



## Interior Hardwood Flooring Guide



PREMIUM ARCHITECTURAL  
& BUILDING SOLUTIONS





Cover image and this page: JSC American White Oak Hardwood Flooring | Private Home

# HARDWOOD FLOORING GUIDE

JSC is proudly one of New Zealand’s leading timber flooring manufacturers, providing a huge range of Australian native, North American and Pacific Island hardwood species. Our extensive range offers a variety of timber flooring products, finishings and design aesthetics, suitable for new homes, renovations and restorations, and commercial projects.

Solid hardwoods are unparalleled in their performance and aesthetics in comparison to other flooring options such as carpet. Wood flooring maintains a steady appearance over longer periods of time with greater durability and longevity, and can be easily and cost-effectively refinished to restore the quality and appearance when needed.

The ideal choice for both residential and commercial spaces, hardwood flooring provides timeless natural beauty, is easy to maintain, and will last for many decades. JSC offers an extensive range of timber flooring types and species

## PRODUCTS

Hardwood Flooring types:

- T&G Solid flooring

- Overlay flooring
- Parquet flooring
- Engineered timber flooring

JSC offers a wide selection of flooring sizes, available in a variety of species. We are able to supply brushed, bandsawn or other special finishes if desired, with end-matching available upon request.

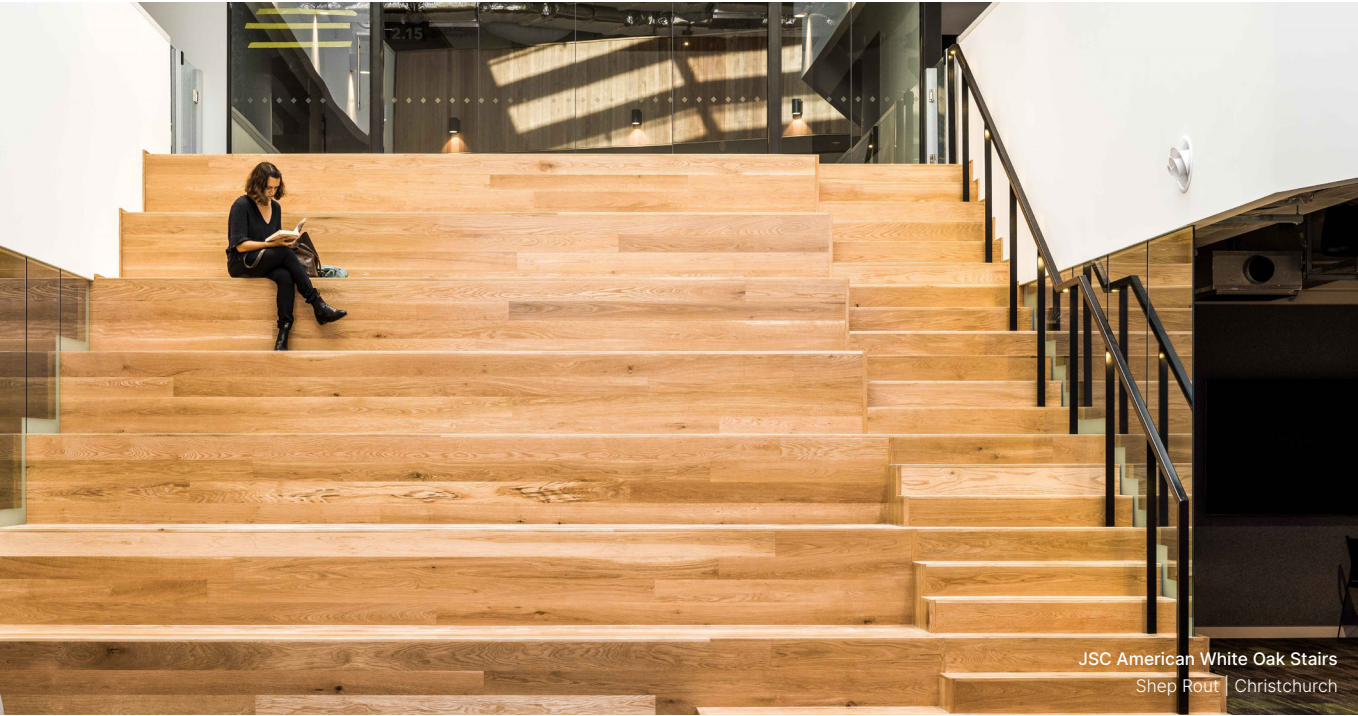
Our primary JSC Hardwood Flooring range includes\*:

- American White Oak
- Tasmanian Oak
- Spotted Gum
- Kwila

\*Other species may be available. Please contact the JSC team to discuss.

Each floor is part of a construction system, and its performance is dependent on the other elements of the building.

Timber is a natural product and will absorb and release moisture throughout its life, so as hardwood flooring, movement in individual boards is expected.



JSC American White Oak Stairs  
Shep Rout | Christchurch





## PREPARATION OF INSTALLATION SITE

Before commencing the installation check the moisture content of the timber flooring to ensure it is within the specified range.

