



THE MAIN COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1978



Reclaimed Engineered Flooring

Please ensure you have fully read this document before purchasing your timber.

Choosing Your Floor

It is important to understand what you are trying to achieve with the floor covering within a given space. If you are looking for a more consistent colour there may be better options within the hand aged range, the reclaimed engineered range offers a truly unique floor covering from board to board and floor to floor. No two will look the same.

We are only a handful of people engineering reclaimed timber within the UK. There will be a lot of natural variations in colours, wear, shakes and splits using reclaimed timber. This is mainly due to the previous life of the timber, material from one area of the building may not have been worn in the same manner as another, there are other varying factors such as the amount of light exposed and oxidisation to the timber surface. Please note if you receive a sample of the reclaimed timber it will offer the colour tones of timber you will purchase, but please don't expect every piece of timber to look the same. This is what makes the reclaimed option such a unique and beautiful product.





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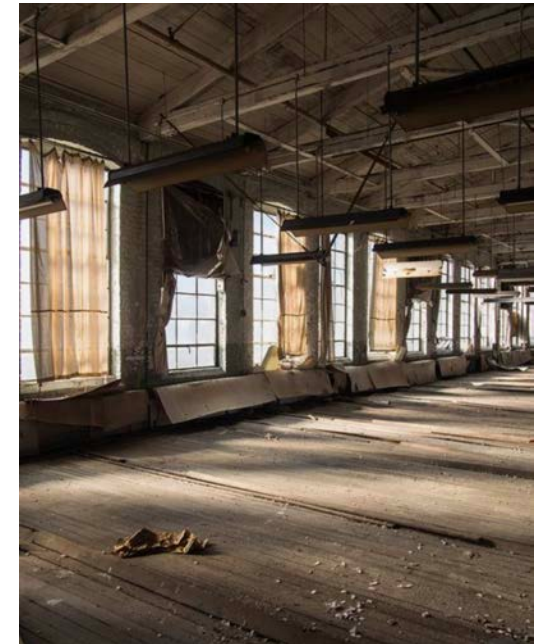


All of the reclaimed engineered floors manufactured in Yorkshire are made with top layers between 50 - 120 years old, this age gives the wood a beautiful patina. The patina of both the re-sawn boards and original face boards are completely unique, some have been carved by nature, the natural weathering caused by the sun, wind, snow & rain deeply weathers the structure of old barns from burnt blacks to sun burnt silvers. These boards may also have tannin stains from heavily affected water areas.

Foot worn boards from a variety of factories and barns have been beautifully worn over period of time, heavy trafficked areas showing more signs of attrition than those tucked in the corner of a room. These natural variations will be the difference from one board to the next, we cannot control these natural variations beautifully structured over a lifetime.

Please note if you receive a sample of the reclaimed timber it will offer the colour tones of timber you will purchase, but please don't expect every piece of timber to look the same. This is what makes the reclaimed option such a unique and beautiful product. If you would like to see a large colour pallet please don't hesitate to request purchase a larger sample board

All of the reclaimed boards are made using a reclaimed top layer and a 12-15mm WPB birch plywood - E1 (0.1 ppm) emissions for formaldehyde, well below the British standard (2.0ppm).



Why Choose Engineered

It is always a dilemma choosing between solid and engineered boards. In nearly all applications we recommend engineered boards. Our 20.5mm boards offer lamellas nearly down to the tongue and groove, in most applications it would take well over 100 years to wear oak past the tongue and groove, we reclaim floors that are over 150 years that haven't worn down to the tongue and groove. So essentially you are getting no more oak with a solid board over an engineered board due to thickness of our 20.5 engineered boards.

Furthering this there are the following benefits of engineered boards

- Suitable for underfloor heating
- 80% more stable than solid boards
- Engineered boards can be glued down to concrete and slightly uneven surfaces.
- Boards can be floating in some applications when the sub surface is flat.
- Boards be used in some bathroom applications, if the environment is controlled.





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Lacquered Or Oiled?

Hybrid Oil

The hybrid oil used within our production has good chemical and mechanical resistance. The oil used sinks into the surface of the timber protecting the surface whilst adding to the patina of the timber. Oiled floors will age over time and gain their own beautiful patina, which will only make the floor look better as it gets older. If you maintain your floor with the recommended maintenance products your floor will last a lifetime and look beautiful throughout, gaining its own unique patina.

Raw Lacquered

If you would like your floor to be more hard wearing and have a better protection against wear and tear please look no further than our raw lacquer system. The raw lacquer sits on top of the timber adding protection against general wear and tear. This system has



outstanding chemical and mechanical resistance and is extremely scratch resistant. This system is a great option for commercial environments.



