

## SOLID WOOD FLOORING PRODUCT INFORMATION: HEATING, INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE



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# FEEL WOOD Solid wood flooring

The solid wood floorboard is the top product among the floor coverings. **FEEL WOOD** solid wood flooring is produced from a solid piece of wood from sustainable forestry.

Innovative and modern production technologies make the solid wood floorboard as **accurately fitting as a solid parquet floorboard for generations** to come. The all around running tongue and groove connection of **FEEL WOOD** solid wood floorboard permits endless installation possibilities and will **save time and cost**. The all **around mini-bevelled edges**  highlight the typical style of the floorboard. The relief grooves prevent excessive cupping, a small distance between the tongue and groove **raises the fitting accuracy.** 

The surface is sealed and sanded smooth. The factory ensures an extensive program with **high quality**, **robust**, **and ecological surface finishes**.







a brand of





# THE INSTALLATION POSSIBILITIES:



Installation with clips 135/137 mm floorboard width



Screw-down Installation



Glue-down Installation



Glue-down Installation on underfloor heating



Underfloor heating in dry construction (Screwed to intermediate battens)



Installation with clamp on underfloor heating (screed or dry construction systems; floating "FEEL WOOD system")

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### **TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **INFORMATION UNDERFLOOR HEATING:**

The thermal resistance of the overall system (wood/ adhesive/decoupling mats/underfloor insulation) should not exceed a guide value of 0.15m<sup>2</sup> K/W. This ensures comfortable living even with fluctuations in room temperature due to sufficiently fast reaction time of the effect of the underfloor heating for heating up or cooling down.



Wood species	λ-Wert	m²K/W	Thickness [mm]	Width [mm]	শ	1				<u>M</u>
Spruce	0,13	0,12	15	135	•		•	•		0
Spruce	0,13	0,15	19	135	•	•	•	0	•	0
Spruce	0,13	0,19	25	135	•	•	•			
Pine	0,13	0,15	19	135	•	•	•	0	•	0
Larch Siberian	0,15	0,10	15	135	•		•	٠		٠
Larch Siberian	0,15	0,13	19	135	•	•	•	0	•	0
Larch Siberian	0,15	0,13	19	178		•	•			
Larch Siberian	0,15	0,17	25	135	•	•	•			
Larch Siberian	0,15	0,17	25	178		•	•			
Larch European	0,12	0,16	19	135	•	•	•			
Swiss Stone Pine	0,13	0,15	19	135	•	•	•	0	•	0
Oak	0,17	0,09	15	137	•		•	•		•
Oak	0,17	0,09	15	168			•	••		
Oak	0,17	0,12	21	137	•	•	•	•	•	•
Oak	0,17	0,12	21	168		•	•	••	••	
Oak	0,17	0,12	21	198		•	٠			
Oak	0,17	0,16	27	188		•	•			
Ash	0,17	0,12	21	137	•	•	•	•	•	•

Adhesive (z.B. Sika 54)	0,08	0,03	2
Cork	0,08	0,04	3
Fibreboard	0,07	0,04	3

 $m^2K/W$ Thermal restistance λ-Wert

Lambda value

is suitable for underfloor heating

technically possible; as long as your indoor climate is in ...

the optimal range,gap formation can be minimized..

conditionally suitable for underfloor heating; depending on additionally used system elements, the recommended thermal resistance 0 could be exceeded. Slower reaction time during heating/cooling must be expected!

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### In order to have unlimited pleasure with your FEEL WOOD solid floor, please pay attention to the following general principles:

#### **PRINCIPLE 1**

The subfloor must be dry (anhydrite screeds: max. 0,3 % of residual moisture, cement screeds: max. 1,8 % of residual moisture), flat and structurally sound.

#### PRINCIPLE 2

Allow 15 mm expansion space around all vertical obstructions because of the expansion and contraction of the wood.

#### **PRINCIPLE 3**

Care should be taken to control humidity levels within the 50 and 65 % range and a temperature around 20 °C will prevent excessiv shrinkage and swelling in your hardwood floor.

