



## Installing Cheville Plank Floor Using Nail Down Method.

It is imperative that the property is dry, warm and ventilated. Plasterwork and decorations should be thoroughly dry before the timber is delivered. The floor should be acclimatised within the property for 48 hours. The temperature should be within 15-25°C and the humidity of the property between 40-50%.

Cheville plank floors can be fitted using the nailing method over:

- 1. A solid (concrete) sub-floor** provided it is dry and has been overlaid with a polythene moisture barrier and then covered with 17mm moisture resistant plywood that has been drilled and plugged into the sub-floor.
- 2. Over existing tongue and groove floor boards**, at right angles to the run of the existing boards. A moisture retardant Kraft paper should be laid between the floor boards and the new wood flooring.
- 3. Over a flooring grade chipboard, or plywood sub-floor.** A moisture retardant building paper should be laid between the chipboard, or plywood and the new wood flooring. Always check the integrity of the base layer before commencing.
- 4. Onto 50mm pressure treated battens** at 30cm centres either loose laid foam backed, or screwed and plugged into the sub-floor. A 15mm gap should be left at all perimeter walls with temporary PVC or wooden spacers to allow for any expansion of the wood if it takes on moisture.

The floor is fixed to the sub-base using a manual flooring nailer and 2" port nails. As a very rough guide, 1 box (1000 nails) should fit about 25-30m<sup>2</sup> of floor. The boards should be nailed at 40cm centres minimum.

When fitting over 3/4" plywood or when uncertain about pipe positions beneath existing floors, the penetration depth can be reduced by using 38mm nails but the frequency of the fixing should be increased to every 30cm of the board length.

Pilot holes can be drilled at 45° through the tongues and the first and last rows of boards can be secret nailed by hand using lost head 2" ring shank nails.

Cut through the architrave to let the floor expand beneath it. Hardwood skirting board in can be fitted to cover the perimeter gap. When fitting up to existing skirting, wooden beading or scotia (15mm thickness) can be fitted to the skirting board to cover the gap.

Remember that a constant humidity level is essential to the well being of the floor. Too much moisture in the atmosphere will cause the wood to expand and spring. Not enough will cause the wood to dry out and shrink. Our wood is stored at an ambient temperature and humidity and your order will be despatched at between 8-11% moisture content. If after installation, the timber absorbs or discharges 1% in moisture content across the floor, this could result in a movement of up to 2.5mm per m<sup>2</sup>.

**We cannot emphasise enough the importance of maintaining stable conditions throughout the lifetime of the floor.**