HDF ENGINEERED STRAND WOVEN BAMBOO

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

Please read the entire installation instructions before proceeding with the installation owner/installer responsibility.

Bamboo flooring is a beautiful and unique product of nature, which is characterized by distinctive variations in grain and color. These natural variations in color and grain are not flaws, but are a part of the natural beauty and uniqueness of bamboo flooring. These inherent variations should be expected and serve to enhance the natural beauty and enduring charm. Yanchi strand woven bamboo flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. The defects may be of a manufacturing or natural type.

The installer assures all responsibility for final inspection of product quality. This inspection of the whole flooring should be done before installation. Carefully examine the flooring for color, finish and quality before installing it. Use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with glaring defects whatever the cause. If the flooring is not acceptable, contract us immediately.

Before beginning installation of any bamboo flooring product, the installer must determine that the environment of the job site and the condition and type of the subfloor involved are acceptable, ensuring that it meets or exceed all requirements which are stipulated in the Yanchi strand woven bamboo installation instructions which follow. Yanchi declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with incorrect installation or maintenance.

Prior to installation, the installer /owner has final inspection responsibility as to grade, manufacture and factory finish. The installer must use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with deficiencies.

The use of stain, filler or putty stick for the correction of defect during installation should be accepted as normal procedure.

Should an individual piece be doubtful as to grade, manufacture or factory finish, the installer should not use the piece.

When Yanchi strand woven bamboo is ordered, a minimum 5% allowance factor, depending on layout, must be added to the actual square meter amount needed.

Please note that Yanchi strand woven bamboo floor must be installed in a regulated and livable environment to prevent possible damage not covered by warranty. As such, Yanchi bamboo should not be installed more than two weeks prior to occupation of the home. The floor is designed to perform in an environmentally controlled structure.

Warranty exclusions are, but not limited to, surface checking resulting from low humidity, mildew or discoloration from extreme sub-floor moisture.
Job Site Inspection and Acclimatization

To allow acclimatization, lay out your bamboo flooring flat in the room in which it is to be installed for at least 72 hours, in its sealed foil package or box, at a room temperature of 18-21 degree (40-65% air humidity). Avoid racking (opening) boxes of flooring on wet or rainy days, or if a high humidity condition exists.

Do not install in a bathroom and basement.

In a new construction, bamboo flooring should be one of the last items installed. All work involving water or moisture (plumbing, acoustical ceiling, waling lining etc) should be completed prior to bamboo flooring being installed. Heating and air systems should be fully operating maintaining a comfortable room temperature.

Flooring should be delivered until the building has been closed in an cement work, plastering, painting and other material are completely dry. Concrete and plaster should be cured and at least 60 days old. Check basements and underfloor crawl space to be sure that they are dry and well ventilated to avoid damage caused by moisture.

Handle with care. Do not stand on ends. Store Yanchi Strand Woven Bamboo flooring in a dry place and be sure to provide at least a 100MM air space under and around cartons.

Do not store directly on concrete or near outside walls. Cartons should be placed in the installation area.

Extremes in humidity levels in the home must be prevented all year long. Bamboo is a living product which reacts to humidity level variations. During summer time, where the humidity level is at its highest point, the bamboo has a natural expansion and absorbs the humidity, these variations must be dealt with adequate dehumidification.

As for winter, when the heating system is working, the humidity level can become too low. This is especially the case with wood fired heating, but can occur with any heating system. When humidity becomes too low, strand woven bamboo has a tendency to cup and shrink, causing some corrugation across the boards. As such, steps must be taken to introduce moisture into the indoor environment, e.g. plants, water feature, fish bowls, humidifier, etc. Failure to adopt such measure may lead to irreversible cupping of the boards, this not covered by warranty.

Do not install strand woven bamboo on heating floor. Yanchi strand woven bamboo is not suitable over heated subfloors.

Required Tools for proper installation

For installing Yanchi strand woven bamboo flooring, we recommend a pulling iron and a tapping block. You will also require a jigsaw, pencil, hammer, tape measure, sharp “Stanley” type knife and small hand tools associated with wood working.

Along with your Yanchi strand woven bamboo flooring you’ll need an underlay, and enough trims to complete your floor. Trims are available in range of shapes, profiles.
Step by Step Installation Instruction

Yanchi strand woven bamboo flooring is installed as a “floating” floor. That is, that the panels are joined together via the Click joining system to each other, and float over an approved underlay and damp proof.