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The raw lacquer system is more costly to manufacture and carries a surcharge if required.

Planks Or Parquet

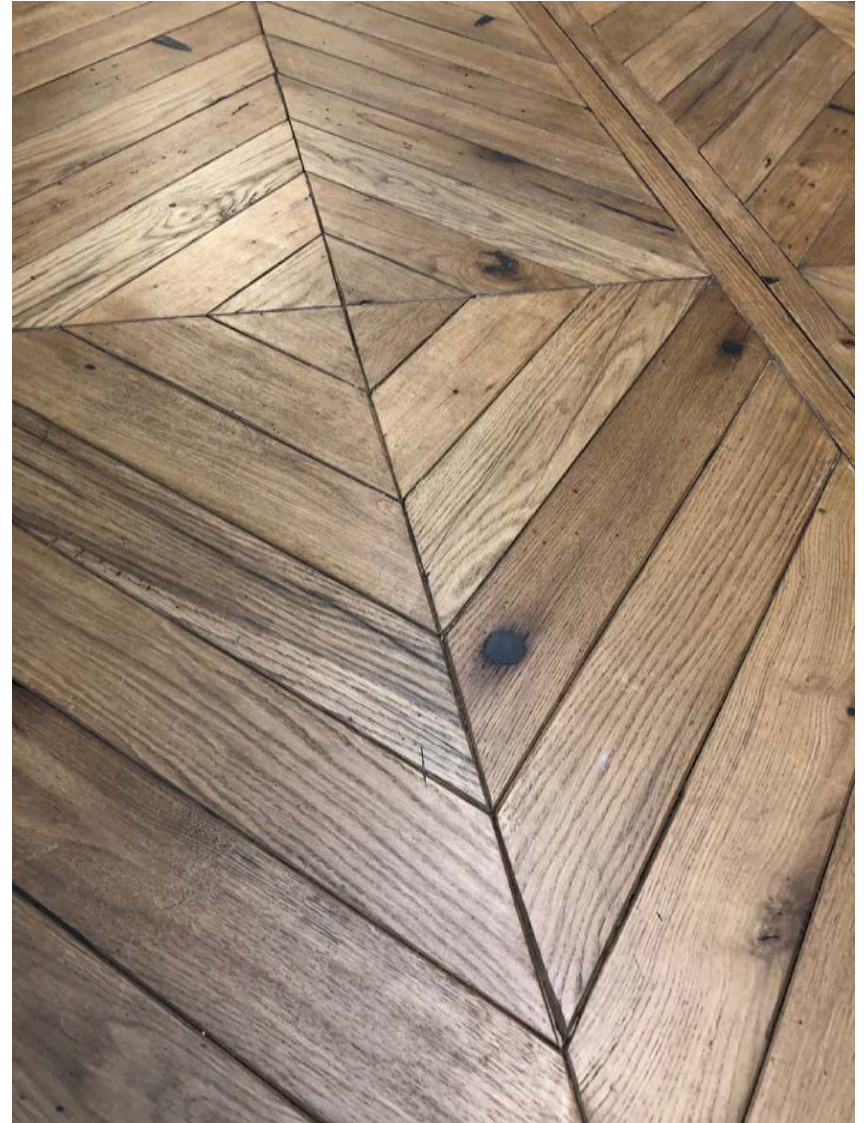
Planked flooring is a great way to improve any room aesthetic. Choosing the right width can be a daunting choice. As a general rule the wider and longer the room, the wider the planks will want to be as the room size will visually thin down the planks.

Fixed width is generally more modern as a look and random width looks more traditional, but the finish will also have an impact on this.

Parquet is a sophisticated and elegant design that has stood the test of time. This versatile yet enduring pattern works equally well in classic and modern settings. Installation cost can be up to double that of planked flooring for individual parquet blocks, some of our engineered panels will reduce this cost significantly.

Before Installation

Make sure enough flooring has been ordered, including wastage, as the timber is hand made in batches and may vary from one to the next slightly and exact match





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for surplus batches may not be exactly the same. Please ensure 10% extra has been calculated to allow for wastage/cutting and defects up to 5% industry standard, it is up to the fitter to grade out any pieces unfit for use, never lay a piece that is deemed unfit for use.

Ensure **ALL** wet works including plastering, screeds, tiling and painting are completed and fully dried before the flooring enters the environments to acclimatise.

The relative humidity of the property should be between 40-60% when the flooring is being acclimatised with the temperature of the house consistent to the final living conditions of at least 18 degrees. Dehumidifiers should not be present in the property when the flooring is delivered.

