

# TIMBER FLOORS

## Five tips you need to know

### Congratulations on your choice of timber flooring for you new home

There are some important factors you should understand about high quality Solid Timber Floors, using Hardwood Strip Flooring.

1. Timber is a natural product that behaves differently through the seasons.  
Particularly Summer and winter.
2. All timber moves to some extent within itself according to the type of Fixing. 1mm gaps between some boards are not uncommon. Gaps that open during drier months often close during wetter months. The movement may be less in the colder seasons.
3. In choosing timber for your floors, you need to ensure that the floor YOU want is properly specified and stated in the specifications (e.g. species, width, profile, grade, fixing, finish, etc).
4. Timber floors can be sealed using a variety of finishes, each of which has a different look and a different resistance to wear. These include natural, seal finishes, polishes, waxes, polyurethane's and many other finishes. Make sure the finish YOU want is specified.
5. Heating systems and/or fireplaces can cause localized drying and consequent movement in timber floors. Similarly, direct sunlight through windows that are not covered can also cause movement. Protect your floor accordingly.

Here's a clause in contracts and specifications –  
"The timber strip flooring we supply will be select/medium feature – standard/high feature grade. Installation will be as per manufacturer's instructions and to accepted trade practices. Timber is a natural product and flaws or cracks within and between boards may occur. Such movement is caused by many factors including seasonal changes, sunlight, heating/cooling appliances, applied floor finishes etc. While all care will be taken.....etc."

**Look after your solid timber floor – it will repay you with long life!**

**For further information regarding the use of this important natural resource in floors, contact:**

Timber Promotion Council Victoria: (03) 9662 3222  
Timber Merchants Association Victoria: (03) 9875 5000  
Master Builders Association Of Victoria: (03) 9411 4555