

#### OWNER/INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

Read all instructions carefully before starting.

It is the purchaser's/installer's responsibility to carefully inspect all material for visual defects prior to installation. Boards that are considered imperfect or questionable in any way should be used in hidden areas, cut off or not installed. Green Earth Bamboo is manufactured in accordance with industry standards which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 4%. The defects may be of any type whether manufactured or natural. **Do not install defective flooring.**

**Flooring that has been installed is deemed to have been accepted.**

#### JOBSITE CONDITIONS/ACCLIMATION

It is the purchaser's/installer's responsibility to ensure the jobsite conditions and subfloors are environmentally and structurally acceptable prior to installation. Subfloors must be clean, flat and secure and meet the minimum standards set forth.

The manufacturer shall not have any responsibility for failures or deficiencies of Bamboo flooring resulting from or related to the subfloor, environmental conditions or improper storage and handling. Prior to delivering the flooring to the jobsite, the site conditions must be at 'normal living conditions' and maintained between 35% - 55% relative humidity and 15°C - 26°C.

The jobsite must be fully enclosed and the exterior finishing complete. Gutters and downspouts must be in place and all exterior grading should divert water away from the foundation prior to installation. The HVAC system should be on and fully operational for a minimum of seven days prior to installation. All interior wet trades (ie paint, drywall, concrete, tiling etc) should be completed prior to installation.

- greenearth™ Bamboo flooring is not recommended for use over heated concrete slabs, or other 'under-floor' heating systems.
- greenearth™ Bamboo flooring is to be laid as a floating floor only – direct stick application is not recommended, and will void all warranties.

#### GETTING STARTED

- Ensure that subfloors are clean, flat and secure and meet minimum requirements as set forth.
- Undercut door casings 1.5mm higher than the thickness of the floor and underlay being installed.
- Use an approved floating floor underlay - 2-3mm thick, with a combined vapor barrier is recommended.
- 'Racking the Floor" dry lay out several rows, staggering the end joints a minimum of 300mm while avoiding 'step' or 'H' patterns. To achieve a random appearance across the floor, work from several cartons at a time.
- **Do not install any boards that have a visual defect or are deemed objectionable.**
- For spans up to 10 meters in length, maintain a 10mm expansion space along each wall and against all fixed obstructions. For spans exceeding 10 meter increase the expansion gap proportionally. However, it is highly recommended that an expansion bar is installed for all spans above 10 meters.

#### INSTALLING THE FLOOR

Establish a starting point - preferably the longest wall, ensuring that the appearance is straight. Align a row of planks along the starter wall with the groove facing away from the wall. Place 10mm (minimum) spacers between the wall and the first row to maintain the required gap. Cut a board half the length to stagger the end joints. Drop the tongue into the groove and push the board down securing it tight into the other board. Working from right to left insert the next board in and drop the end of the board until the end joint is secure. Be careful not to cause any damage to the face or the tongue of the board. Continue along the row. Rack out (dry lay) several rows for random appearance while inspecting each board for acceptability. Maintain a minimum of 300mm between board ends. It may be necessary to 'rip' (cut lengthwise) the final row in order to maintain the required 10mm expansion gap. In places where the floor may be subjected to heavier traffic, the boards may be glued by applying a small continuous bead of glue to the bottom edge of the groove. Clean up any excess glue that may get onto the face of the boards. **Do not install any boards that may be objectionable or have a visual defect.**

#### MILLING DEFECTS

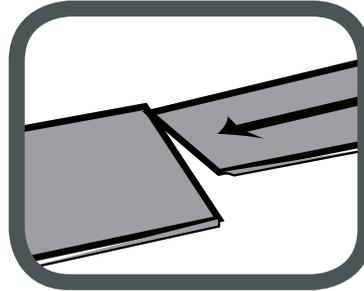
4% of the square meter to contain wood below grade and/or with milling defects. During installation, occasional knots and defects will be encountered including machining snipes-wanes, splits and areas on the face that will not clear up. Simply cross-cut out the defects and use the remaining sections to start or finish a row. If your installer discovers a recurring problem or determines the waste to be excessive, stop the installation immediately advise the retailer. **Do not install defective flooring.** **Flooring that has been installed is deemed to be acceptable.** We shall not be responsible for costs associated with installing and or replacing of flooring installed with obvious defects.