A successful installation will rely heavily on strict adherence to these instructions. The two most common cause of failure are uneven subfloors, and inadequate expansion to the perimeter of the floor. An uneven subfloor may lead to movement of the flooring underfoot and within the joining system, resulting in excessive noise, which often sound like “crackling” or “creaking”.

Preparation

The first thing that you need is to ensure that the subfloor or surface that the bamboo is being installed over is level. Using a one meter straightedge, the subfloor level should not exceed +/- 3MM over 1 lineal meter in any direction. Remember, uneven floors may lead to movement and noise, so it is necessary to assess the levelness and get it right. Timber floors can be sanded level and concrete floors or existing floor coverings can usually be leveled using a self-leveling compound. Yanchi strand woven bamboo cannot be installed over carpet or carpet underlay but can be installed over well bonded vinyl, cork, ceramic tiles if sufficiently level.

Yanchi strand woven bamboo must be installed over a continuous damp proof membrane when installed over concrete subfloors or timber subfloors. This continues damp proof membrane can be provided by the use of recommended combination underlay product that combines the underlay and damp proof in one product.

In the instance of knowingly or logically wet subfloors, or heated sub floors, always use 200uM builders plastic sheeting, overlapping joins by 300mm, taping joins with water proof tape and turning up at walls or vertical fixtures.

Door frames and architraves should be undercut prior to commencing installation using a scrap of flooring and a long, flexible hand saw.

Work out the trims to be installed as some trims are easier to install prior to the flooring. This will be dependent on the direction of the trim to the flooring and the type of trim to be installed.

Installing the First Three Rows

Select a starting wall that is long and visible, the first three rows will be installed parallel to this way. Install the first row of plastic and /or underlay as required then install the first row, tongue(male) to the wall without glue to assess the straightness of the starting wall. If the starting wall is undulating or uneven, square this row off to the other side of the room using a tape measure and scribe the first row of boards to cater for the undulations while accommodating a uniform 10-14mm expansion gap. If scribing is not required, remove the small tongue from along these starting boards. In terms of the required expansion gap, a of 10 mm gap is required around 100% of the floor perimeter.
Now lay the first row directly against the wall. Engage the end joints by rotating into position (we will space off the first three rows later). Cut the end board and leave a 10mm gap at each end. Fit a 10mm spacer at the start of the row to set the gap required. The off-cut from the last board in the first row now starts your second row, providing it is longer than 300mm. If not, a new board will need to be cut to begin the second row. Now install the first board of the 2nd row by rotating the long join into position and install the 10MM spacer at the start of this row. This long join of the 2nd board can now be rotated into position. The end joint is then closed using the block and hammer. Continue installing the floor left to right using the off cut from row 2 to begin row three. (Note: Remember to ensure that you stagger and joins by greater than 300mm). Any small gaps present can be filled using a caulking compound in an appropriate color. We can now slide these three rows off the wall and install the 10-15mm spacers.

The Body and the Final Row

Continue installing the floor left to right using the rotate and tap technique described earlier. The final row will need to be trimmed to fit using a jigsaw and bought into place using the pulling iron. Remember to allow an adequate gap from expansion at all walls and vertical surfaces. This gap will covered last of all.

Finishing off

Finish off your floor by installing base board molding and quarter round that covers the gap left from expansion along the walls. It’s very important to nail the quarter round on the base board and not on the floor. As this will stop the normal movement of the floor. Your Yanchi strand woven bamboo can now be cleaned and enjoyed.

Completing the Job

Clean the floor with Timber Cleaner. Install transition pieces. Inspect final floor for nicks or minor gap and fill with appropriate color wood putty. Use plywood or hardboard when moving heaving appliances or furniture across floor.

Care Guide

Your Yanchi strand woven bamboo floor will add warmth and beauty to your home for many years to come. Bamboo flooring will mark and scratch with normal use, however following a few simple maintenance steps, will help protect your investment and keep your strand woven bamboo floor like new.

Cleaning

Use a damp cloth to blot up spills and spots as soon as they happen. For tough spots such as oil, paint, markers, lipstick, ink, tar or cigarette marks, use acetone/nail polish remove then wipe with a damp cloth. Always avoid allowing liquids to stand on your floor. Regularly vacuum, dust mop or weep the floor to prevent sand or abrasive dust from accumulating and scratching the finish. Periodically clean the floor with Timber Cleaner or approved hardwood floor cleaner, which are specially formulated for the finish.

For more information on this product or to order samples call 1-877-631-2845 or visit our website at builddirect.com
Do not use oil based, wax, polish, or strong ammoniated or abrasive cleaners, steel wood or scouring powder to clean the floor.