Relative air humidity	Wood equilibrium moisture content					
85 %	18,1	18,0	18,0	17,9	17,5	17,1
80 %	16,2	16,0	16,0	15,8	15,5	15,1
75 %	14,7	14,5	14,3	14,0	13,9	13,5
70 %	13,2	13,1	13,0	12,8	12,4	12,1
65 %	12,0	12,0	11,8	11,5	11,2	11,0
60 %	11,0	10,9	10,8	10,5	10,3	10,0
55 %	10,1	10,0	9,9	9,7	9,4	9,1
50 %	9,4	9,2	9,0	8,9	8,6	8,4
45 %	8,6	8,4	8,3	8,1	7,9	7,5
40 %	7,8	7,7	7,5	7,3	7,0	6,6
35 %	7,0	6,9	6,7	6,4	6,2	5,8
30 %	6,2	6,1	5,9	5,6	5,3	5,0
Temperature (°C)	10	15	20	25	30	35
Temperature (°F)	50	59	68	77	86	95

#### TO NOTE

Allow the unopened package to acclimatize in the room of installation for at least 48 hours. Lay horizontally and flat on the floor.

Wood species	Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	Hardness Grades
Spruce Nordic	0,47	
Pine Nordic	0,52	
Swiss Stone Pine	0,49	
Fir	0,46	
Douglas Fir	0,58	
Larch Siberian	0,59	
Cherry	0,60	
Ash	0,65	
Walnut American	0,65	
Beech	0,68	
Oak European	0,71	3. VERY HARD WOOD
Maple	0,72	

#### HARDNESS GRADES

The durability of a wood floor depends mainly on the wood species. The tighter is a wood species, the bigger is the resilience. The enclosed values (g/cm<sup>3</sup>) for the wood species listed in the table are based on a normal wood equilibrium moisture content of 12 %:



### INSTALLATION WITH CLIPS

Installation height: Moisture barrier: Sound proofing: Clips:

from 18 mm film 200 µ approx. 2 mm (cork) 15 clips/m<sup>2</sup>

Plank width:

Plank thickness: 15/19/25 mm (softwood) 15/21 mm (hardwood) 135 mm (softwood) 137 mm (hardwood)



1. PREPARATION: the subfloor must be structurally sound, flat and dry. If necessary install a moisture barrier to avoid a rise of moisture (a PE-film 200 µ for instance). The film should also be pulled up on the walls in a vertical direction. A cork underlay can be installed for sound proofing.



2. INSTALLATION: push the clips one into another in such way that they form a chain. Lay all chains in rows 70 cm apart.

Please pay attention: the installation with clips is suitable for small and medium-sized rooms (4m wide). Keep a space between the first and last plank from the wall of at least 10 mm but not less than 15mm! We calculate 10 mm per 1m of laying width.



3. INSTALLATION: the subsequent rows are installed by fitting the tongue into the groove and hammering the boards into place. If you use a soft impact sound insulation, to support the snapping into place, put a trowel under the wood plank to help the catching of the clips into the groove. Then, remove the trowel.

# SOLID WOOD FLOORING





**4. GLUE:** face joints must be glued. Glue is applied only to the bottom of the groove. Please pay attention: never glue lengthwise!



**5. CONNECTING WALLS:** the last row of boards is cut to length, taking into account the required spacing from the wall. This last row can be glued lengthwise.



**6. FIT THE SKIRTING BOARDS:** once the glue has hardened, you can remove the wedges and fit the skirting boards.



# SCREW-DOWN

Installation height: Moisture barrier: Sound proofing:

Subfloor:

from 37 mm film 200 µ approx. 2 mm (felt or cork) 20 mm (smooth planed or small wood structure)



**1. PREPARATION:** the subfloor must be structurally sound, flat and dry. If necessary install a moisture barrier to avoid a rise of moisture (a PE-film 200  $\mu$  for instance). The film should also be pulled up on the walls in a vertical direction.