Once the environment is stable the flooring can be acclimatised, the flooring should be laid on some lats to allow air circulation. The floor should then be stacked in packs with air gaps in between the boards. The bands should be left on the flooring whilst the flooring is being acclimatised.

The flooring should be acclimatised for 5-7 days, the bands should only be cut as the floor is being fitted. Please Check the inventory of the timber at time of delivery. Any discrepancies against the inventory must be reported within 48hrs. No bands must be cut if there are discrepancies, once the bands are cut the clients has deemed the inventory correct

Prior to installation, it is the installer's responsibility to determine that the site environment and subfloor conditions are suitable to lay the floor.

Proper moisture barriers must be put in place before installing the floor. Controlling flooring moisture content throughout your floors life is critical. Your floor has been engineered and is more stable than solid flooring, but please be aware the floor can still move or delaminate if exposed to excessive moisture. The amount of movement varies depending on the preventative steps taken at the time of installation, the key areas here are acclimation, moisture barrier application, fixing and the stability of the home environment before and after the installation. It is important to control levels of moisture within the environment. We cannot be held responsible for any product failure caused in association with poor fitting, sub floor conditions or environmental conditions.





Place floorboards in the room you want to install for the given time period, to let them acclimatise. Please let your floor acclimatise for 5-7 days in an environment consistent with the final living conditions.

This will allow the boards to expand or contract according to the room's conditions.

The floorboards should be moisture checked before installation, all engineered flooring orders are moisture checked and recorded prior to leaving our factory. The boards will leave the factory between 6-10%

Ensure A Suitable Sub-Floor

Concrete OR Screed

The most common sub floor used in new buildings is concrete or screed. It is essential that the screed has dried out sufficiently before bringing the flooring into the fitting environment. Please ensure that the screed has been properly moisture tested with a drilled core sample, failure to drill a core sample can result in an inaccurate reading, the concrete reading should be less than 4%.

Preferred installation methods - Flexible Adhesive

Plywood, Chipboard & Existing Wooden Floors

Birch plywood is generally the best subfloor to use due to its strength and stability but is expensive. Other wooden substrate boards such as OSB and chipboards can be used, ensure the boards are fitted level and there are no spring spots. Engineered flooring can be laid over existing boards ensure the sub floor is secure, there are no loose or substandard boards, these can be replaced with plywood, any badly affected areas should be removed



and replaced with plywood or OSB. Please ensure that any existing boards are a similar moisture content (within 3%) before laying the engineered timber. Never lay boards onto existing parquet as the sub surface is too unstable, the parquet floor should be taken up. This is mainly due to two main factors the brittleness of the bitumen which most old parquet floors are fitted with and the detection of the bitumen as an effective moisture barrier.

Preferred Fitting Methods - Flexible Adhesive & Secret Nail

Joists

Ensure the joists are of good structure and rotten or loose joists should be removed prior to any flooring being fitted, only use engineered with a 15mm birch plywood backing. Engineered boards should be fixed a minimum of 400mm centres. Most modern installations lay a plywood sub base on top of the joists for extra stability.

Preferred Fitting Method - Secret Nail , Flexible Adhesive (If plywood sub base)

Delivery Of Your Timber





Prior to delivery the flooring is moisture checked, banded and quantified and full inventory taken. All flooring boards will be packed in fours, ensure these bands are left intact when it is being acclimatised and ensure that the inventory is checked upon delivery within 48hrs.

There are two main methods of delivery palletised delivery and courier.

Palletised

Palletised delivery is cheaper, but it will be the responsibility of the client to remove the flooring from the courier which in most cases is a large haulage truck. Please ensure that there is a forklift truck on site or a team of people to unload the timber. There can be additional surcharges enforced by the courier if the truck is made to wait longer than 30 minutes.

Courier

The courier is far more expensive but if requested prior to delivery they should stack the timber in any downstairs room of choice. It is important that as much detail is given here to allow an accurate quote to be made.

Please sign for every consignment as unchecked, we will not be able to accept any damages claims if the timber is signed for in good condition. Please take any images of any pallet damage in situ, if there is visible damage to the pallet please make a record of this when signing the delivery document.

Acclimatising Timber

Please ensure the flooring is only delivered into the correct environment as mentioned previously in this section.