Do not wash or wet-mop the floor with soup, water, oil soap detergent or any other liquid cleaning material. This could cause swelling, warping, delaminating and joint-line separation and avoid the warranty.

Do not use any type of polisher.

If the proper care is taken, you will enjoy your bamboo flooring for years to come!

**Protecting**

Use quality area rugs and doormats by outdoor entrance areas to prevent dirt, sand, grit and other substances such as oil, asphalt or driveway sealer from being tracked onto your floor.

Sweep, dust or vacuum the floor regularly to prevent accumulation of dirt or grit that can scratch or dull the floor finish.

Use felt floor protectors on all movable furniture to prevent scratching. As a rule of thumb, the heavier the project, the wider the floor protector should be.

Maintain a comfortable and regular indoor environment, in order to minimize the natural expansion and contraction of wood. Failure to prevent extremes in humidity will void the warranty.

Protect the floor from castor chairs with PVC matting, or by using soft castors designed for hard floors.

Do not walk on your floor with stiletto-style heels, spiked golf shoes or cleats, they may cause indentations in your floor.

Rearrange area rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. UV sunlight will soften or darken the tone of difference species of hardwood to varying degrees.

Use a dolly when moving heavy furniture or appliance. But first, put down a sheet masonite to protect the floor. Never try to slide or roll heavy objects across the floor.

Pets claws may damage your floor, so keep pet's nails trimmed, or consider “booties” available at pet stores.

**Warranty**

Yanchi strand woven bamboo floor comes with a:

- Lifetime structural Integrity Warranty
- 25 Years Finish and Wear Warranty

These warranties, which begin from the date of purchase, apply to products used in dry residential applications. Lifetime warranties apply for as long as the original purchaser owns and resides in the home where the product was installed.

What the limited warranty covers:

Finish and wear warranty --- Yanchi bamboo warrants to the original purchaser that its finish surface will not peel off or wear through for the indicated period of time, from the date of purchase.

Lifetime structural integrity warranty --- Yanchi warrants these bamboo flooring products in their original manufactured conditions to be free from defect in material and workmanship including assembly dimensions and grading.
Note: Bamboo flooring is a natural product that will continue to expand and contract during seasonal and temperature changes. Products may experience separation between boards when properly acclimatized and installed. If separations do occur, they are not covered by this warranty.

Each Yanchi strand woven bamboo flooring Limited Warranty is subject to the following conditions:
The limited warranty is valid only in North America. The warranty is not transferable. This limited warranty applies only where the affected area of Yanchi bamboo is visible and covers an area greater than 10% of the room. The flooring must be installed in accordance with Yanchi recommended installation instructions.

Natural Bamboo characteristics such as mineral streaks, small knots, grain variations, etc. are normal characteristics and are not considered as defects. No two pieces of bamboo are the same and color or other variations will occur. We do not guarantee against natural variations, or the normal difference between color samples or photographs and color of installed floors.

Indentation, scratches or damage caused by negligence, water moisture, insects, animals and high heeled or spiked shoes, or failure to use pads under rolling chairs or other furniture.

Any product deformity that is not measurable or that is visible only in certain angle is not considered a defect. Defects are evaluated by their visibility from a reasonable vertical distance (standing height) from the floor.

Failure to follow manufacturer written installation instructions including protecting the floor from subfloor moisture. Excessive or inadequate humidity in the area of use is not acceptable. Regulation of the indoor environment must be provided to avoid extremes.

Cupping the floor is due to excessively low humidity.

Improper or insufficient protection, care and maintenance are not acceptable.

Accidents, abuse or misuse are exempt from liability. Warranty will be man-made or natural disasters including leaking or broken plumbing, fire, flood, and earthquake or standing water occur during or after installation.

Improper alteration of original manufactured product, alterations or repairs to the manufacturer’s original product will avoid any and all warranties.

The color change due to full or partial exposure to sunlight and weather should be exempt for liability.

Failure caused because of structural changes in the subfloor, settling of the building or uneven subfloor that has not been adequately leveled.

This warranty does not cover removal or replacement of cabinets, appliances, furniture or other fixtures.

Gloss reduction is not considered wear.

Face checking, cracking are not covered by this warranty.
Please note:

Yanchi does not grant to any person or entity the authority to create for it any obligation or liability in connection with Yanchi. Yanchi shall not be liable to the consumer or any other person for any incidental, special or consequential damages, arising out of breach of this limited warranty or any implied warranty (excluding merchantability).

Installation implies acceptance on warranty will be offered for appearance, related claims once the products are installed.