Plank width:

Plank thickness: 19/25 mm (softwood)

all

21/27 mm (hardwood)



**2. SUBSTRUCTURE 1:** screwing onto resistant subfloor, e.g. chipboards, plywood. Keep a gap from the wall of min. 15 mm. The first row of boards is laid with the groove towards the wall, aligned and screwed vertically into the joists.



**3. SCREWING:** the following rows of boards are fastened with special screws through the tongue. The last row of boards has to be installed like the first one.







**4. SUBSTRUCTURE 2:** the second option is the installation on kiln dried joists floating on the impact sound insulation stripes (e.g. coconut fiber) with the spacing of maximum 40 cm to each other.



**5. SUBSTRUCTURE/SCREWING:** fill the spacing between the joists with packing material or insulation (e.g. cellulose). Screw the floorboards to the joists with special screws through the tongue.



**6. SCREWING:** tap the boards together using a tapping block and firmly press while screwing to secure. The last row of boards has to be screwed into position from above.



### GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION

Installation height: Moisture barrier: -Sound proofing: subfloor: from 18 mm

screed

 Plank thickness:
 15/19/25 mm (softwood)

 15/21 mm (hardwood)

 Plank width:
 all



**1. PREPARATION/BASE:** The subfloor must to be structurally sound, flat and dry. Apply a prime coat from a recommended manufacturer primer to strengthen the surface. It serves as moisture barrier too.



**2. INSTALLATION:** before the boards are ultimately glued, it's recommended to first loosely lay them out to get a desired layout and general overview.



**3. GLUEING/INSTALLATION:** apply the adhesive in accordance with manufacturer's instruction using the appropriate toothed trowel. Lay the first row of boards onto the glue, leaving a minimum of 15 mm expansion gap from the wall. After having installed the first row, control the alignment and correct it, if necessary! Before glueing the second row, make sure that the first one cannot move.







**4. GLUEING/INSTALLATION:** the following boards are to be installed tongue to groove and make sure that the entire board is in contact with the glue.



**5. GLUEING/INSTALLATION:** CAUTION: An expansion gap of a minimum 5 mm per 1 m of laying width must be maintained between all fixed objects (door casings, walls, heating pipes etc.)! If necessary weigh the boards down (with a sandbag etc.).



**6. SKIRTING BOARDS FITTING:** after the installation, you can remove the wedges and fit the skirting boards.

### UNDERFLOOR HEATING

#### **BAREFOOT ALL YEAR ROUND!**

Today the modern living is always connected with an underfloor heating. The pleasant comfortable climate and energy saving operation are very popular among housebuilders and interior renovators. In combination with FEEL WOOD solid wood floor you will create a unique microclimate.



### Solid wood flooring - the optimal covering on underfloor heating - why?

#### • EMISSION-FREE:

The solid wood flooring is completely made of wood. There is no glueing - the rising heat from the underfloor heating cannot cause emission of artificial ingredients.

#### **O HOMOGENEOUS REACTION:**

The solid wood flooring is completely made of the same wood. Thus, the board reacts on the swelling and shrinking of the wood by humidity changes more homogeneously than a 3 layer parquet floor (usually 2 layers of Spruce + 2-4 mm wear layer of the visible wood).

#### • Resistent against high temperatures

Solid wood does not react to temperature, but only to the moisture of the environment. Therefore, even long direct exposure to sunlight or higher temperatures from the underfloor heating is unproblematic for solid wood flooring.

#### • THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY:

The thermal conductivity of solid wood flooring is similar or better than parquet, because the wood plank is more homogeneous than a 3-layers parquet floor containing glue and different types of wood. Underfloor heating in connection with solid wood flooring needs a longer lead-time to heat up and to cool down than stone or ceramic floors. During the off-heating season, the floor stays comfortably warm: Feel the difference in barefoot mode! The thermal conductivity and resistance vary in accordance with the wood species and thickness. In the table on page 6, you will find an overview of the thermal resistances of particular wood species in different thicknesses.

