



TO THE END USER: PLEASE READ - IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT STORING, HANDLING AND FIXING YOUR CYPRESS FLOORING

1. ON SITE PROTECTION

Timber flooring should be stored flat, under a dry, roofed area and at least 200mm above the ground, with even supports, good ventilation allowing a free flow of air to both faces and protection from moisture. Avoid storage in builders sheds and plastic covers exposed to direct sunlight, as these conditions limit air circulation and the timber may be exposed to excessively high temperatures.

2. MOISTURE CONTENT

Cypress timber flooring is kiln dried to a moisture content of between 10% and 15%. It is important to allow the timber to adjust to the prevailing air moisture levels before fixing. (See No. 8 Floor Installation.)

3. SUB-FLOOR VENTILATION

Possibly the most significant factor in successful installation of timber flooring is sub-floor ventilation. An excess of humidity in the under-floor area is usually caused by either a lack of cross-ventilation or inadequate drainage causing damp soil conditions. This can lead to swelling (buckling or cupping) of the flooring and possibly its eventual decay and an unhealthy mustiness within the house.

4. PLATFORM FLOORS

This is a system that provides the builder with a working platform. The floor is laid before the walls and roof framing are erected. *This system is not recommended for feature floors as it exposes the flooring to the weather.* The problem is, it is difficult to protect a platform floor and degradation may arise due to sun and/or rain exposure, and work practices. The builder must take responsibility for these risks, if this system of construction of T & G Flooring is used. **Walker Cypress Mills Pty Ltd or the Suppliers, will not agree to any responsibility for problems arising as a result of handling, exposure to moisture, storage or fixing practices which are out of our control.**

5. CUT-IN-FLOORS

Feature floors are to be laid by the cut-in method. With this method the flooring is laid between the wall plates after the house is closed in and weather tight. Between the plates and the flooring laid parallel to it, a 10mm expansion gap (later covered by the skirting) is required. Also, the floor widths measured (perpendicular to board edges) greater than 6mm, intermediate expansion allowance is required. This will ensure that any swelling associated with normal movement will not disturb the walls. Standard profile boards greater than 65mm nominal width must be fixed with two nails at each joist. Secret nail profile boards up to 80mm wide may be secretly fixed. **Wider boards are not suitable for secret nailing.** To avoid splitting when working close to edges and ends, pre-drill nail holes.

6. FIXING INSTRUCTIONS

For hand nailing, cramp not more than 1 to 1.2m of flooring width at one time. For machine nailing the cramping width should be reduced to 800-900mm. Where end matched flooring is used, joints may occur between floor joists but joints in adjacent boards must not occur in the same span between joists. Avoid fixing in extreme weather conditions. Periods of excessive rain or dry heat before laying will cause the timber to gain or lose moisture. Allow a period of normal weather before fixing to prevent possible swelling or shrinking problems.

7. HOUSES ON SLOPING LAND

Special precautions must be taken when timber floors are laid in a house that is open underneath or built on steeply sloping land or escarpments. In such locations, very dry winds or windblown rain or fog can directly affect the lower surface of the floor. This can result in either extreme shrinkage or extreme swelling. In the latter case, the floor may lift off the joists and structural damage to the building may occur. Depending on the severity of the exposure, options to protect the floor include providing an oil-based sealer to the underside of the floor, installing a weatherproof lining to the underside of the joists or building-in the underfloor space.

8. FLOOR INSTALLATION

Pre-Installation and Acclimatising flooring.

Acclimatisation is the process of allowing partial equalisation of the moisture content of the timber as supplied to the moisture content of the surroundings in which the timber is to be installed. This process should only be carried out when the atmospheric conditions in which the timber is to be acclimatised are similar to the expected **average** service conditions for the floor. Examples of where this process should be used include air-conditioned environments, very dry environments (eg. Western Queensland) or where the micro-climate is moist. The usual building practice adopted in these situations is to cut the boards to the required length, turn them upside down and place them on the joists for a period of no less than two weeks.

9. FINISHING

A wide range of commercial finishes is available for Cypress floors. Oils and waxes, oleo resin sealers and plastics are commonly used. Application should be made strictly in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturers. The use of any finishing systems which are prone to edge bonding are **NOT** to be used. Use of such products may cause **irregularly spaced wide gaps** at board edges across the floor or **splitting** of individual boards.

All Products 100% AFS/PEFC Certified

This quality Cypress Product is produced in accordance with and conforming to A.S.1810 and meets or exceeds the criteria for GRADE 1 Flooring. The reverse side, or back of the board, is distinguished by the chamfered edges.