#### COLOUR AND GRAIN VARIATION

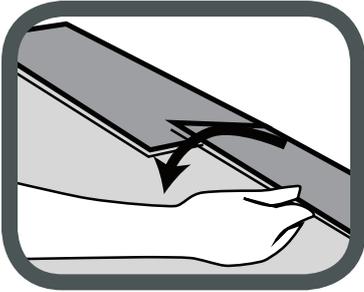
Bamboo is a natural material. No two pieces are the same. No two trees are the same. We cannot be responsible for claims arising from flooring that possesses a greater range of grain/colour variation.



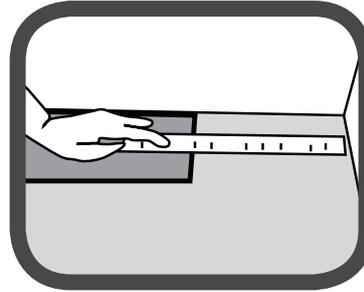
**Figure 1**  
First plank, first row.  
Start in the left hand corner of the room with the locking strip (groove) facing the room. Remember to leave a 10mm expansion gap between the wall and the board. It is more practical to adjust the expansion gap between the long side and the wall.



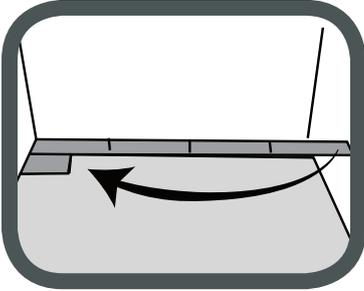
**Figure 2**  
Second plank, first row.  
Place next floor board tight to the short end of the first plank in the corner.



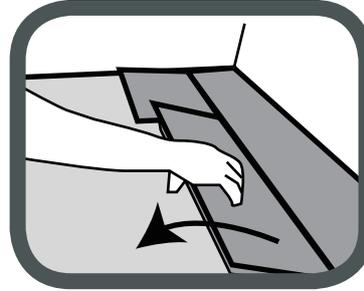
**Figure 3**  
Then fold down with a single action movement. Make sure the long side of the planks make a straight line. Complete the first row in the same way.



**Figure 4**  
At the end of the first row, measure the length of the last plank, making sure to leave a 10mm expansion gap.



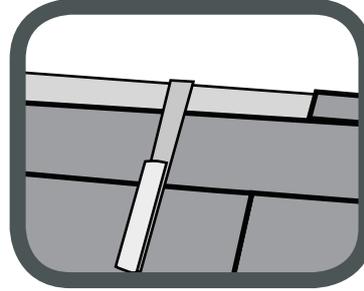
**Figure 5**  
Use the left over piece to start the next row (as long as it is more than 300mm in length)



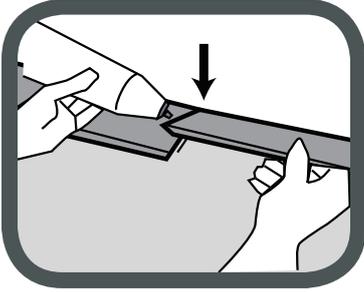
**Figure 6**  
Second plank, second row. Place the board tight to the short end of the previous panel. Insert the long end (tongue) into the first row's long end (groove). Insert at an angle then fold down in a single action movement.



**Figure 7**  
After 3 Rows, adjust the expansion gap from the first row to the wall to 10mm+.



**Figure 8**  
Last Row (and perhaps the first row). Minimum floor board width 35mm. Remember to leave expansion gap of 10mm+. Cut the panel lengthwise and glue short ends with cross linked PVA Glue



**Figure 9**  
Joining length cut panels.  
First/last rows.  
Glue the joints with PVA glue, put a weight over until the glue has hardened.

## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Real bamboo floors will show signs of wear over time depending upon the use. **Factory finished floors will scratch and dent under certain circumstances.** Here are some tips to keep your floors looking their best.

- Constantly maintain 'normal living conditions' in the home. Maintain the relative humidity between 35% - 55% and the temperature between 15°C - 26°C. In some cases, the use of a humidifier or de-humidifier may be required.
- Sweep and vacuum (do not use a vacuum with a beater bar) regularly to keep dirt and grit off the floor.
- Remove spills immediately with a soft absorbent cloth.
- **NEVER wet or damp mop your floor with water or other products. Do not use steam mops.**
- **DO NOT** use hardwood floor cleaning machines, buffers, oil soaps, wax or other cleaning products that contain oils, silicone or ammonia. Only use an approved bamboo wood cleaner.
- Keep pet nails trimmed.
- Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels. Use protective pads under furniture legs to reduce scratches and dents. Chair castors will cause premature wear on the finish.
- Protect the floor when moving heavy furniture and appliances.