### LAYING SOLID WOOD FLOORING ON UNDER-FLOOR HEATING



Glue-down installation on underfloor heating



Drywall elements with underfloor heating (screwed to intermediate lathing)



Installation with clamp on underfloor heating systems (screed or drywall systems; floating)

### Which installation type is recommended?

### Which wood species are suitable?

All three installation-types of the FEEL WOOD planks are compatible with all kind of underfloor heating.

#### We recommend the following wood species for the installation on underfloor heating: oak, ash, Siberian larch, spruce, pine and alpine stone pine.

### Which thicknesses and widths are possible?

Due to the thermal resistance values, we recommend:

#### Softwood

15 mm thickness with glue-down and clips installation.

19 mm thickness with screws-down installation on underfloor heating in dry construction elements or gluedown and clips installation and a width not exceeding 135 mm (respect the guide value of the global system).

#### Hardwood

15 and 21 mm thicknesses with glue-down installation and a width not exceeding 168 mm (respect the guide values of the global system).

15 and 21 mm thicknesses with our clips installation and a width not exceeding 137 mm (respect the guide values of the global system).

21 mm thickness with screw-down installation on underfloor heating in dry construction elements and a width not exceeding 168 mm.

### GLUE-DOWN INSTALLATION ON UNDERFLOOR HEATING



The full-surface gluing of solid wood planks is the usual and therefore most common method of installation. FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring is manufactured from one piece of wood and is very suitable for installation over underfloor heating.

When gluing on underfloor heating dry construction elements, a possibly required decoupling mat must be provided by the system manufacturer.

### COMMON RULES FOR GLUING FEEL WOOD SOLID WOOD FLOORING ON UNDERFLOOR HEATING

- o Which woods are suitable
- Temperature acclimatisation BEFORE unpacking and laying
- Checking the subfloor according to DIN 18356 norm
- Checking the solid wood planks before laying
- o Laying temperature in the room
- o Proper glue-down installation
- (primer/adhesive/wall spacing/installation)

#### Which woods are suitable for installation on underfloor heating?

We recommend the following wood species for the installation on underfloor heating:



Depending on the type of wood, up to a covering width of 168 mm, wood thicknesses according to specific thermal conductivity value (Technical data sheet p. 6). All materials (wood/adhesive/impact sound insulation) together should not exceed the guide value of 0.15m<sup>2</sup> K/W.

### Temperature acclimatisation BEFORE unpacking and laying

We recommend acclimating the solid wood planks to balance the moisture levels of the wood flooring with the moisture levels in the room of installation.

Store for at least 48 hours the solid wood flooring packs closed in the boxes, flat in the room of installation. Ensure packs remain sealed and stacked no more than 2 packs high. Leave gaps of at least 4cm between all piles. This will ensure that the air is sufficiently circulated around each box and that the planks will retain as much as possible their original shape.

Preparatory tests / site conditions before installation on heated screeds: Test the screed according to DIN 18356. T. For installation on old or absorbent heating screeds, apply a primer to ensure a good elastic bond between glue and wooden planks. For installation on a new or renovated heating screed, heat it several times (according to professional practice) to remove tensions und stresses from the screed. Control the screed for residual moisture at several points, not only superficially, but also by means of calcium carbide measurement (CM measurement) according to DIN 18356. Maximal permissible residual screed moisture: max.: 1,8% CM for cement; max.: 0,3% for anhydride screed.



### Preparatory tests / site conditions on underfloor heating in dry construction elements:

Ensure that no moisture can rise from the substrates under the heating elements. Clarify with the manufacturer of the heating system which tensile and shear forces may act on the heating elements. If necessary, install decoupling mats recommended by the manufacturer to decouple inadmissible tensile and shear forces

### Check the solid wood flooring before installation

The FEEL WOOD solid wood products are sorted by our experienced staff according to established standard. Provided that not more than 5 % of the order quantity is defective, this is not a reason for complaint. We recommend to check the solid wood planks for visible defects, damages/wood moisture. FEEL WOOD solid wood planks are delivered with a residual moisture content of 9 % (+/-2 %) (single piece measured lengthwise). After installation or further processing, any liability for removal of visible defects is excluded.

