



Merriwa TIMBERS

Bringing *quality* to life

Timber Flooring

- » Over 30 years industry experience
- » One of Australia's leading Supported Employment Enterprises
 - » Positively impacting the lives of others
- » Proudly manufactured in Wangaratta, Victoria

About Merriwa Timbers

Merriwa Timbers has been providing quality timber products to its clients for over 30 years. We proudly manufactured our timber products in Wangaratta, Victoria as one of Australia's leading Supported Employment Enterprises.

At Merriwa, we believe everybody deserves the opportunity to reach their potential, and we support people with differing abilities by ensuring they are given every opportunity to grow and develop. Across five divisions, Merriwa employs over 80 people with a disability, who work alongside almost 160 non-supported colleagues.

By supporting Merriwa, you are making a positive impact by creating new jobs for people of all abilities and enabling them to prosper, supporting local industry, and being a valued corporate citizen making a difference in the lives of others.

Our Product Quality

Our premium hardwood flooring has been seasoned, machined and graded to provide a high quality, durable and environmentally sustainable product for your home and building needs. Our Hardwood Flooring is produced to the highest quality, meeting Australian Standard AS2796 part 1 and 2 and is ethically and sustainably sourced in Australia.

Each pack of flooring has been stacked and strapped so that the risk of impact damage during transport and handling is minimised. It must be unloaded and handled carefully to avoid abrasion or damage to the top surface or to the tongue or groove edge.

Each pack should be opened and inspected on receipt. Any concerns with the timber (species, size, grade, quality or moisture content) should be immediately advised to the supplier so they can be resolved before the floor is laid.

Moisture Content

Moisture Content Quality Assurance of our kiln drying is carried out to AS 1080 by the oven dry method. The resistance moisture meter tests below indicate the average moisture content of this pack as a final quality check.

It is strongly recommended that the moisture test be conducted soon after delivery, and/or just before laying, and recorded in the columns provided below, to confirm that the timber has not been affected by moisture after leaving Merriwa's timber yard. Measurement of cover width will quickly indicate whether the timber has swelled or shrunk.

Unless the Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC) in the building environment will be significantly different to the average shown in the chart, it is recommended that the floor be installed without stacking out and acclimatizing the timber.

When deciding whether to acclimatize the flooring, consideration should be given to the impact of heating and cooling systems, north facing windows or other factors in the finished building that will influence the EMC. Any acclimatization must occur in these conditions, not in the environment of a building under construction. Before installation the flooring must be kept dry. This must be done

by storing it inside and away from any sources of moisture, for example, not over a new concrete slab. The plastic wrap cannot be relied on to protect the pack if it is left out in the open. There are a number of influences that can cause shrinkage, swelling or cupping in the finished floor. These all relate to exposure to moisture or excessive dryness, for example;

- » Laying above an uncured concrete substrate without a moisture barrier
- » Damp, poorly ventilated sub-floor conditions
- » Plumbing leaks
- » Excessive wet mopping
- » Heat radiation from windows, floor heating ducts, or around open fires or heating units
- » Seasonal climatic variations

Merriwa Timbers flooring has been carefully seasoned to provide a stable, high quality floor. Control over moisture in the atmosphere and in substrate materials is the key to longterm performance and satisfaction.

Installation, sanding and coating

Merriwa Timbers flooring should be installed and fitted by professional, experienced floor layers and finishers. This guide addresses factors that affect the stability and performance of the floor, but it cannot specify installation and fixing methods, or procedures for sanding and coating, as these can vary depending on the installation environment and on the final appearance required.

Professional advice should be obtained to ensure that the fixing method holds the floor satisfactorily to prevent squeaking, while still allowing the natural expansion and contraction of the timber. Proper fixing is particularly important for secret nail profiles. Section 5 of Australian Standard AS 1684.2 (residential timber-framed construction) sets laying and fixing specifications for strip flooring. These include a requirement for two nails at each fixing point if the cover width is over 85mm. This requirement applies even if a secret nail profile has been ordered. Under no circumstances should the tongue and groove of adjacent boards be glued together.

The coating material should be carefully selected to achieve the preferred look and quality of finish, after considering traffic and wear conditions and the effects of heat, sunlight, or moisture. In areas exposed to fluctuating environmental conditions, the use of polyurethane coatings must be considered carefully. If selected, these coatings must be applied correctly, as they can sometimes glue the flooring together. This prevents the normal expansion and contraction of movement of each floorboard, potentially causing panelisation and major gaps or cracks in the floor.

At least three sequences of sanding and coating are usually required to achieve a smooth, uniform and durable surface that will sustain the beauty and serviceability of timber. The floor finisher should provide a care and maintenance guide. Most floor finishes will need re-sanding and a new coat within ten years. Further information can be obtained from Australian Standard AS 4786.2 (Timber Flooring - Sanding and Finishing).

Test	Merriwa Timbers		Purchaser / Installer	
	Moisture %	Cover Width	Moisture %	Cover Width
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
Average				