other than the supply of new flooring and scotia beading if necessary. Re-painting, removal of fixtures or furniture, accommodation and any other cost is specifically excluded from this warranty.

PLEASE NOTE: All warranty claims must be lodged by contacting the retailer from where the flooring was purchased within 30 days of the problem being noticed along with proof of purchase (date). All assessment and final approval for replacement or rectification work that may need to occur for faulty planks or floor installation must be formally inspected and approved by Australian Select Timbers P/L prior to any repair activities.

Care & Maintenance

Australian Select Timbers® brings you stylish, sustainable, sophisticated and simply beautiful floors but taking care of them to preserve their magnificent finish and quality presence is a must. By following a few simple care and maintenance guidelines your floor will continue to be a thing of beauty for years to come.

Preventative Maintenance

- Installing good quality mats inside and outside of external doors to trap grit and remove moisture from shoes is a sensible precaution and will reduce the possibility of scratches.
- In high traffic areas or areas where spillage may occur the use of mats is recommended to give added protection
- All furniture should have felt pads fitted to the base of legs or on other areas in contact with the floor to avoid scratches. On heavy furniture felt backed castors can be used if required.
- Avoid using wheeled chairs i.e. office furniture or ensure that a large good quality office mat is used to prevent indentations in the timber.
- Rubber based items e.g. the backing for matting, castors under furniture and rubber tipped furniture feet should not be in direct contact with the floor.
- Keep pet's nails trimmed to protect the floor from scratches.
- All timber reacts when exposed to direct sunlight and this may cause colour changes or fading. Curtains, blinds or UV resistant films on windows should be considered to reduce the exposure to direct sunlight and protect the flooring. Furniture and rugs should be moved occasionally so that the effect of sunlight on the floor is uniform.

- Any materials spilt on the floor should be wiped up immediately.
- Maintaining the temperature and humidity within a reasonably consistent range will keep the floor stable.

Cleaning

- Dry cleaning of the floor should be carried out regularly to remove loose dirt, grit and dust. Use a Bona Dusting pad or soft broom. If vacuum cleaning, the cleaning head must have a soft brush so as to not damage the floor.
- Use a Bona Spray Mop with Bona Wood Floor Cleaner to clean the floor surface when required; dry clean the floor first. Do not 'wet' mop the floor anytime as excessive amounts of water may cause damage.

Avoid the following:

- Indentation from stilettos or spiked heels.
- Pulling or pushing furniture or other objects across the floor.
- Avoid using a steam mop, abrasive cleaning materials or harsh detergents / household cleaners on the floor. Using these cleaning methods / materials will harm the surface of the floor and may cause physical damage to the boards.
- Do not use solvents of any kind to clean the floor. Methylated Spirits, Turpentine or similar materials will damage the floor surface.

Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.



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