#### Laying temperature in the room

Turn off the heating system two days before. During installation, the room temperature should be above 15 degrees.

#### Professional glue-down installation

The adhesive and primer used must be approved by the manufacturer for the use/bonding of solid wood planks for the dimensions (thickness/width/length). The application recommendations or application thicknesses must be specified by the manufacturer and be respected during the installation. The adhesive and primer used must be approved by the manufacturer for the respective system-specific emission temperature. In the case of glueing to underfloor heating in dry construction elements, the system manufacturer must specify any decoupling mat that may be required. Keep an expansion gap to the wall of at least 15 mm!

For irremovable components, door frames, heating pipes, etc., the specified on-site expansion gaps must be observed.

Respect the on-site expansion joints of the substrate; never cover/glue over on-site expansion joints! Re-check the straigh of the first row of planks (laser, straightedge, etc.) before laying the next rows. For further information, see pages 12 and 13.

### INSTALLATION WITH CLIPS ON UNDERFLOOR HEATING





#### FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring - floating installation without glue

A floating floor is a flooring installation that does not require the use of nails or glue. The floating floorboards make installation fast, simple and very affordable and healthy (no glue). For this issue FEEL WOOD has developed during the last 20 years a clip system made of stainless steel. The solid wood planks are held together with the clips pushed one into another in order to form a chain. The swelling and shrinkage of the wood planks due to the variation of humidity is absorbed by the clip system.

### General rules for clip installation on underfloor heating:

- Which woods are suitable
- Temperature acclimatisation BEFORE unpacking and laying
- Checking the subfloor according to DIN 18356 norm
- Checking the solid wood planks before laying
- o Laying temperature in the room

#### Which types of wood are suitable?

We recommend the following wood species for FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring for installation on underfloor heating systems: oak, ash, Siberian larch, Nordic spruce, Nordic pine and Alpine stone pine

Depending on the type of wood, up to a covering width of 137 mm, wood thicknesses according to specific thermal conductivity value (see technical data sheet p. 6). All materials (wood / impact sound insulation) together should not exceed the guide value of  $0.15m^2$  K/W.

### Temperature acclimatisation BEFORE unpacking and laying!

We recommend acclimating the solid wood planks to balance the moisture levels of the wood flooring with the moisture levels in the room of installation. Store for at least 48 hours the solid wood flooring packs closed in the boxes, flat in the room of installation. Ensure packs remain sealed and stacked no more than 2 packs high. Leave gaps of at least 4cm between all piles. This will ensure that the air is sufficiently circulated around each box and that the planks will retain as much as possible their original shape.

### Preparatory tests/preparation of the substrates for heated screeds:

The substrate must be stable, level and dry. Testing of the screed according to DIN 18356. Testing of the residual screed moisture in several places, not only superficially, but also recorded by means of calcium carbide measurement (CM measurement) according to . Standard specifications. Maximum permissible residual screed moisture: max. 1.8 % CM for cement screeds; max. 0.3 % CM for anhydride and flowing screeds!

### Preparatory testing/preparation of substrates for drywall underfloor heating elements:

Ensure that no moisture can rise from the substrates under the heating elements. The drywall underfloor heating elements must be laid stable and level.

### Checking the solid wood plank before laying

FEEL WOOD solid wood products are sorted by our experienced staff according to etablished rules. Provided that no more than 5 % of the order quantity is defective, this does not constitute a reason for complaint. We recommend to check the solid wood planks for visible defects, damages, wood moisture.

FEEL WOOD solid wood planks are delivered with a residual moisture content of 9 % (+/-2 %) (single piece measured lengthwise). After installation or further processing, any liability for removal of visible defects is excluded.

