



INSTALLATION

WIDE STRAND WOVEN BAMBOO FLOORING

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.

Yanchi strand woven bamboo is one kind of “solid” re-constituted strand woven bamboo flooring. The installation of this product generally follows the normal practice for the installation of flooring floors, however due to its solid contraction; it is not as dimensionally stable as engineered or multi-layer flooring products. This means that it is quite reactive in the width to changes in humidity, and is somewhat un-reactive in the length. As such, special attention should be given to adequate perimeter gaps, and proper compartmentalization of the floor plan. This involves the prevision of control joints at doorways to break up the floor plan into separate floors, and by doing so reduce the overall expansion or contraction of the floor. 10 or 12MM skirting boards are not suitable, as they do not provide adequate cover for the perimeter gap. Always lay the product down the length of the room to minimize the running meter in the width. And finally, always ensure that the floor does not exceed 8 meter in the width, before a control joint is provided.

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.



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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 acclimation

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.



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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 continuous 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



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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 brought into place using the pulling iron. Remember to allow an adequate gap from expansion at all walls and vertical surfaces. This gap will be 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 heavy appliances or furniture across floor.



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