



INSTALLATION

Installation Guide — Engineered Timber, Glue-Down

Minimum requirements for installing Vienna Woods tongue-and-groove engineered timber flooring, full glue-down, by a qualified professional installer.

Installation must be carried out by a qualified professional in accordance with relevant NZ standards and NZBC requirements. Failure to follow these instructions may void the warranty.

SCOPE OF USE

Internal residential & light-commercial, glue-down over an approved substrate.

AUDIENCE

Qualified installers · specifiers · builders.

STANDARDS REFERENCED

NZBC Clause C (fire separation) · NZBC E3 (impervious surface) · AS/NZS moisture tolerances · D3-rated PVA.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Care Guides (VW-CARE-LAC/OIL-001) · Warranty (VW-WTY-001) · E3 Alternative Solutions (VW-E3-*).

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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Minimum requirements for installing Vienna Woods tongue-and-groove engineered timber flooring. Installation must be carried out by a qualified professional installer in accordance with relevant NZ standards and NZBC requirements where applicable. Failure to follow these instructions may void the warranty.

1 Scope of use

- Internal residential and light-commercial use only.
- Not suitable for garages, exterior applications or commercial kitchens.
- Flooring is a non-structural overlay and must be installed over an approved substrate.
- For continuous runs over 15 m in any direction, seek project-specific advice first.
- Separate flooring from fuel-burning appliances and flues in accordance with NZBC Clause C.

2 Site & environmental conditions

- Building weather-tight; all wet trades (plastering, painting, tiling) completed and dry.
- Ambient temperature during and after installation: 18–25 °C.
- Relative humidity: 45–65%.
- Conditions at installation must reflect expected in-service conditions.
- The installer inspects product and site before installing. Do not install boards with visible defects.

3 Storage & handling

- Store flat, in unopened packaging, in the installation area for at least 48 hours before installation.
- Keep off concrete using battens/dunnage.
- Store in a dry, shaded environment. Do not store outdoors.

4 Substrate requirements

General: substrate clean, dry, structurally sound, free of contaminants. Level tolerance: max 3 mm over a 3 m straight edge. Record all moisture readings before installation.

Concrete: moisture testing required — max 70% RH (in-situ probe) or as per adhesive manufacturer. Apply an approved moisture barrier if required. Grind high spots; fill low spots with approved levelling compound.

Timber: secure all boards; eliminate movement and squeaks. Moisture-content difference between substrate and flooring must not exceed 4%. Sand to remove coatings and contaminants.

Underfloor heating: flooring must be approved for use over underfloor heating. Commission the system before installation. Max surface temperature 29 °C. Maintain 15 °C surface temperature during installation and for 48 hours after.

Wet areas & membranes: membrane systems must be compatible with glue-down timber flooring. Follow NZBC E3 requirements for impervious surfaces. All system components compatible and installed to manufacturer specifications.

5 Installation method — full glue down

- Use a flexible adhesive suitable for engineered timber flooring.
- Apply adhesive with the recommended notched trowel over the entire substrate.
- Do not glue tongue and groove when full-spread adhesive is used unless specified.
- Maintain a 10–15 mm expansion gap around the perimeter and all fixed objects.
- Remove skirting or undercut where required.
- Mix boards from multiple packs during installation.
- Stagger end joints minimum 300 mm.
- Immediately clean adhesive from the surface.
- Weight flooring where necessary to ensure a full bond.
- Do not fix trims or skirting to the floor; fix to the wall only.

6 Wet-area joint & perimeter sealing (kitchens, laundries, WCs)

- Apply **D3-rated water-resistant PVA adhesive** to all plank joints.
- Apply a continuous bead to groove and tongue; wipe excess immediately.
- Seal perimeter and penetrations with flexible, water-resistant sealant.
- In open-plan areas, extend sealing minimum 1.5 m from sanitary fixtures.
- These measures are required to achieve an impervious surface under NZBC Clause E3.

7 Post-installation

- Remove spacers after adhesive cure.
- Protect the floor with breathable protection if further trades are present.
- Avoid tape directly on the floor surface.
- Minimise foot traffic for 24 hours.
- Provide the client with Care & Maintenance instructions.

8 Natural characteristics & tolerances

Engineered timber is a natural product and will show variation in colour, grain, texture, knots, sapwood and mineral features. These are not defects. Industry standard allows up to 5% manufacturing tolerance and 9–10% total allowance for wastage.

9 Disclaimer

Vienna Woods accepts no liability for installation failure resulting from site conditions, substrate moisture, improper preparation, incompatible products, or failure to follow this guide and relevant standards. The installer is responsible for verifying the suitability of substrate, environment and materials before installation.

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