#### Room temperature during installation

Turn off the heating system 2 days before installation. The room temperature during installation should be over 15 degrees (Follow glue manufacturer's guidance).

#### Professional installation with clips

If a concern of moisture exists, lay out a vapour barrier (foil 200µ) and pull it up the walls to the surface of the floorboards. In order to decouple the sound impact from the subfloor (screed or drywall heating elements), lay down an impact sound insulation (wood fibreboard, cork, cardboard...).If you use a soft impact sound insulation, to support the snapping into place, put a spatula under the wood plank to help the catching of the clips into the groove. Then, remove the spatula. A raise of humidity will make the solid wood planks - installed floating with FEEL WOOD clips - swell in the width. The clip system distributes the swelling all over the width of the room. Leave a space of 8 to 10 mm to the wall per meter of installation width (depending on the wood type and moisture absorption).

Therefore, this type of installation suits small rooms. Keep at least a minimal expansion gap of 15mm from the walls! For wider rooms, please provide in advance an expansion gap, which allows enough movement of the boards in the width of the room due to moisture absorption. Respect the instructions for clips installation on pages 8 and 9! Observe the correct laying direction of clips and planks.

### Advantages of floating installation with the FEEL WOOD clip flooring system

- o fast and easy, immediately ready-to-live-in
- o glue-free!!
- o tension-free solid wood plank,
- without delamination problems,

without crack problems

o easy to remove, easy to renovate

### UNDERFLOOR HEATING IN DRY CONSTRUCTIONS



#### SOLID WOOD FLOORING ON UNDERFLOOR HEATING

### Solid wood planks have been used as flooring for generations.

Solid wood flooring is the oldest material, which is still used in residential houses. A solid wood floorboard conserves the character of nature and is easy to combine with each style of furniture. Wooden floorings create an individual and natural atmosphere in your home and provide it with a healthy indoor climate working as a natural air conditioner.

Solid wood flooring is suitable for installation on drywall floor heating elements. On page 6 you will find the different types of wood, which are compatible with this heating system. FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring is approved for installation on all hot water guided and electric drywall underfloor heating systems. There is no limit on the discharge or surface temperature.

However, for healthy living, do not permanently reside on floors with surface temperatures higher than 25-26 degrees. For systems that operate at higher power and discharge temperature, we recommend to observe and support the maintenance of a healthy indoor environment. Otherwise, the floorboards may dry out, joints and cracks may occur. Measures to maintain a healthy room climate such as largeleaved plants, humidifiers, damp floor mopping will prevent the solid wood planks from drying out.

#### General rules for installation on drywall floor heating elements:

- Which woods are suitable
- Temperature acclimatisation BEFORE unpacking and laying

#### Floating installation with clips

For this installation on drywall underfloor heating systems, the appropriate impact sound insulation must be approved by the manufacturer of the heating system.For more information, see pages 18 and 19.



- Laying temperature in the room
- Proper screw-down installation
- Checking the solid wood flooring before laying

#### Full surface glueing

In the case of full-surface bonding, clarify with the manufacturer of the heating system which tensile and shear forces may act on the heating elements. If necessary, install the decoupling mat recommended by the manufacturer to decouple inadmissible tensile and shear forces. For more information, see pages 16 and 17.

#### Screwing:

The most commonly used installation of solid wood planks on underfloor heating systems in dry construction is a screw connection on installed or interposed wooden battens. For more information, see page 10 and 11. We recommend the following types of wood for FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring for an installation on underfloor heating systems: oak, ash, Siberian larch, Nordic spruce, Nordic pine and alpine stone pine.

Depending on the type of wood, up to a deck width of 168 mm, wood thicknesses according to specific thermal conductivity value (see technical data sheet page 6).

#### Professional screw connection

Fill must be bound and covered with a suitable load distribution plate. Level, smooth and load-bearing ground required (observe requirements according to system manufacturer). If a concern of moisture exits, lay out a vapour barrier (foil 200  $\mu$ ) and pull it up the walls to the surface of the floorboard Install edge insulation strips/installation boards/heating pipes/upholstered wood in accordance with the system manufacturer.



