



# Product Selection Guide

## *in seven steps*

### **Step One: Select a colour**

**Choose from our extensive range of natural timber colours including browns, reds & blondes.**

These base colours are also generally available in light, medium & dark tones. Alternatively, **custom stains** can be used to "create" an almost unlimited range of colours such as white, grey & black.

Custom stains can be used to either subtly enhance or greatly alter the final colour of timber.

*Brown coloured timbers are often considered "earthy" so they tend to go well with greys & browns.*

*Blonde timbers are generally quite neutral therefore they tend to go with almost all other colours.*

*Red timbers are generally considered rich & warm.*

### **Step Two: Select a type of flooring**

**Solid Timber, Engineered Timber Unfinished & Engineered Timber pre-finished.**

**Solid Timber Flooring** consists of a single piece of wood that is cut from the log, kiln dried and machined into a floorboard plank. Solid Timbers are the most traditional product sold with an unrivalled choice of dimension, grade and coating types.

**Engineered Flooring** is a construction of solid timber made up of a top layer of a real hardwood species and a core, typically consisting of multiple plywood layers cross laminated together at 90° angles to each other to form a durable & stable plank.

**Engineered Unfinished** gives both improved stability as well as a flat, smooth sanded finish with your choice of coating and gloss level.

**Engineered Prefinished** has a factory applied polish on the surface and does not require on site sanding & polishing. It gives both improved stability as well as a quick and easy installation.

### **Step Three: Select a Board Dimension**

**Board width, thickness & length.**

**Standard Width** (80mm to 115mm wide)

**Wide** (115mm to 180mm wide)

**Extra Wide**(180mm to 220mm wide).

(Please note that not all species are available in all widths. Please consult BJ's staff for more information.)

Common solid floorboard thicknesses vary between 10mm - 21mm with the most common being 12mm & 14mm. Engineered Floorboards are generally 15mm thick.

Lengths are generally random and depend on the type of flooring. Sales staff will be happy to discuss this.

### **Step Four: Select a timber grade**

**Select, Standard & Better, Standard, Feature & Better or Feature Grade**

**Select Grade** - The natural features that are present are relatively small and few in number.

**Standard & Better Grade** - Combines the features of Select and Standard grade to provide a floor with more character than a Select Grade floor.

**Standard Grade** - This grade contains boards that may be moderately featured, including gum veins, insect trails, checking, pin holes and other types of interesting and natural characteristics.

**Full Feature Grade** - In many respects this grade can look similar to Standard Grade but with the features more frequent and dominant.

*Please refer to our Grading Information Poster for more details.*

### **Step Five: Timber hardness**

BJ's Timber Flooring species are considered suitable for general domestic situations. Please note that spiked shoes, stilletos and sharp pet claws are not recommended on any timber floors. For more information please refer to our care and maintenance guide or speak with one of BJ's Timber Flooring staff members.

### **Step Six: Select an installation method**

**Direct Stick, Plank on Ply, Battens, Acoustic or Floating.**

Most of BJ's Timbers are commonly installed as either "direct stick" or "plank on ply". These two common installation methods involve fixing the timber to a concrete substrate.

**Direct Stick installations** are glued directly to the substrate whether they be concrete slabs or particleboard sheets. These installation methods are designed to minimise "hollow sounds" and give a solid feel underfoot.

**Plank on Ply installations** are similar to direct stick installations, however a layer of plywood is fixed to the substrate prior to the installation of timber flooring. (benefits may include thermal insulation & and improve uneven substrates)

**Battens installations** require "battens" of timber laid onto the substrate usually at 450mm centres and the timber is glued and nailed to the battens. This installation method is quite rare and requires structural grade timber (19mm or 21mm thick)

**Acoustic installations** are flooring systems similar to direct stick however a layer of acoustic underlay (usually high density rubber) is glued between the substrate and the timber to reduce sound transmission from one room to another. This is generally required in all apartment buildings

**Floating flooring installations** are glueless & usually involve laying a foam mat to the substrate prior to the installation of laminate or engineered timber (n.b. - this system does not apply to solid timber flooring)

### **Step Seven: Select a Coating & Gloss Level**

**Water Based Polyurethane, Solvent Based Polyurethane & Hardwax Oils.**

**Water based polyurethanes** are designed to be clear and non-yellowing. Colour change of the coating overtime is minimal and they are very durable. Gloss levels range from Naturale, Extra Matt, Matt & Satin.

**Solvent based coatings** are becoming less common however they add richness and allow a full spectrum of gloss levels. They will generally "yellow" and change the appearance of timber over time.

**Hardwax oils** have greatly improved and offer a natural finished look. Available in Matt & Satin. Easier to spot repair than standard polyurethanes they offer an alternative to traditional polyurethanes.