### Acclimatisation

After the following construction operations are complete, acclimatise the flooring by stacking it in the in-service conditions for a minimum period of two weeks with air circulation to all surfaces.

- Air conditioning operational
- Lighting operational
- Site drainage works are complete
- Space fully enclosed and secure
- Wet work complete and dry

### Substrates

Ensure the substrates are:

- Clean and free of any deposit or finish which may impair adhesion or location and functioning of movement joints
- Solid and continuous

- Excessive projections are removed
- Flatness <3mm deviation of the surface under a 3m straight edge laid in any direction with no abrupt variations greater than 1mm over 250mm

### Support Members

- Ensure support members (joists) are in full length
- Flatness <3mm deviation of the surface under a 3m straight edge laid in any direction with no abrupt variations greater than 1mm over 250mm.

## SUBFLOOR PREPARATION

Subfloor is the structural element that flooring is fixed to. Hardwood flooring can be installed onto a subfloor of concrete, particle board, existing wood subfloor or just bare joists. All subfloors are to be assessed for those aspects that could affect the installation and ongoing performance of the floor. Ensure the subfloor is clean, dry and level. Refer to [BRANZ bulletin BU534- Overlay flooring systems over a suspended floor \(2011\)](#)

### Concrete Subfloor

The concrete slab must be at least 30 days old and should be at a maximum of 70% relative humidity before starting the hardwood floor installation. Concrete slabs should comply with relevant codes ([AS2870-1996](#)). Also refer to [BRANZ Bulletin 644 – Solid Timber Strip Flooring on a Concrete Slab](#) and [Atfa Specification for Solid Timber Flooring Installation, Sanding and Coating](#).

Note: Particular care regarding the dryness of the concrete is recommended.

### VAPOUR BARRIER SYSTEM

A compatible moisture vapour barrier and adhesive system should be used. Manufacturer's instructions and specifications should be followed.

### Existing Ply/Timber Subfloor

Entire subfloor to be pre-sanded to remove high spots and construction debris. Existing nails and other items which will interfere with the installation to be punched down.

Thoroughly screw/nail existing loose or squeaking

boards as squeaks may transfer to flooring above. If the existing ply/timber subfloor is new and in good condition it may not require heavy sanding except over the joints. Alternatively, a thin secondary plywood underlay can be laid down over the subfloor to create a smooth solid base.

Choose the most visually appropriate direction to lay the timber flooring. When laying over existing T&G, for strongest installation, the new T&G should be laid at right angles to the existing T&G or separated by a 3mm board (glued and stapled) if same direction to existing floorboards is desired.

### Joists

Existing joists must be dry, sound and clean prior to the installation of floor. If required sand/plane the joists flat. Floorboards need to have a minimum thickness of 19mm for solid timber, with a maximum joist spacing of 450 centers.

Apply the adhesive directly on the joists following manufacturer's specifications. Stagger all end joints to avoid "clustering". No piece should span less than two joists. Conventional floor cramps are a good option to ensure an extra tight fit.

Refer to [jsc.co.nz/products/timber-hardwood-flooring](http://jsc.co.nz/products/timber-hardwood-flooring) for more information.





## INSTALLATION

JSC Hardwood Flooring must be installed by a suitably qualified and experienced tradesperson.

At the time of installation:

- Ensure the building is fully enclosed, weathertight and secure
- Ensure all “wet” trades have finished
- Check moisture content of the timber flooring and ensure it is at a desired level for the installation environment
- Where possible, remove baseboard foot mouldings, doors and door mouldings prior to flooring installation
- During sanding and coating, access is to be limited at the discretion of the flooring contractor

Leave expansion spaces of 6mm at walls. Flooring transition/junctions to be covered by trim and skirting boards. On floors over 4 meters wide, an allowance for expansion should be considered, bearing in mind the specie and the micro-climate of the room.

## FINISHING

### Sanding and Coating

The flooring should be sanded, and any gaps trowel filled (if required) and then coated with 3-4 coats of

either moisture cured or waterborne polyurethane oils. Finishing in a hardwax oil is also an option. Please refer to the manufacturer’s specifications and spread rates.