Install edge insulation strips/installation boards/heating pipes/upholstered woods according to system manufacturer.



Installation of solid wood planks. Observe the wall spacing of at least 15 mm!

Align the first row of planks with the groove to the wall and screw it to the construction timber using suitable wood screws.



The other rows of planks are screwed concealed by the tongue with special plank screws. Pre-drilling is recommended.

The planks have tongue and groove all around and are suitable for continuous laying. The planks are laid in an irregular pattern, pay attention to the head joints on the front side, these should be offset by at least 30 cm to the previous row of planks.



The last row will be screwed vertically (like the first one) into the construction battens. Please respect the installation instructions with screws on pages 10 and 11!

Install the skirting boards and start with the first care, see pages 24 and 25!

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## "TO KNOCK ON WOOD, WILL BRING YOU **GOOD LUCK** FOR THE FUTURE."

Monika Kühn-Görg

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### CARE OF YOUR SOLID WOOD FLOORING

#### First care immediately after installation

The FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring is mainly delivered with a finished surface, e. g., oiled with natural oil. On site and also during installation soiling may occur.

In order to have unlimited pleasure with FEEL WOOD solid floor, to provide a perfect appearance in the new place and highlight its natural beauty, we recommend you to perform a simple first care immediately after installation.

#### 1. Dry Cleaning

With a powerful vacuum cleaner, in order to avoid the dirt being rubbed into the gaps.

#### 2. Re-oiling with FEEL WOOD-Maintenance oil

Apply a small amount of FEEL WOOD-Maintenance oil, distribute and blur it with a floormop. After the floor has already been oiled in the factory, it absorbs just a little bit of oil - it's more about "the outer oiling" to create a visual effect of a new floor.

#### Maintenance and cleaning

Depending on the stress, a natural oiled wooden floor in the living area in addition to the regular cleaning should be thouroughy maintained at least once a year. For surfaces with excessive stress in commercial objects, this maintenance interval should be shortened.

#### 1. Dry Cleaning

With a powerful vacuum cleaner

#### 2. Wet cleaning

With a mixture of FEEL WOOD-natural woodfloor soap and water. For five litres of water add appr. 50 ml (1/2 yogurt-cup) soap. Wipe the floor well with this solution and a cotton floor cloth. For larger areas or very dirty, use two buckets, so you could wash out the dirty floor cloth in clear water, before you apply the soap solution as a protection on the floor again. The floor must be absolutely dry before the next step - re-oiling, therefore let it dry for about 8 hours!

CAUTION: No use of microfiber towels as by the scouring effect the oil is removed from the pores of the wood.

#### 3. Re-oiling

Without polishing machine: the FEEL WOOD-Maintenance oil has to be dripped onto the maintained surface, or sprayed with a pump-sprayer. Distribute and blur evenly with a floormop, in direction of the boards. Let dry without polishing. Attention, note slightly longer drying time about 12 - 14 hours.

With a polishing machine: the FEEL WOOD Maintenance oil has to be filled in a pump-sprayer. Spray the maintenance oil onto the floor, rub-in and blur (streak-free) with a polishing machine with a white pad. Drying time is about 6 - 8 hours. With 1 litre of maintenance oil you can process an area of about 20m<sup>2</sup>. The lacquered surface of FEEL WOOD is particularly resistant, dirt-repellent and easy to maintain. This consists of 6 layers, is tested according to DIN 13696 and is suitable for objects. This high-quality surface appeals with its silky sheen as well as its noble appearance.

#### Care instructions for varnished surfaces

#### **General tips**

Doorscrapers placed in front of heavily used entrances prevent dirt and wetness to wear off the surface of the flooring. This is an important measure, especially for color-treated floors, to avoid tread marks and running tracks. Chairs, tables, coat racks, etc. should be provided with sliding pads. (Felt or Teflon glides) This will protect your floor surface from being scratched.