Fitting Your Floor



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- Ensure a competent fitter is used and that they can identify the best way to fit your floor. Most competent floor fitters will be able to provide a portfolio of work. Make sure they are comfortable laying random width flooring.
- All sub floors must be level and free from dust and debris that may cause adhesion issues when using flexible adhesive.
- Make sure sub floor moisture readings have been taken and the building humidity & temperature is suitable for the fit to commence.
- If UFH has been fitted ensure has been left to cool before the flooring has been fitted the UFH has to be switched off or on its lowest setting, once the flooring has been fitted increase the system gradually by 1 degree per day.
- Due to the floors being reclaimed and carved by nature it is essential that the floor is laid sympathetically the variations in timber tones are blended together creating your beautiful floor. **PLEASE DO NOT** lay any plank that you are unhappy with once laid it is deemed fit for use. Industry standard allows up 5% wastage for flooring not fit for use.
- Keep spare planks for any repairs that may have to be done in the future, as the batches are from a reclaimed source and hand finished we cannot guarantee any two batches will be the same.
- If you would like extra protection for your flooring it is advisable to request extra product to coat your floor with once installed, this can also be good practise as sometime scratches and scuff marks can appear during the fit, it is essential that the floor is clean and only a thin coat is applied. It is advisable that a test area is completed prior to undertaking the whole floor.
- Once the floor has been fitted ensure it is protected if other works are still going on, building dust can seriously damage a floor and engrain itself into the surface. It is essential that the underfloor heating is left off OR very low if a protective covering is left on the timber, ensure no plastic covering are used only breathable membrane to allow the heat to escape, this will ensure the floor will overheat due to heat spots. Generally breathable floor protectors will offer more durability than plastic build coverings such as BreathaBord from floorprotection.co.uk



Maintenance

Environmental conditions

- Ensure the relative humidity is kept as consistent as possible and lies between 40%-60%
- Room temperature should be between 18- 22 degrees with the surface temperature of the floor never exceeding 27 degrees over UFH.
- Rugs can create heat spots when used in conjunction with underfloor heating, this can damage the flooring.
- Flooring not exposed to the same light conditions as other areas will adjust in colour differently over time.

Cleaning

- Use a Hoover or dry micro fibre mop for general cleaning of the floor.
- Clean every 4 weeks with a damp mop & diluted maintenance products as advised in your specific flooring product guide. Ensure the floor is free of dirt prior to using the maintenance system.
- Never use a steam cleaner, household cleaners OR excessive water on a timber floor as it will quickly deteriorate or damage the surface protection.



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- Clean up any spillage as soon as possible to avoid stains appearing in the surface.
- If a stain does appear there are a few maintenance products and tips available in the specific flooring product guide which may help remove the unwanted stain.
- Scratches and dents will appear throughout a floor's lifetime, in the first instance this can be alarming, but as your floor gets older it will gain its own patina crafted by nature once again. One of the main reasons we reclaim floors is because they look better with age there is no way of making a new piece of oak look as good as something that is 80 years old and this will be true for your reclaimed floor. Having said this if there is a major dent or scratch that you want to try to make less obvious coloured pencils can be a great way to obtain a close colour match, once the match is achieved refinish the top coat as per your product guide.
- Information of specific maintenance coats can be found in the flooring product guide. If you are unsure please don't hesitate to contact us for further information.

Enjoy your beautiful reclaimed floor, remember to love your floor and it will only get better with age!



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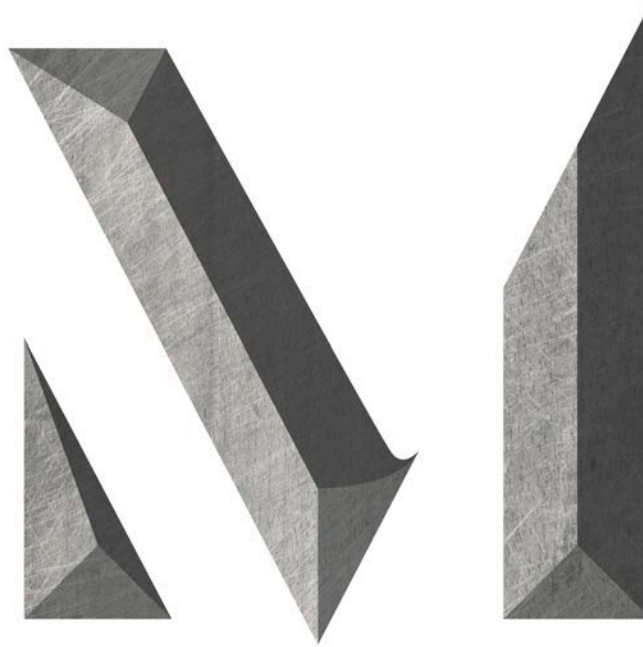
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