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## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

THIS INFORMATION APPLIES TO OUR SOLID WOOD FLOORING.

**WE RECOMMEND THAT OUR PLANK FLOORING BE INSTALLED (AND FINISHED) BY AN EXPERIENCED FLOORING PROFESSIONAL! THESE GUIDELINES ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR AN EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONAL! WE ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSTALLATION AND/OR FINISHING ERRORS!**

### ACCLIMATION

We kiln-dry our products to 10% EMC or less, typically 8% plus/minus 2%. This puts us in the middle, so to speak; product going from our Mid-Atlantic location to the southeast usually needs to pick up some moisture, while product going to high altitude or the southwest usually needs to shed some.

Time of year, local micro-climates and job site conditions are also factors. Wood flooring **MUST** be properly acclimated **BEFORE** installation. This is accomplished by letting the wood “breathe” the air in the environment where it will be installed. Heat and humidity should be at or near occupancy levels. The wood should be arranged to allow air to circulate through the stack by placing small, square sticks between layers. This is referred to as “stickering.” Depending on geographical location and local job site factors, one to two weeks is usually sufficient.

### INSTALLATION

Solid wood planks can be either nailed down or glued down. Installing our reclaimed re-milled antique wood flooring does differ slightly from that of new wood planks. The same tools and techniques are used for both and installation guidelines for installing new wood plank flooring from organizations such as **NOFMA** (National Oak Flooring Manufacturing Association) and **NWFA** (National Wood Flooring Association) also apply to our reclaimed, re-milled antique wood flooring. The differences discussed here involve culling, layout and hole-filling.

Rustic flooring made from old, weathered barn wood has holes, cracks and other voids from nails, knots

and the weathering process. If the flooring is milled and graded carefully this does not present a problem; it is these imperfections which contribute to the overall character. However, to eliminate hazards, larger imperfections need to be culled out, installed out of traffic lanes and/or filled. Holes filled with our Filler Kits will not draw attention and will just become part of the overall character, i.e. from eye-level, a properly filled nail hole will still look like a nail hole and a knot hole like a knot. The character imparted by these features is retained, yet a safe, solid floor is created. The planks should be laid out (racked) with consideration for the character and patina **BEFORE** fastening. This insures that the color and character will be evenly distributed throughout the floor.

In certain circumstances, our planks can be glued to a properly prepared concrete slab. This would typically be done in situations where there is no allowance for the extra thickness of plywood. Only narrow planks (up to 5") should be used in this type of installation. The mastic we recommend is Bostik's Best Wood Flooring Urethane Adhesive (Bostik, (800) 726-7845). **PLEASE CONSULT WITH US BEFORE SPECIFYING/INSTALLING OUR FLOORING IN THIS MANNER!!**

### FILLING HOLES & CRACKS

After installation and before sanding, holes and cracks 3/8" and larger (that are in traffic areas) should be filled with a dark filler. This will make them blend in or “disappear.” Do not use sawdust and wood glue as a filler unless you want the holes to announce that they were filled with sawdust and wood glue. We recommend using our **AGED WOODS® PIGMENTED FILLER KIT**. Please contact us for these kits.

## SANDING and FINISHING RECOMMENDATIONS

Screen sand the floor using 120 grit screens to remove footprints, dirt, rough edges, etc. To eliminate potential tripping hazards, bevel back any remaining raised edges with a hand orbital sander. Vacuum and tack floor.

In keeping with the environmentally friendly nature of our flooring, we recommend using floor finishing products that are "green." BonaKemi has a comprehensive approach known as "Environmental Choice System™" that contains products for each step of the finishing process and floor care. These products meet or exceed all state and federal clean air quality standards and are GREENGUARD-certified. The finish in this system is Bona Naturale™. Please contact the manufacturer at [www.bona.com](http://www.bona.com) (or us), for product literature and directions for use.

## MAINTENANCE

On a daily basis, floors should be dusted or vacuumed to remove loose surface dirt. It is this dirt, ground in by footfalls, that wears through the finish and the wood floor. Install proper protectors on "feet" of furniture. To reduce the amount of dirt finding its way to the floor, place doormats at all exterior doors and area rugs in heavy traffic zones (be aware though that rugs may cause color differences in the floor due to differences in light exposure). Remove food and liquid spills with a soft cloth or dry mop and a good hardwood floor cleaner. We recommend Bona Hardwood Floor Cleaner, which is part of their GREENGUARD-certified Environmental Choice System™ (800) 574-4674. Don't use wax, oil soap or other household cleaners on your polyurethane finished wood floor. The use of these products can dull the finish.

**NEVER, NEVER, NEVER USE A WET MOP AND A BUCKET OF WATER!**

Try to maintain the relative humidity in your environment between 35-50% and a temperature range of 60-75 degrees Fahrenheit. Although seasonal movement can be expected, this will help to maintain a constant moisture content in the wood and minimize cracks between boards. Basically, if human beings are comfortable, interior wood products will be as well.

## WARRANTY

We warranty our products against defects in materials and workmanship. The warranty is void if our recommendations and standard industry practices are not observed. It may also be voided if installed by a non-professional. See our guarantee on our manufacturer suggested price list.

## WHAT CAN GO WRONG HERE?

The points that are highlighted in the above sections are to be taken to heart. If you read **EVERYTHING** before you start, you should be okay. If you have any questions, please contact us at (800) 233-9307.

**Aged Woods®**   
Reclaimed Remilled Antique Flooring

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