In principle, standard household care products or those available from specialist dealers can be used for varnished floors. Please follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Anyway, please test first the care products on less visible areas, before using them on heavily soiled surfaces.

Do not use strong alkaline cleaners or acids, they can

irreversibly discolor the wood. We cannot accept any liability for careless or improper use.

#### Ongoing cleaning

If possible, dry clean the floor with a powerful vacuum cleaner. If adhering dirt cannot be removed by dry cleaning, the floor must be damp mopped.

ATTENTION: Avoid using too much water during cleaning, as this could cause the floor swelling too much in the joint area!



### NOTES ON GAP FORMATION

The FEEL WOOD solid wood floorboard is a 100 % natural product made of solid wood. One of the basic properties of wood is that its hygroscopic, i.e. it takes in and gives off the water in accordance with the air moisture content. Beside it changes its dimensions, it swells and shrinks. This is also the reason for gap formation in wood floors, especially during heating periods making the room climate very dry. The FEEL WOOD solid wood floorboard leaves the production with single-item-controlled moisture content of 9 +/-2 %. In the Central European climate this corresponds to equilibrium moisture content, which ensures a healthy room climate for people. Humidity in a healthy room climate is ideally between 50 % and 65 %.

A changing room climate leads, depending on wood species and dimension, to different swelling and shrinking of wood floors and thus with too low air humidity, to gap formation. The potential for swelling or shrinking in the length is negligible, in the width its extent depends on the type of wood and cut (horizontal or vertical growth rings).

30 % room air humidity, like in the example is already a warning sign for people! The indoor climate is no longer optimal and healthy. Regular ventilation is very important for a healthy indoor climate and for your wellbeing. To increase the air humidity level during the cold season, and make your respiratory system healthier, an air humidifier can also be useful. Your FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring will accompany you and it's a reliable indicator and sensor for a healthy indoor climate.

#### FOR INSTANCE:

#### Oak solid wood floorboard, 21x137 mm

The shrinkage in the width of oak (similar to ash) is in average around 0,26 %. The FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring will be delivered with a guaranteed wood moisture content of 9 + - 2 % and installed in a room with relative air humidity of 50 - 65 %.

#### This results into the following format change:

- $\circ \quad \text{Moisture from 9 \% to 6 \% = 3 \%}$
- $\circ$  3 x 0,26 (shrinkage value of oak) = 0,78 % of board width
- 0 137 mm x 0,78 % = round 1 mm gap width

ATTENTION: If the air humidity in the rooms changes from 55 % to 30 % - it already corresponds to a very dry and no longer healthy indoor climate! Thus, the equilibrium moisture content of the solid wood floor will decrease from the original 9 % to about 6 % = the wood adapts to the surrounding area!



#### THE 5 %-RULE

FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring is graded by our experienced staff and is done according to established standards. However, human sorting errors cannot be completely excluded. As long as this does not affect more than 5 % of the order volume, this does not constitute a reason for complaint.

#### Inspection before installation

All FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring must be inspected for visible defects prior to installation and further processing. The installation of obvious defective planks excludes any claims. In the case of recognizable defects, we reserve the right to partially or completely replace the goods. After installation or further processing, any liability for the removal of visible defects is excluded.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATIONS**

Wood is and remains a natural product, with no two planks alike. Individual planks may have spots that were overlooked during grading or were classified as borderline or minor. Irregularities in color and texture, slight drying cracks or knocked-out knots are characteristics that mark wood flooring as a natural product, distinguish it from synthetic flooring and thus set it apart. Moreover, the solid wood floor develops its full effect not as a single plank, but only in the surface. Therefore, we also refer to the extensive image material of our reference projects for decision-making.

FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring is produced according to EN 13990 for softwood and EN 13629 for hardwood. The exact grading specifications are defined by a FEEL WOOD factory standard that goes beyond this. For each of our products we provide a data sheet including a grading diagram (www.feelwood.at) in order to present the quality grading of FEEL WOOD solid wood flooring to our customers in the best possible way.



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