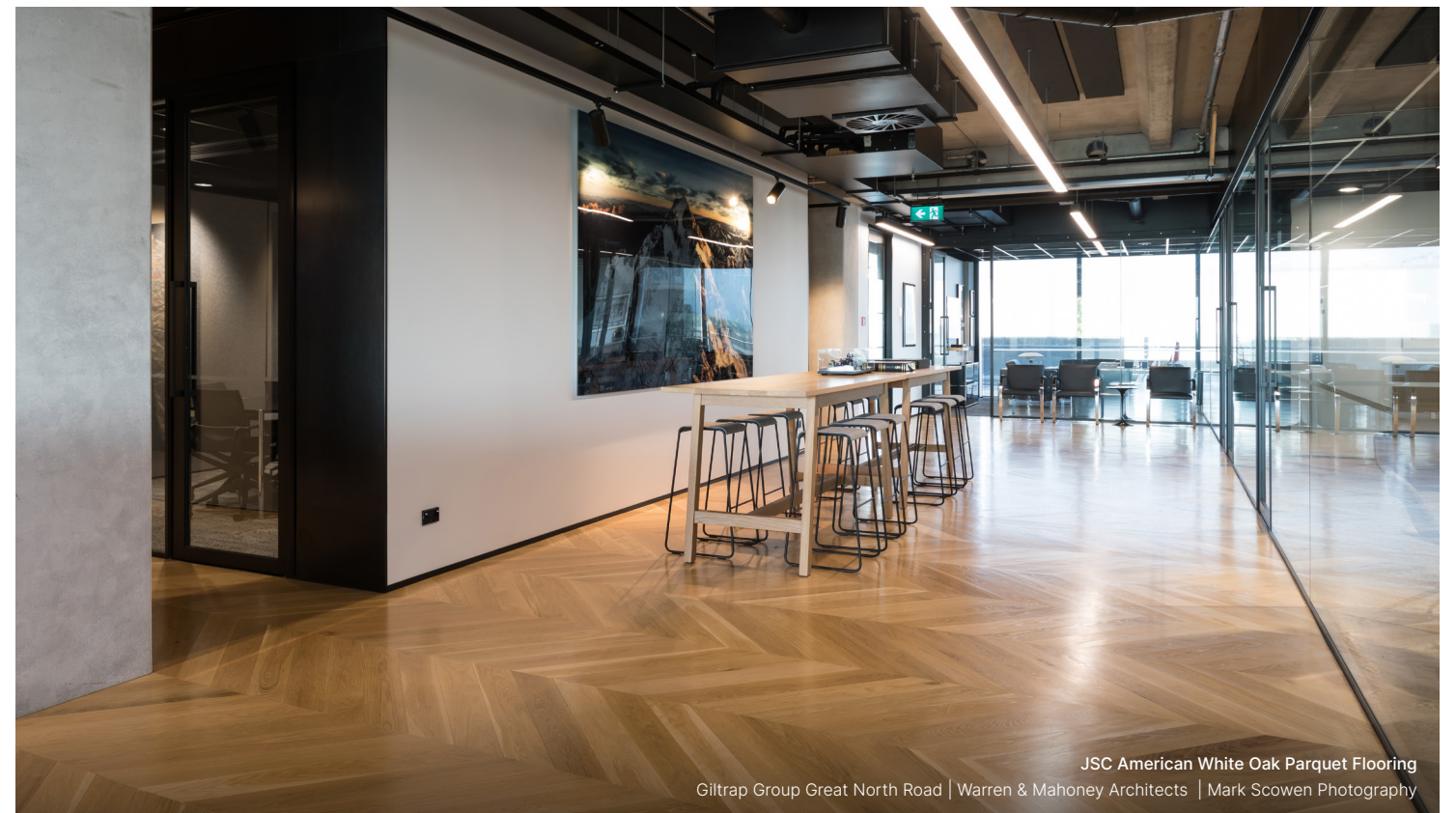
Note: When installing solid Kwila flooring solvent based polyurethane must be used.

### Protection

After the final coat, restrict all traffic for 48 hours, then allow only light clean traffic for next 7-10 days to allow it to fully harden. Once fully hardened it may be covered with corrugated cardboard to protect from trade damage (vacuum carefully first). Avoid covering within the first 7 days and avoid covering with plastic at any stage.

Notes:

- Solar heat or internal heat build-up can create heat in excess of 30-40°C which will buckle any floor. Areas near glass doors or walls of glass will be even hotter and must be protected by shade glass or some form of screening – either external or internal. In some cases, controlled ventilation is required, particularly if a residence is left unattended for a period. This is a common reason for cupping and shrinkage in hardwood floors.



- Additional design considerations may be required when installing JSC Hardwood Flooring in wet areas, such as laundries, bathrooms and exposed entry ways, and when installing hardwood flooring over underfloor heating.

## EXTERNAL REFERENCES

Find more information on:

- [www.atfa.com.au/timber-flooring-specifications](http://www.atfa.com.au/timber-flooring-specifications)
- [BRANZ bulletin BU534- Overlay flooring systems over a suspended floor \(2011\)](#)
- [BRANZ Bulletin 644 – Solid Timber Strip Flooring on a Concrete Slab](#)
- [AS2870:1996](#)
- [NZS 3604:2011](#)
- [jsc.co.nz/products/timber-hardwood-flooring](http://jsc.co.nz/products/timber-hardwood-flooring)

For relevant technical or specification information regarding adhesive/moisture barrier systems, please contact your preferred supplier or one of the contacts below:

- [www.selleys.co.nz](http://www.selleys.co.nz) | 021926578
- [www.handley.nz](http://www.handley.nz) | 021377637
- [www.soudal.co.nz](http://www.soudal.co.nz) | 0212738894



**DISCLAIMER:** Unless the JSC “Wooden Flooring Hand Over Certificate” details are confirmed by the installer and the wooden flooring is fully conditioned/ acclimatised to the actual ambient moisture conditions of the dwelling (as specified above) prior to fixing, JSC cannot be held liable for subsequent shrinkage or expansion.

This information is designed as a guide only and should be read in conjunction with the relevant manufacturer’s product information and installation material and in consultation with your Installer.





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